

November 17, 2016

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
Chairman
Energy and Natural Resources Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
Ranking Member
Energy and Natural Resources Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Fred Upton
Chairman
Energy and Commerce Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Frank Pallone
Ranking Member
Energy and Commerce Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rob Bishop
Chairman
Natural Resources Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Raul Grijalva
Ranking Member
Natural Resources Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Chairmen Murkowski, Upton and Bishop, and Ranking Members Cantwell, Pallone and Grijalva,

As the 114th Congress looks toward its final weeks of legislative action, we urge you to support the bipartisan agreement to permanently reauthorize the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) that passed the Senate in April as part of the Energy Policy Modernization Act of 2015. We support this provision and feel strongly that it must be retained in any final conference report produced by the House-Senate conference committee on energy legislation, or included in another legislative package this year along with strong funding of this critical program.

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) is our country's most important conservation program, supporting local communities and increasing access to the outdoors in every state and 99% of all counties. The program is overwhelmingly popular and has maintained broad bipartisan support over its 50-year history of successful, locally-driven conservation. Yet, in 2015, it was allowed to temporarily expire and then given only a short-term renewal, casting a chill over the long-term projects that make LWCF so effective. We cannot afford to risk the loss of this program again.

For the first time, permanent authorization of the LWCF passed the Senate in April 2016 as part Title V of the Energy Policy Modernization Act of 2016 (S. 2012). We now have an opportunity to ensure the future of LWCF by enacting this provision into law—an opportunity which must not be missed. The LWCF language passed by the Senate, a commonsense bipartisan compromise crafted by Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee Chairman Lisa Murkowski and Ranking Member Maria Cantwell, addresses concerns about the program in a balanced and reasonable way, keeping the oversight role of Congress intact and maintaining the flexibility of the program to address current and future needs.

Title V also creates a new National Park Maintenance and Revitalization Fund that is over and above LWCF—NOT taking authorized dollars away from LWCF—from offshore energy revenues. This agreement therefore addresses critical needs for our public lands on two fronts: improving existing facilities and resources, and protecting the integrity of those parks and other public lands from incompatible development through LWCF investments. The proposal also supports working lands,

wildlife habitat protection, state and local parks, and other conservation and outdoor recreation needs throughout the nation. The provision further guarantees funds for sportsmen's access by incorporating the Making Public Lands Public proposal.

LWCF funding is a critical tool for safeguarding our national parks, which are on pace to set a record for annual number of visitors in this Centennial year. The Senate-passed language represents the best opportunity for Congress to address park maintenance needs while saving our most important conservation program. Our National Parks and other conservation and recreation areas are not yet complete and face significant threats, which can only be addressed by permanent authorization and strong funding of LWCF.

Finally, the Senate agreement includes reauthorization of the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF), which was created in 1976 to fund the nation's historic preservation programs. The HPF complements LWCF with additional grants to the states to preserve their treasured places and reflect the diversity of each state's culture and experience.

We urge you to include the Senate passed bipartisan LWCF compromise in any bill that emerges from the energy conference committee or as part of another package in the closing weeks of this Congress. It is critical that the compromise language be kept intact, and any efforts to weaken these provisions be opposed. We also urge your support of continued robust funding of the program similar to last year's level as negotiations continue over FY17 appropriations. The Land and Water Conservation Fund is a vital program to millions of Americans across the country and your local communities, businesses, and constituents need the certainty that it will remain as a robust and flexible set of conservation tools for future generations.

Sincerely,

Accokeek Foundation at Piscataway Park
Ada County Fish & Game League
Adirondack Mountain Club
AdventureKEEN
Afognak Wilderness Lodge
Agricultural Stewardship Association
AIRE Inc.
Alachua Conservation Trust
Alamo Inn B&B, Gear, & Tours
Alliance for Historic Landscape Preservation: Conserving Cultural Landscapes
Alpine Lakes Protection Society
American Alpine Club
American Alpine Institute
American Bird Conservancy
American Canoe Association - CA
American Canoe Association - CO
American Canoe Association - MI
American Canoe Association - NC
American Canoe Association - NH
American Canoe Association - NJ
American Canoe Association - OH
American Canoe Association - SD
American Canoe Association - WI
American Canoe Association - WY

