

Modernizing the ESA

Roundtable & Discussion

While well-intentioned, the Endangered Species must be modernized to ensure success where it matters most: on-the-ground and outside the courtroom. With a 3% recovery rate over 45 years, the ESA needs to be updated to better protect species, and to treat property owners, states and local stakeholders as partners rather than obstacles. ESA listings, de-listings, and critical habitat decisions impact our animals, our plants, our economy, our public health, our safety and our property rights. Defined recovery goals must be established to ensure species are removed from the list when desired population levels are met. Strengthening the Act should also include requiring actual science that is standardized, transparent and publicly available in order to make better policy decisions. Another key to improving recovery rates for plants and animals is empowering states and affected stakeholders to be part of the solution. The ESA can be modernized to more successfully assist species that are truly in danger.

Program

Tuesday, September 24, 2019

Senate Visitors Center Room 212-10

2:00-3:30 p.m. – Member & Stakeholder Roundtable

3:30-3:45 p.m. – Press Availability

Speakers

- Rep. Andy Biggs (AZ-05)
- Rep. Rob Bishop (UT-01)
- Rep. Ken Calvert (CA-42)
- Rep. Russ Fulcher (ID-01)
- Rep. Greg Gianforte (MT-At Large)
- Rep. Louie Gohmert (TX-01)
- Rep. Paul Gosar (AZ-04)
- Rep. Doug Lamborn (CO-05)
- Rep. Debbie Lesko (AZ-08)
- Rep. Roger Marshall (KS-01)
- Rep. Jason Smith (MO-08)
- Rep. Pete Stauber (MN-08)
- Rep. Scott Tipton (CO-03)
- Rep. Bruce Westerman (AR-04)
- Rep. Don Young (AK-At Large)
- Interior Deputy Solicitor for Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Karen Budd-Falen

Additional Participants

- [Courtney Briggs](#), National Association of Home Builders, Federal Legislative Director
- Sandra Mitchell, Idaho State Snowmobiler Association Public Lands Director and Idaho Recreation Council Executive Director
- [Sam McDonald](#), National Rural Electrical Cooperatives Association, Legislative Affairs Director
- Caren Cowan, New Mexico Cattle Growers' Association, New Mexico Wool Growers, Inc., Executive Director
- [Mallori Miller](#), Independent Petroleum Association of America, Senior Director of Government Relations
- [Stef Smallhouse](#), Arizona Farm Bureau Federation, President
- [Kathleen Sgamma](#), Western Energy Alliance, President
- [Pat O'Toole](#), Family Farm Alliance, President
- [Jamie Johansson](#), California Farm Bureau Federation, President
- Ian Lyle, National Water Resources Association, Executive Vice President
- Jonathan Wood, Pacific Legal Foundation & Research Fellow, Property & Environment Research Center
- [Robert Henneke](#), Texas Public Policy Foundation, Center for the American Future, General Counsel and Litigation Director
- [Daren Bakst](#), The Heritage Foundation, Senior Research Fellow
- [Corry Marshall](#), American Public Power Association, Senior Director
- Scott Jones, Colorado Snowmobile Association, Executive Director
- [Ryan Yates](#), American Farm Bureau Federation, Director of Congressional Relations
- [Leslie James](#), Colorado River Energy Distributors Association, Executive Director
- [Myron Ebell](#), Competitive Enterprise Institute, Director, Center for Energy and Environment
- [Chris Udall](#), Agribusiness and Water Council of Arizona, Executive Director
- [Dan Keppen](#), Family Farm Alliance, Executive Director
- Emily Conyer and Austin Boone, National Stone Sand and Gravel Association, Senior Director, Environmental Policy (Conyer) Director of Government Affairs (Boone)
- [Jordan Smith](#), National Endangered Species Act Reform Coalition, Executive Director
- [Rick Manning](#), Americans for Limited Government, President
- [Dr. Don Parker](#), National Cotton Council, Manager of Integrated Pest Management

- [Steve Trussell](#), Arizona Rock Products Association and The Arizona Mining Association, Executive Director
- [Urban Eberhart](#), Kittitas Reclamation District, Secretary/Manager
- [Matt Chase](#), National Association of Counties, Executive Director
- [Bob Lynch](#), Robert S. Lynch & Associates, Phoenix Attorney
- Bill Simmons, Big Game Forever, Managing Director, Dutko Government Relations
- [Alan Glen](#), Smith Robertson, LLP, Partner

