



Hunters and Anglers Want a 2018 Farm Bill That Works Better for Wildlife, Landowners, and Rural America

Across the nation, working private farms and forests provide essential access for America's hunters and anglers, driving a rural outdoor recreation economy worth billions of dollars. The Farm Bill delivers more than \$5 billion annually for conservation on these important private lands, and this funding is fundamental to improving soil health, water quality, and fish and wildlife habitat. In the 2018 Farm Bill, sportsmen and women support maintaining strong funding for Title II conservation programs and the following top priorities for conservation and access:

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- **Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP):** Improve ACEP's ability to meet increasing demand from landowners to conserve farmland, forests, grasslands, and wetlands through easements.
 - **Conservation Compliance:** Retain the linkage between compliance and crop insurance. Strengthen Sodsaver by closing the 'alfalfa loophole' and collecting better data on grasslands loss.
 - **Conservation Reserve Program (CRP):** Increase available acreage in a manner that benefits wildlife and water quality in all regions.
 - **Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP):** Increase portion of EQIP funds that are used for wildlife investments.
 - **Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP):** Enhance the ability of public-private partnerships to scale-up work on regional conservation priorities for water quality, water quantity and wildlife outcomes.
 - **Voluntary Public Access and Habitat Incentive Program (VPA-HIP):** Increase states' abilities to provide recreational access on private lands.
- The mission of the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership is to guarantee all Americans quality places to hunt and fish by uniting and amplifying the voices of our 56 organizational partners in order to strengthen federal policy and funding.
- TRCP's 24-member Agriculture and Wildlife Working Group, a subset of the larger partnership, works specifically to balance the needs of production agriculture and private landowners with the needs of fish and wildlife, while sustaining and enhancing economically important recreational access to private lands. This work is done primarily around the federal Farm Bill, the single-largest source for private lands conservation funding.

**For more information, please visit www.trcp.org/farmbill
or contact Alex Maggos (amaggos@trcp.org)**

Agriculture and Wildlife Working Group (AWWG)

The Sportsmen's Top Priorities for Conservation and Access in the 2018 Farm Bill include recommendations from the 24 current members of the AWWG and our additional organizational partners. These recommendations attempt to capture as many diverse perspectives as possible while staying true to the mission and vision of the TRCP: to guarantee all Americans quality places to hunt and fish by uniting and amplifying our partners' voices to strengthen federal policy and funding.

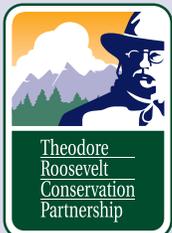


AWWG members include:

American Fisheries Society
Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies
The Conservation Fund
Delta Waterfowl
Ducks Unlimited
Izaak Walton League of America
Land Trust Alliance
National Bobwhite Conservation Initiative
National Deer Alliance
National Wild Turkey Federation
National Wildlife Federation
The Nature Conservancy
North American Grouse Partnership
Partners for Conservation
Pheasants Forever
Quail Forever
Ruffed Grouse Society
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
Trout Unlimited
The Trust for Public Land
Western Landowners Alliance
Wildlife Management Institute
Wildlife Mississippi
The Wildlife Society

Other contributing partners include:

Backcountry Hunters and Anglers
Fly Fishers International
Mule Deer Foundation
Snook and Game Fish Foundation
American Fly Fishing Trade Association
California Waterfowl Association
Wild Salmon Center



529 14th Street NW
Suite 500
Washington, DC 20045
202-639-08727 (TRCP)

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