American Forests
American Hiking Society
American Whitewater
Amigos de los Rios
Ammonoosuc Chapter of NH Audubon
Antelope Valley Audubon Society
Appalachian Mountain Club
Appalachian Trail Conservancy
Appalachian Trail Museum
Aquashicola Pohopoco Watershed Conservancy
Arizona Land and Water Trust
Arizona Native Plant Society
Arizona Trail Association
Arizona Wildlife Federation
Arkansas Audubon Society
Arroyos & Foothills Conservancy
Artic Wild
Ashley Sportsman Club
Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council
Back Country Horsemen of America
Back Country Horsemen of America - AL
Back Country Horsemen of America - AZ
Back Country Horsemen of America - Blue Ridge, NC
Back Country Horsemen of America - Cloud Peak, WY
Back Country Horsemen of America – CT
Back Country Horsemen of America - Cuivre River Trail Riders, Show-Me Missouri
Back Country Horsemen of America - NC
Back Country Horsemen of America - NEMO River Valley Chapter, Show-Me Missouri
Back Country Horsemen of America - Santa Fe, NM
Back Country Horsemen of America - Show-Me Missouri
Back Country Horsemen of America - Tri-Lakes Chapter, Show-Me Missouri
Back Country Horsemen of America - WY
Back Country Horsemen of California
Back Country Horsemen of California - Eastern Sierra Unit
Back Country Horsemen of California - High Country Unit
Back Country Horsemen of California - Los Padres Unit
Back Country Horsemen of Colorado
Back Country Horsemen of Florida - Nature Coast
Back Country Horsemen of Florida - Southeast Ocala Forest
Back Country Horsemen of Idaho
Back Country Horsemen of Idaho - Boise Chapter
Back Country Horsemen of Idaho - Sawtooth Chapter
Back Country Horsemen of Montana - Bitterroot Chapter
Back Country Horsemen of Nevada
Back Country Horsemen of Nevada - High Sierra Chapter
Back Country Horsemen of Nevada - Bristlecone Chapter
Back Country Horsemen of Oregon
Back Country Horsemen of Oregon - Emerald Empire Chapter
Back Country Horsemen of Oregon - West Cascade Chapter
Back Country Horsemen of Pisgah, NC
Back Country Horsemen of the Virginia Highlands

Back Country Horsemen Tennessee
Back Country Horsemen of Utah
Back Country Horsemen of Utah - High Desert
Backcountry Hunters & Anglers
Bangers & Hookers
Bay Area Open Space Council
Bay Circuit Alliance
Bayfield Regional Conservancy
Bayou Land Conservancy
Bear-Paw Regional Greenways
Berkshire Environmental Action Team, Inc.
Bethel Area Chamber of Commerce
Bike San Gabriel Valley
Bike Walk Montana, Inc.
Blue Goose Alliance
Blue Ridge Forever
Bluestem Communications
Bob Marshall Wilderness Outfitters
Bolsa Chica Land Trust
Buckeye Trail Association
Burnham Park Association
Cacapon and Lost Rivers Land Trust
Cadillac Area Land Conservancy
California Canoe & Kayak, Inc.
California Chaparral Institute
California Council of Land Trusts
California Cultural Resources Preservation Alliance
California Native Plant Society
California State Coastal Conservancy
California Waterfowl Association
Californians for Western Wilderness
Capital Region Land Conservancy
Capitol Land Trust
Carolina Mountain Land Conservancy
Cascade Designs, Inc.
Cascon, Inc.
Center for Sierra Nevada Conservation
Central Coast Land Conservancy
Central Sierra Environmental Resource Center
Champlain Area Trails
Chattahoochee Cold Water Fishery Foundation
Chehalis River Basin Land Trust
Chelan-Douglas Land Trust
Chesapeake Conservancy
Chippewa Watershed Conservancy
Citizens Committee to Complete the Refuge
City of Banning
City of Big Bear Lake
City of Boise
City of Hartford
City of Lincoln

