

ALEX PADILLA

U.S. SENATOR  for CALIFORNIA

Wildlife Movement Through Partnerships Act – Supporter Quote Sheet

“Successful migration conservation requires collaboration between local, state, Tribal and federal governments, private landowners, and the NGO community. This bill would authorize existing federal programs that support locally driven, collaborative conservation projects to restore and conserve the most important areas wildlife need to migrate and move to fulfill their lifecycle needs. TRCP thanks Senator Padilla and Representatives Zinke and Beyer for introducing this critically important, bipartisan and bicameral legislation.” – **Becky Humphries, President and CEO, Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership**

“Wildlife corridors and connectivity projects are critical for California’s incredible biodiversity and for wildlife across West. They’re also great for people and public safety. It’s an effort that everyone can get behind and support. We are so appreciative of the senator’s leadership and the partnerships across the aisle to get meaningful outcomes.” – **Charlton H. Bonham, California Department of Fish and Wildlife Director**

“We thank Senator Padilla and Representatives Zinke and Beyer for leading this legislation and supporting voluntary, cooperative conservation that will build on successful frameworks. State fish and wildlife agencies have developed conservation plans identifying and integrating wildlife movement and migration routes but need the funding to put these projects on the ground with their partners.” – **Chuck Sykes, Director of the Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries and President of the Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies**

“The Mule Deer Foundation applauds the introduction of this much needed legislation to ensure that conservation partners can continue to work with federal and state agencies in sustaining big-game and other wildlife populations that move from place to place. This bill allows the partnership approach that is already happening to continue and provides essential funding to ensure future collaboration and management of wildlife and their habitat is successful.” – **Steve Belinda, Chief Conservation Officer, Mule Deer Foundation**

“The Wildlife Movement Through Partnerships Act is a critical step in the right direction to conserving migration corridors across the country, and the Congressional Sportsmen’s Foundation appreciates Senator Padilla and Representatives Zinke and Beyer for championing

this important issue. This legislation recognizes the importance of landowners, state agencies, and others for their efforts to conserve migration corridors, and we are thankful for the thoughtfulness that went into crafting this effort.” – **Jeff Crane, President and CEO, Congressional Sportsmen’s Foundation**

“From black bears in Yosemite to elk herds in Yellowstone, wildlife are on the move daily in America’s national parks. Park animals frequently travel and migrate within and outside of park boundaries, and this legislation provides critical and innovative solutions towards their long-term conservation. The bipartisan Wildlife Movement Through Partnerships Act will provide the support state and federal agencies, tribes, and communities need to collaborate to protect and restore park wildlife on the move. The National Parks Conservation Association thanks Senator Padilla and Representatives Zinke and Beyer for introducing this critical legislation.” – **Bart Melton, Senior Director, Wildlife Program, National Parks Conservation Association**

“The Wildlife Movement Through Partnerships Act is directly aligned with the mission of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF), and we thank Senator Padilla and Representatives Zinke and Beyer for introducing this bipartisan and bicameral legislation. RMEF has successfully advocated in Washington DC to prioritize migratory areas through Interior Secretarial Order 3362, the Wildlife Highway Crossings Pilot Program in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, and USDA’s Migratory Big Game Initiative. Generous contributions by RMEF members and partner organizations have allowed us to make these valuable habitat investments, critical to conserving and improving elk and wildlife habitat. RMEF’s mapping work has accelerated through partnerships with US Geological Survey researchers at the University of Wyoming and partnerships with state wildlife agencies and the federal land management agencies in the Interior and Agriculture Departments. Passage of Wildlife Movement Through Partnerships Act will send a clear message that Congress prioritizes big game migration and habitat enhancement now and in the future.” – **Kyle Weaver, President and CEO, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation**

“Wildlands Network is thrilled to support the bipartisan Wildlife Movement Through Partnerships Act. In addition to bolstering existing government programs geared towards improving habitat and migration corridors for big game species, this bill additionally expands upon those programs, providing new, and sorely needed federal funding and technical assistance to those working on the ground to study and conserve movement corridors for all terrestrial species whose movement patterns are currently stifled by infrastructure and other obstacles. We thank Senator Padilla and Representatives Zinke and Beyer for working together on this essential piece of legislation that will strengthen the vitality of our nation’s iconic and ecologically important wildlife for generations to come.” – **Erin Sito, U.S. Public Policy Director, Wildlands Network**

