



Steve Moyer
Vice President of Government Affairs

September 13, 2018

The Honorable Rob Bishop, Chair
Committee on Natural Resources
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Raúl Grijalva, Ranking Member
Committee on Natural Resources
1329 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Permanently reauthorizing the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

Dear Chairman Bishop and Ranking Member Grijalva:

On behalf of our 300,000 members and supporters across the country, Trout Unlimited (TU) is delighted to learn about the progress that you have made on permanently reauthorizing the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). We urge you to complete the task and offer here our views on H.R. 502, a bill to permanently reauthorize the LWCF, which is included in today's Full Committee markup.

LWCF is our country's premier program to fund public access, fish and wildlife conservation and outdoor recreation. Since 1965, LWCF has poured more than \$16 billion into local communities in every state to provide funding for everything from public land acquisitions to developing local outdoor recreation sites.

LWCF has provided state-side funding to secure fishing access to famous fisheries like the Madison River in Montana, Letort Spring Run in Pennsylvania, the Upper Colorado River in Colorado and the Brule River in Wisconsin – and many others. Additionally, LWCF is the primary source of funds for public land managers like to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management to acquire and conserve new public lands that are essential for sustaining our outdoor traditions and protecting fish and wildlife habitat.

Permanently reauthorizing LWCF before the September 30 expiration date is critical. As you consider H.R. 502 and amendments, we offer our support for bi-partisan proposals that provide fair allocations of funding for both stateside and federal LWCF programs, as well as access for hunting, fishing and outdoor recreation. We also urge you to reject amendments that would weaken a bi-partisan agreement to reauthorize LWCF.

Thank you for the consideration of our comments and your commitment to reauthorizing this vital program.

Sincerely,

Steve Moyer