



IN PURSUIT OF BOLD BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION GOALS, AMERICA'S HUNTERS & ANGLERS ARE PART OF THE SOLUTION

Hunt Fish 30x30 is a home for hunting and fishing conservation organizations and allies to learn about the effort to establish a goal of protecting 30% of the globe's land and water by the year 2030. Together, we are raising awareness about the role of hunting and fishing in biodiversity conservation and advocating for solutions that allow hunters and anglers to continue our proud conservation legacy.

As America's original conservationists, the hunting and fishing community has proactively supported strategic efforts to conserve our nation's terrestrial, freshwater, and marine ecosystems for more than a century. The ability to connect with our land, water and fish and wildlife through our outdoor pursuits continues to result in a deep appreciation and understanding of the link between healthy habitats and thriving fish and wildlife populations.

Through science-based, strategic implementation of management actions across the nation, as well as providing the bulk of the funding necessary to carry out conservation measures at the state level, we have been the catalyst that has positioned the United States as a global leader in natural resource and biodiversity protections. We therefore recognize and embrace the overlap between our collective work to conserve fish and wildlife species and their habitats and the establishment of ambitious global biodiversity conservation principle of the "30 by 30" initiative, which aims to conserve 30 percent of the globe's lands and waters by 2030.

While levels of anthropogenic activity in various land and water management strategies can vary greatly, only those strategies that target conservation needs with measurable outcomes will be effective. We support 30 by 30 policies that are not merely aspirational, but that recognize existing management levels/actions that currently afford protections and work to identify additional conservation needs and actions through an objective, science-driven, stakeholder-engaged process to determine the appropriate level of management actions necessary to meet biodiversity conservation goals.

Furthermore, we support 30 by 30 policies that recognize hunting and fishing as well-managed and sustainable activities that are in harmony with other management goals. Maintaining the sense of connection to our abundant resources and unrivaled natural beauty that these activities provide is essential to ensuring we have natural resource and biodiversity stewards for the next century, just as we have had in the past.

THE HUNTING & FISHING COMMUNITY STATEMENT ON THE 30 BY 30 INITIATIVE

WHEREAS, the United States is blessed with abundant resources and unrivaled natural beauty. Our fish and wildlife resources have provided food for generations of Americans as well as ample opportunity to enjoy hunting and fishing with their families and friends; and

WHEREAS, hunting and fishing provide Americans with opportunities to connect with the land, water, fish and wildlife and develop a deeper understanding of, and appreciation for, the link between professional science-based land and water management actions that result in healthy habitats, abundant fish and wildlife, thriving sporting opportunities, and an increased gratitude for the resources that our ecosystems can provide; and

WHEREAS, these connections have resulted in America's hunters and anglers emerging as the nation's most invested conservationists, contributing upwards of \$3 billion directly to state-based conservation each year; and

WHEREAS, the hunting and fishing community continues to support and invest in land and water protection through management efforts that acknowledge the necessity of conserving ecosystems alongside associated cultural values and traditional natural resource management models; and

WHEREAS, hunting and fishing have historically facilitated the establishment of enduring conservation measures on lands and waters to ensure their natural character, resources, and functions are maintained for current and future generations to use and enjoy, including through participation in scientifically managed wildlife-dependent recreation like hunting and fishing, which is consistent with the 30 by 30 initiative's objective to protect biodiversity; and

WHEREAS, the hunting and fishing community supports conservation efforts that maintain or increase outdoor recreation access, including hunting and fishing, that enhances our appreciation of biodiversity; and

WHEREAS, the hunting and fishing community supports conservation goals that recognize and include lands and waters already conserved in public trust by state, federal, or local law or regulation, particularly those conserved by each state's fish and wildlife management agency through funds made available by hunting and fishing license fees in that state and excise taxes from the Wildlife and Sportfish Restoration Programs of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; and

WHEREAS, lands and waters currently available for wildlife-dependent recreation, including hunting and fishing, should remain open and available for participation in these activities unless reduced access is justified by science-based concerns for the conservation of species affected by the recreational activity; and

WHEREAS, connecting all individuals with our natural resources, primarily those who have historically lacked access and opportunities to experience the outdoors, is the most effective method to increase awareness of, and generate support for, effective conservation efforts;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the undersigned members of the hunting and fishing community support in principle the 30 by 30 initiative's stated goal of protecting and enhancing biodiversity in terrestrial, wetland, aquatic, and marine habitats by the year 2030.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the support of the hunting and fishing community for individual 30 by 30 proposals is in accord with the development and implementation of 30 by 30 policy proposals that include: recognition of the positive role that hunting and fishing play in conservation; protected area definitions that allow for well-managed and sustainable wildlife-dependent activities; consideration of existing protected areas in measuring progress toward stated goals; targeted, science-based conservation measures developed through a stakeholder-driven process to address biodiversity threats; and clearly defined roles and authorities for the entities charged with carrying out the 30 by 30 initiative proposal.



Original Signatories

American Sportfishing Association

American Woodcock Society

Bass Anglers Sportsman Society

Center for Sportfishing Policy

Coastal Conservation Association

Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation

National Marine Manufacturers Association

National Wild Turkey Federation

Pheasants Forever

Quail Forever

Ruffed Grouse Society

Safari Club International

Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership