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Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-3808

November 17, 2015

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The Honorable Rob Bishop  
Chairman  
House Committee on Natural Resources  
1324 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Raul Grijalva  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on Natural Resources

Dear Chairman Bishop and Ranking Member Grijalva,

As co-sponsors of H.R. 1814, legislation which would permanently reauthorize the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) in its current form, we write to the Committee on Natural Resources to express our disappointment that this bill has not yet been advanced in the Committee and will not be included in the November 18, 2015 hearing on Chairman Bishop's draft legislation on this subject.

H.R. 1814 was introduced seven months ago, on the day of the last hearing held in the Natural Resources Committee on the subject of LWCF. It was introduced with nine Republican and nine Democratic cosponsors, a bipartisan number that has now grown to almost 200 Members of the House. And yet it has failed to receive a hearing while in the interim, LWCF has been allowed to expire for the first time in half a century.

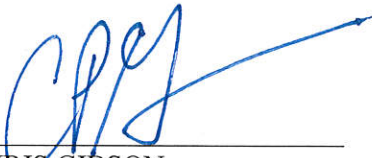
Now the Committee is considering legislation to reauthorize LWCF, but it will only be considering the Chairman's draft proposal and not the bipartisan bill supported by so many Members of this Committee and the House. The Chairman's proposal represents a radical departure from the existing LWCF program, one that has been incredibly successful and wildly popular for more than 50 years. We respectfully request H.R. 1814 be included in any discussion about changes to the program, as it represents tremendous support for LWCF as it exists today-- an effective set of tools for community-driven conservation.

We appreciate your consideration of this request, and look forward to working with you to advance H.R. 1814 through the Committee on Natural Resources.

Sincerely,

MIKE FITZPATRICK  
Member of Congress

PATRICK MEEHAN  
Member of Congress



CHRIS GIBSON  
Member of Congress



JEFF FORTENBERRY  
Member of Congress



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