

January 27, 2019

**RE: Please support H.R. 4348, the PAW and FIN Conservation Act**

Dear Representative:

On behalf of our millions of members and supporters nationwide, we urge you to support the Protect America's Wildlife and Fish In Need of Conservation Act (PAW and FIN Conservation Act), H.R. 4348. This critical legislation would restore vital protections for our nation's most imperiled species by repealing the Trump administration's recently finalized regulations that gravely weaken the Endangered Species Act.

One million species are at risk of extinction—many within decades—due to human activity, according to an authoritative and devastating report released this past May by the United Nations' Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services. The report warns that the health of ecosystems upon which humans and all other species depend is deteriorating globally at unprecedented rates, with grave implications for our economies, livelihoods, food security, health, and quality of life worldwide.

The Endangered Species Act is our nation's most effective tool for protecting species threatened with extinction. Given the unprecedented threats to these species, we need a fully funded and actively enforced Act now more than ever. Unfortunately, the Trump administration is attempting to take us in exactly the wrong direction at this critical time. In August 2019, the U.S. Departments of Interior and Commerce finalized regulations that fundamentally undermine key portions of the Endangered Species Act. The Trump administration's rollbacks undermine the law by making it more difficult to extend protections to newly-listed threatened species and removing language prohibiting economic considerations from factoring into decisions about whether a species should be protected under the Act. Further, the regulations make it easier for companies to advance industrial projects in critical habitat areas that are essential to species' survival and more difficult to protect imperiled species that are most impacted by climate change.

By undermining the Endangered Species Act, the Trump administration's regulations not only risk the future of species like gray wolves, polar bears, and humpback whales, but further threaten the balance of fragile natural systems on which we depend for survival.

The PAW and FIN Conservation Act reflects Americans' desire for stronger protections for imperiled wildlife. Roughly four out of five Americans support the Endangered Species Act and want to see its protections upheld. It should therefore come as no surprise that when the administration released the final Endangered Species Act regulations, the public response was resoundingly negative, with media stories condemning the rules outnumbering those in favor eight to one.

Protecting our natural heritage—including threatened and endangered species—is a core American value. It is up to us to preserve wildlife and their habitats for our children's children,

and to protect the health of the ecosystems upon which we and all other species depend. We urge you to help save our most imperiled plants and animals from extinction by supporting H.R. 4348.

Sincerely,

Advocates for Snake Preservation  
Alaska Clean Water Advocacy  
Alaska Wilderness League Action  
Alexis Luckey  
All-Creatures.org  
Animal Legal Defense Fund  
Animal Welfare Institute  
Animal Wellness Action  
Animal Wellness Foundation  
Animals & Society Institute  
Animals Are Sentient Beings, Inc.  
Animas Valley Institute  
Apollo Kauai  
Association for the Tree of Life  
Audubon Colorado Council  
Audubon Society of Central Arkansas  
Banks of the Wabash, Inc.  
Basin and Range Watch  
Battle Creek Alliance  
Baylands Conservation Committee  
Black Canyon Audubon Society  
Black Warrior Riverkeeper  
Born Free USA  
Boulder County Audubon Society  
Buffalo Field Campaign  
Cahaba River Society  
California Wildlife Foundation/California Oaks  
Californians for Pesticide Reform  
Californians for Western Wilderness  
Cascades Raptor Center  
Cascadia Wildlands  
Center for Biological Diversity  
Center for North American Herpetology  
Center for Public Environmental Oversight  
Cetacean Society International  
Champlain Area Trails  
Christians Caring for Creation  
Citizens Committee to Complete the Refuge  
Ciudadanos Del Karso  
Coastal Plains Institute  
Coastwalk/California Coastal Trail Association

Conservation Congress  
Conservation Law Foundation  
Conservation Northwest  
Coosa Riverkeeper  
Cottonwood Environmental Law Center  
Deer Creek Valley Natural Resources Conservation Association  
Defenders of Wildlife  
Defiance Canyon Raptor Rescue  
Delaware Ecumenical Council  
Dogwood Alliance  
Delaware-Otsego Audubon Society  
Dogwood Alliance  
Earth Day Network  
Earth Law Center  
Earthjustice  
Earthworks  
Eastern Coyote/Coywolf Research  
EcoEquity  
Eddy Foundation  
Elisha Mitchell Audubon Society  
Endangered Habitats League  
Endangered Small Animal Conservation Fund  
Endangered Species Coalition  
Environment America  
Environment Montana  
Environmental Action Committee of West Marin  
Environmental Investigation Agency  
Environmental Justice Center of Chestnut Hill United Church  
Environmental Protection Information Center  
Fal Energy Partnership  
Food & Water Action  
Food Democracy Now!  
Friends of Animals  
Friends of Blackwater, Inc.  
Friends of the Bitterroot  
Friends of the Clearwater  
Friends of the Earth  
Friends of the Sea Otter  
Friends of the WI Wolf & Wildlife  
Georgia Botanical Society  
Geos Institute  
Global Justice Ecology Project  
Global Owl Project  
Golden West Women Flyfishers  
Grand Canyon Trust  
Great Bear Foundation