“The Pew Charitable Trusts commends Senator Padilla and Representatives Zinke and Beyer for introduction of the Wildlife Movement Through Partnerships Act to facilitate wildlife connectivity through habitat improvement and collaboration among all levels of government, landowners, and Tribes.” – **Marcia Argust, Director, The Pew Charitable Trusts**

“Big game species such as pronghorn, elk, and mule deer rely on established movement and migration routes to access seasonal habitat. The Wildlife Movement Through Partnerships Act would build on successful and innovative partnerships between government agencies, private landowners, and conservation organizations to benefit these and other species. We applaud Sen. Padilla and Reps. Zinke and Beyer for their bipartisan leadership on this legislation that would further prioritize critical resources to conserve habitat and reduce obstacles to wildlife movement.” – **Kaden McArthur, Government Relations Manager, Backcountry Hunters & Anglers**

“The California Chapter of the Wild Sheep Foundation would like to provide our sincerest thanks and appreciation to Senator Alex Padilla (CA) for his co-sponsoring and introduction of the Wildlife Movement Through Partnerships Act (Act). This Act will help to further connectivity conservation activities here in California and other western states by providing federal grant program funding, research and other resources. These imperative efforts of enhancing and/or establishing habitat connectivity within and between habitat areas utilized by big game, including Bighorn Sheep, is vital to the continued successful conservation efforts of State wildlife departments, Indian Tribes, other State and Federal agencies and NGO stakeholders.” – **California Chapter of the Wild Sheep Foundation**

“This has been a major objective of the Wild Sheep Foundation since 2020 when the incoming Biden Administration endorsed the Trump Administration’s original program of improving habitat in areas where big game, including wild sheep, move in migrations or other forays. The bill is a great example of bipartisan leadership under the banner of wildlife conservation and teamwork among our many conservation partners. We applaud this bill for protecting property rights and multiple-use management of federal lands and advancing our on-the-ground work in California, Montana, and across wild sheep country. Credit goes to Senator Padilla and Representative Zinke for finding ways to make good ideas actually work on the ground.” – **Gray N. Thornton, President and CEO, Wild Sheep Foundation**

“The Wyoming Wild Sheep Foundation (WY-WSF) strongly supports the ‘Wildlife Movement Through Partnerships Act.’ Wyoming has been on the leading edge of big game animal movement science and conservation as well as an active participant in Secretarial Order 3362 since its inception. This expansion to include wild sheep allows the WY-WSF to maximize our partnerships to benefit bighorn sheep and their habitats in our state. This program protects

private property rights and multiple-use management. Passage of this bill will significantly advance big game conservation and management in Wyoming, conserving the natural resources we hold so dear.” – **Katie Cheesbrough, Executive Director; Zach McDermott, President, Wyoming Wild Sheep**

“The Boone and Crockett Club strongly supports the Wildlife Movement Through Partnerships Act. This bill is the natural next step to formally extend the last 5 years of successful habitat improvement under the Interior Secretary’s Order 3362. The bipartisan leadership of Senator Padilla and Representatives Zinke and Beyer is expanding the number of species and areas of habitat that will benefit. The Club is proud of the teamwork among sportsmen and other partners that helped develop this important bill.” – **Tony Schoonen, CEO, Boone and Crockett Club**

“Wildlife need to move to survive. Wildlife migrations are one of nature’s most magnificent spectacles, but they are easily disrupted. We’re so pleased that Senators Padilla and Representatives Zinke and Beyer have stepped up with this bill that will provide states, Tribes and others on the ground with the resources they need to identify and maintain the migration corridors used by species like elk, mule deer, pronghorn, and other wildlife. This bill illustrates once again that wildlife conservation is an area where both sides of the aisle can find common ground.” – **Mike Leahy, senior director of wildlife, hunting and fishing policy at the National Wildlife Federation**

“Ensuring wildlife movement pathways is vital in many landscapes, including where urban and wildland areas intersect. We applaud Senator Padilla’s efforts to enact legislation that can provide critical funding to address nationwide wildlife connectivity.” – **Walter T. Moore, President, Peninsula Open Space Trust**