



PETROLEUM ASSOCIATION OF WYOMING

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June 19, 2018

The Honorable John Barrasso, MD
Chairman
Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

RE: Endangered Species Act Amendments of 2018

Dear Chairman Barrasso:

The Petroleum Association of Wyoming (PAW) would like to thank you for the opportunity to review the proposed Endangered Species Act Amendments of 2018. PAW is Wyoming's largest and oldest oil and gas organization dedicated to the betterment of the state's oil and gas industry and public welfare. PAW members, ranging from independent operators to integrated companies, account for approximately ninety percent of the natural gas and eighty percent of the crude oil produced in Wyoming.

PAW strongly supports the Endangered Species Act Amendments of 2018 and is pleased to see this legislation aligns well with the process and principles put forth by the Western Governors Association at the initiative of Wyoming Governor Matt Mead. Through the added emphasis on recovery, the establishment of reasonable timeframes to deter delays and ensure the process proceeds, and the elevated role of states in the process, the ESA Amendments of 2018 will provide for meaningful modernization of the Endangered Species Act that will not only increase benefits to species recovery, but will also provide added regulatory certainty to industry.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to review this important legislation and we look forward to working with you as it moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

Esther Wagner
Vice President – Public Lands