Legislative Proposals

- **The LIST Act - Rep. Greg Gianforte (MT-At Large)**

This legislation authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to de-list species when he receives objective, measurable scientific study demonstrating a species is recovered. Such measures will also facilitate states, academic researchers and outside groups in monitoring species recovery and notifying USFWS when recovery has occurred. Often, newly-discovered or poorly-understood species receive protections even though they later turn out to be ecologically abundant. This bill creates a straightforward mechanism for USFWS to promptly act on the information they receive that demonstrates a species was wrongfully listed in this manner, rather than letting the problem gather dust on the bureaucratic backburner as often happens now. Finally, the bill allows for those who are demonstrated in a civil lawsuit to have intentionally submitted false or fraudulent species data in order to cause a species listing to be prevented from submitting petitions for ten years.

- **The EMPOWERS Act - Rep. Jason Smith (MO-08)**

The Ensuring Meaningful Petition Outreach While Enhancing Rights of States Act, also known as the EMPOWERS Act, aims to improve consultation between state and federal decision makers by 1) Ensuring that agencies making decisions about Endangered Species Act listings consult States before listing species, and; 2) Requiring decision-making agencies to provide an explanation when their decisions

diverge from the findings or advice of States. An identical bill passed the Resources Committee during the 115th Congress.

- **The PETITION Act - Rep. Bruce Westerman (AR-04)**

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) is instructed by law to issue decisions on petitions within specific timeframes established in the Act. When they miss those timelines, they are vulnerable to lawsuits by petitioners. A crucial fact to note: Anyone can submit any number of petitions containing any amount of information – or misinformation. This bill reforms that petition process, allowing the Secretary to declare a ‘petition backlog’ when too many frivolous petitions stack up and USFWS becomes vulnerable to lawsuit. All necessary protections for legitimate species listing requests which contain sufficient, duly-collected scientific information remain in place under this bill. However, petitions designed to jam the system and secure unwarranted species listings are automatically discharged during a backlog. The legislation allows Congress to step in and prevent illegitimate mass-listings of unqualified, understudied species as well as ensure more resources go to species that are actually threatened and endangered.

- **The LAMP Act - Rep. Don Young (AK-At Large)**

Local governments, tribes and states have been successful players in species conservation and recovery since passage of the ESA. Despite their strong track record, the Act itself contains a relatively weak framework for facilitating interaction amongst these players and federal species conservation-responsible agencies. The LAMP Act permits the Secretary of the Interior to enter into cooperative management agreements with states, local governments, tribes and other non-federal persons in order to better manage species and improve habitat conservation. The bill empowers states with robust species conservation programs already in place to take the lead in managing and preserving such species when meeting certain qualifying conditions. Under the LAMP Act, the Secretary will finally have the authority to collaborate with local stakeholders to decide how best to make

use of their talents, interest and expertise for the benefit of species recovery and habitat preservation.

- **The WHOLE Act - Rep. Dan Newhouse (WA-04)**

This bill ensures that the totality of conservation measures underway will be considered before taking federal actions that impact species. The WHOLE Act reduces costs associated with consultation, allowing important projects to move forward while ensuring these actions don't negatively impact species, resulting in more private contributions that help recover endangered species in the process. In the 115th Congress, the House passed a nearly identical amendment (H.AMDT.631) with unanimous consent to the Farm Bill. Unfortunately, current practices do not allow conservation measures that take place outside of designated critical habitat to count in relation to federal actions. This arbitrary interpretation results in less conservation efforts for species and stifles private investment that would otherwise be encouraged if the totality of habitat conservation measures underway were allowed to be considered.

- **The Endangered Species Transparency and Reasonableness Act - Rep. Tom McClintock (CA-04)**

The bill requires data used by federal agencies for ESA listing decisions to be made publicly available and accessible through the Internet, allowing the American people to actually see what data is being used to make key listing decisions. The bill also requires the federal government to disclose to affected states all data used prior to any ESA listing decisions. This legislation requires the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to track, report to Congress, and make available online: 1) funds expended to respond to ESA lawsuits; 2) the number of employees dedicated to litigation; and 3) attorney's fees awarded in the course of ESA litigation and settlement agreements. Finally, this bill prioritizes resources towards species protection by placing reasonable caps on attorney's fees and making the ESA consistent with the Equal Access to Justice Act which caps the hourly rate for prevailing attorney fees at \$125 per hour. A nearly identical bill passed the Resources Committee during the 115th Congress.

