National Religious Partnership
for the Environment

December 10, 2025

As leaders in the faith community, we affirm that the health and wellbeing of human life on God's earth depends upon the wide variety and great richness of plant and animal life God has provided.

Our Scriptures are filled with messages about taking good care of creation. They remind us that we are instructed to be stewards of God's earth. God's covenant with Noah and his descendants as well as with the entirety of creation makes it clear that God views creation, both human and non-human, as valuable and as being in relationship with one another. Using these scriptures as our guide, we write in support of the Endangered Species Act (ESA), often referenced as a modern example of Noah's Ark. Just as Noah safeguarded all of God's creatures from extinction, the Endangered Species Act has been instrumental in saving species from disappearing.

Signed into law by President Nixon, the ESA recognizes that providing for living creatures requires the protection of their homes and habitats. This bedrock environmental law has proven time and time again to be an effective tool to prevent the extinction of species by preventing 99 percent of listed species from going extinct. It safeguards habitat, helps endangered species regain a foothold on life, and ultimately flourish.

Even in the face of its success, the ESA faces repeated attempts to undermine it. We urge Members of Congress and the Administration uphold this treasured law and the scientific principles and process that guides the protection decisions. To ensure that we are living out our stewardship mandate, the decision of which species should be added to the list is based on sound science and should remain that way.

The ESA is a valuable and critical tool to protect the created world. Because of our strong conviction that God entrusted the care of creation to us, including the most vulnerable species, religious denominations over the years have released policy statements urging that we, as a nation, uphold our duty to steward God's creatures. We recognize that maintaining the abundance of God's creation is crucial to our own survival and our relationship with God. We ask you to oppose any efforts to undermine the Endangered Species Act and to work to protect God's threatened and endangered creation.

Sincerely,

4,196 Faith Leaders