



### Safeguarding our natural resources from the impacts of climate change and creating American jobs on American lands

Senators Jeff Bingaman (D-NM), Max Baucus (D-MT) and Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI) have introduced a bill that will protect America's wildlife and natural resources in a warming world while creating American jobs on American lands. This critical bill will protect our nation's wildlife and natural resources which are both the backbone of our economy and necessary to keep our communities healthy. The bill:

- Requires agencies to produce critical scientific information, and to prepare a national strategy and individual agency plans to ensure our lands can withstand the impacts of a changing climate while remaining resilient.
- Requires all federal agencies to work together on natural resources climate change adaptation across jurisdictional boundaries.
- Establishes a dedicated fund, to provide resources for existing federal, state and tribal programs to address climate change impacts. Projects include restoring watersheds to ensure abundant clean water supplies, maintaining healthy forests and restoring wetlands to protect coastal communities.
- Ensures that the information produced will be shared with all stakeholders and that the states receiving funding fully participate in the planning and implementation of the national strategy. This will ensure that all funds are utilized most effectively and the plans reflect the most recent scientific data.

#### Support the Natural Resources Climate Adaptation Act of 2009

##### **Restoring natural systems creates sustainable American jobs that can't be outsourced**

Healthy natural systems provide us with clean water, clean air and protect our communities from catastrophic weather-related disasters, from hurricanes to floods to forest fires. But these benefits must be protected by investing in safeguarding these systems. The good news is that by doing just that we create diverse jobs in all parts of the country – jobs that stay here in the U.S.

##### **Revitalizing local economies is possible through the restoration of public lands, parks and coastlines**

Outdoor recreation, including hunting, fishing, camping, climbing, hiking, paddling, backcountry skiing, wildlife viewing, and other activities accounts for 8% of all consumer spending, which drives an overall annual contribution of \$730 billion to the economy, supporting 6.5 million jobs (1 of every 20 jobs in the U.S.), according to The Outdoor Industry Foundation.

##### **Reinvesting in our lands and waters ensures systems will continue to provide us invaluable services**

Climate change poses an immediate and profound threat to the healthy natural systems that provide us with drinking water, flood protection, food, medicine, timber, recreational opportunities, scenic beauty, jobs and numerous other services. Given these threats, climate legislation must both reduce greenhouse gas emissions and invest in our natural resources so that they can continue to support healthy communities.