



August 8, 2018

The Honorable John Barrasso
Chairman
Senate Environment and Public Works Committee
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Barrasso,

On behalf of the National Asphalt Pavement Association (NAPA) and its more than 1,100 members. I am writing to express strong support for the Endangered Species Amendments (ESA) Act of 2018.

NAPA strongly supports the ESA and the role it plays in environmental stewardship and protecting and conserving ecosystems upon which all species depend. A major goal of the ESA is the recovery of species to the point that protection under the statute is no longer necessary. However, the Fish and Wildlife Service has found that less than 3 percent of species in the United States under the protection of ESA have recovered sufficiently to no longer necessitate the protection of the statute.

Since the Act was last updated nearly 30 years ago, it is appropriate for the Western Governors Association, the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, and other stakeholder groups to work together to identify challenges with the ESA, and opportunities to make the statute work better. The reforms in the ESA Amendments Act of 2018 would bring more regulatory certainty and facilitate a scientifically-based program that takes a practical approach to protecting endangered species while recognizing private property rights and the need for continued economic growth.

NAPA commends you for your leadership on this issue and looks forward to working with you to enact this sensible reform legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jay Hansen". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Jay Hansen
Executive Vice President