

NORTH DAKOTA GAME & FISH DEPARTMENT

"Variety in Hunting and Fishing"

GOVERNOR, Doug Burgum

DIRECTOR, Terry Steinwand

DEPUTY, Scott A. Peterson

100 North Bismarck Expressway

Bismarck, North Dakota 58501-5095

Phone: (701) 328-6300

FAX: (701) 328-6352

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

Dear Senator Barrasso:

I have been provided draft legislation meant to modernize the Endangered Species Act titled "Endangered Species Acts Amendments of 2018" and have thoroughly reviewed the document. North Dakota certainly advocates for the Endangered Species Act when used in a prudent and meaningful manner. The natural resources of our great state are important to us as well as the United States and we certainly want to maintain our resources in a healthy and robust state to benefit all.

While the existing Endangered Species Act allows for state involvement in the process of listing species, it hasn't necessarily included them in formulating recovery efforts. The amendments address that issue quite well in that affected states have a 'seat at the table' to formulate a recovery plan. The affected states undoubtedly understand the culture of their given area and also the capabilities to determine the most effective and efficient method to recover listed species. As such, the North Dakota Game and Fish Department supports the Endangered Species Act Amendments of 2018.

Respectfully,



Terry Steinwand
Director