Great Lakes Wildlife Alliance  
Great Old Broads for Wilderness  
Greater Hells Canyon Council  
Greater Yellowstone Coalition  
Greenpeace  
Growing Alternative Resource Development and Enterprise Network (GARDEN), Inc.  
Hands Across the Sand / Land  
Healthy Gulf (formerly Gulf Restoration Network)  
Hilton Pond Center for Piedmont Natural History  
Howling For Wolves  
Humane Society Legislative Fund  
Humboldt Baykeeper  
Idaho Sporting Congress, Inc.  
In the Shadow of the Wolf  
Indiana Forest Alliance  
International Fund for Animal Welfare  
International Marine Mammal Project of Earth Island Institute  
Iowa Wildlife Federation  
John Muir Project  
Juniata Valley Audubon Society  
Kalmiopsis Audubon Society  
Kansas Herpetological Society  
Kentucky Heartwood  
Kentucky Waterways Alliance  
Kickapoo Peace Circle  
Klamath Forest Alliance  
Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands Center  
KyotoUSA  
League of Conservation Voters  
Lehigh Valley Audubon Society  
Los Padres ForestWatch  
Madison Audubon Society  
Marine Mammal Alliance Nantucket  
Maryland Ornithological Society  
Mass Audubon  
Maui Forest Bird Recovery Project  
MountainTrue  
National Parks Conservation Association  
National Wolfwatcher Coalition  
Native Plant Conservation Campaign  
Natural Resources Defense Council  
Nature Abounds  
NC League of Conservation Voters  
NC WARN  
New Hampshire Animal Rights League  
New Mexico Audubon Council

Northcoast Environmental Center  
Northeast Oregon Ecoisystems  
Northern Jaguar Project  
Northwest Center for Alternatives to Pesticides  
NY4WHALES  
Oasis Earth  
Occidental Arts and Ecology Center  
Ocean Conservancy  
Ocean Mammal Institute  
Oceana  
Oceanic Preservation Society  
Old-Growth Forest Network  
Oregon Natural Desert Association  
Peace and Freedom Party  
Pesticide Free Zone  
Predator Defense  
Preserve Lamorinda Open Space  
President  
Project AWARE  
Project Coyote  
Public Lands Project  
Quiet Use Coalition  
Rainforest Relief  
Raptor Education Group, Inc.  
Raptors Are The Solution  
Reef Relief  
RESTORE: The North Woods  
Rocky Mountain Wild  
Russian Riverkeeper  
San Diego Coastkeeper  
San Juan Citizens Alliance  
San Luis Valley Ecosystem Council  
Santa Barbara Channelkeeper  
Save Our Allegheny Ridges  
Save Our Sky Blue Waters  
Save The Colorado  
Save The Cumberland Inc.  
SAVE THE FROGS!  
Save the Manatee Club  
Save Wolves Now Network  
Sea Turtle Conservancy  
Selkirk Conservation Alliance  
Sequoia ForestKeeper®  
Seven Generations Ahead  
Severn Riverkeeper Program  
Sierra Club

SoCal 350 Climate Action  
South Carolina Wildlife Federation  
South Florida Wildlands Association  
Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance  
St. Marys EarthKeepers  
Surfrider Foundation  
Sustainable Arizona  
SustainUS  
Tellus Institute  
The Alongside Wildlife Foundation  
The Carl Safina Center  
The Cloud Foundation  
The Humane Society of the United States  
The Lands Council  
The Otter Project  
The Rewilding Institute  
Trap Free Montana  
Trap Free Montana Public Lands  
Turner Endangered Species Fund  
Turtle Island Restoration Network  
Unexpected Wildlife Refuge  
Unitarian Universalist Ministry for Earth  
Upper Peninsula Environmental Coalition  
Urban Bird Foundation  
Utah Native Plant Society  
Valley Women's Club's Environmental Committee for the SLV  
Ventana Wilderness Alliance  
Voices of Wildlife in NH  
Wasatch Clean Air Coalition  
Waterkeeper Alliance  
Western Nebraska Resources Council  
Western Watersheds Project  
Whale and Dolphin Conservation  
Wild Connections  
Wild Horse Education  
Wild Nature Institute  
WildEarth Guardians  
Wilderness Watch  
Wildlands Network  
Wildlife Conservation Society  
WildWest Institute  
Willamette Riverkeeper  
Wishtoyo Chumash Foundation  
Wolf Conservation Center  
World Wildlife Fund  
Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation

Zero Waste Washington