City of Marysville
City of Pullman
City of Renton
City of South Haven City Council
City of Tumwater
City of Waterville, ME
Clark Skamania Flyfishers
Clean Wisconsin
Coalition of Ohio Land Trusts
Coalition of Oregon Land Trusts
Colorado Chapter of The Wildlife Society
Colorado Coalition of Land Trusts
Colorado Open Lands
Colorado Wildlife Federation
Columbia Land Trust
Community Foundation of the Upper Peninsula
Concrete Safaris
Conestee Foundation, Inc.
Connecticut Forest & Park Association
Connecticut Land Conservation Council
Connecticut River Watershed Council
Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park
Conservation Coalition of Oklahoma
Conservation Commission Jefferson, NH
Conservation Council for Hawai'i
Conservation Foundation of the Gulf Coast
Conservation Media, LLC
Conservation Northwest
Conservation Trust for North Carolina
Conserve Southwest Utah
Continental Divide Trail Coalition
Continental Divide Trail Society
Cook Inletkeeper
Cornell Energy Club
Cottonwood Crossing Chapter - Santa Fe Trail Association
Crow Canyon Archaeological Center
Cycle Forward
Day One
Defenders of Wildlife
Delaware Division of Fish & Wildlife
Delaware Highlands Conservancy
Delaware Nature Society
Delta Waterfowl
Dolan Springs Trail System
Douglas County Open Space
DuPlain Township
E Mau Na Ala Hele
Eagle Creek
Eagle Creek Park Foundation
Eagle Valley Land Trust
EarthCorps

Eastern Sierra Land Trust
Ely Outfitting Company
Empire State Forest Products Association
Endangered Habitats League
Eno River Association
Environment Council of Rhode Island
Environment Georgia
Fairhaven Acushnet Land Preservation Trust
Farm & Natural Lands Trust of York County
Farm To Feet
Fayette County
Fayette County Commission
Finger Lakes Trail Conference, Inc.
Flathead Lakers
Florida Chapter of The Wildlife Society
Florida Forever Back Country Horsemen
Florida Trail Association
Food Bank Farm & Gardens of Jefferson County
Foothills Conservancy of North Carolina
Foothills Rails to Trails Coalition
Forest Issues Group
Forest Preserves of Cook County
Forest Trust
Forests Forever
ForeverGreen Trails
Fort Monroe National Monument
Forterra
Franchestown Land Trust
Friends of Acadia
Friends of Balcones Canyonlands National Wildlife Refuge
Friends of Big Bear Valley
Friends of Cedar Mesa
Friends of Cherry Valley
Friends of Congaree Swamp
Friends of Merrymeeting Bay
Friends of Minute Man National Park
Friends of Nevada Wilderness
Friends of North Creek Forest
Friends of Pool 2
Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness
Friends of the Cheat
Friends of the Desert Mountains
Friends of the Inyo
Friends of the Land of Keweenaw
Friends of the Musconetcong
Friends of the Reedy River
Friends of the Silvio O. Conte Refuge
Friends of the St. Joe River Association
Friends of Valle de Oro NWR
Front Range Back Country Horsemen
Gallatin Valley Back Country Horsemen

Gathering Waters: Wisconsin's Alliance for Land Trusts
Georgia ForestWatch
Georgia River Network
Georgia Wildlife Federation
Gershburg Law, P.C.
Good To-Go
Goshen Land Trust
Great Egg Harbor Watershed Association
Great Old Broads for Wilderness - Boise Chapter
Great Peninsula Conservancy
Great River Greening
GreenFaith
GreenLatinos
Greensboro Land Trust
Greenways for Nashville
Greenways Foundation of Indiana
Gulf Restoration Network
Gunnison Ranchland Conservation Legacy
Harding Land Trust
Harris Center for Conservation Education
Heart of the Rockies Initiative
Henry's Fork Foundation
Highlands Cashiers Land Trust
Hill Country Land Trust
Hipcamp
Hispanic Access Foundation
Hispanic Federation
Hoosier Back Country Horsemen
Hoosier Environmental Council
Hop Brook Protection Association
Housatonic Valley Association
Hudson Highlands Land Trust
Hunterdon Land Trust
Ibex Outdoor Clothing
Ice Age Trail Alliance
Idaho Coalition of Land Trusts
Idaho Wildlife Federation
Improving Kids' Environment
Inland Northwest Trails and Conservation Coalition
International Mountain Bicycling Association
Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation
Ipswich River Watershed Association
Islanders for the San Juan Islands National Monument
Issaquah Alps Trails Club
Izaak Walton League of America
J Chadwick Co.
James C. Kidd, LLC
Jefferson Land Trust
John Muir Land Trust
KEEN
Kent Land Trust

