

**SENT VIA EMAIL**

March 24, 2025

The Honorable Harriet Hageman  
Chair  
House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water,  
Wildlife, and Fisheries  
1324 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Val Hoyle  
Ranking Member  
House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water,  
Wildlife, and Fisheries  
1332 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Hageman and Ranking Member Hoyle,

Thank you for holding a hearing to discuss H.R. 1897, the *ESA Amendments Act of 2025*, legislation introduced by Chairman Westerman and supported by Pennsylvania Farm Bureau. This legislation presents a much-needed opportunity to modernize the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and create a more balanced and effective approach to species conservation.

Our members, who are invested in the preservation of our nation's lands, understand the importance of protecting endangered and threatened species. However, we have also experienced firsthand the challenges posed by the current outdated ESA framework. The Act, as it stands, often creates unnecessary regulatory burdens that impede agricultural operations and hinder voluntary conservation efforts.

We particularly commend the following aspects of the Endangered Species Amendments Act of 2025:

- The emphasis on prioritizing species recovery while promoting voluntary and proactive conservation measures by landowners.
- The efforts to streamline the ESA Section 7 permitting process and provide greater regulatory certainty for landowners.
- The focus on enhancing collaboration between federal agencies, state governments, and private landowners, recognizing the vital role that farmers and ranchers play in conservation.

Farm Bureau has long advocated for a modernized ESA which promotes voluntary programs that focus on species recovery and recognize landowners as essential partners in conservation. Chairman Westerman's legislation would be a major step in that direction towards creating a more practical and effective ESA that balances endangered and threatened species protection with the realities of agricultural production. Pennsylvania Farm Bureau is committed to working with Congress to ensure the successful implementation of the *Endangered Species Amendments Act of 2025*. Thank you again for hosting the hearing.

Sincerely,



Chris Hoffman  
President

CC: Bailey Fisher, Federal Affairs Specialist