

December 13, 2011

The Honorable Sheldon Whitehouse
717 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Sen. Whitehouse:

The Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership (TRCP) and the organizations signed below support the specific language and provisions in the SAFE Act, S. 1881, that will help minimize the expected impacts of climate variability and change on fish and wildlife in the United States and its territories. The language and provisions for fish and wildlife adaptation comport with the long-standing recommendations we have collectively made, except for the omission of dedicated revenue to fund the implementation of the Act.

Several of the signing organizations have national memberships of hunters and anglers that are deeply concerned about the future of fishing and hunting in the face of increasing human development along with the impacts of climate change. These organizations are collectively supportive of legislation that recognizes the reality of climate change and creates the national leadership and structure to minimize the expected impacts of climate variability and change, in partnership with state governments and the private sector. The fish and wildlife provisions of the SAFE Act meet that test and should remain as essential language in any forthcoming climate legislation.

The TRCP and organizations commend you for the spirit and science-based approach embraced in the SAFE Act in addressing the perils of a rapidly changing climate on fish and wildlife. Our organizations see the sustaining of high quality hunting and fishing opportunities for the public as a dividend for doing the right things in natural resources management, and the fish and wildlife provisions in the SAFE Act have the goal of doing the right things on the ground.

Thank you for your continued leadership on this urgent national – and worldwide – priority. The future of ourselves, our children and our grandchildren will be better when your leadership results in sound climate legislation.

Respectfully,

Steve Williams, Ph.D.
Wildlife Management Institute

Gary Taylor
Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies

David Nomsen
Pheasants Forever

Gus Rassam
American Fisheries Society

Whit Fosburgh
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership

Noreen Clough
B.A.S.S. LLC

David Hoskins
Izaak Walton League of America

Gordon Robertson
American Sportfishing Association

Steve Moyer
Trout Unlimited

Dave Howell
Quail Unlimited

Michael Hutchins, Ph.D.
The Wildlife Society

December 13, 2011

The Honorable Max Baucus
511 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Sen. Baucus:

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