

PARTICIPATE IN THE WCC'S ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT POSTCARD CAMPAIGN!

CRAFT A THOUGHTFUL MESSAGE TO YOUR REPRESENTATIVES

INTRODUCTION - pick one or create your own!

- I am writing in support of the Endangered Species Act, and in opposition to efforts by Congress to weaken it.
- The Endangered Species Act is our safety net for fish, plants and wildlife on the brink of extinction.
- Recognizing that extinction is irreversible, the U.S. did in 1973 what no country had done before, made a commitment to protect and restore the species that are most at risk of extinction.



- As a lifelong supporter of the ESA and someone who cares deeply for our nation's wildlife, I am writing to request that you oppose legislation taking aim at ESA - the world's "gold standard" for conservation and protection of animals.
- The Endangered Species Act is one of the strongest, most effective wildlife protection laws in the world.

WHY IS THE ESA IMPORTANT? WHY SHOULD IT BE PROTECTED?

- The ESA has given thousands of at-risk species a second chance for over four decades and has worked successfully to prevent the extinction of 99% of the species placed under its protection.
- The Endangered Species Act is a safety net for fish, plants and wildlife on the brink of extinction.
- According to a national poll conducted in 2015, 90% of American voters support the Act.
- As one of most successful bipartisan pieces of legislation our country has ever adopted, the Endangered Species Act is the world's "gold standard" for conservation and protection of animals.
- Since President Nixon signed the law in 1973, hundreds of species have been saved from disappearing forever, including [list one of more of your favorites, eg: grizzly bears, the bald eagle, gray wolf], and many more are on their way to recovery.

THREATS FACING THE ESA → LEGISLATION • ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGES

- Biologists warn that our planet is facing a sixth wave of mass extinction.
- Despite its success, anti-environment interests in the House and Senate are currently orchestrating some of the most serious threats ever posed to the Endangered Species Act.
- Wildlife opponents in Congress are taking aim at the Endangered Species Act under the guise of "modernizing" the successful legislation.
- Today, many politicians have forgotten the values Congress embraced four decades ago, and they now attempt to undermine one of most successful bipartisan pieces of legislation our country has ever adopted.
- Modernizing the Endangered Species Act is just another "alternative fact!"



CONCLUSION

- I'm counting on you to protect and preserve one of our nation's most effective environmental laws.
- Please preserve the spirit and integrity of this robust federal law and oppose any legislation that takes aim at ESA and imperiled wildlife!
- Extinction is forever.
- As your constituent, I am counting on you to ensure this landmark law is not weakened by political attacks.

WHAT ELSE CAN YOU DO?

Call your representative and remind them of the importance of the ESA. Have they voted against anti-ESA legislation? Thank them for their dedication to protecting imperiled species!

SPEAK UP

