



YEAR IN

REVIEW



Throughout the year, the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation worked closely with federal and state policy makers from the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus (CSC), the National Assembly of Sportsmen's Caucuses (NASC), and the Governors Sportsmen's Caucus (GSC), to protect and advance our hunting, angling, recreational shooting, and trapping traditions in the halls of government.

In Washington, DC, CSF's accomplishments during the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress included: introducing four comprehensive sportsmen's packages in Congress; and working with the Department of the Interior to implement two Secretarial Orders that aim to advance hunting and angling on federal lands and waters. CSF also worked with the U.S. House to pass provisions from the Modern Fish Act to promote recreational anglers' interests, approve the Modernizing the Pittman-Robertson Fund for Tomorrow's Needs Act, among other important standalone bills for sportsmen and conservation.

Working with state legislative sportsmen's caucuses throughout the country, CSF was able to advance the interests of sportsmen and women, celebrating victories such as: expanding Sunday hunting opportunities in Connecticut, Delaware, and West Virginia; and enhancing youth and student hunting opportunities in Colorado, Georgia, South Dakota, and West Virginia; among many other successes. CSF's States Program Team also tracked nearly 5,000 individual state bills throughout the year, and were able to combat numerous anti-sportsmen's bills and advance bills that promoted access and opportunities for hunters and anglers.

In addition to working directly with federal and state policy makers, CSF ensured that the voice of sportsmen and women was heard through staff serving on conservation committees such as: the Hunting and Shooting Sports Conservation Council; the Federal Lands Hunting, Fishing, and Shooting Sports Roundtable; and the American Wildlife Conservation Partners, among other Committees.

We also recognized the sportsmen's community for their economic impact across the country with the release of new sportsmen's economic impact statistics, as well as sportsmen's contributions to conservation.

In this report, take a closer look at what CSF has accomplished in its 29<sup>th</sup> year at the federal and state level. As we prepare for our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, CSF looks forward to advancing more pro-sportsmen's conservation policies for years to come.



Jeff Crane  
President



Paul Miller  
Board Chairman

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## SPORTSMEN'S PACKAGES DURING THE 115<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS

One of CSF's biggest priorities in Washington is to work directly with the CSC, the largest bipartisan Caucus on Capitol Hill, to develop a robust package of sportsmen's legislation that will ensure our traditions as hunter and angler-conservationists are secured in the future. As a result of CSF's efforts during this Congress, four sportsmen's packages were introduced, each of which included a collection of priority bills for protecting and advancing sportsmen's interests.

**The Sportsmen's Heritage and Recreational Enhancement Act (SHARE Act) (H.R. 3668)** was introduced by CSC Co-Chair Rep. Jeff Duncan (SC) in September 2017, and CSF worked closely with Rep. Duncan and other CSC Members in order to ensure that this package was carried through the Committee. CSF also submitted testimony to the Committee in support of the bill.

**The Sportsmen's Act (S. 733)** was introduced by CSC Member Sen. Lisa Murkowski (AK) in March 2017, and passed out of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources with strong bipartisan support shortly after introduction.

Provisions within S. 733 were also included in Sen. Murkowski's **Energy and Natural Resources Act of 2017 (S. 1450)**.

**The Hunting Heritage and Environmental Legacy Preservation for Wildlife Act (HELP for Wildlife Act) (S. 1514)** was introduced by CSC Member Sen. John Barrasso (WY) in June 2017. CSF submitted testimony in support of this bill to the Environment and Public Works Committee, which ultimately held a hearing on the legislation.

## FEDERAL LAND MANAGEMENT

CSF has worked closely with Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue, Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke, and Congressional leadership to ensure the sportsmen's voice is heard when making decisions regarding federal land uses.

Secretary Zinke implemented two Secretarial Orders (3356 and 3362) that supported sportsmen's access to federal lands. Under Order 3356, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced Regional Chiefs of Hunting and Fishing within each Service region. These new Regional Chiefs focus their efforts on reducing the barriers to entry for hunting and fishing on public lands and waters for our nation's sportsmen and women. Order 3362 promotes collaboration between DOI and western state fish and wildlife agencies for the conservation of big-game winter range and migration corridors for game species.

The newly formed federal advisory council, the Hunting and Shooting Sports Conservation Council, chaired by CSF President Jeff Crane, formally submitted nine recommendations to Secretaries Perdue and Zinke regarding priorities for the sportsmen's community on federal lands. Recommendations were related to: use of hunter volunteers for ungulate management; Sunday hunting on National Forests lands in North Carolina; a BLM Geodatabase of public lands; a celebratory event recognizing the wild turkey conservation success story; prevention of Chronic Wasting Disease; man-made water sources to support wildlife conservation on public lands; updating the National Wildlife Refuge System Strategic Growth Policy; and boosting promotion of hunting and fishing on Recreation.gov.

CSF played a leadership role in developing sportsmen's access provisions that were included in H.R. 5133, the Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act (FLTFA) Reauthorization of 2018. This bill, sponsored by CSC Member and House Natural Resources Committee Chairman Rob Bishop, allows revenue from federal land exchanges and sales to be used for the acquisition of high-value conservation and recreation lands. CSF helped orchestrate the inclusion of language that allows FLTFA revenues deposited in the Federal Land Disposal Account to be used for the enhancement of hunting, fishing, and recreational shooting access to "landlocked" tracts of federal land. In March, the House Natural Resources Committee passed a permanent authorization of FLTFA with a unanimous, bipartisan vote. Ultimately this legislation was included in the FY2018 Omnibus appropriations bill, which was signed into law by President Trump in March.

Additionally in March, CSF worked with Congressional leaders to include a provision within the Omnibus to address the issue of "fire borrowing." This fix reverses a vicious cycle that frequently occurs when the costs of fighting fires on federal lands exceed Congressionally appropriated funding available for the fiscal year. By allowing catastrophic wildfire to be treated like other natural disasters, this fix prevents the negative ramifications of fire borrowing and provides federal land managers with additional resources needed to manage and care for our nation's forest resources.

