

May 18, 2015

Honorable James Inhofe  
Chairman  
Committee on Environment and Public Works  
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Honorable Barbara Boxer  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Environment and Public Works  
456 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Honorable Daniel Sullivan  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Fisheries, Water, and Wildlife  
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Honorable Sheldon Whitehouse  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Fisheries, Water, and Wildlife  
456 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Senators,

The undersigned organizations represent cattle producers across the country. We urge your support of S. 1140, the *Federal Water Quality Protection Act*. This legislation would require the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) to withdraw the flawed “waters of the U.S.” (WOTUS) rule and develop a new proposed rule with input from stakeholders and direction from Congress.

As strong stewards of the land we manage, we are deeply concerned about the rulemaking jointly proposed by EPA and the Corps to redefine WOTUS under the Clean Water Act.

There is significant disagreement between the federal agencies, the states, local governments, and the regulated community about the scope and effect of the rulemaking. The introduction of S. 1140 follows months of respectful urging of EPA and the Corps to withdraw the proposed rule and work with these stakeholders to develop a proposal that respects the jurisdictional limitations imposed by Congress and affirmed by the U.S. Supreme Court.

We commend the language in S. 1140 which sets parameters for further agency action on a WOTUS rule so that the final result reflects congressional intent. By requiring EPA and the Corps to withdraw the proposed rule, S. 1140 appropriately initiates a process that will further protect our nation’s environmental assets, assure our ability to engage in robust economic activity, and earn broad support from state and local officials and the regulated community. We urge you to vote for passage of S. 1140, the *Federal Water Quality Protection Act*, and to oppose any amendments that would weaken the legislation.

Sincerely,

National Cattlemen’s Beef Association  
Public Lands Council

Alabama Cattlemen's Association  
Arizona Cattle Feeders Association  
Arizona Cattle Growers' Association  
Arkansas Cattlemen's Association  
California Cattlemen's Association  
Colorado Cattlemen's Association  
Colorado Livestock Association  
Florida Cattlemen's Association  
Georgia Cattlemen's Association

Hawaii Cattlemen's Council  
Idaho Cattle Association  
Illinois Beef Association  
Indiana Beef Cattle Association  
Iowa Cattlemen's Association  
Kansas Livestock Association  
Kentucky Cattlemen's Association  
Louisiana Cattlemen's Association  
Michigan Cattlemen's Association  
Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association  
Mississippi Cattlemen's Association  
Missouri Cattlemen's Association  
Montana Stockgrowers Association  
Nebraska Cattlemen  
Nevada Cattlemen's Association  
New Mexico Cattle Growers Association  
New York Beef Producers' Association  
North Carolina Cattlemen's Association  
North Dakota Stockmen's Association  
Ohio Cattlemen's Association  
Oklahoma Cattlemen's Association  
Oregon Cattlemen's Association  
Pennsylvania Cattlemen's Association  
South Carolina Cattlemen's Association  
South Dakota Cattlemen's Association  
Tennessee Cattlemen's Association  
Texas & Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association  
Texas Cattle Feeders Association  
Utah Cattlemen's Association  
Virginia Cattlemen's Association  
Washington Cattle Feeders Association  
Washington Cattlemen's Association  
West Virginia Cattlemen's Association  
Wisconsin Cattlemen's Association  
Wyoming Stock Growers Association

cc: Honorable John Barrasso  
Honorable Joe Donnelly