

America's Voice For Conservation, Recreation, and Preservation

July 6, 2011

The Honorable Harry M. Reid
United States Senate
522 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John A. Boehner
United States House of Representatives
1011 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Majority Leader Reid and Speaker Boehner:

We are a broad coalition of organizations representing millions of members with very diverse political backgrounds and areas of interest united behind a shared belief that natural resource conservation, outdoor recreation, and historic preservation, and investments in them, are vital to the future of our great nation.

Like you, we are concerned about our nation's fiscal health. The nation faces unsustainable future fiscal deficits, which must be addressed. As part of the overall solution to our deficit challenges, we know that conservation, recreation, and historic preservation programs will not and should not be exempt from scrutiny. We are willing to engage in a process to find further savings in spending, and review the economic and budgetary benefits of critical conservation, outdoor recreation, and historic preservation programs.

The Federal budget cannot and should not be balanced disproportionately on the backs of conservation, outdoor recreation and preservation. Doing so will impose on the future generations whose well-being depends on the conservation and preservation of our common natural and historic resources.

As a diverse community of taxpayers and voters who care about natural resource conservation, outdoor recreation, and historic preservation, we stand ready to work with you on serious efforts to address our nation's economic and fiscal challenges, as they relate to investments in, and tough choices about, the programs we care about. We urge this Congress to address the federal deficit while still investing in critical conservation, recreation and historic preservation programs in 2012.

Thank you.

Bill Meadows
President
The Wilderness Society

John Nau III
Board of Trustees
Civil War Trust

**Please see attached for list of signers as of 7/6/11

We are a broad partnership of nonprofits, organizations and businesses that represent tens of millions of American citizens who believe we must elevate the importance of natural resource conservation, outdoor recreation, and historic preservation programs.

List of Signatories

<i>National Organizations</i>	
Access Fund	Delta Waterfowl Foundation
Alliance of National Heritage Areas	Ducks Unlimited
American Alpine Club	Endangered Species Coalition
American Association for State and Local History	Great Old Broads for Wilderness
American Bird Conservancy	HistoriCorps
American Canoe Association	International Mountain Bicycling Association
American Cultural Resources Association	Izaak Walton League of America
American Farmland Trust	Land Trust Alliance
American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO)	Marine Fish Conservation Network
American Fisheries Society	National Alliance of Forest Owners
American Fly Fishing Trade Association	National Association of Forest Service Retirees
American Forest Foundation	National Association of State Park Directors
American Hiking Society	National Audubon Society
American Land Conservancy	National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers
American Mountain Guides Association	National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
American Recreation Coalition	National Marine Sanctuary Foundation
American Rivers	National Park Trust
American Trails	National Parks Conservation Association
American Whitewater	National Preservation Institute
Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies	National Shooting Sports Foundation
Bird Conservation Network	National Wild Turkey Federation
Blue Goose Alliance	National Wildlife Federation
Boone and Crocket Club	National Wildlife Refuge Association
Catch-A-Dream Foundation	Northern Forest Canoe Trail
Choose Outdoors	Openlands
City Parks Alliance	Organic Farming Research Foundation
Civil War Trust	Orion-The Hunters' Institute
Congressional Sportsmens Foundation	Outdoor Alliance
Conservation Force	Outdoor Industry Association
Dallas Safari Club	Outdoors America
Defenders of Wildlife	Outward Bound U.S.A.
	Partnership for the National Trails System
	Pheasants Forever

Portland Trails
 Preservation Action
 Public Lands Foundation
 Quality Deer Management Association
 Restore America's Estuaries
 Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
 Saving Birds Thru Habitat
 Sierra Club
 Society for American Archaeology
 The Center for Desert Archaeology
 The Center for Large Landscape Conservation
 The Coastal States Organization
 The Colorado Mountain Club
 The Conservation Fund
 The Forest Land Group
 The Hawk Migration Association of North America
 The Land Connection
 The Lands Council
 The National Trust for Historic Preservation
 The Nature Conservancy
 The Trumpeter Swan Society
 The Trust for Public Land
 The Wilderness Society
 Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
 Tread Lightly!
 Trout Unlimited
 Western Rivers Conservancy
 WildEarth Guardians
 Wildlands CPR
 Wildlife Forever
 Wildlife Management Institute
 Wild Sheep Foundation
 Winter Wildlands Alliance

