

President Barack Obama  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20500

November 13, 2012

Dear President Obama:

We are organizations who represent millions of people from all across America. We are writing to express our unified support for the passage of a 5-year Farm Bill, before the end of this calendar year, with robust provisions to conserve the land and water so essential to our nation's future.

We urge that our top conservation priorities be included in the final legislation:

- the Senate-passed bill provision reestablishing the link between conservation compliance and crop insurance in order to protect and conserve wetlands and highly erodible soils;
- the Senate-passed bill provision creating a national sodsaver program to conserve native prairie and other significant grasslands habitat; and
- funding for conservation programs consistent with levels already proposed in both the Senate-passed bill and House Agriculture Committee reported bill.

We also support the Title II architectural design in both the Senate and House versions of the bill including the Regional Conservation Partnership Program, working lands programs, Conservation Reserve Program, and the combined easement program. We oppose the inclusion of extraneous provisions in the Farm Bill that would undermine federal and state environmental protections.

We are committed to working with Congress and the Administration to enact a Farm Bill reflecting these priorities before this Congress adjourns sine die. Such legislation is essential to the security of our country's food supplies and to the health of our land and water that sustains us all.

Thank you very much for your consideration of our perspectives.

Jamie Rappaport Clark  
President and CEO  
Defenders of Wildlife

H. Dale Hall  
CEO  
Ducks Unlimited

Roger Johnson  
President  
National Farmers Union

Whit Fosburgh  
President and CEO  
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership

Wm. Robert Irvin  
President  
American Rivers

Gene Karpinski  
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League of Conservation Voters

Scott Kovarovics  
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Jon Scholl  
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Mark Tercek  
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The Nature Conservancy

Jeff Vonk  
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Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies

Chris Wood  
President and CEO  
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Fred Krupp  
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Larry Schweiger  
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Steve Williams  
President  
Wildlife Management Institute

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National Audubon Society