## FEDERAL ADVISORY & CONSERVATION COMMITTEES

CSF staff served on a variety of committees aiming to advance pro-sportsmen's conservation priorities at both the federal and state level:

- Hunting and Shooting Sports Conservation Council (HSSCC)
- International Wildlife Conservation Council (IWCC)
- Marine Protected Area Federal Advisory Committee
- Federal Lands Hunting, Fishing, and Shooting Sports Roundtable
- Alliance for America's Fish and Wildlife
- American Wildlife Conservation Partners
- National Wild Pig Task Force Steering Committee
- National Horse and Burro Rangeland Management Coalition

## 2018 FARM BILL CONSERVATION PRIORITIES:

### Environmental Quality Incentives Program:

\$1.1 billion for conservation across 11.6 million acres in 2017

### Conservation Stewardship Program:

\$1.3 billion across 10 million acres in 2017

### Agricultural Conservation Easement Program:

300,000 acres protected or restored via easement purchases in 2017

### Healthy Forests Reserve Program:

676,181 acres conserved in 2017

### Conservation Reserve Program:

23.4 million acres of private land currently under contract

### Voluntary Public Access and Habitat Incentive Program:

\$20 million invested across 21 states in 2014 and 2015

### Regional Conservation Partnership Program:

\$245 million leveraged by partner groups in 2017

## MODERN FISH ACT

In the 115th Congress, CSF worked with Congressional champions and leaders of the saltwater recreational fishing community to introduce legislation in both the House and Senate that would prioritize and increase access opportunities for recreational fishing. As a result of these efforts, the Modernizing Recreational Fisheries Management Act of 2017 (H.R. 2023/S.1520), known as the Modern Fish Act, was introduced in the House by CSC Member Rep. Garret Graves (LA) and in the Senate by CSC Member Sen. Roger Wicker (MS).

In February, the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation passed S. 1520 on a strong bipartisan vote of 22-5.

To highlight the importance of the Modern Fish Act, CSF hosted a “Weigh-in on the Hill,” which gathered stakeholders from across the country representing the fishing community, including industry leaders, tackle store owners, recreational anglers, federal policy makers, and NGOs to ensure that the priorities of the saltwater recreational fishing community were addressed by Congress. Following a notable panel discussion, CSF coordinated nearly 40 meetings with Members of Congress and their staff to hear from recreational fishing stakeholders who attended the Weigh-in event.

With help from the momentum generated by CSF’s Weigh-in on the Hill event, H.R. 200, a broader Magnuson-Stevens Reauthorization bill which contained the recreational fishing provisions of H.R. 2023, passed the House a few weeks later in July.

On December 17, S. 1520 passed the full Senate. The provisions of the bill having already passed the House in Congressman Young’s H.R. 200 paved the way for the House to take up and pass the S. 1520 under suspension of the rules and to send the Modern Fish Act to the President’s desk.

This historic bill marks the first time that priorities of the recreational fishing community will be included in our nation’s primary marine fisheries law. CSF was instrumental in securing bipartisan support for the bills and looks forward to working with the next Congress on additional ways to improve the Magnuson-Stevens Act on behalf of America’s saltwater anglers.

## RECOVERING AMERICA’S WILDLIFE ACT

The idea of Recovering America’s Wildlife Act comes from the recommendation of the Blue Ribbon Panel for Sustaining America’s Diverse Fish and Wildlife Resources, which included CSF’s Jeff Crane. As a result of the efforts and recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Panel, the Alliance for America’s Fish and Wildlife was established to help advance Recovering America’s Wildlife Act.

Currently, Jeff Crane is the Co-Chair of the legislative team for the Alliance for America’s Fish and Wildlife. Serving on this team allowed CSF to impact the legislative efforts behind advancing this critical legislation that would provide necessary resources to state agencies to conserve the nearly 12,000 species in the greatest need of conservation efforts.

In the House, H.R. 4647 was introduced by CSC Members Reps. Jeff Fortenberry (NE) and Debbie Dingell (MI), and attracted more than 100 bipartisan cosponsors. In the Senate, S. 3223 was introduced by CSC Co-Chair Sen. Jim Risch (ID), and cosponsored by fellow Co-Chair Sen. Joe Manchin, Vice-Chair Sen. Heidi Heitkamp, and CSC Member Sen. Lamar Alexander.

This legislation would provide \$1.3 billion annually in existing revenue from the development of energy and mineral resources on federal lands and waters to the Wildlife Conservation Restoration Program and would address issues identified in State Wildlife Action Plans. Both of these bills were discussed in House/Senate Committees during a hearing, which provided an opportunity to highlight the importance of state-based fish and wildlife conservation programs.

## CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE

CSF collaborated with federal and state legislators on developing policies to combat Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD). CWD is a progressive, fatal, degenerative neurological disease occurring in farmed and free-ranging deer, elk, and moose. It has been detected in 25 states, and there is currently no treatment or vaccine. CSF recognizes the urgency to address this alarming disease through prevention and research.

On the federal side, multiple bills were introduced, including CSC Member Rep. Ralph Abraham’s (LA) Chronic Wasting Disease Transmission in Cervidae Study Act (H.R. 6272), which would require the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service to request a study by the National Academy of Sciences. CSC Member Sen. John Barrasso (WY) introduced the Senate version of this bill, S. 3644, in November. The Chronic Wasting Disease Management Act (H.R. 4454), introduced by CSC Member Rep. Ron Kind (WI) and the Chronic Wasting Disease Support for States Act (S. 2252), introduced by CSC Member Sen. Jon Tester (MT) also support increased funding for CWD research.

CSF worked with the Hunting and Shooting Sports Conservation Council, as well as 33 groups from the American Wildlife Conservation Partners to submit letters urging action by the administration and Congress to address CWD. CSF also hosted several events focusing on CWD updates, including: a Capitol Hill Breakfast Briefing, hosted by CSF and stakeholder conservation partners; several state-level policy forums; a regional policy forum during the Southern Legislative Conference annual meeting, which gathered 30 state legislative sportsmen’s caucus members from seven states; and a session at the NASC Sportsman-Legislator Summit that featured remarks from a fish and wildlife agency director and educated legislators from over 25 states on the threat that CWD poses to cervid populations.

