

# NFHP LEGISLATIVE TEAM

- AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY (AFS)
- AMERICAN SPORTFISHING ASSOCIATION (ASA)
- ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES (AFWA)
- CONGRESSIONAL SPORTSMEN'S FOUNDATION (CSF)
- THE NATURE CONSERVANCY (TNC)
- TROUT UNLIMITED (TU)
- THEODORE ROOSEVELT CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP (TRCP)



## Advocacy Objectives

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**Secure passage of the National Fish Habitat Conservation Act and annual appropriations to support the Act, and increase annual appropriations for aquatic habitat conservation overall through education and advocacy.**

**Leverage the National Fish Habitat Partnership Coalition into an effective voice for fish and aquatic habitat conservation at the federal and state level.**

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1436

To conserve fish and aquatic communities in the United States through partnerships that foster fish habitat conservation, improve the quality of life for the people of the United States, enhance fish and wildlife-dependent recreation, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 26, 2017

Mr. CRAPO (for himself and Mr. CARDIN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works

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115TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 6660

To encourage partnerships among public agencies and other interested persons to promote fish conservation.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 7, 2018

Mr. WITTMAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

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**NATIONAL FISH  
HABITAT  
CONSERVATION  
THROUGH  
PARTNERSHIPS ACT  
(NFHCTPA)**

**S. 1436**

**INTRODUCED BY SEN. BEN CARDIN  
(D-MD) & MIKE CRAPO (R-ID)**

**H.R. 6660**

**INTRODUCED BY REP. ROB  
WITTMAN (R-VA, 1<sup>ST</sup>) & NEW LEAD  
DEM COSPONSOR MARC VEASEY  
(D-TX, 33<sup>RD</sup>)**

# ADVOCACY TOOLKIT

- NFHCTPA FACT SHEET
- TALKING POINTS
- TOP POLICY PRIORITIES
- MOC REQUEST LETTER

## National Fish Habitat Conservation Through Partnerships Act



*Supporting  
Partnerships for  
Healthier Fish,  
Healthier Fish  
Habitats*

### More Conservation = More Fish & Fishing

#### WHAT WILL THE ACT DO?

This national legislation (S.1436) and (H.R. 6660) will encourage partnerships among public agencies and other interested parties to promote fish conservation priorities and establish the National Fish Habitat Board to provide oversight to:

- Establish Fish Habitat Partnerships to implement locally-led, on-the-ground conservation practices.
- Make conservation project funding recommendations to the Department of the Interior based on local and strategic fish habitat conservation priorities.
- Continue support of a grant program for fish habitat projects through the USFWS.
- Encourage grassroots driven partnerships to restore, conserve, and enhance fish habitat; improve fisheries and their economic contributions to local communities.

#### WHY TODAY?

The United States is home to a diverse array of freshwater and marine fish, shellfish, and other aquatic species. More than 3,000 species of fish inhabit America's freshwater and saltwater habitats. The U.S. is also home to more than 300 million people, all depending on the same water that fish depend upon.

Healthy habitats are essential for sustainable fish populations. Unfortunately, in many places across the country, fish and the habitats on which they depend are in decline. In 1997, Congress declared that one of the greatest long-term threats to the viability of commercial and recreational fisheries is the continuing loss of marine, estuarine, and other fish habitats.

#### CONSIDER THIS...

According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's 2011 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation, over 33 million licensed anglers generate more than \$48 billion in retail sales with a \$115 billion boost to the nation's economy and creating jobs for more than 828,000 people. At least 46 million anglers fished at some point over the past five years, consider themselves to be anglers, and rely on healthy fish habitat for their recreational pursuits.

#### Did you know?

The United States has 181,000 square miles of aquatic habitat, an area larger than the State of California (not counting marine waters beyond state boundaries.)



The National Fish Habitat Partnership (NFHP) is an initiative to conserve fish habitat across the country. [www.fishhabitat.org](http://www.fishhabitat.org) @fishhabitat

# THREE REQUESTS

- 1. WRITE TO YOUR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS AND REQUEST THEY COSPONSOR NFHCTPA! (or thank them for cosponsoring already – TX, MD, ID, VA Members)**
2. REQUEST A MEETING WITH YOUR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS EITHER IN THEIR DISTRICT OR STATE OFFICE (we can help target specific MOCs)
3. CONSIDER INVITING YOUR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS TO A SITE VISIT TO SEE THE AWESOME WORK OF YOUR FHP