- **Improving Species Health Through Active Management Act**

This bill looks to improve the recovery of species through preventive measures and active management that reduces the risk of catastrophic wildfires. Included in this legislation are several measures that have passed the House in the past, such as active forest management proposals from last year's House passed Farm Bill as well as expanding existing authorities already in law. Instead of reactively fighting wildfires, this bill allows us to protect our communities and our invaluable national forests. The bill expands provisions in the Lake Tahoe Restoration to apply in other parts of the country given the effectiveness of these provisions in improving overall forest health in the Basin. The provisions in this bill will improve forest health and help prevent catastrophic wildfires, improving the health of species and their habitat in the process. The bill includes important provisions that would help prevent the devastation and loss of life that we saw in the Camp and Carr Fires. The Carr Fire in Northern California claimed eight lives and destroyed more than 1,600 structures. The Camp Fire was the costliest disaster in the world last year, costing more than \$12.5 billion in insured losses, claiming 88 lives and destroying nearly 19,000 structures, roughly 14,000 of which were homes. These two fires destroyed 8,900 homes and 329 businesses costing more than \$840 million in insured losses.

- **Increasing Access and Multiple Use Act**

Throughout our country's history, federal lands have been available for a variety of activities, from recreation and grazing to mining, energy development and forestry. The Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) requires "multiple use" on public lands and states that the resources and uses on federal land must occur through a balanced combination that best meets the needs of the American people. Essentially, the multiple use mandate requires campers, hikers, sportsmen, and other recreational enthusiasts to benefit from the same lands utilized by producers including ranchers, farmers, miners, sawmills and energy producers. Ensuring multiple use of public lands is critical to the environmental and economic health of

the West. This legislation will provide certainty for permit and lease holders on public lands. The bill ensures no net loss due to new critical habitat designations or listings of species under the ESA and ensures their mere presence is not the sole reason for preventing multiple use activities. The bill will result in new opportunities for recreation hunting and fishing on federal lands. This legislation also explicitly protects recreational fishing and hunting access as well off-road vehicle and other public access. Under the bill, vacant grazing allotments would also be made available to grazing permit holders if their permit is made unusable because of certain circumstances, such as catastrophic wildlife. Also included in this legislation are provisions to ensure grazing permittees are adequately compensated for livestock depredation caused by reintroduced species.

- **Critical Infrastructure Act**

This legislation is aimed at protecting the life blood of American economic and national security, our nation's critical infrastructure. Included in this legislation is language from the STORAGE Act, which was introduced during the 115th Congress, that would limit critical habitat designations on man-made water storage facilities and artificial water delivery systems. Such designations can have significant consequences as we saw with the Southwestern Willow Flycatcher on the Roosevelt Dam in Arizona. Such actions exacerbate drought conditions and reduce important water supplies that local communities rely on for their survival. The bill also includes the Environmental Compliance Cost Transparency Act, bipartisan legislation which requires federal agencies active in the wholesale power business to disclose the costs associated with environmental compliance to their customers. Since 1983, more than \$534 million dollars associated with environmental compliance and programs have been paid by Colorado River Storage Project Act power customers. For Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) customers, these costs are even more significant, accounting for 30 percent of BPA power costs and more than \$15 billion since 1980. The bill would authorize a categorical exclusion to allow for transmission pole and power line access in order to provide water and power to rural communities. This provision stems from a rural electric cooperative in Utah having to spend over \$150,000 to airlift transmission poles over federal lands designated prairie

dogs, despite private landowners being able to obtain permits to kill the same prairie dogs on nearby lands. A categorical exclusion is also made for species presence in project buffer zones, in order to prevent frivolous red tape from preventing the construction of critical infrastructure. This provision stems from a rural electric cooperative in Utah that sought to construct a power line primarily on private and state-owned lands and completed an extensive NEPA process, but was ordered to stop construction when it was determined that two acres of Utah Prairie Dog habitat were within a 350-foot buffer of the project's right-of-way. This resulted in a nine-month delay in order for the FWS to conduct a survey and the work was only re-started after the electric co-op agreed to pay \$20,000 to the National Wildlife Defense Fund and hire a biologist to monitor the impacts of the project on prairie dogs.