In order to advance CWD legislation in Congress, CSF further engaged NASC legislators throughout the year, which resulted in 85 letters being sent to Members of Congress in support of providing much needed resources to address CWD.



Throughout the year, CSF's States Program Team worked with state legislators, governors, fish and wildlife and natural resources departments, and regional partners to advance bills for sportsmen and women. Here are some highlights from 2018:

## THE NORTHEAST

### Connecticut Sunday Hunting Expansion

HB 5366 would have expanded Connecticut's previous Sunday hunting allowance of archery hunting for deer in specific deer management zones to archery hunting for deer throughout the state. Connecticut Sportsmen's Caucus Co-Chair and member of the Joint Committee on Environment Sen. Craig Miner continued to champion this issue. HB 5366 was reported out of the Joint Committee on Environment in March with a bipartisan vote of 19-10. While HB 5336 failed to advance further, Members of the Caucus had the language included in HB 5360, which was signed into law GSC Member Governor Malloy in June.

### Delaware Sunday Hunting Expansion

SB 198, sponsored and championed by the Co-Chairs of the Delaware legislative Sportsmen's Caucus was signed into law by GSC member Gov. Carney in July. This bill eliminated restrictions/prohibitions against hunting deer on Sundays and provided the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control authorization to regulate the hunting of deer on Sundays, among other things.

### Connecticut Hunting Closure

SB 109 would have designated an additional wildlife refuge on the Quinnipiac River, effectively shutting down hunting in the area - setting a dangerous precedent for how decisions impacting the regulation of hunting are made in the future. Thanks to the diligent work of members of the Connecticut Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus the legislation failed to advance during the legislative session.

### Delaware Pistol Caliber Rifles for Hunting

In August, HB 156, sponsored by the Co-Chairs of the Delaware Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus was signed into law by GSC Member Gov. Carney. This bill expanded the range of handgun calibers permitted for deer hunting and authorized the use of pistol caliber rifles during the state's shotgun deer hunting season.

### New Hampshire Ivory and Trophy Ban

SB 451 began as a far-reaching wildlife trafficking bill that would have negatively impacted sportsmen and women who hunt abroad. CSF worked with New Hampshire Caucus leaders to favorably amend the bill to exempt materials from animals that were legally hunted. The bill was signed into law by GSC Member Gov. Sununu in June.

### Maine Youth Bear Hunting

SP 669, sponsored by members of the Maine Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus, granted the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife the authority to establish a youth hunting day for bear. The final measure became law without the Governor's signature on April 4.

### Maryland Venison Donation Tax Credit

In January, HB 7 was introduced by Members of the Maryland Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus to provide a tax credit for deer donated to a venison donation program or food shelter. CSF submitted testimony, which recommended that the issue of not capping the credits for deer harvested through the DMP system be examined further. In the Senate, SB 182, was introduced by Caucus Member and both were signed into law in April by GSC Member Gov. Hogan.



## THE SOUTHEAST

### West Virginia Public lands Sunday hunting

On March 27, GSC Member Gov. Jim Justice signed SB 451 into law, which removed the prohibition against Sunday hunting on public lands in West Virginia. Sponsored by West Virginia Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus Co-Chair Sen. Mark Maynard, SB 451 passed both chambers by wide margins with broad bipartisan support.

### North Carolina Right to Hunt and Fish

On November 6, voters in North Carolina approved an amendment to the state constitution to protect the Right to Hunt, Fish, and Harvest Wildlife. The amendment was presented to voters after SB 677, which was sponsored by North Carolina Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus members Sen. Danny Earl Britt, Sen. Tom McInnis, and Sen. Norman Sanderson, passed the legislature this year.

### West Virginia nonresident student hunting, trapping and fishing licenses.

On March 20, GSC member Gov. Jim Justice signed Senate Bill 346 into law, which will allow full-time nonresident college students to purchase West Virginia lifetime hunting and fishing licenses. This bill was sponsored by West Virginia Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus Co-Chair Sen. Mark Maynard.

### South Carolina Conservation Bank Reauthorization

On May 18, legislation to reauthorize the South Carolina Conservation Bank was signed into law by South Carolina Gov. Henry McMaster. House Bill 4727 would enable the Conservation Bank to continue its duties and functions for collaborative conservation efforts in South Carolina, this time without a sunset limitation.

### Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Amendment

On November 6, Georgia voters approved the Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Fund as a constitutional amendment. This amendment will dedicate 80% of the existing excise tax - without raising taxes or creating any new fees - on outdoor recreation equipment to conserve critical lands and waters for outdoor recreation.

### Georgia Youth Outdoors Passport Act

The Georgia Youth Outdoors Passport Act (SB 332), sponsored by Natural Resources Committee Chairman Sen. Tyler Harper and cosponsored by NASC Executive Council President and Natural Resources Committee Vice-Chair Senator Bill Heath, aims to assist in the recruitment of new hunters and anglers by establishing an outdoor mentor program and the outdoor passport license program. The bill ultimately passed both chambers and was signed into law by GSC member Gov. Nathan Deal on May 8.

## THE MIDWEST

### **Kansas Controlled Shooting Areas Season Expansion**

This legislation expands the hunting season for the 138 licensed controlled shooting areas in the state by one month. These areas provide additional opportunities to recruit new hunters through hunting released species such as pheasant, quail, and chukar. HB 2558 was signed into law in April by GSC member Gov. Dr. Jeff Colyer.

### **Oklahoma Controlled, Draw, Lottery, and Raffle Hunts**

HB 3319 gives the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation the authority to conduct controlled, draw, lottery or raffle hunts. The legislation was signed into law in April by GSC Member Gov. Mary Fallin.

### **Wisconsin Apprentice and Youth Trapping Program**

AB 605 established both a youth trapping program and an apprentice trapping program. Under the bill, a person under 16 may engage in trapping without a license if they are under the supervision of a licensed trapper. This bill was signed into law in April by GSC Member Governor Scott Walker.

