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October 3, 2017

The Honorable Rob Bishop
Chairman
House Natural Resources Committee
123 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Raúl Grijalva
Ranking Member
House Natural Resources Committee
1511 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Bishop and Ranking Member Grijalva:

On behalf of the over 1.2 million members of the National Association of REALTORS®, I want to thank you for your efforts to make the Endangered Species Act (ESA) more transparent, accountable, streamlined and reliant on sound science.

Today's markup is an important step in improving the ESA. There are four bills in particular that will bring relief to long-standing ESA challenges:

- **H.R. 717**, the "Listing Reform Act", sponsored by Rep. Pete Olson, requires review of the economic cost of adding a species to the endangered or threatened species list,
- **H.R. 1274**, the "State, Tribal and Local Species Transparency and Recovery Act", sponsored by Rep. Dan Newhouse, requires that all data related to making a determination that a species is endangered be made available to States and tribes,
- **H.R. 2603**, the "Saving America's Endangered Species Act", sponsored by Rep. Louie Gohmert, provides that nonnative species in the United States not be treated as endangered species or threatened species, and
- **H.R. 3131**, the "Endangered Species Litigation Reasonableness Act", sponsored by Rep. Bill Huizenga, would conform ESA citizen suits to other existing laws.

NAR supports reforms to the ESA that take into account the economic impacts of designating and recovering endangered and threatened species. NAR also supports safeguards that protect private property rights, incentives for species protection and the use of sound science in listing decisions.

NAR stands ready to work with you to advance ESA reforms that protect those species in need of protecting and encourage robust economic development.

Sincerely,



William E. Brown
2017 President, National Association of REALTORS®

cc: House Natural Resources Committee

