

August 27, 2018

The Honorable Michael Conaway
Chairman
House Committee on Agriculture
1301 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Pat Roberts
Chairman
Senate Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee
328A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Collin Peterson
Ranking Member
House Committee on Agriculture
1305 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
Ranking Member
Senate Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee
328A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Farm Bill Conferees:

The undersigned organizations represent millions of farmers and ranchers, sportsmen and women, fish and wildlife professionals, conservationists, foresters, landowners, and food companies. We applaud your commitment to pass an on-time farm bill through the conference process. As you work to reauthorize the farm bill, the undersigned groups urge you to uphold conservation baseline funding in this farm bill and beyond.

The proven and reliable tools made available through the conservation title play a critical role in supporting farmers as they strive to make good management decisions on their land and water. Cuts to conservation funding through the 2014 farm bill, previous appropriations bills, and sequestration have led to landowner demand far exceeding supply. Taking these cuts into account, it is essential that the next farm bill does not further erode funding for these valuable resources.

We look forward to working with you and your colleagues to ensure Title II funding reflects the demand, popularity, and necessity of farm bill conservation programs.

Sincerely,

Alliance for the Great Lakes
American Farmland Trust
American Forest Foundation
American Forests
American Seed Trade Association
American Woodcock Society
Archery Trade Association
Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies
Association of State Floodplain Managers
Bird Conservation Network
Boone and Crockett Club
California Waterfowl
Camp Fire Club of America
Capital Region Land Conservancy
Chesapeake Bay Foundation
Chesapeake Wildlife Heritage
Citizens Campaign for the Environment
Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation

Conservation Force
The Conservation Fund
Dallas Safari Club
Danone North America
Delaware Nature Society
Delta Waterfowl
Ducks Unlimited
Environmental Defense Fund
Environmental Defense Fund
For Love of Water
Healthy Urban Waters Program at Wayne State
University
Heart of the Lakes
Houston Safari Club
The Hunter's Institute
Illinois Ornithological Society
Illinois Council of Trout Unlimited
Illinois Environmental Council

Indiana Wildlife Federation
Izaak Walton League of America
Izaak Walton League of America National Great
Lakes Committee
Lake Erie Foundation
Land Improvement Contractors of America
Land Trust Alliance
Masters of Foxhounds Association
Michigan League of Conservation Voters
Michigan Steelhead and Salmon Fishermen's
Association
Michigan Wildlife Conservancy
Mid-Atlantic Youth Anglers & Outdoors
Partners
Milwaukee Riverkeeper
Mule Deer Foundation
National Association of Conservation Districts
National Association of Forest Service Retirees
National Association of State Conservation
Agencies
National Audubon Society
National Bobwhite Conservation Initiative
National Deer Alliance
National Milk Producers Federation
National Parks Conservation Association
National Shooting Sports Foundation
National Wildlife Federation
Nature Abounds
The Nature Conservancy
Nestlé
New York Trout Unlimited

North American Grouse Partnership
Ohio Conservation Federation
Openlands
The Piedmont Environmental Council
Pheasants Forever
Pope & Young Club
Professional Outfitters and Guides of America
Quail Forever
Quality Deer Management Association
Refuge Association
Ruffed Grouse Society
Safari Club International
Save the Dunes
Southern Maryland Audubon Society
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
Trout Unlimited
The Trust for Public Land
Unilever
Western Landowners Alliance
Western New York Environmental Alliance
Western Reserve Chapter, Izaak Walton League
of America
Whitetails Unlimited
Wild Sheep Foundation
Wildlife Forever
Wildlife Management Institute
Wildlife Mississippi
The Wildlife Society
Wisconsin Trout Unlimited
Wisconsin Wetlands Association

Cc: Members of the Farm Bill Conference Committee