Alliance for New York State Parks
 Alton Marketplace / Illinois Main Street
 American Society of Landscape Architects
 Amigos de la Sevilleta
 Amigos de los Rios
 Ammonoosuc Chapter of Trout Unlimited
 (New Hampshire)
 Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation
 Appalachian Highlands Conservancy
 Appalachian Mountain Club
 Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area
 Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
 Arlington Heritage Alliance
 Ascutney Mountain Audubon Society
 Ashland Mainstreet, Inc.
 Audubon Outdoor Club
 Audubon Society of Northern Virginia
 Baltimore Department of Recreation and Parks
 Baltimore National Heritage Area
 Bear-Paw Regional Greenways
 Bedminster Regional Land Conservancy
 Berkley Conservation Institute
 Bernheim Arboretum and Research Forest
 Bird City Wisconsin
 Blue Mountain Land Trust
 Bosco-Milligan Foundation
 Boston Harbor Island Alliance
 Branford Land Trust
 Breckenridge Outdoor Education Center
 Bull Moose Sportsmen's Alliance
 CA Japanese American Community Leadership Council
 Cahaba Riverkeeper
 California Capitol Historic Preservation Society
 California Council of Land Trusts
 California Heritage Council
 California Preservation Foundation
 California State Historic Preservation Office
 Californians for Western Wilderness
 Carolina Mountain Land Conservancy
 Cascade Land Conservancy

State, Local, and Regional Nonprofits and Organizations

Agricultural Stewardship Association
 Alabama Historical Commission
 Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation
 Alaska Association for Historic Preservation
 Alliance for Historic Landscape Preservation
 Alliance for Historic Wyoming

Cashiers Historical Society
Catawba Riverkeeper Foundation, Inc.
Center for Desert Archeology
Central Coast Land Conservancy
Central Virginia Battlefields Trust
Charles River Watershed Association
Chassahowitzka National Wildlife Refuge
Complex, Inc.
Cherokee County Historical Society
Cherokee Forest Voices
Chesapeake Conservancy
Chesapeake Wildlife Heritage
Chicago Wilderness
Chisago Lakes Main Street Initiative
Chisholm Trail Heritage Museum
Cienega Watershed Partnership
City of Madisonville
City of Minneapolis, Department of
Community Planning and Economic
Development
City of Shelby
Clinton Brown Company Architecture
ReBuild
Coastal Conservation League
Colorado Mountain Club
Colorado Preservation, Inc.
Columbus Landmarks Foundation
Community Open Land Trust
Connecticut Audubon Society
Connecticut Preservation Action
Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office
Conservation Council for Hawai'i
Conservation Federation of Missouri
Conservation Trust for North Carolina
Cooks Creek Watershed Association
Crossroads of the American Revolution
Crow Canyon Archaeological Center
D&R Canal Watch
DC Preservation League
Deer Creek Museum, Glenrock Historical
Commission
Delaware and Raritan Canal Coalition
Delaware Highlands Conservancy

Delmarva Ornithological Society
Eau Claire Historic Preservation Foundation
Endangered Habitats League
Environmental League of Massachusetts
Finger Lakes Land Trust
Fire Island Land Trust
Florida Trail Association, Inc.
Florida Trust for Historic Preservation
Foothills Conservancy of North Carolina
Forest Trust
Foundation for Historical Louisiana
Four Corners School of Outdoor Education
Frederick Historic Sites Consortium
Freshwater Future
Friends of Acadia
Friends of Back Bay
Friends of Blackwater
Friends of Camas National Wildlife Refuge
Friends of Congaree Swamp
Friends of Dyke Marsh
Friends of Great Swamp National Wildlife
Refuge
Friends of Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge,
Texas
Friends of Hakalau Forest
Friends of Heinz Refuge at Tinicum
Friends of Ironwood Forest
Friends of Las Vegas National Wildlife Refuge
Friends of Louisiana Wildlife Refuges, Inc.
Friends of Loxahatchee National Wildlife
Refuge
Friends of Necedah National Wildlife Refuge
Friends of Nevada Wilderness
Friends of Noxubee Refuge
Friends of Princeton Nursery Lands
Friends of Princeton Open Space
Friends of Rachel Carson National Wildlife
Refuge
Friends of Red Rock Canyon
Friends of Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge
Friends of Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge
Friends of Sunkhaze Meadows National
Wildlife Refuge
Friends of the Arapaho Wildlife Refuge