### **Wisconsin Shooting Range Protection**

AB 820 makes it more difficult to close shooting ranges by establishing standards of proof required to effect a temporary or permanent closure of a sport shooting range based on an unsafe condition. The bill was signed into law in March by GSC Member Governor Scott Walker.

### **South Dakota Apprentice Hunting**

SB 137 removed the minimum age from South Dakota's existing mentored hunting program. Prior to passage, mentored hunting opportunities were only available to youth between the ages of 10 – 16 years old. SB 137, signed into law in March by GSC Member Governor Dennis Daugaard, now allows anyone younger than 16 to hunt without a license when in the presence of a hunting mentor.

### **Illinois Wildlife Violators**

Signed into law in August by GSC Member Governor Bruce Rauner, HB 5317 increased the penalties for poaching. Furthermore, it created a significant deterrent from harvesting trophy white-tailed deer by also adding additional fines dependent upon antler size.

## THE WEST

### **Colorado Hunting, Fishing and Parks for Future Generations Act**

The Hunting, Fishing and Parks for Future Generations Act, SB 18-143, aims to increase hunting and angling participation, expand access for sportsmen and women, modernize Colorado's fish hatcheries, and meet Colorado Parks and Wildlife's maintenance needs. The bill, sponsored by Colorado Legislative Caucus Co-Chairs, was approved by the legislature and signed by GSC Member Gov. John Hickenlooper.

### **California Lead Tackle Ban**

On April 24, the California Assembly Committee on Environmental Safety and Toxic Substances held a hearing on Assembly Bill 2787, a bill that would outlaw the manufacturing, sale, and purchase of lead fishing weights weighing less than 50 grams. CSF also submitted comments to the Committee in opposition of the bill. Ultimately, the bill was amended into a study and died prior to the end of the legislative session.

### **California Trophy Importation Veto**

On September 30, Gov. Jerry Brown vetoed Senate Bill 1487 following outreach to the Governor by the sportsmen's community, including CSF. This bill, which would have banned the importation of 11 African species, was opposed by a broad coalition of sportsmen's and conservation organizations, including CSF.

### **Oregon Anti-Poaching Bill**

On February 28, the Oregon State Senate voted unanimously to pass House Bill 4030, which would authorize courts to require wildlife law violators to pay a portion of, or all, fines incurred from the unlawful taking of wildlife, to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

### **Alaska Electronic Licensing Bill**

In July, Alaska HB 260, legislation that would allow sportsmen and women to carry electronic conservation licenses into the field, was officially signed into law by GSC Member Gov. Bill Walker.

### **Idaho State Land Access Agreement**

In August, the Idaho Fish and Game Commission voted unanimously to finalize a recreation policy Memorandum of Agreement with the Idaho Land Board to protect access for hunting, angling, trapping, and other forms of recreational access on Idaho's state endowment lands.



## THE TRUE IDENTITY OF AMERICA'S CONSERVATIONISTS

At the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Gifford Pinchot, Chief of the U.S. Forest Service and one of the fathers of the American conservation movement, developed the now widely accepted definition of conservation as the “wise use of the Earth and its resources for the lasting good of men.” According to Pinchot, the purpose of conservation is to produce “the greatest good for the greatest number for the longest time,” with sound science as the recognized tool to accomplish this objective.

Conservationists are people who support and/or engage in this approach to natural resource management. Hunters and anglers are among the first Americans to endorse the idea. Their legacy is now over 100 years old. Through their leadership, state agencies were established to manage our nation's fish and wildlife, and to adopt laws and create programs to conserve these public trust resources.

Arguably, the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Programs (WSFR), a key component of the American System of Conservation Funding, were the most important of these programs to be created. Through this unique “user-pays, public-benefits” system, sportsmen and women are the primary funders of wildlife conservation, providing upwards of 80% of the funding for state fish and wildlife agencies. They also financially support conservation through the purchase of hunting and fishing licenses and permits, duck stamps, firearms, ammunition and archery equipment, philanthropy, and the creation of organizations whose sole mission is the restoration and enhancement of species of wildlife.

Unfortunately, the tremendous contribution made by sportsmen and women toward the restoration and conservation of our wildlife resources remains largely unknown to the general public. This situation is exacerbated by the media's broad-based use of the term “conservationist.” They are unable to distinguish between individuals and organizations that financially support wildlife conservation and those that don't. The latter include animal rights and anti-hunting organizations, those whose funding is spent primarily on litigating resource management decisions and those that promote a preservationist “don't touch” philosophy in wildlife management.

It is not by accident that these groups and through their interaction with the media seized upon the term “conservationist” in order to cloak their preservationist, anti-consumptive use philosophy. In the 1990s, labels such as “environmentalist,” “protectionist,” and “animal rightist,” became undesirable labels. These groups began the calculated adoption of the term “conservationist” in an effort to reverse the political and societal credibility that they were beginning to lose.

It is critical that we educate the American public about the fact that hunting, angling, recreational shooting, and trapping are closely related to fish and wildlife conservation. In fact, it is almost universally impossible to speak of one without the other. The term “conservationist” must be rightfully applied.

Using phrases like “sportsmen and other conservationists,” or “sportsmen-conservationists” when describing ourselves accurately characterizes the relationship between sportsmen and women and our nation's natural resources. “Conservationist” is a title sportsmen and women helped create, work hard to maintain, and are proud to rightfully claim. They truly earned and deserve this distinctive designation.

The community of hunters and anglers must take every available opportunity to educate the American people and the media on what the term “conservationist” means, who the conservationists are, and what conservationists have achieved in making this country's wildlife resources the envy of the world.