Kern Audubon Society
Kerncrest Audubon Society
Kestrel Land Trust
Key Pen Parks
Keystone Trails Association
Klean Kanteen
Kingston Greenways Association
Kitsap Poggie Club
Kittias Conservation Trust
Klamath Siskiyou Wildlands Center
LA Conservation Corps
Land Trust for Louisiana
Land Trust of Santa Cruz County
LandTrust for Central North Carolina
Latino Outdoors
League of United Latin American Citizens
Lewis and Clark Trust, Inc.
Lider Engineering
Litchfield Hills Greenprint Collaborative
Litchfield Land Trust
Littleton Conservation Trust
Los Alamos National Laboratory Foundation
Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust, Inc.
Lummi Island Heritage Trust
Lyme Timber Company
Madison Audubon Society
Maine Appalachian Trail Land Trust
Maine Audubon Society
Maine Center for Economic Policy
Maine Conservation Voters
Maine Recreation and Parks Association
Marmot
Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs
Mason County Friends of the Parks
Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions
Massachusetts Audubon Society
Massachusetts Rivers Alliance
Mazamas
McKinleyville Land Trust
Medina County Park District
Mendocino Land Trust
Mesa Verde Back Country Horsemen
Michigan Bow Hunters Assoc.
Michigan Chapter of the Sierra Club
Michigan Environmental Council
Michigan United Conservation Clubs
Middle Fork Outdoor Recreation Coalition
Middlesex Land Trust
Midwest Environmental Advocates
Midwest Renewable Energy Association
Mill Creek Watershed Partnership

Milwaukee Riverkeeper
Minnesota Conservation Federation
Minnesota Waterfowl Association
Mississippi Wildlife Federation
Mollycokett Chapter of Trout Unlimited
Monmouth Conservation Foundation
Montana Association of Land Trusts
Montana Wildlife Federation
Mormon Trails Association
Morris County Historic Preservation Trust
Morro Coast Audubon Society
Mountain Conservation Trust of Georgia
Mountain Khakis
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust
Mystic River Watershed Association
Nashoba Conservation Trust
Nashua River Watershed Association, Inc.
National Audubon Society
National Coast Trail Association
National Hispanic Environmental Council
National Hispanic Medical Association
National Park Trust
National Parks Conservation Association
National Wildlife Federation
National Wildlife Refuge Association
Natural Heritage Land Trust
Natural Land Institute
Natural Resources Council of Maine
Natural Resources Defense Council
Naturaland Trust
Nature Coast Back Country Horsemen
NEMO Equipment, Inc.
Nevada Conservation League
New Hampshire Land Trust Coalition
New Hampshire Audubon
New Jersey Audubon Society
New Jersey Chapter of Trout Unlimited
New Jersey Conservation Foundation
New Jersey Environmental Lobby
New Jersey Highlands Coalition
New Jersey Recreation and Park Association
New Mexico Land Conservancy
New Mexico Wildlife Federation
New River Conservancy
New River Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited
New York-New Jersey Trail Conference
Nez Perce Trail Foundation
Nisqually Land Trust
No See Um Lodge, Inc.
North Carolina Coastal Land Trust
North Carolina Wildlife Federation

North Cascades Conservation Council
North Country Trail Association
North Country Trail, Dakota Prairie Chapter
North Kitsap Trails Association
North Olympic Land Trust
Northeastern Minnesotans for Wilderness
Northern Forest Center
Northern Sierra Partnership
NorthWest Montana Back Country Horsemen
Northwest Watershed Institute
Northwood Alliance
Oblong Land Conservancy
Ogden Trail Network
Ohio Environmental Council
Ohio River Foundation
Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition
Okanogan Land Trust
Old Spanish Trail Association
OneBothell
Open Space Institute
Openlands
Oregon Natural Desert Association
Oregon-California Trails Association
Orleans Audubon Society
Outdoor Alliance
Outdoor Industry Association
Outside Las Vegas Foundation
Overmountain Victory Trail Association
Pacific Crest Trail Association
Pacific Forest Trust
Pacific Northwest Trail Association
Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy
Palouse Land Trust
Parker River Clean Water Association
Parks & Trails New York
Partners in Forestry
Partners in Forestry Landowner's Coop
Partnership for the National Trails System
Paulinskill Valley Trail Committee
PCC Farmland Trust
Pemaquid Watershed Association
Peninsula Metropolitan Park District
Peninsula Open Space Trust
Pheasants Forever
Piedmont Land Conservancy
Pierre Area Convention and Visitors Bureau
Pinelands Preservation Alliance
Pinnacle Outdoor Group
Pioneer Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited
Placer Land Trust
Pleasant River Wildlife Foundation

