



Labor Letter in Support of Fish and Wildlife Adaptation Provisions

July 23, 2009

The Honorable Barbara Boxer
Chairman
Senate Environment and Public Works
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable James Inhofe
Ranking Minority Member
Senate Environment and Public Works
456 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Union sportsmen do not need to read reports in the press to know climate change is already affecting the ways they pursue game and fish, the success of their days afield and the timing of their hunting and fishing trips.

Climate change has the power to fundamentally change the participation rates of our 3.2 million members that hunt and fish. As fish and wildlife habitat, abundance and distribution shift in response to a changing climate, patterns of recreational activities will shift as well. We can only imagine how a widespread national decline in hunting and fishing opportunities will affect the annual \$70 billion conservation revenue generated by hunters and anglers.

As partners of the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership, we believe that climate change legislation must address the impacts we already face. New dedicated resources are needed to protect and restore the natural environment, including fish, wildlife and their habitat, on which human health and economic vitality depends. Congressional action on climate change needs to include the following provisions.

Dedicated Funding for Protecting Fish, Wildlife, and Ecosystems. A share, no less than that contained in the House version of the bill (HR2454), of annual funding and not subject to annual appropriations should be used to protect and restore the natural environment, including fish, wildlife and their habitat. A portion of these funds should be provided to ensuring that climate change

strategies are integrated into state wildlife action plans, state coastal zone management plans, and other state wildlife species or habitat plans.

On behalf of union sportsmen, we urge your support of the natural resources, fish and wildlife adaptation provisions and ask that they be included in any climate change legislation ultimately passed by Congress.

Sincerely,

American Federation of Labor & Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO)
Building Construction Trades Department (BCTD)
United Association of Plumbers and Pipefitters (UA)
International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAMAW)
United Steelworkers of America (USW)
Sheet Metal Workers International Association (SMWIA)
International Union of Painters and Allied Trade (IUPAT)
United Union of Roofers, Waterproofers & Allied Workers (Roofers)
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW)
International Union of Bricklayers & Allied Craft Workers (BAC)
International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders, Blacksmiths, Forgers & Helpers (Boilermakers)
International Association of Heat and Frost Insulators Workers and Allied Workers (Heat/Frost Insulators)
International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF)
Communication Workers of America (CWA)
Bakery, Confectionary, Tobacco Workers and Grain Millers (BCT&GM)
Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen (BRS)
American Postal Workers Union (APWU)
Utility Workers Union of America (UWUA)
Ornamental Plasterers and Cement Masons of America (OPCMIA)
International Union of Elevator Constructors (IUEC)

cc: Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, Majority Leader Harry Reid, Majority Whip Richard Durbin, Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, Minority Whip Jon Kyl