# CONTRIBUTIONS OF AMERICA'S TRUE CONSERVATIONISTS

## HOW SPORTSMEN AND WOMEN SUPPORT THE AMERICAN SYSTEM OF CONSERVATION FUNDING

LAST YEAR ALONE

**\$787 million**

generated by the Pittman-Robertson Fund, from hunting and recreational shooting-related excise taxes

**\$627 million**

generated by the Dingell-Johnson/Wallop-Breaux Fund, from fishing and boating-related excise taxes

**\$853 million**

generated from hunting licenses

**\$708 million**

generated from fishing licenses

Since 1939 state fish and wildlife agencies have received over

**\$62.1 billion**

from sportsmen and women

**80**

% of the funding for state fish and wildlife agencies is paid for by sportsmen and women

**Much, much more:** Sportsmen and women also contribute to improved access to public lands, recreational shooting facilities, improved water quality, soil conservation, habitat restoration, and hunter and boater safety programs through conservation funding



This “user pays – public benefits” program known as the American System of Conservation Funding allows the public to access and enjoy our country's greatest natural resources.

Learn More: [congressionalsportsmen.org/policies/state/ascf](http://congressionalsportsmen.org/policies/state/ascf)

# SPORTSMEN'S ECONOMIC IMPACT

With countless places to roam and enjoy the great outdoors, Americans are taking advantage of these opportunities, and as they go, spending significant dollars. New economic reports reveals more than 53 million Americans consider themselves sportsmen and women, spending more than \$93.5 billion in 2016 on gear, licenses, travel, clothing, gas and more.

In coordination with Southwick Associates, the American Sportfishing Association, and the National Shooting Sports Foundation CSF released a report on recent economic information related to the sportsmen's spending and participation. It shows that expenditures made for hunting, target shooting and sportfishing gear and services in 2016 supported 1.6 million jobs and provided \$72 billion in salaries and wages. These monies also generated nearly \$20 billion in local, state and federal taxes, much of which benefits vital conservation and educational programs that improve our outdoor areas for all who enjoy them and make hunting and shooting safer activities.

*"Hunting, angling, and the shooting sports continue to be a critical and significant contributor to the nation's economy, and to the conservation of our nation's natural resources through the American System of Conservation Funding,"*

- Jeff Crane,  
CSF President

## HIGHLIGHTS:

- Each year, 35.8 million people 16 years and older go fishing in the U.S.
- More than 28 million people over 16 went afield on our nation's public and private lands, waters, and gun ranges to hunt and target shoot in 2016.
- The number of people who participate in sportfishing, hunting, and target shooting represent 16.5% of the total U.S. population.
- When factoring in multiplier effects, spending by sportsmen created economic activity in excess of \$220 billion.
- Hunting, fishing, and recreational shooting adds \$119 billion of overall value to our nation's gross domestic product and generates \$17.6 billion in federal taxes and \$12.2 billion in state and local taxes.



# The Impact of Fishing, Hunting and Target Shooting in America

DRIVING THE U.S. ECONOMY

## 53.4 MILLION AMERICANS

take part in recreational fishing, hunting and target shooting each year.

Collectively, those sportsmen and women help drive the U.S. economy, spending

## \$93.7 BILLION

on gear, motorboat fuel, licenses, travel, clothing and more in 2016 alone.



CONSUMER SPENDING BY HUNTERS, ANGLERS AND TARGET SHOOTERS SUPPORTS OVER

## 1.6 MILLION JOBS

TO THE TUNE OF **\$71.8 BILLION** IN SALARIES

THESE ACTIVITIES CONTRIBUTED

## \$119 BILLION

TO U.S. GDP IN 2016



America's 13.3 million hunters and 32 million target shooters add

## \$55.4 BILLION

TO THE GDP

These activities provide for

## 854,000 JOBS

Meanwhile, America's 45.8 million anglers contribute

## \$63.5 BILLION

TO THE NATION'S GDP

These expenditures support

## 802,000 JOBS

# 2018 CSF EVENTS



Katy Dusters Sportsman's Club and Olympic gold medalist Vincent Hancock at Texas Bass, Bucks & Boots



Congressional Clays Competition



Legislators gathered at the NASC Annual Sportsman-Legislator Summit in Bretton Woods, New Hampshire



CSF staff and friends at California Wine, Wings & Wildlife



Jack Carr, Eva Shockey and Tim Brent at Wine, Wheels & Wildlife



Governors Sportsmen's Caucus Co-Chair Gov. Matt Mead (WY) speaking at the GSC Winter Reception



Reps. Gene Green (TX), Debbie Dingell (MI) and Jeff Fortenberry (NE) at the Recovering America's Wildlife Act Breakfast Briefing



Congressional staffers learning about firearm safety and the shooting sports at the August Recess Clays Competition



Members of Congress at the Congressional Clays Competition



South Carolina Regional Event at the Palmetto Shooting Complex



Rob Keck (Bass Pro Shops), CSF Ambassador and country musician Lucas Hoge, CSF President Jeff Crane, and CSF Board Member John Paul Morris at SHOT Show



CSF Board Chairman Paul Miller, Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue, CSF President Jeff Crane, and CSC leadership at the 29th Annual Banquet & Auction

# CONGRESSIONAL SPORTSMEN'S CAUCUS IN THE 115th CONGRESS

63  
Senate

217  
House

280  
Total

## CO-CHAIRS



Sen. Jim Risch (ID)



Sen. Joe Manchin (WV)



Rep. Jeff Duncan (SC)



Rep. Gene Green (TX)

## VICE-CHAIRS



Sen. Deb Fischer (NE)



Sen. Heidi Heitkamp (ND)



Rep. Austin Scott (GA)



Rep. Marc Veasey (TX)

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Sen. Richard Shelby  
Rep. Robert Aderholt  
Rep. Mo Brooks  
Rep. Bradley Byrne  
Rep. Gary Palmer  
Rep. Martha Roby  
Rep. Mike Rogers

**ALASKA**  
Sen. Lisa Murkowski  
Sen. Dan Sullivan  
Rep. Don Young

**ARIZONA**  
Rep. Paul Gosar  
Rep. David Schweikert

**ARKANSAS**  
Sen. John Boozman  
Sen. Tom Cotton  
Rep. Rick Crawford  
Rep. French Hill  
Rep. Bruce Westerman  
Rep. Steve Womack