Complex

Friends of the Chassahowitzka National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Inc.
Friends of the Florida Panther Refuge
Friends of the National Wildlife Refuges of Rhode Island
Friends of the Neches River
Friends of the Prairie Learning Center
Friends of the Refuge Headwaters
Friends of the Sonoran Desert National Monument
Friends of the Southwest Louisiana Wildlife Refuges and Wetlands
Friends of the Tampa Bay National Wildlife Refuges
Friends of Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge
Friends of Wallkill River
Friends of Wertheim National Wildlife Refuge
Georgetown Trust for Conservation & Preservation
Georgia Forest Watch
Georgia Land Conservation Center
Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation
Glendale Heritage Preservation
Gold Coast & Hamburg Historic District Association
Grand Canyon Trust
Grand Canyon Wildlands Council
Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy
Great Egg Harbor Watershed Association
Greater Houston Preservation Alliance
Greater Lovell Land Trust
Greater Yellowstone Coalition
Greenbelt Land Trust
Guam Historic Resources Division
Harris Center for Conservation Education
Harrodsburg First
Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Association
Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area
Heat of the Lakes for Land Conservation Policy
Heat of the Lakes for Land Conservation Policy
Heritage Alliance of Northeast Tennessee & Southwest Virginia

Heritage Nebraska
Heritage Ohio
Historic Annapolis
Historic Boulder, Inc.
Historic Charleston Foundation
Historic Chicago Bungalow Association
Historic Denver
Historic FL Keys Foundation
Historic Fort Worth, Inc.
Historic Hawaii Foundation
Historic Kansas City Foundation
Historic Madison, Inc.
Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas
Historic Preservation Commission of South Bend & Joseph County
Historic Preservation League of Oregon
Historic Seattle
Historic Valley Junction Foundation
History Colorado
Hoosier Environmental Council
Housatonic Valley Association
Hudson Highlands Land Trust
Huyck Preserve and Biological Research Station
Ice Age Trail Alliance
Idaho Conservation League
Idaho Rivers United
Idaho State Historic Preservation Office
Idaho State Historical Society
Illinois Audubon Society
Illinois Environmental Council
Illinois Historic Preservation Agency
Indian River Lakes Conservancy
Iowa Wildlife Federation
Jackson County Tourism
Jay Heritage Center
Jefferson Land Trust
John G. Riley House Museum
Kentucky Woodland Owners
Keweenaw Land Trust
Kingston Greenways Association
Kingston Historical Society
Land Conservancy of Adams County

Land Trust for Santa Barbara County
Land Trust for the Little Tennessee
Landmarks Illinois
Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation
Life of the Land
Litter Beaver Creek Land Foundation
Los Alamos Historical Society
Main Street Corning
Main Street Perryville
Maine Preservation
Malheur Wildlife Associates
Marine Conservation Institute
Maryland Commission on African American
History and Culture
Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Ornithological Society
Mendocino Land Trust
Messa Land Trust
Michigan Historic Preservation Network
Milford Preservation Trust
Minneapolis Heritage Preservation
Commission
Minnesota Forestry Association
Mississippi Heritage Trust
Mississippi Land Trust
Mississippi River Trust
Mississippi SHPO
Missoula Parks and Recreation
Monadnock Conservancy
Montana Association of Land Trusts
Montana Audubon
Montana Preservation Alliance
Montana Wildlife Federation
Montpelier Mansion
Mount Grace Land Conservation Trust
MS Dept. of Marine Resources
Nantucket Historic District Commission
Napa County Landmarks
National Committee for the New River
National Outdoor Leadership School
Natural Resources Council of Maine
Natural Resources Initiative of Mississippi
Naturaland Trust