- **American Sovereignty and Species Protection Act - Rep. Andy Biggs (AZ-05)**

This bill seeks to focus scarce resources on land and species under U.S. jurisdiction. There are approximately 600 foreign species listed on the United States threatened or endangered species list. These include species in China, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Afghanistan and India. The U.S. has no jurisdiction over these species. Once a foreign species is listed, the ESA allows the federal government to squander taxpayer money buying "land or water or interests therein" in foreign countries (16 U.S.C. § 1537.) However, once the land is bought, no one is quite sure who is responsible for managing the land and how much money this costs American taxpayers. One of the reasons typically used to justify listing foreign species under the ESA is stop the foreign import of listed species into the U.S., even if those species were legally hunted in the country from which they are being exported. A listing doesn't actually stop such imports, as an endangered Goliath Frog from West Africa was previously being sold on eBay for \$150.00.

- **Critical Habitat Improvement Act**

This legislation aims to make several changes to the way critical habitat is designated for endangered and threatened species. The legislation requires the Secretary to make any designation of critical habitat of an endangered or threatened species when the species is listed or not later than one year after final approval of a recovery plan, whichever is earlier. The Secretary is also required to consult with state and local governments as the legislation sets out specific parameters to analyze the possible economic impacts associated with critical habitat designation. This legislation requires publication of maps and specific coordinates associated with critical habitat listings in order to increase transparency. Finally, the bill nullifies three rules and policies from the previous administration that significantly expanded the Services' abilities to further encroach on private landowners and designate massive swaths of critical habitat without justification.

- **Encouraging Voluntary Conservation Activities Through Regulatory Certainty Act - Rep. Scott Tipton (CO-03)**

Despite the inflamed rhetoric of partisans on either side, robust, effective species conservation can readily coexist with project permitting and economic development. The bill seeks to allow States, Indian Tribes, units of local government, landowners, and other stakeholders to carry out and participate in agreements in order to improve species recovery, treat these participants as partners rather than criminals, and provide significant voluntary conservation activities for species that will improve recovery. Testimony from Brian Seasholes in 2015 revealed that "shoot, shovel and shut-up" is a practice utilized by some landowners when they discover a species out of fear what a listing of that species will do to their property value and land use if that species is listed. Days before the San Diego Mesa Mint was listed, a developer was planning to build 1,429 homes. To prevent the land the homes would be built on from being locked up, he bulldozed all the plants. Such actions are bad

for species and bad for landowners. The bill seeks to codify the use of Voluntary Wildlife Conservation Agreements, Candidate Conservation Agreements with Assurances (CCAA's) and Safe Harbor Agreements (SHA's) in order to bring local stakeholders to the table. CCAA's and SHA's are two existing programs established by federal agency handbooks that encourage voluntary species conservation and investment in exchange for certainty. This simple bill aims to reward the good behavior of public and private entities that faithfully uphold their agreements in order to help recover listed species.

- **Property Rights Protection Act - Rep. Ralph Norman (SC-05)**

One of the core principles of the Western Caucus is the protection of private property rights. This legislation protects private property rights by not allowing privately-owned land to be designated critical habitat, unless the owner of the land gives written consent or the Secretary of the Interior certifies there is endangerment of extinction of the species without such designation. If the private land in question is designated critical habitat after such a finding by the Secretary, the Secretary shall pay the landowner 150 percent of the fair market value of the land. The provisions in this bill will help ensure that if a land owner's property rights are breached due to the need to protect an endangered species, they are properly compensated under a takings claim and the Fifth Amendment. The bill also protects private water rights, prevents trespassing on private property, and allows landowners to defend their property and loved ones from violent species that are a recurring threat to their life and property.

