



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Washington D.C. 20240



Mr. Collin O'Mara, Chair
Mr. John Devney, Vice Chair
Hunting and Wildlife Conservation Council
c/o Doug Hobbs, Designated Federal Officer
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: OC
Falls Church, Virginia 22041

Dear Mr. O'Mara and Mr. Devney:

Thank you for your December 15, 2023, letter from the Hunting and Wildlife Conservation Council (Council) to Secretary Haaland regarding H.R. 6352, the Tax Stamp Revenue Transfer for Wildlife and Recreation Act. Secretary Haaland has asked the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) to respond on her behalf.

H.R. 6352 would direct 85% of certain tax revenue generated from the purchase of firearms suppressors to the Wildlife Restoration Program managed by the Service. If enacted, H.R. 6352 would provide supplemental funding for the Wildlife Restoration Program that would bolster wildlife conservation and public access and opportunities across the country. The Service is currently reviewing the legislation and at this time, the Administration does not have a position on the legislation.

The Wildlife Restoration Program uses manufacturers excise taxes to provide a dedicated funding source to state fish and wildlife agencies for projects that ensure abundant wildlife populations, increase hunter access to millions of acres of habitat, and welcome new people into the shooting sports through education. Many projects aim to restore, conserve, manage and enhance wild birds and mammals and their habitat. The Program also provides funds for wildlife area acquisition and management, research, hunter education and development and management of target shooting ranges.

Thank you for sharing your thoughtful recommendations with the Service. We appreciate your efforts to help shape America's conservation future through the work of the Council. If you have questions or need more information regarding this matter please contact Paul Rauch, Assistant Director – Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program, at Paul_Rauch@fws.gov.

Sincerely,

Martha Williams
Director