February 14, 2014

The Honorable Harry Reid
Majority Leader
The United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Republican Leader
The United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Leaders Reid and McConnell:

Our organizations, which represent millions of hunters, anglers, recreational shooters, and other conservationists, request prompt consideration of the Bipartisan Sportsmen’s Act of 2014 (S. 1996), introduced to the Senate on February 4. The bill is sponsored by Congressional Sportsmen’s Caucus (CSC) Co-Chair Senator Kay Hagan and CSC member Senator Lisa Murkowski; and cosponsored by CSC Vice-Chair Senator Mark Pryor and CSC members, Senators Mark Begich, John Boozman, Dean Heller, John Hoeven, Mary Landrieu, Joe Manchin, Rob Portman, John Tester, and David Vitter. This pro-sportsmen’s package is a compromise of legislation from Senator Hagan’s Sportmen’s and Public Outdoor Recreation Traditions (SPORT) Act and Senator Murkowski’s Sportsmen’s Act of 2013.

The Bipartisan Sportsmen’s Act includes the following 12 titles:

- **Permanent Electronic Duck Stamp Act of 2013** (S.738), authorizes the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) to allow any state to provide federal duck stamps electronically
- **Hunting, Fishing and Recreational Shooting Protection Act** (S.1505), exempts lead fishing tackle from being regulated under the Toxic Substances Control Act
- **Target Practice and Marksmanship Training Support Act** (S.1212), enables states to allocate a greater proportion of federal funding to create and maintain shooting ranges on federal and non-federal lands
- **Duck Stamp Subsistence Waiver**, grants the Secretary of the Interior the authority to make limited waivers of Duck Stamp requirements for certain subsistence users
- **Polar Bear Conservation and Fairness Act** (S.847), permits the Secretary of the Interior to authorize permits for re-importation of legally harvested Polar Bears from approved populations in Canada before the 2008 ban
- **Farmer and Hunter Protection Act**, authorizes USDA extension offices to determine normal agricultural practices rather than the Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Recreational Fishing and Hunting Heritage Opportunities Act** (S.170), the bill also requires the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service to keep their lands open to hunting, recreational fishing, and shooting
- **Permits for Film Crews of Five People or Less**, directs the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to require annual permits and assess annual fees
• **Making Public Lands Public**, requires 1.5% of annual Land and Water Conservation Fund for securing fishing, hunting, and recreational shooting access on federal public lands

• **Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act Reauthorization** (S.368), a program that enables the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to sell public land to private owners, counties, companies and others for ranching, community development and other projects

• **North American Wetlands Conservation Act Reauthorization** (S.741), provides matching grants to organizations, state and local governments, and private landowners for the acquisition, restoration, and enhancement of wetlands critical to the habitat of migratory birds.

• **National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Reauthorization** (S.51), a non-profit that preserves and restores native wildlife species and habitats

As a large and diverse coalition of hunting, shooting, angling and other conservation organizations united behind a common goal of enacting this important package of legislation, we appreciate your commitment to seizing this opportunity and look forward to continuing to work with you toward Senate passage of a bipartisan package of pro-sportsmen's legislation.

Sincerely,

American Sportfishing Association
Archery Trade Association
Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies
B.A.S.S. LLC
Boone & Crockett Club
Bowhunting Preservation Alliance
Campfire Club of America
Catch-A-Dream Foundation
Center for Coastal Conservation
Coastal Conservation Association
Congressional Sportsmen’s Foundation
Conservation Force
Dallas Safari Club
Delta Waterfowl Foundation
Ducks Unlimited
Izaak Walton League of America
Masters of Foxhounds Association
Mule Deer Foundation
National Marine Manufacturers Association
National Shooting Sports Foundation
National Trappers Association
National Wild Turkey Federation
North American Bear Foundation
North American Grouse Partnership
Pheasants Forever
Pope and Young Club
Quail Forever
Quality Deer Management Association
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
Ruffed Grouse Society
Safari Club International
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
Tread Lightly!
Trout Unlimited
United States Sportsmen’s Alliance
Whitetails Unlimited
Wild Sheep Foundation
Wildlife Forever
Wildlife Management Institute
Wildlife Mississippi