

April 10, 2026

United States Congress  
Washington, DC

Dear Members of Congress:

God calls us as Christians to be stewards of creation and instructs us to be caretakers of God's creatures—fish, winged creatures, and those that walk the earth. Our Scriptures remind us that the world belongs to God—“[t]he Earth is the Lord's and everything in it” (Psalm 24:1).

As senior religious leaders in California we write in support of the Endangered Species Act and oppose any efforts to weaken its protections for God's creation including delisting species such as the Grizzly Bear, Gray Wolf and Mexican Wolf. Weakening this bedrock environmental law or delisting species without scientific justification undermines our call as stewards of God's creation.

The Endangered Species Act is one of the most important species conservation laws ever developed. It has been successful at saving hundreds of species from extinction including the bald eagle and peregrine falcon. Passed in 1973 and signed into law by President Nixon, it recognizes that providing for living creatures requires the protection of their homes and habitats. It serves as an important safety net to prevent the extinction of species.

Even as Noah cared for God's creatures by building an ark, we too are required to preserve and protect God's good creation. Weakening of the Endangered Species Act through special or self interest does not serve the common good and undermines our efforts to be faithful stewards. This country has 40 years of successful wildlife stewardship and the Endangered Species Act not only protects imperiled wildlife, but allows the American people to safeguard special places, ensuring that children continue to enjoy their natural heritage.

We ask that you safeguard the Endangered Species Act and help ensure that endangered species regain a foothold on life and ultimately flourish.

Sincerely,

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AME Church  
Rancho Cucamonga, CA

Bishop Melanie Rogers-Miller  
AME Zion Church  
Western District AME Zion Church - California

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