

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