Nevada Conservation League & Education
Fund
New Jersey Conservation Foundation
New Jersey Recreation and Park Association
New London Landmarks
New Mexico Archeological Council
New Mexico Heritage Preservation Alliance
New Mexico Wildlife Federation
New River Land Trust
New York City Audubon
New York-New Jersey Trail Conference
NH Association of Conservation Commissions
North Carolina Coastal Land Trust
North Carolina Historic Preservation Office
North Country Trail Association
North County Conservancy
North Dakota Historical Society and State
Historic Preservation Office
North Preston Properties
North Shore Land Alliance
Northeast Wilderness Trust
Northern Forest Canoe Trail
Northern Sierra Partnership
Northern Virginia Conservation Trust
Northwest Watershed Institute
Norwalk Preservation Trust
Oakland Heritage Alliance
Oblong Land Conservancy
Ohio Archeological Council
Ohio Environmental Council
Ohio Forestry Association
Ohio Historic Preservation Office
Ohio Historical Society
Oklahoma Historical Society
Old Escondido Historic District
Open Space Institute
Oregon Natural Desert Association
Oregon Wild
Oregon-California Trails Association
Outside Las Vegas Foundation
Pacific Crest Trail Association
Pacific Rivers Council
Parker River Clean Water Association

Pasadena Heritage
Passaic River Coalition
Peconic Land Trust
Pleasant River Wildlife Foundation
Prairielands Preservation Foundation Board
Preservation Alliance of Philadelphia
Preservation Alliance of Minnesota
Preservation Alliance of West Virginia
Preservation America
Preservation Buffalo Niagara
Preservation Commission, Rock Island, Illinois
Preservation Foundation of Palm Beach
Preservation Kentucky
Preservation Louisville
Preservation Pennsylvania
Preservation Resource Center
Preservation Texas, Inc.
Preservation Trust of Vermont
Preservation Virginia
Preservation Wayne
Preserve Calavera
Preserve Rhode Island
Providence Preservation Society
Public Land and Water Access Association
Putnam County Coalition to Preserve Open Space
Quindaro Ruins / Underground Railroad-
Exercise 2011
Redlands Conservancy
Richland County Conservation Commission
Ridges to Rivers Open Space Network
Rio Grande Return
Riveredger Bird Club
Rock Island Arsenal Historical Society
Rock Island Preservation Society
Rowayton Arts Center
Sacred Sites International
Saginaw Basin Land Conservancy
Salem Audubon Society
Saline Historic Downtown Alliance
San Bernardino Mountains Lands Trust
San Juan Citizens Alliance
San Luis Valley Ecosystem Council

Santa Fe Conservation Trust
Saratoga Springs Preservation Foundation
Sayre Main Street, Inc..
SC Coastal Conservation League
Scenic Hudson
Scenic Virginia
Scott County Historic Preservation Society
Sequoia Riverlands Trust
Serpentine Art & Nature Commons, Inc.
SEWEE Association
Sheepscot Valley Conservation Association
Society for the Protection of New Hampshire
Forests
Soda Mountain Wilderness Council
Solano Land Trust
Somers Land Trust
Sourland Planning Council
Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy
Spokane Preservation Advocates
St. Marks Refuge Association, Inc.
Stanford White Casino Theatre corp.
State Historic Preservation Office, Wisconsin
Historical Society
State Historical Society of South Dakota
Swan Ecosystem Center
Tall Timbers Land Conservancy
Tampa Bay National Wildlife Refuges
Taos Land Trust
Tapteal Greenway Association
Tennessee Clean Water Network
Tennessee Ornithological Society
Tennessee Parks and Greenways Foundation
Tennessee Riverkeeper
Texas Land Conservancy
The Arkansas Audubon Society
The Audubon Society of Greater Denver
The Cazenovia Preservation Foundation
The CInch Coalition
The Connecticut Ornithological Association
The Conservancy of Montgomery County
The Cragmoor Conservancy, Inc.
The Delaware River Greenway Partnership
The Foundation for Historical Louisiana

The Georgia Conservancy
The Grand Staircase Escalante Partners
The Great Swamp Conservancy
The Harris Center for Conservation Education
The Historical Society of Harford County, Inc.
The Journey Through Hallowed Ground Partnership
The Lake County Forest Preserve District
The Land Conservancy for Southern Chester County
The Land Conservancy of New Jersey
The Maryland Historical Trust
The Mississippi Department of Archives and History
The Oblong Land Conservancy, Inc.
The Prairie State Conservation Coalition
The Preservation League of New York State
The Trustees of Reservations
The Villagers Inc.
The Warwick Conservancy Inc.
TN Environmental Council
Torne Valley Preservation Association
Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust
Tulsa Foundation for Architecture
Upper Midwest Archaeology
Utah Heritage Foundation
Valley Conservation Council
Vanceburg Renaissance on Main
Vermont Land Trust
Virgin Islands Historic Preservation Office
Virginia Forest Watch
Voyageurs National Park Association
Wallowa Land Trust, Inc.
Washington Water Trails Association
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition
Washington Wildlife Federation
Weeks Bay Foundation
Western North Carolina Alliance
Western Reserve Land Conservancy
Western Resource Advocates
WHALE - New Bedford
Wheeler Wildlife Refuge Association
Whidbey Camano Land Trust