- **Listing and Habitat Improvement Act**

This bill would codify into federal law another August 27, 2019, rule from DOI regarding listing species and designating critical habitat under the ESA. The rule and this legislation aim to improve predictability and provide certainty for species listings and critical habitat designations. The rule and bill provide clarity by (1) requiring the Secretary to identify with specificity the individual elements of habitat that a species

requires before making a designation; (2) requiring habitat designations to be *actual habitat* essential for the conservation of the species; and (3) requiring the Secretary to first exhaust all occupied areas for designations before targeting unoccupied areas. In a recent U.S. Supreme Court case, the court found in an 8-0 opinion that the Service overreached when it designated 1,500 acres of critical habitat on private land for the Dusty Gopher Frog, even though the frog had no presence on this land and couldn't survive there. The rule and bill also make clear that the Services have the authority to estimate the true economic impacts associated with listing decisions. The rule and bill define the term “foreseeable future” for threatened species listings, reducing speculation and use of bad science in the process. This new rule and bill also level the playing field and apply the same standards for listing and delisting species, ensuring it isn't harder to delist a species than it is to list a species, assuming the species has been recovered.

- **Section 7 Improved Consultation Act**

This bill would codify into federal law a different August 27, 2019, rule from DOI regarding section 7 of the ESA. Current confusion over scope and jurisdiction cause bureaucratic delays for critical infrastructure and other important projects. The rule and bill clarify the process for consultations while increasing their efficiency. The rule and bill also establish important definitions for “consequences”, “destruction or adverse modification,” “effects of the action,” “reasonably certain to occur,” and “environmental baseline.” Under the rule and bill, certain consultations are no longer necessary for actions that the Services lack jurisdiction and control over, consistent with the Supreme Court's opinion in *National Ass'n of Home Builders v. Defenders of Wildlife*. This case found it was reasonable for the Services to narrow section 7 consultations on actions over which they have no discretionary involvement or control.

- **Section 4d Improvement Act**

This bill would codify into federal law an August 27, 2019, rule from DOI regarding Section 4(d). The rule and bill rescind the blanket 4(d) rule, which applied all ESA

protections in cases where FWS has not developed a species-specific 4(d) rule for a threatened species. This goes against the intent of the ESA, as threatened species are only supposed to be protected by species specific 4(d) rules and Congress never intended for threatened and endangered species to be treated exactly the same. For newly-listed threatened species under the rule, FWS will promulgate a species-specific rule establishing a take prohibition or protection if necessary. If a species-specific rule is not published, take of a newly listed threatened species after September 26, 2019, is authorized. These procedures are consistent with NMFS' longstanding practices that reduce regulatory burdens on property owners and allow more resources to go to truly threatened species. In 2016, the Department of the Interior (DOI) finalized the listing of the Kentucky arrow darter with a species-specific 4(d) rule that exempted take in exchange for in-stream habitat enhancement projects, maintenance of stream crossings, bridge and culvert replacements, and other activities that benefit the species.

- **The SAVES Act - Rep. Louie Gohmert (TX-01)**

This legislation would effectively eliminate the duplicative requirement for CBW permits for nonnative species in the United States. Ease of transfer of species across State lines would enhance conservation and welfare of the species by allowing owners, breeders, and conservationists to ensure robust, and genetically diverse populations continue to exist in the United States. This bill would not increase the likelihood of international wildlife trafficking as such matters are regulated under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, an international agreement between 183 member nations that protects endangered nonnative species from the perils of international wildlife trafficking.

- **The Fish Act - Rep. Ken Calvert (CA-42)**

The legislation would consolidate the management and regulation of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) within the Fish and Wildlife Service. The ESA is currently administered by FWS and the Commerce Department's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). The FWS has primary responsibility for terrestrial and

freshwater organisms, while the responsibilities of NMFS are mainly marine wildlife such as whales and anadromous fish, such as salmon. The FISH Act would transfer all of the NMFS' ESA responsibilities to the FWS. Making this change will ensure uniformity in enforcement of ESA cases across the biological spectrum.

- **The Listing Reform Act - Rep. Pete Olson (TX-22)**

This legislation allows for the costs and significant economic effects associated with an ESA listing or designation of critical habitat to be analyzed and reported. This bill passed the House Committee on Natural Resources during the 115th Congress. Click [here](#) to see Rep. Olson testimony on this bill.

