

October 14, 2019

Rep. Jared Huffman Subcommittee Chair Water, Oceans, and Wildlife Subcommittee House Natural Resources Committee 1324 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Re: Recovering America's Wildlife Act (H.R. 3742)

Dear Subcommittee Chair Huffman,

As an organization that lifts up Latino voices on conservation policy issues, HECHO (Hispanics Enjoying Camping, Hunting, and the Outdoors) appreciates all that you are doing to protect nature and our shared natural resources.

Today, we thank you for your leadership in recognizing the incredible conservation opportunity of the Recovering America's Wildlife Act of 2019—H.R. 3742, which would increase funding for America's wildlife to \$1.3 billion annually and, importantly, provide tribal nations \$97.5 million annually for Tribal-led wildlife conservation efforts.

We proudly support the Recovering America's Wildlife Act because protecting our wildlife directly translates to our ability to enjoy and practice centuries-old outdoor traditions. This year's news that 1 million species worldwide are at risk of extinction—with more than 12,000 species in the United States that have been identified as at-risk--- comes as a major wake up call for us to do more to protect wildlife. And that begins with adequate funding for state wildlife agencies and tribes to proactively protect and preserve species before they become threatened or endangered.

With funding specifically designated for wildlife-related education and recreation, we believe this bill will help families across America to be better connected to nature and enjoy the outdoors even more, while making sure that everyone, including future generations, will have the opportunity to enjoy wildlife.

Thank you for co-sponsoring this important bill and for holding a hearing in the Water, Oceans, and Wildlife Subcommittee. We respectfully request that you continue to support and advance this important legislation through the House Natural Resources Committee.

Sincerely,

gille Simo

Camilla Simon Executive Director HECHO