Wild South
Wildlife Mississippi
Williamsburg Main Street Program
Willistown Conservation Trust
Winyah Rivers Foundation
Woodstock Land Conservancy
WV Land Trust
Young Preservation Associates of Pittsburgh

Industries and Associations

1% for the Planet
Acorn Products
Advanced Flexible Materials, Inc.
American Alpine Institute
American Outdoor Products, Inc.
American Sportfishing Association
Angling Trade Magazine
B.A.S.S. LLC
Backpacker Magazine
Big Agnes
Bison Belts
Black Diamond
Blue Ridge Outdoors Magazine
BlueWater Ropes
Boa Technology Inc.
Brandwise, Inc.
Breathe Magazine
C4 Waterman
CamelBak
CarbonVerde, LLC
Cascade Designs, Inc.
Casual Adventure
Chaco
Colorado Kayak Supply
Confluence Films
Conservation Easement Consultants
Dale of Norway, Inc.
Dansko, Inc.
Deckers Outdoor Corporation
Deneki Outdoors
Deuter USA, Inc.
DNF Media, Inc. - Outdoor USA Magazine
Eastern Mountain Sports

Ecosystem Management Consultants
Elevation Outdoors Magazine
Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance
Far Bank Enterprises
Fly Fish 10k
Forest Capital Partners
G.Loomis, Inc.
Gerber Legendary Blades
GoMotion Inc.
Gramicci
Great Outdoor Store
Harboe Architects, PC
HCFR Outdoors, LLC
Honey Stinger
Hornady Manufacturing
Horny Toad
Hurricane Kayaks
Immersion Research
Injinji
Karhu
KINeSYS Inc.
Kokatat
Lafuma America Inc.
Lawson Hammock
LEKI USA Inc.
Leupold & Stevens
Liberty Mountain
Light and Motion
Loksak Inc.
LOWA Boots LLC
Marmot Mountain, LLC
Merrell
Metolius Mountain Products Inc.
Momentum Media PR
Morsel Munk, LLC
Mountain Gazette
Mountain Gear
Mountain Mama
Mountain Shades
Mountain Tools
Nantahala Outdoor Center
National Marine Manufacturers Association
Nau, Inc.

NEMO Equipment, Inc.
Nester Hosiery
New England Wood Pellet LLC
New Forests Inc.
Noelani Hawaii SUP LLC
North Preston Properties
Oboz Footwear
One Source Apparel
Orvis
Osprey Packs
Outdoor Divas
Outdoor Industries and Associations
Association
Outside Adventure Film School
Pack Rat Outdoor Center
Paddlers Supply
Pennsylvania Fly Fishing Company
Petzl
Piragis Northwoods Company
Prana
Product Architects Inc.
Pure Fishing
Red Wing Shoe Company
Reflex Sourcing Inc.
REI
Remington Arms Company
Rock Creek Outfitters
Rose Creek Anglers, Inc.
Sanitas Sales Group
Sasquatch
Saucony
Serac Adventure Films
Sierra Business Council
Skinny Skis
Small Planet
Smith Optics
SnowSports Industries America
Sport Chalet, Inc.
Sporting Culture Advisors
Sportworks Northwest, Inc.
Sullivan-Bishop Agency LLC
Suspenz Storage Racks
Terra Public Relations

Terra Strenua Outfitters
Terramar Sports Inc.
The Fly Shop, Inc.
The Forest Group
The Lyme Timber Company
The Mountaineers
The Painted Trout
The Seeley Lake Nordic Ski Club
The South Carolina Aquarium
The Trailhead
The Walton Works, LLC
Thompson Manufacturing, Inc.
Tierra Environmental
Timbuk2
Twenty Two Designs, LLC
W & W associates, Inc.
Waterwisp Flies
West Coast Corp.
Wild River Outfitters, Inc.
Yellow Dog Flyfishing Adventures