American Fisheries Society \* American Sportfishing Association \* Archery Trade Association \* Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies \* Bass Anglers Sportsman Society (B.A.S.S.) \* BoatUS \* Bonefish & Tarpon Trust \* Boone and Crockett Club \* Center for Sportfishing Policy \* Coastal Conservation Association \* Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation \* Delta Waterfowl \* Ducks Unlimited \* International Game Fish Association \* International Hunter Education Association - USA \* Izaak Walton League of America \* Major League Fishing \* Marine Retailers Association of the Americas \* Mule Deer Foundation \* National Association of State Boating Law Administrators \* National Marine Manufacturers Association \* National Wild Turkey Federation \* Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation \* Sportsmen's Alliance \* Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership \* Trout Unlimited \* Whitetails Unlimited \* Wild Oceans \* Wildlife Management Institute

June 20, 2025

The Honorable Debbie Dingell U.S. House of Representatives 102 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Rob Wittman
U.S. House of Representatives
2055 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Dingell and Wittman:

On behalf of America's recreational fishing, hunting and boating community, along with fish and wildlife professionals, conservationists and outdoor enthusiasts, we write to thank you for introducing the Sport Fish Restoration, Recreational Boating Safety, and Wildlife Restoration Act of 2025 (H.R. 3858) to reauthorize the vital Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund through 2031.

For 75 years, the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act has stood as a global model for collaborative conservation. The excise taxes collected on fishing equipment and motorboat fuel fund critical on-the-water investments that have made the United States a world leader in aquatic resource conservation and recreational access. Since its inception, this program has generated over \$40 billion for fish habitat restoration, boating access sites, hatchery operations, and aquatic education—benefiting natural resources and outdoor recreation opportunities in every state.

As representatives of manufacturers, retailers, state fish and wildlife agencies, anglers, boaters, hunters and conservationists, we are proud to support this time-tested "user pays, public benefits" approach. The programs supported by the Trust Fund have resulted in over 9,000 public access sites, 320 fish hatcheries stocking nearly 1 billion fish annually, and education programs that have introduced more than 850,000 people to fishing.

Your bipartisan leadership in introducing this bill ensures that this legacy of conservation and access will continue to thrive well into the future. We are grateful for your efforts to provide long-term certainty and support for state agencies, tribes, and territories that depend on this funding to deliver fisheries management, boating safety, and habitat projects that benefit millions of Americans.

Thank you again for your leadership and commitment to the future of recreational fishing, boating, and aquatic resource conservation.

## Sincerely,

American Fisheries Society
American Sportfishing Association
Archery Trade Association
Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies
Bass Anglers Sportsman Society (B.A.S.S.)

**BoatUS** 

**Bonefish & Tarpon Trust** 

**Boone and Crockett Club** 

Center for Sportfishing Policy

Coastal Conservation Association

Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation

Delta Waterfowl

**Ducks Unlimited** 

International Game Fish Association

International Hunter Education Association - USA

Izaak Walton League of America

Major League Fishing

Marine Retailers Association of the Americas

Mule Deer Foundation

National Association of State Boating Law Administrators

National Marine Manufacturers Association

National Wild Turkey Federation

Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation

Sportsmen's Alliance

Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership

**Trout Unlimited** 

Whitetails Unlimited

Wild Oceans

Wildlife Management Institute