

Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever (PF/QF) volunteers, members and staff work hand in hand with partners and landowners to implement conservation and wildlife habitat projects across the Nation on public and private lands. In addition, we advocate for enhancing habitat while providing as much hunting, fishing, and recreational access as possible. The interconnected web of these conservation programs has a foundation in conservation policy that goes back over 100 years and is known as the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation. We need to keep this time-tested system intact for future generations of hunters, anglers, conservationists, and outdoor enthusiasts.

The PF/QF local grassroots model makes your chapter's support of these efforts critical. Not only are your LAF dollars promoting sound wildlife and conservation policy today, you are securing the foundation for the next generation of conservation advocates. This can be seen in the National Youth Leadership Council (NYLC) conservation policy and advocacy efforts in DC and in their respective states.

THE LEGISLATIVE ACTION FUND?





2020-2021 RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

We are proud to report chapter contributions to the Legislative Action Fund delivered the following conservation victories:

• Continued implementation of the 2018 Farm Bill and it's \$30 billion in conservation funding. In 2020 USDA implemented \$8 billion of those funds.

 CRP fixes were accomplished including rental rate improvements and reinstating cost shares to fairly compensate landowners for installing practices.

• Passage of the Great American Outdoors Act which included a mandatory funding level of \$900M annually for Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) and uses royalties from offshore oil and gas to provide up to \$1.9 billion a year for five years to repair critical facilities and infrastructure in our national parks, forests, wildlife refuges, recreation areas and American Indian schools.

• Assisted in passing the "Modernizing the Pittman-Robertson Fund for Tomorrow's Needs Act" which helps advance R3 efforts.

 Passage of the American Conservation Act (ACE) which includes \$60 million annually over the next 5 years for the North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA). • Helped advance and garner Congressional support for the "Recovering America's Wildlife Act" (RAWA) which will designate \$1.3 billion new dollars per year to state wildlife agencies and tribal entities.

• Signed partnership agreements with Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Farm Service Agency (FSA), US Forest Service (USFS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS), and the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation (CSF).

 Positioned Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and grasslands policy as an important natural ecosystems solution for making landscapes more resilient to extreme weather events (drought, flooding and wildfire).

- Encouraged and promoted the introduction of a 50 million acre a year CRP marker bill.
- Celebrated numerous successes at the state levels across the country that either supported beneficial policies or opposed harmful legislation that would negatively impact conservation and our hunting heritage.

2021-2022 GOALS

In the coming year, we have set out the following national conservation priorities:

• Continue implementation of the 2018 Farm Bill to ensure money is fully implemented and that program funding results in quality wildlife habitat.

• Ensure that funding for the Great American Outdoors Act is implemented to maximize access and habitat improvements at the state and local level.

• Design new legislation and lead efforts to establish a new grassland and sagebrush ecosystem restoration and protection program.

• Welcomed enhanced NRCS working lands for Wildlife and Grassland and Sage Biome frameworks announced in the spring of 2021.

- Advocate for the MAPLand Act which intends to make more public lands accessible through digitizing and making maps available online and via smartphone apps.
- Continue efforts to enact the Recovering America's Wildlife Act .

 Work with the 117th Congress and Administration (e.g. Departments of Agriculture and Interior) to find the best opportunities to advance all aspects of the PF & QF mission that support our grassroots implementation efforts at the county and state levels.

CHAPTER SUPPORT OF THE LEGISLATIVE ACTION FUND ACCELERATES OUR MISSION

Your LAF contributions are critical to our ability to deliver effective solutions. Because of your support, we amplify our voice for the mission of wildlife and conservation!

For the most recent Legislative efforts and more information on the programs listed here, visit our Conservation Policy Page: pheasantsforever.org/Conservation/Conservation-Policy.aspx

Due to changes in gun availability, Legislative Action Fund Program Incentives will be showcased on our new Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever site powered by SCHEELS: www.scheels.com/pf-qf-banquet

To make a donation or ask a question about the Legislative Action Fund, please contact your local REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE or JIM INGLIS, Director of Governmental Affairs, at jinglis@pheasantsforever.org / (419) 569-1096