

September 27, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Steny Hoyer
Majority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Steve Scalise
Minority Whip
U.S. House of Representatives

RE: Support for Historic Infrastructure Investment in Conservation – Vote “Yes” on Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Leader McCarthy, Leader Hoyer, and Whip Scalise,

The undersigned organizations, representing millions of hunters, anglers, boaters, and other outdoor enthusiasts, write to express our strong support for the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (H.R. 3684), which passed the Senate in early August with substantial bipartisan support. We strongly urge the House of Representatives to vote “yes” to pass this historic legislation.

The bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act will not only spur job creation across America, but will provide significant new investments to conserve fish, wildlife, and their associated habitats all the while enhancing outdoor recreational opportunities. Specifically, this legislation will provide sustainable, long-lasting investments to improve ecological and societal health, enhance habitat conservation, climate resilience, and clean water while simultaneously creating jobs by:

- Reauthorizing the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund (Sec. 28001)
- Restoring fragmented habitat for both terrestrial and aquatic species through the Wildlife Crossings Safety Program (Sec. 11123) and the National Culvert Removal, Replacement, and Restoration Grant Program (Sec. 21203)
- Enhancing public access through numerous programs including the Federal Lands Transportation Program (Sec. 11112), the Federal Lands Access Program (Sec. 11113), and the Forest Service Legacy Road and Trail Remediation Program (Sec. 40801)
- Facilitating the restoration and reclamation of abandoned mine lands through the Orphaned Well Site Plugging, Remediation, and Restoration program (Sec. 40601) and the Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Program (Sec. 40701 – Sec. 40704)
- Improving water quality through the Clean Water State Revolving Funds (Sec. 50210)
- Reducing wildfire risk through the Wildfire Risk Reduction program (Sec. 40803)
- Increasing the capacity of the U.S. Forest Service to address the 1.3 million acre planting backlog through the Repairing Existing Public Land by Adding Necessary Trees Act (Sec. 70301)

Passing the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act will represent one of the most significant contributions to sportsmen and women and other outdoor enthusiasts in our lifetime. Together,

these programs will ensure the future of our public lands and water, fish and wildlife, and stimulate our outdoor recreation economy for future generations to enjoy. As such, we urge you to pass this landmark bipartisan legislation.

Sincerely,

American Sportfishing Association
American Woodcock Society
Archery Trade Association
Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies
Backcountry Hunters & Anglers
Bass Anglers Sportsman Society
BoatU.S.
Bonefish & Tarpon Trust
Boone and Crockett Club
California Waterfowl Association
Camp Fire Club of America
Center for Sportfishing Policy
Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation
Conservation Force
Council to Advance Hunting and the Shooting Sports
Dallas Safari Club
Guy Harvey Ocean Foundation
Houston Safari Club
International Game Fish Association
Izaak Walton League of America
Marine Retailers Association of the Americas
Mule Deer Foundation
National Association of Forest Service Retirees
National Bobwhite Conservation Initiative
National Deer Association
National Marine Manufacturers Association
National Professional Anglers Association
National Wild Turkey Federation
National Wildlife Federation
North American Grouse Partnership
Orion: The Hunter's Institute
Pheasants Forever
Quail Forever
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
Ruffed Grouse Society
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
Wild Sheep Foundation
Wildlife Forever
Wildlife Mississippi

Cc: Members of the U.S. House of Representatives, Members of the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus