

SUPPORT THE RIGHTS
& TRADITIONS OF
SPORTSMEN

Barack Obama recognizes the great conservation legacy of America's hunters and anglers. Were it not for America's hunters and anglers, including the great icons like Theodore Roosevelt and Aldo Leopold, our nation would not have the tradition of sound game management and an extensive public lands estate on which to hunt and fish. Obama will make sportsmen and their priorities a centerpiece of his land and water conservation agenda.

#### **Protect Gun Rights**

Millions of hunters and shooters own and use guns each year. Barack Obama believes the Second Amendment creates an individual right, and he respects the constitutional rights of Americans to bear arms. He will protect the rights of hunters and other law-abiding Americans to purchase, own, transport, and use guns.

### Create New Access for Hunting and Angling

As more and more private lands are subdivided or placed off limits, sportsmen are losing access to places to hunt and fish. Obama will ensure funding to purchase land and easements to guarantee access. Obama will provide incentives to farmers and ranchers who voluntarily open their land to hunting and fishing.

# Restore Degraded Areas to Improve Hunting and Angling Opportunities

Obama will provide the resources to restore degraded lands and waters, enhancing places to hunt and fish. He supports the National Fish Habitat Initiative and cleaning up abandoned mines that pollute streams.

### Promote Responsible Energy Development on Public Lands

Since 1999, drilling on public lands in the Rocky Mountain West has increased by 260%. This drilling rush has

profound consequences for fish, wildlife, and water resources. Obama will implement an energy policy that protects the most important fish and wildlife habitat, wildlife corridors, and other areas while ensuring responsible energy development on our public lands.

### Restore Resiliency to Fish and Wildlife Habitats in Response to Climate Change

Climate change will increase drought, wild fires, and flooding across the country. Obama will work with Congress to provide new funding to state and federal land and wildlife managers through climate change legislation to restore habitat, create wildlife migration corridors, and assist fish and wildlife to adapt to effects of a warming climate.

# Protect Wetlands, which are Critical to Waterfowl and other Wildlife

Every year we lose 80,000 acres of wetlands that are important to waterfowl and wildlife. Obama will ensure that wetlands receive the protection they deserve and will provide a bright future for waterfowl.

#### Provide Incentives to Conserve Private Lands

Obama will ensure that Farm Bill conservation programs are managed to provide maximum benefit to fish and wildlife. Obama will also extend federal

tax incentives for landowners that place conservation easements on their land to conserve open space and protect water quality.

### Protect Backcountry Hunting and Fishing

Keeping backcountry areas on our National Forests intact benefits fish, wildlife, and water resources, and hunting and angling. Obama will protect roadless areas on forest service lands. Obama believes that these lands provide some of the best fish and wildlife habitat, and hunting and angling opportunity in the country. Obama will work with stakeholders to conserve our nation's public lands.

### Address the Decline in the Number of Hunters and Anglers

Obama understands that we need new generations of sportsmen to maintain hunting and fishing traditions, conduct important conservation projects and support our states' fish and wildlife programs. Obama will enhance programs to encourage youth to participate in outdoor activities and learn hunting, fishing, and conservation skills.

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