

18 December, 2013

Honorable Doc Hastings, Committee Chairman Natural Resources Committee 1324 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Congressman Hastings,

As President of American Falconry Conservancy, last week I sent you a copy of our correspondence to Secretary of Interior Jewell, after the Director of Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) failed to respond to us on three important issues dating back to May of 2012. You may even remember my name from when you and fellow Committee member Kathy McMorris-Rodgers sent a letter to FWS officials (enclosed) directing the International Office officials to issue export permits to me after which they refused, then lied to you for the reason. Since then we have watched the Committee conduct meetings in search for reasons our FWS is so frequently sued, when it appears so obvious to us, the People. We believe as the Service continues to base decisions on politics rather than science, these actions will lead to even more lawsuits by individual citizens and citizen groups. For those in doubt, the extension of eagle take (kill) permits to 30 years should be a wake-up call. In summary, the FWS is no longer in the business of wildlife conservation and at this point, the only "oversight" seen is that of the citizens suing the Service.

Enclosed, please find the book *Wildlife Law, Regulation, and Falconry*, which we are submitting to you for your examination. The book was written to address grievances many outdoor sportsmen, and users of wildlife in general, have with various wildlife regulations as the Fish & Wildlife Service currently manages them.

Please don't be fooled by the inclusion of the word "falconry" in the title. It is not specifically about falconry, but falconry provides an excellent example of how far wildlife regulations have strayed from constitutional principles and the rights of citizens. The book is broad enough to apply to all regulations related to access of wildlife, as well as natural resource use in general.

It is our hope that you might find this useful in combating the growth of power in Federal agencies in general but the Department of the Interior in particular. If you think this book worthy, we could send free copies to any or all members of the Natural Resources Committee with recipients per your instructions.

Sincerely,

Bill Meeker

President, AFC

P.S. We have sent copies of this book to each of the following:

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- 1. State Supreme Court libraries
- 2. U.S. Supreme Court library
- 3. University libraries with wildlife management degrees
- 4. Law College libraries with degrees in environmental law
- 5. State wildlife management agencies