Prairie Rivers Network
Prairie State Conservation Coalition
Precision Rafting Expeditions Inc.
Pro Guiding Service
Public Land Solutions
Quail & Upland Wildlife Federation - National
Quail Forever
Randolph Community Forest
Rappahannock Tribe
Raritan Headwaters Association
Red-tail Land Conservation
Redwood Coast Land Conservancy
REI
Rendezvous River Sports
Rensselaer Plateau Alliance
Revolution House Media
Rio Grande Return
River Road Association
River Through Atlanta Chattahoochee River Guide Service
Rocky Mountain Wild
Rogue Valley Audubon Society
Rogue Valley League of Women Voters
Roslyn, WA City Council
Rutland Land Conservancy
Saint Lawrence University
San Bernardino Mountains Land Trust
San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society
San Diego Audubon Society
San Miguel County, Colorado
Sandy River Basin Watershed Council
Santa Barbara Audubon Society
Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society
Save Open Space, Santa Monica Mountains
Save Lake Superior Association
Save Mount Diablo
Save Our Forest Association, Inc.
Save Our Saluda
Save Our Sky Blue Waters
Save The River - Upper St. Lawrence Riverkeeper
Scenic Hudson
Selway-Pintler Wilderness Backcountry Horsemen
Sequoia Riverlands Trust
Shelton View Forest Stewardship Association
Shiawasse Trail Riders
Sierra Business Council
Sierra Club
Sierra Club Delta Chapter
Sierra Foothill Conservancy
Sierra Foothills Audubon Society
Skagit Audubon Society
Skagit Land Trust

Smartwool, a division of VF Outdoor LLC
Smith River Alliance
Sno-King Watershed Council
Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests
Somers Land Trust
Somerset Woods Trustees
Sonoma Land Trust
Sonoran Institute
South Carolina Wildlife Federation
South Dakota Wildlife Federation
South Jersey Land and Water Trust
Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy
Southern Sierra Partnership
Spokane County Parks, Recreation and Golf
Sportsman's Alliance for Alaska
Springdale City Council
St. Croix River Association
St. Louis Canoe and Kayak Club
Stowe Land Trust
Sudbury Valley Trustees
Superior Hiking Trail Association
Susquehanna Heritage
Tahoe Mountain Sports
Tennessee Parks and Greenways Foundation
Tennessee Trails Association
Teton Regional Land Trust
Teton Valley Trails and Pathways
Texas Land Conservancy
Texas Ornithological Society
The Adirondack Council
The Alaska Center
The Catawba Lands Conservancy
The Conservation Alliance
The Conservation Fund
The Friends of Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge
The Housatonic Valley Association
The Land Conservancy of New Jersey
The Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County
The Mountaineers
The Nature Conservancy
The North Face
The Ocean Project
The Otos Group, LLC
The San Juan Preservation Trust
The Trustees of Reservations
The Vital Ground Foundation
The Wilderness Land Trust
The Wilderness Society
The Wisconsin Bicycle Federation
The Trust for Public Land
Timberland

Town of Surf City, NC
Trails for Illinois
Travelers Rest Chapter/ Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation
Travis Audubon Society
TreePeople
Trek Bicycle Corporation
Tri-Valley Conservancy
Truckee Donner Land Trust
Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust
Tuleyome
Tuolumne County Land Trust
Twin Rivers Back Country Horsemen
Union Forge Heritage Association
University of Washington
Upper Peninsula Environmental Coalition
Upstate Forever
Ventana Wilderness Alliance
Vermont Natural Resources Council
Vermont River Conservancy
Virginia Outdoors Foundation
Visit Kitsap Peninsula
Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado
Voyageurs National Park Association
Washington Association of Land Trusts
Washington Climbers Coalition
Washington Recreation and Park Association
Washington Trails Association
Washington Water Trails Association
Washington Wild
Washington Wildlife & Recreation Coalition
Water Stone Outdoors
Weantinoge Heritage Land Trust
Weber Pathways
West Virginia Environmental Council
West Virginia Highlands Conservancy
West Virginia Rivers Coalition
West Wisconsin Land Trust
Western New York Environmental Alliance
Western Pennsylvania Conservancy
Western Reserve Land Conservancy
Western Rivers Conservancy
Western Spirit Cycling
Wetland Strategies and Solutions, LLC
Whidbey Camano Land Trust
Wild Places
Wildlands Conservancy
Wildlife Heritage Foundation
Wildlife Information Center
William A. Bayreuther Grant Writing
Willistown Conservation Trust
Wintergrass Music Festival

Winyah Rivers Foundation
Wisconsin Wildlife Federation
Woburn Residents' Environmental Network
Wood River Land Trust