

February 10, 2009

RE: Support for S. 22, the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the undersigned hunting, angling, wildlife recreation and professional groups, we write to express our support for S.22, the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009. If passed, the package would safeguard some of the nation's best fish and wildlife habitat and places to hunt and fish including the Wyoming Range, the National Landscape Conservation System, and Copper Salmon in Oregon. **We urge you to support the bill when it comes to the House floor and to oppose a "motion to recommit" or any other amendments to change the bill. Such amendments would likely prevent the bill's passage and deeply disappoint sportsmen.**

As more and more lands are developed or posted off limits, the public lands become ever more important to sportsmen and sportswomen. Fifty percent of the nation's blue-ribbon trout streams and 80% of the best elk habitat are found on public lands. Hunting and fishing combined accounts for \$75.4 billion in economic output annually. The Omnibus package is vital to protecting the lands and waters that sustain our communities and enrich the hunting and fishing legacy of this nation. For these reasons, we urge you to vote yes on this historic, bipartisan bill, and to oppose any motion to recommit.

Sincerely,

American Fisheries Society
American Fly Fishing Trade Association
Archery Trade Association
Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies
Association of Northwest Steelheaders
Backcountry Hunters and Anglers
Berkley Conservation Institute
Boone & Crockett
Bowhunters of Wyoming
Camp Fire Club of America
Federation of Fly Fishers
Mule Deer Foundation
National Trappers Association
National Wildlife Federation
National Outdoor Leadership School
Native Fish Society
Northwest Sportfishing Industry Association
Oregon Backcountry Hunters and Anglers
Oregon Council- Federation of Fly Fishers
Oregon Division- Izaak Walton League of America

Pheasants Forever
Pure Fishing
Quail Forever
Quality Deer Management Association
Southwest Oregon Chapter- Association of Northwest Steelheaders
Sublette County Outfitters and Guides Association
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
Trout Unlimited
Wildlife Management Institute, Inc.
Wyoming Backcountry Horsemen
Wyoming Biologists Association
Wyoming Game Wardens Association
Wyoming Outfitters and Guides Association
Wyoming State AFL-CIO