



The International Game Fish Association

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September 16, 2024

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
1625 I St., N.W.
Washington, DC 20006

Dear NFWF Marine Team,

On behalf of the International Game Fish Association (IGFA), I write to express support for Conserve.IO's proposal to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Vessel Strike Avoidance Fund, specifically for the Whale Alert Feature Expansion and Outreach initiative.

Conserve.IO's Whale Alert platform has been an important tool protecting marine life while ensuring responsible and safe recreational activity on America's public waters. It provides timely and trustworthy data that informs marine decision-making, helping reduce the risk of vessel strikes to North Atlantic right whales and all marine life. The Whale Alert platform has long provided this information through their API services and user-friendly, free apps. We support their proposal to strengthen the accessibility, availability and reliability of their marine mammal informational services under this grant for use by third-party organizations which will significantly increase the capacity to safeguard both recreational boaters and marine mammals.

We also support the project's commitment to engaging various stakeholder groups through outreach campaigns. By increasing awareness and encouraging the use of tools like Whale Alert, this initiative will play a crucial role to proactively reduce risk on the water.

The IGFA is proud to support Conserve.IO in their endeavors, and we look forward to collaborating with their trusted data sources to equip recreational anglers and boaters with the best possible information. We hope to leverage Whale Alert and other services to reduce vessel strike risk for all its users.

Given the importance of this work, we respectfully urge you to give Conserve.IO's proposal your full consideration.

Sincerely,

Jason Schratwieser
President

The International Game Fish Association is a nonprofit organization committed to the conservation of game fish and the promotion of responsible, ethical angling practices through science, education, rule making, record keeping and recognition of outstanding accomplishments in the field of angling.