

November 1, 2022

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232, Capital Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
House Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
H-204, Capital Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Senate Majority Leader
United States Senate
S-221, Capitol Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Senate Minority Leader
United States Senate
S-230, Capitol Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Leader McCarthy, Leader Schumer, and Leader McConnell:

We, the undersigned, represent a coalition of conservationists committed to the resiliency of our natural resources and communities. With more frequent and intense natural disasters, extreme heat, catastrophic wildfires, extended drought, continued sea level rise, and declining fish and wildlife populations, climate change is impacting our way of life, economy, and needs for the future. And while federal agencies are working to support community and landscape resilience and adaptation, those activities would be improved by an overarching strategy and plan to unify efforts.

We support Representatives Scott Peters (D-CA-52) and Maria Salazar (R-FL-27) and Senators Chris Coons (D-DE) and Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) in their bipartisan legislation, the National Climate Adaptation and Resilience Strategy Act (H.R.6461 and S.3531).

The bill applies a whole-of-government approach that creates a vision for all adaptation and resilience activities to align with. It also sets a structure to consolidate federal efforts and enhance communication and coordination of efforts on the ground by authorizing a Chief Resilience Officer position to develop a National Climate Adaptation and Resilience Strategy and Implementation Plan and lead interagency resilience working groups and a non-federal Partners Council.

Congress recently made significant investments in climate resilience and adaptation activities that can be more effectively executed with high-level structure, collaboration, and planning. We urge your leadership and action in progressing these bill provisions before the end of this session.

Sincerely,

American Sportfishing Association
Ducks Unlimited
Fly Fishers International

Izaak Walton League of America
Land Trust Alliance
Minority Outdoor Alliance
National Deer Association
National Wildlife Federation
Native Fish Coalition
Ruffed Grouse Society
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
Wild Salmon Center