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Rep. Ken Calvert  
Rep. Jim Costa  
Rep. Jeff Denham  
Rep. John Garamendi  
Rep. Jared Huffman  
Rep. Duncan Hunter  
Rep. Doug LaMalfa  
Rep. Tom McClintock  
Rep. Dana Rohrabacher  
Rep. Edward Royce  
Rep. Mike Thompson  
Rep. David Valadao

**COLORADO**  
Sen. Michael Bennet  
Sen. Cory Gardner  
Rep. Ken Buck  
Rep. Mike Coffman  
Rep. Doug Lamborn  
Rep. Jared Polis  
Rep. Scott Tipton

**CONNECTICUT**  
Rep. Joe Courtney  
Rep. John Larson

**DELAWARE**  
Sen. Tom Carper

**FLORIDA**  
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Rep. Vern Buchanan  
Rep. Ron DeSantis  
Rep. Neal Dunn  
Rep. Alcee Hastings  
Rep. Brian Mast  
Rep. Bill Posey  
Rep. Thomas Rooney  
Rep. Dennis Ross  
Rep. John Rutherford  
Rep. Ted Yoho

**GEORGIA**  
Sen. Johnny Isakson  
Sen. David Perdue  
Rep. Rick Allen  
Rep. Sanford Bishop  
Rep. Earl 'Buddy' Carter  
Rep. Doug Collins  
Rep. Drew Ferguson  
Rep. Tom Graves  
Rep. Karen Handel  
Rep. Jody Hice  
Rep. Austin Scott

**HAWAII**  
Sen. Brian Schatz

**IDAHO**  
Sen. Mike Crapo  
Sen. Jim Risch  
Rep. Raul Labrador  
Rep. Mike Simpson

**ILLINOIS**  
Sen. Richard Durbin  
Rep. Mike Bost  
Rep. Cheri Bustos  
Rep. Rodney Davis  
Rep. Randy Hultgren  
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Rep. Jeff Fortenberry  
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Sen. Dean Heller  
Rep. Mark Amodei

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**NEW JERSEY**  
Rep. Leonard Lance  
Rep. Frank LoBiondo  
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Sen. Tom Udall  
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Rep. Dan Newhouse  
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Rep. Dave Reichert

**WEST VIRGINIA**  
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Rep. Evan Jenkins  
Rep. David McKinley  
Rep. Alex Mooney

**WISCONSIN**  
Rep. Glenn Grothman  
Rep. Ron Kind  
Rep. Paul Ryan

**WYOMING**  
Sen. John Barrasso  
Sen. Mike Enzi

\*As of 12/10/2018



# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF SPORTSMEN'S CAUCUSES

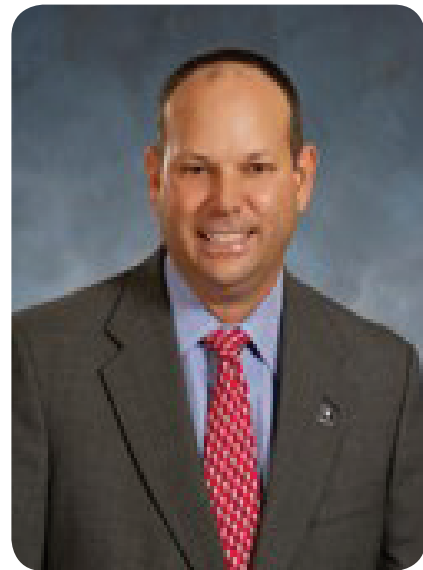


CSF set out to create a network of state legislative sportsmen's caucuses, and in 2004 the National Assembly of Sportsmen's Caucuses (NASC) was launched. Currently, with 48 state legislative sportsmen's caucuses, and over 2,500 state legislators united under the NASC umbrella, NASC facilitates the interaction and exchange of ideas among state caucus leaders and the outdoor community. NASC is staffed through CSF, with a dedicated staff member in each region.

## NASC EXECUTIVE COUNCIL



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Sen. Robin Webb (KY)  
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Sen. John Astle (MD)

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Sen. Mike Green (MI)  
Sen. Robin Webb (KY)  
Del. Wendell Beitzel (MD)  
Rep. Scott Bounds (MS)  
Rep. Patrick Brennan (VT)  
Rep. Bill Rehm (NM)  
Rep. Jeff Wardlaw (AR)  
Rep. Stephen Wood (ME)

### ALTERNATE MEMBERS

Rep. Terry Baxter (IA)  
Rep. Jerry Costello (IL)  
Rep. Brad Witt (OR)

# STATES PROGRAM TEAM



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**Zach Widner**, Northwest States Senior Manager: AK, HI, ID, MT, NV, OR, UT, WA  
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# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF SPORTSMEN'S CAUCUSES LEADERSHIP BY STATE



**Alabama Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus**  
Sen. Del Marsh  
Rep. Randy Davis



**Florida Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus**  
Rep. Halsey Beshears



**Louisiana Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus**  
Sen. Gerald Long  
Sen. Francis Thompson  
Rep. Gene Reynolds  
Rep. Clay Schexnayder



**Montana Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus**  
Sen. Jill Cohenour  
Sen. Jedediah Hinkle  
Rep. Zach Brown  
Rep. Matt Regier



**North Dakota Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus**  
Sen. Kelly Armstrong  
Sen. Erin Oban  
Rep. Corey Mock  
Rep. Todd Porter



**Texas Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus**  
Sen. Craig Estes  
Rep. Kyle Kacal



**Alaska Legislative Outdoor Heritage Caucus**  
Sen. Donald Olson  
Sen. Peter Micciche  
Rep. Mark Neuman  
Rep. Chris Tuck



**Georgia Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus**  
Sen. Bill Heath  
Rep. David Knight



**Maine Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus**  
Sen. Troy Jackson  
Sen. Tom Saviello  
Rep. Martin Grohman  
Rep. Steve Wood



**Nebraska Legislative Sportsmen's Forum**  
Sen. Dan Hughes  
Sen. Curt Friesen



**Ohio Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus**  
Sen. Sean O'Brien  
Sen. Joe Uecker  
Rep. Jack Cera  
Rep. Jonathan Dever



**Utah Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus**  
Sen. Allen Christensen  
Rep. Timothy Hawkes  
Rep. Keven Stratton