Case Studies on ESA Failure

- In 2012, the potential listing of the Dunes Sagebrush Lizard threatened to shut down significant oil and gas operations in the Permian Basin of West Texas. In a rare decision, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service decided not to list the lizard because of existing voluntary conservation plans, a decision subsequently upheld by a federal court.
- Williamson County, Texas is currently battling the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service on constitutional grounds over the listing of the Bone Cave harvestman. This tiny eyeless arachnid is stalling development of crucial infrastructure in the county and its taking could lead to \$50,000 in fines and one year in prison.
- Of the 52 known mussel species that exist in Texas, 15 are listed as threatened at the state level. Six of these 15 are candidate species under consideration for federal ESA listing. Listing of the mussels would lead to federal oversight of their aquatic habitats, most likely mandating augmented environmental flows in many streams and rivers in Central Texas. Dedicating this water for habitat conservation would limit water supply available for human use.
- In California, the same attorneys who forced the injunction of the West Virginia wind project are attempting to prevent the City of San Francisco from

engaging in flood control efforts at a municipal golf course, supposedly because flood control harms the California Reg-Legged Frog.

- A rural public utility district in Washington sought to construct a wind project on state-owned land and spent \$4 million over five years in consultation with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service to develop an environmental assessment of the potential impacts on the ESA-listed marbled murrelet, purchasing over 260 acres of land as habitat for the bird. Though the analyses determined the project would have negligible impact on endangered species, the utility withdrew from the project when the USFWS insisted on additional peer review and \$10 million as additional habitat and other requirements
- In 1998, the construction of an elementary school in San Diego was delayed by ESA litigation and FWS mitigation requirements to protect a two-inch shrimp. Construction is finally slated to go forward as a result of an agreement by the school district to spend \$5 million in ESA mitigation expenses, all of which will be passed on to local citizens.
- In Montana, a mining project that had gone through environmental reviews and received all required permits in 1993 is being required to spend millions of dollars to update environmental impact statements; and the mining company has been told by the USFWS it will need to pay for contractors to help them complete a biological opinion related to grizzly bears, without any assurance the project will be approved.
- Another recent, egregious example is the USFWS's handling of the endangered Desert Tortoise, some of which were housed in a \$1 million conservation center in Nevada. Though the tortoise has been ESA-listed since 1990, when available funds to operate the conservation reserve center decreased, the USFWS began plans to actually kill hundreds of tortoises rather than finding other protection methods. "It's the lesser of two evils, but it's still evil," said the FWS program recovery coordinator.

- **Organizations that endorsed all 9 bills of the bills introduced in the 115th Congress package (170+) including:**

[Aethon Energy](#), [American Exploration & Mining Association](#), American Exploration & Production Council, [American Farm Bureau Federation](#), American Highway Users Alliance, [American for Limited Government](#), [American Loggers Council](#), [American Petroleum Institute](#), American Sheep Industry Association, [Colorado River Energy Distributors Association](#), [Family Farm Alliance](#), Federal Forest Resource Coalition, Free Market America, [Hardwood Federation](#), [Healthy Forests Healthy Communities](#), [Independent Petroleum Association of America](#), Intermountain Forest Association, Land Conservation Assistance Network, [National Aquaculture Association](#), [National Association of Conservation Districts](#), [National Association of Counties \(NACo\)](#), [National Association of Home Builders](#), [National Association of Realtors](#), National Cotton Council, [National Endangered Species Act Reform Coalition \(NESARC\)](#), [National Grazing Lands Coalition](#), [National Mining Association](#), [National Rural Electric Cooperative Association](#), Neiman Timber Company, [Safari Club International](#), [United Water Conservation District](#), [U.S. Chamber of Commerce](#), [Western Energy Alliance](#), [Agribusiness & Water Council of Arizona](#), Arizona Cattle Feeders Association, [Arizona Farm Bureau Federation](#), Arizona Mining Association, Arizona Pork Producers Council, Arizona Rock Products Association, California Wool Growers Association, [Campbell County Board of Commissioners](#), Colorado Cattlemen's Association, Colorado Farm Bureau, Colorado Pork Producers Council, DC Cattle Co LLC, Florida Farm Bureau Federation, Food Resource Group, [Hawaii Aquaculture and Aquaponics Association](#), [Idaho Farm Bureau Federation](#), [Idaho Water Users Association](#), [Imperial Irrigation District](#), [Lake Havasu Area Chamber of Commerce](#), La Paz County Supervisor Holly Irwin, La Paz County Supervisor Duce Minor, La Paz County Supervisor D.L. Wilson, [Minnesota State](#)

