



The voice of fish and wildlife agencies

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

The Honorable Tom Carper
Ranking Member, Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works
513 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Barrasso and Ranking Member Carper:

On behalf of the Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies (Association), I am writing to confirm our strong support for the *America's Conservation Enhancement Act* (S. 3051). Since 1902, the Association has represented the collective interests of the state fish and wildlife agencies, and our membership includes eleven Canadian Provinces. We have a strong interest in federal legislation, policies, and programs that effect state fish and wildlife management and collaboration with federal and provincial agencies and nongovernmental conservation partners.

The Association applauds and thanks you along with members of the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works for advancing the *America's Conservation Enhancement Act* (S. 3051). This bill contains pieces of legislation that are vitally important to our state fish and wildlife agency members, our conservation partners, and for sustaining our collaborative approach to fish and wildlife conservation throughout the country. The Association strongly supports S. 3051 and is pleased to see included therein the *Modernizing the Pittman-Robertson Fund for Tomorrow's Needs Act*, the *National Fish Habitat Conservation Through Partnerships Act*, the *North American Wetlands Conservation Act* and other highly beneficial provisions.

Further, thank you for placing a priority on Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD), and we look forward to implementing the provisions of the bill that provides for a CWD Task Force to advance our understanding and management of this challenging and complex disease.

We urge members of the Committee and the Senate to expedite this bill through the legislative process. The Association will do everything within our ability to support your efforts to enact this crucial package of legislation as soon as possible this Congress.

Sincerely,

Kelly Hepler
President