**Arizona Legislators For Wildlife**  
Rep. Lupe Contreras  
Rep. Karen Fann



**Idaho Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus**  
Sen. Lee Heider  
Sen. Michelle Stennett  
Rep. Mat Erpelding  
Rep. Steve Miller



**Maryland Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus**  
Sen. John Astle  
Del. Wendell Beitzel  
Del. Edward Carey



**Nevada Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus**  
Sen. Scott Hammond  
Sen. Mo Denis  
Assm. Ira Hansen  
Assm. Justin Watkins



**Oklahoma Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus**  
Sen. Mark Allen  
Sen. J.J. Dossett  
Rep. Mike Sanders  
Rep. Johnny Tadlock



**Vermont Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus**  
Sen. John Rodgers  
Sen. Alice Nitka  
Rep. Patrick Brennan  
Rep. Cynthia Browning



**Arkansas Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus**  
Sen. Jonathan Dismang  
Rep. Mathew Pitsch  
Rep. Jeff Wardlaw



**Illinois Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus**  
Sen. Pam Althoff  
Sen. Bill Haine  
Rep. Jerry Costello  
Rep. Michael Unes



**Massachusetts Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus**  
Sen. Anne Gobi  
Rep. Angelo D'Emilia  
Rep. Keiko Orrall  
Rep. David Vieira



**New Hampshire Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus**  
Sen. Bob Giuda  
Rep. Gene Chandler  
Rep. Jeff Goley



**Oregon Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus**  
Sen. Dennis Linthicum  
Sen. Lew Frederick  
Rep. Sherrie Sprenger  
Rep. Brad Witt



**Virginia Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus**  
Sen. Emmett Hanger  
Del. James E. Edmunds, II



**California Outdoor Sporting Caucus**  
Sen. Tom Berryhill  
Sen. Cathleen Galgiani  
Assm. Brian Dahle  
Assm. Jim Frazier



**Indiana Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus**  
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Sen. Jim Tomes  
Rep. Sean Eberhart  
Rep. Terry Goodin



**Michigan Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus**  
Sen. Mike Green  
Sen. David Knezek  
Rep. Triston Cole  
Rep. Phil Phelps



**New Jersey Angling And Hunting Conservation Caucus**  
Sen. Steve Oroho  
Sen. Steve Sweeney  
Assm. John Burzichelli  
Assm. Parker Space



**Pennsylvania Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus**  
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Sen. Patrick Stefano  
Rep. Ryan Warner  
Rep. Eddie Day Pashinski



**Washington Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus**  
Sen. Phil Fortunato  
Sen. Dean Takko  
Rep. Brian Blake  
Rep. Brad Klippert



**Colorado Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus**  
Sen. Randy Baumgardner  
Sen. Leroy M. Garcia  
Rep. Jeni James Arndt  
Rep. Jim Wilson



**Iowa Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus**  
Sen. Jim Carlin  
Sen. Rita Hart  
Sen. David Johnson  
Rep. Scott Ourth  
Rep. Terry Baxter



**Minnesota Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus**  
Sen. Carrie Rudd  
Sen. David Tomassoni  
Rep. Joe Hoppe  
Rep. Leon Lillie



**New Mexico Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus**  
Sen. George Munoz  
Sen. Steve Neville  
Rep. Candy Ezell  
Rep. George Dodge  
Rep. Bill Rehm



**South Carolina Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus**  
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Sen. Thomas McElveen  
Rep. Russell Ott



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**Connecticut Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus**  
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Sen. Philip Moran  
Rep. Scott Bounds  
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Sen. Terry Moulton  
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Sen. Robin Webb  
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Sen. Ogden Driskill  
Rep. John Freeman

# GOVERNORS SPORTSMEN'S CAUCUS



To complement the CSC and NASC, the Governors Sportsmen's Caucus (GSC) was launched in 2009 as a bipartisan caucus of governors who work to protect and advance the interests of America's sportsmen and women. The 36 member GSC facilitates communication and information exchange between participating offices in support of hunting, angling, recreational shooting and trapping.



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- Gov. Phil Scott (VT)
- Gov. Jim Justice (WV)
- Gov. Scott Walker (WI)

# NATIONAL HUNTING & FISHING DAY



Arkansas's proclamation signing ceremony

Governors from across the country, including GSC members and President Donald Trump, have signed proclamations recognizing Saturday, September 22 as National Hunting and Fishing Day. Among these 43 proclamations is:

- Gov. Kay Ivey\* (AL)
- Gov. Bill Walker\* (AK)
- Gov. Doug Ducey\* (AZ)
- Gov. Asa Hutchinson\* (AR)
- Gov. Dan Malloy\* (CT)
- Gov. John Carney\* (DE)
- Gov. Rick Scott\* (FL)
- Gov. Nathan Deal\* (GA)
- Gov. Butch Otter\* (ID)
- Gov. Bruce Rauner\* (IL)
- Gov. Eric Holcomb\* (IN)
- Gov. Kim Reynolds\* (IA)
- Gov. Dr. Jeff Colyer\* (KS)
- Gov. Matthew Bevin\* (KY)
- Gov. John Bel Edwards\* (LA)
- Gov. Paul LePage (ME)
- Gov. Larry Hogan\* (MD)
- Gov. Charles Baker (MA)
- Gov. Rick Snyder\* (MI)
- Gov. Mark Dayton (MN)
- Gov. Phil Bryant\* (MS)
- Gov. Michael Parson (MO)
- Gov. Steve Bullock,\* (MT) GSC Co-Chair
- Gov. Pete Ricketts\* (NE)
- Gov. Brian Sandoval\* (NV)
- Gov. Chris Sununu\* (NH)
- Gov. Susana Martinez\* (NM)
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- Gov. John Kasich (OH)
- Gov. Mary Fallin\* (OK)
- Gov. Kate Brown (OR)
- Gov. Tom Wolf,\* (PA) GSC Vice Chair
- Gov. Gina Raimondo (RI)
- Gov. Dennis Daugaard\* (SD)
- Gov. Bill Haslam\* (TN)
- Gov. Greg Abbott\* (TX)
- Gov. Gary Herbert\* (UT)
- Gov. Phil Scott\* (VT)
- Gov. Ralph Northam (VA)
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- Gov. Jim Justice\* (WV)
- Gov. Scott Walker\* (WI)

\*GSC member

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- Jeff Paro\*
- Simon Roosevelt - Boone and Crockett Club
- Hon. Lindsay Thomas\* - Lindsay Thomas Consulting
- Joshua Waldron - BLACKHAWK!

