

July 30, 2020

Dear Senator Cramer,

As organizations in North Dakota whose members love and appreciate the outdoors, nature and conservation, we offer our sincere thanks for your vote in support of the Great American Outdoors Act recently.

As you are well aware, adequate and stable funding for the Land & Water Conservation Fund in the Great American Outdoors Act is a tremendous step forward in maintaining the public infrastructure used by millions of Americans, and so many North Dakotans, who go out to enjoy nature with their friends and family. Directing dedicated non-taxpayer funds to the outdoor conservation purposes they are intended for is honest and transparent governing, and we thank you for that.

In this time of COVID and 'social distancing', more and more people are getting outdoors for responsible recreation, fresh air, and the refuge provided by our natural landscapes. As North Dakota's adopted son, Theodore Roosevelt, said, "There is a delight in the hardy life of the open. There are no words that can tell the hidden spirit of the wilderness, that can reveal its mystery, its melancholy, and its charm."

As North Dakotans embrace that same delight in the open, they join Americans from coast to coast who support 7.6 million jobs and generate \$887 billion annually through the economy of outdoor recreation.

We would list the projects, large and small, that have benefitted from Land & Water Conservation Fund investments in North Dakota, but this letter would get much too long. For yourself, and constituents who might ask about LWCF investments made in the state and in their communities, this interactive map gives a county by county accounting of the many projects North Dakotans enjoy and cherish because of the LWCF: <https://www.lwcfcoalition.com/map-of-lwcf>

Thank you again for your vote and for your support of the Great American (and North Dakota) Outdoors! We appreciate it, as do the tens of thousands of members our groups represent, here in North Dakota.

Sincerely,

Ducks Unlimited
North Dakota Natural Resources Trust
North Dakota Wildlife Federation
Pheasants Forever
Audubon Dakota
Delta Waterfowl
The Nature Conservancy in North Dakota
Backcountry Hunters & Angers, North Dakota
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
National Wild Turkey Federation, N.D. Chapter
Mule Deer Foundation