

May 27, 2014

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

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

Dear Leaders Reid and McConnell,

On behalf of the undersigned organizations and America's 40 million hunters and anglers, we ask that you bring S. 2363, the Bipartisan Sportsmen's Act of 2014, to the floor of the United States Senate in the most expedited, bipartisan fashion possible.

The Bipartisan Sportsmen's Act includes sensible provisions to expand public access and conserve fish and wildlife habitat. It enjoys the support of every major hunting and angling organization in the country and that support has convinced an incredibly robust list of bipartisan Senators that S. 2363 deserves not only their support, but their active cosponsorship.

The risk to this important legislation lies not in its content, but in the perils of partisanship. America's hunters and anglers, who annually contribute \$200 billion to the national economy, deserve expedited floor action on this proposal which has matured in a bipartisan way over the last several months. Our groups urge you to work together in the same way the bill's bipartisan cosponsors have done thus far, to bring S. 2363, the Bipartisan Sportsmen's Act of 2014, to the floor in a way that maximizes the bill's chances for passage.

As you are no doubt aware, similar legislation in 2012 met with wholly unnecessary political failure late in the year. Another setback in the Senate would likely have implications for the sportsmen's community for years. We are hopeful that with your leadership this regrettable situation is not repeated in 2014.

With the House having already passed a similar piece of legislation in a bipartisan manner, 40 million sportsmen await positive action by the United States Senate to make the Bipartisan Sportsmen's Act a reality. Our organizations stand ready to work with you and all members of the Senate to ensure a positive vote in support of this bill. Indeed that work has been going on for more than two years. Failure to pass this now would be a step in the wrong direction for the future of our American hunting and angling traditions and the significant contributions of sportsmen and women to fish and wildlife conservation, from which all of our citizens benefit.

Please bring the Bipartisan Sportsmen's Act to the floor in a manner that insures the bipartisan support necessary for final passage, and help us to ensure that future generations of Americans can enjoy our great outdoor traditions.

Sincerely,

American Fly Fishing Trade Association
American Sportfishing Association
Archery Trade Association
Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies
B.A.S.S., LLC
Berkley Conservation Institute
Boone & Crockett Club
Bowhunting Preservation Alliance
Campfire Club of America
Catch-A-Dream Foundation
Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation
Conservation Force
Dallas Safari Club
Delta Waterfowl Foundation
Ducks Unlimited
International Hunter Education Association – USA
Izaak Walton League of America
Masters of Foxhounds Association
Mule Deer Foundation
National Shooting Sports Foundation
National Trappers Association
National Wild Turkey Federation
National Wildlife 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
Sand County Foundation
Texas Wildlife Association
The Conservation Fund
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
Tread Lightly!
U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance
Whitetails Unlimited
Wildlife Forever
Wildlife Management Institute
Wildlife Mississippi