\*Honorary Board Member

# CSF STAFF



**Back row (left to right):**

- Taylor Schmitz, Federal Relations Coordinator
- Phil Hoon, Sr. Director, Corporate Relations
- Kelli Altimus, Sr. Finance Director
- Sarah Rusenko, Event Assistant
- PJ Carleton, Sr. Director of Events and Donor Relations
- Taylor Bissonette, Marketing and Communications Assistant
- Gary Kania, Vice President
- Jeff Crane, President
- Kelli Roessler, Event Manager
- Madison Engelking, Office Assistant
- Andy Treharne, Sr. Director, Western States/Federal Land Policy
- Sara Leonard, Policy and Communications Manager
- Bee Frederick, Southeastern States Director
- Leslie Garrett, Marketing and Communications Director

**Not pictured:**

- Joseph Mullin,  
New England States Coordinator;
- Zach Widner,  
Northwest States Sr. Manager

**Front row (left to right):**

- Nick Buggia, Upper Midwestern States Manager
- Brent Miller, Sr. Director, Northeastern States/States Program Administrator
- Chris Horton, Sr. Director, Midwestern States/Fisheries Program
- Brett Stayton, Mid-Atlantic States Coordinator
- John Culclasure, Central Appalachian States Manager
- Dante Swallow, Event and Development Coordinator

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 Grady-White Boats  
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American Knife & Tool Institute	Impact Gel
Ash Grove Cement Company	Kalahari Management Co., LLC
Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies	Legacy Sports International
Brownells	MIRA WINERY
Center for Sportfishing Policy	National Marine Manufacturers Association
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## BRONZE

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Black Hills Ammunition, Inc.	and Rodeo	Shell Lubricants
Bridgestone Americas, Inc.	Hurt, Norton & Associates	Shell Retail Fuels
The Buck Bomb	JC Larkin Company, LLC	Sierra Pacific Industries
The Budd Group	Jordan Outdoor Enterprises, Ltd.	South Point
Cable Television & Communications	Kelley Drye & Warren LLP	Southern Company Services, Inc.
Association of Illinois	Kelly HVAC	Stonebreaker LLC
Cameron Management	Lakeside Foundation	Swift Bullet Company
Capitol Hill Consulting Group	Leonard Bus Lines, Inc.	Syngenta Corporate Affairs
Bruce and Robin Cash	Lone Eagle Land Brokerage, Inc	TechnipFMC
Caterpillar, Inc.	Matrix Service	Texas Deer Association
Chattanooga Shooting Supplies, Inc.	Mule Deer Foundation	Texas Parks & Wildlife Foundation
Chicago Land Operators	Murphy Family Ventures	Theodore Roosevelt
Coca-Cola Bottling Company Consolidated	Mustang Cat	Conservation Partnership
The Coca-Cola Company	Napa Wine Company	Trident Computer Resources, Inc.
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Federal Forest Resource Coalition	North Shore Gas	Yamaha Marine Group
FMC Corporation	Nuclear Energy Institute	Molly Young
Foreign Cars Italia	O'Donovan Family Foundation	



CSC Vice-Chair and Chairman's Club Member Rep. Austin Scott (GA)

**Guides:** Mike Helton \* Walter McLallen \* John Nau III \* Kevin Wagner

**Scouts:** Trevor Ahlberg \* Ralph Castner \* Chris Chiafullo \* Richard Childress \* Jason Christensen \* Dick Corbett \* Bill Corrigan \* Mark DeYoung \* John Doerr \* Charles Dunkin \* Jason Hornady \* Meighan Hornady \* Brad Johnson \* Paul Miller \* Bob Model \* Johnny Morris \* Joshua Waldron

### Explorers:

Anonymous	F.R. "Jayar" Dailey	Lucas Hoge	Dave Matheny	Ether Schneider
Phil Albanese	William Demmer	Ben Hollingsworth	Mike McGarry	The Honorable Austin Scott
Dr. J. David Allen	Kevin & Karen Destruel	Steve Hornady	Julie McQueen	Albert Seeno
Orlando Alvarez	Austin Dillon	Andrew Hoxsey	Rocque Merlo	Thomas Seeno
Peter Angle	Ty Dillon	Chris Hudson	Brett Merrill	Merle Shepard
Darius Anderson	Raymond Donnelly	Nita Hudson	Jeanne Mitchell	Nancy Simpson
Jim Arnold	Chris Dorsey	The Honorable Richard Hudson	Alfred Montana	Steve Skold
Laurie Aronson	The Honorable Jeff Duncan	The Honorable Duncan Hunter	Jeff More	A.C. Smid
James Baker	Brett Eavenson	Becky Humphries	Phil Morlock	Eddie Smith
John Banovich	Scott Ernest	Will Ingham	John Paul Morris	Kirk Smith
Tuck Beckstoffer	John Evans	Mike Ingram	Alan "Iver" Mossberg	Walter Smith
Earl Bentz	Karl Evans	John Jackson	Pat Murray	Pepper Snyder
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\*As of 12/10/2018

Since 1989, the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation (CSF) has maintained a singleness of purpose that has guided the organization to become the most respected and trusted sportsmen's organization in the political arena. CSF's mission is to work with Congress, governors, and state legislatures to protect and advance hunting, angling, recreational shooting and trapping. The unique and collective force of the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus (CSC), the Governors Sportsmen's Caucus (GSC) and the National Assembly of Sportsmen's Caucuses (NASC), working closely with CSF, and with the support of major hunting, angling, recreational shooting and trapping organizations, serves as an unprecedented network of pro-sportsmen elected officials that advance the interests of America's hunters and anglers.

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