[Cattlemen's Association](#), [Missouri Sheep Producers](#), [Mohave County Supervisor Buster Johnson](#), [Mohave County Supervisor Gary Watson](#), [Montana Woolgrowers Association](#), [New Mexico Association of Conservation Districts](#), [New Mexico Cattlegrowers' Association](#), [New Mexico Federal Lands Council](#), [New Mexico Wool Growers](#), [Oregon Water Resources Congress](#), [Pima Natural Resource Conservation District](#), Utah Mining Association, Wyoming Senate President Eli Bebout, Yavapai Cattle Growers Association, Yuma County Chamber of Commerce.

Arizona Sportsmen's Groups: Apache County BigGame Forever; Arizona BigGame Forever; Arizona Deer Association; AZ Bass Nation; Bass Federation; BASS Junkyz; Flagstaff BigGame Forever; Malihini Sports Association; Mesa/Gilbert BigGame Forever; Mognlian Sporting Association; Northern Arizona BigGame Forever; Phoenix BigGame Forever; Southwest Fur Harvesters; Sportsmen's Business Alliance; SRT Outdoors; Tuscon BigGame Forever; Wild at Heart Adventures.

Colorado Sportsmen's Groups: Boulder BigGame Forever; Centennial BigGame Forever; Colorado BigGame Forever; Colorado Mule Deer Association; Colorado Outfitters Association; Colorado Sportsmen Make America Great; Colorado Springs BigGame Forever; Colorado Wool Growers; Grand Junction BigGame Forever; Pagosa Springs BigGame Forever.

Idaho Sportsmen's Groups: BigGame Forever Idaho; Idaho Falls BigGame Forever; Idaho for Wildlife; Idaho Sportsmen for Wildlife; Northern Idaho BigGame Forever; Pocatello BigGame Forever; Save Western Wildlife; Twin Falls BigGame Forever.

Montana Sportsmen's Groups: BigGame Forever Gallatin City; BigGame Forever Missoula; BigGame Forever Montana; BigGame Forever Park County; BigGame Forever Sweet Grass County; Citizens for Balanced Use; Montana Sportsmen for Wildlife; Montana Trappers Association; Southwest Montana SCI.

Oregon Sportsmen's Groups: Oregon United Sporting Dog Association.

Utah Sportsmen's Groups: Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife; Utah BigGame Forever.

Washington State Sportsmen's Groups: Boeing Employees Everett Gun Club; Borderline Bassin' Contenders; Capitol City Rifle/Pistol; Cascade Mountain Men; Cascade Tree Hound Club; Cedar River Bowmen; Citizens for Responsible Wildlife Management; Double U Hunting Supply; Edison Sportsmen's Club; Inland NW Wildlife Council; KBH Archers; Kittitas County Field & Stream; National Wild Turkey Federation - South Sound Longbeards; North Flight Waterfowl; Northwest Sportsman's Club; NW Field Trial & Hound Association; Okanogan Hound Club; Pacific Flyway; Pateros Sportsman's Club; Paul Bunyan Rifle and Sportsmen's Club; Pheasants Forever Chapter #257; Pierce inlandCounty Sportsmen's Council; Richland Rod & Gun Club; Ruffed Grouse Society – WA; Safari Club International - Central WA; Safari Club

International - Columbia Basin; Safari Club International - Inland Empire Chapter; Safari Club International – Northwest; Safari Club International - Seattle Puget Sound; Safari Club International - Southwest Washington; Seattle Sportsmen’s Conservation Foundation; Skagit Sportsman and Training Association; Tacoma Sportsmen's Club; Vashon Sportsmen's Club; Washington Falconer's Association; Washington for Wildlife; Washington Game Fowl Breeders Association; Washington Muzzleloaders Association; Washington State Archery Association; Washington State BigGame Forever; Washington State Hound Council; Washington State Hunter Heritage Council; Washington State Trappers Association; Washington Waterfowl Association; Washingtonians for Wildlife Conservation; Wildlife Committee of Washington.