



AMERICANS FOR LIMITED GOVERNMENT

10332 MAIN STREET, BOX 326 · FAIRFAX, VA 22030 · PHONE: 703.383.0880 · FAX: 703.383.5288 · WWW.GETLIBERTY.ORG

July 11, 2018

The Honorable Paul Gosar Chairman,
Congressional Western Caucus
United States House of Representatives
2057 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Gosar:

Americans for Limited Government writes to express its full-throated support for the Endangered Species Act Modernization Package. ALG is encouraged by the actions of the Western Caucus to reel in the out of control federal government and return power to where it belongs, with the people on the ground.

The lumbering federal bureaucracy is ill equipped to handle the needs of the western lands. The people best able to deal with the issues are the people on the ground there, the residents. The residents are the best people for land management, not bureaucrats 2,000 miles away. The LAMP Act and the EMPOWERS Acts are true acts of federalism. The legislation gives greater importance to the jurisdictions and people who are affected the most by the listing decisions.

The federal government is often the main driver behind unemployment and economic hardship in the western lands. A weaponized Endangered Species Act is used by radicals to shut down mines, critical for national security minerals, and to halt on energy exploration. The radicalized ESA has made America dependent on foreign nations for energy and critical minerals, putting the nation in danger and citizens out of work.

We recommend the enactment of the following Western Caucus ESA legislative proposals to resolve this regulatory uncertainty:

- LIST Act – Less Imprecision in Species Treatment Act
- PREDICTS Act - Permit Reassurances Enabling Direct Improvements for Conservation, Tenants, and Species Act
- EMPOWERS Act – Ensuring Meaningful Petition Outreach While Enhancing Rights of States Act
- STORAGE Act – Stop Takings on Reserves Antithetical to Germane Encapsulation Act
- WHOLE Act – Weigh Habitats Offsetting Locational Effects Act
- LOCAL Act – Land Ownership Collaboration Accelerates Life Act
- LAMP Act – Localizing Authority of Management Plans Act
- PETITION Act – “Permitting ESA Timing Improvements That Increase Opportunities for Non-listing Act
- Endangered Species Transparency and Reasonableness Act

The United States has been blessed with an abundance of natural resources including energy to power the U.S. economy and farmland feed the people. The Endangered Species Act should not be used to bludgeon communities into submission.

Americans for Limited Government want to thank the Western Caucus for taking this bold action to rein in an out of control federal government and return power to the local people on the ground. It is important for all Members of Congress to support the legislative package.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick Manning". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Rick Manning
President