27 June 2018

Dear Senator Tillis,

The North Carolina Chapter of The Wildlife Society works to inspire, empower, and enable wildlife professionals to sustain wildlife populations and habitat through science-based management and conservation. We, as North Carolinians and professionals in the conservation field, urge you to support the reauthorization of the Land and Water Conservation Fund, as your colleague, Senator Richard Burr, has done.

In North Carolina, the Land and Water Conservation Fund has provided more than $75 million in matching grants, supporting more than 875 state and local projects, conserving more than 38,500 acres and helping to preserve wildlife habitat and enhance outdoor recreational opportunities. An exemplary case study is the $1,590,000 Eno River State Park Acquisition in 2003, which protected 2 miles of river, 3 miles of stream, and added a large parcel of oak-hickory forest to North Carolina’s State Park system. Just north of the Triangle, this Regional State Park of the Year (2015) provides ample opportunities for North Carolinians to enjoy nature while at the same time providing an extensive conserved area for wild plants and animals to thrive.

Thank you and we look forward to working with your office on this important legislation going forward. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our chapter with any issues regarding wildlife conservation or management.

Regards,

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