



*The future of wildlife in the United States is tied to the health and productivity of our working lands. For many animal species, private lands owned by America's farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners represent the majority of their native habitats. American producers have prioritized land management decisions that not only support their businesses and families, but that also protect critical wildlife species and their habitats.*

### **Invasive and Disruptive Species:**

Invasive and disruptive species threaten native wildlife, destroy ecosystems, and harm local economies. Each year, invasive species are estimated to cause \$120 billion in damages across the United States. NACD supports practical, economically feasible, and science-based approaches to effectively manage invasive and disruptive species and urges Congress to provide:

- Strong support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service to administer the National Feral Swine Damage Management Program.
- Strong funding for the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Wild Horse and Burro Program. Free-roaming horse and burro populations have more than doubled over the past decade and BLM needs support to effectively manage these disruptive herds. BLM should also be encouraged to use sound, scientific rangeland health practices to ensure the protection and preservation of critical sage grouse habitat, other wildlife habitats, and multiple land use.
- Increased technical and financial assistance for agencies to conduct trapping and other removal practices.
- Support for federal agencies to develop and disseminate geographically specific planting recommendations for producers to guide restoration efforts and to avoid introducing invasive species.

### **Endangered Species:**

Protecting threatened and endangered species is a priority for NACD, and we believe that voluntary, landowner-led restoration and conservation efforts are critical for successful species recovery. We urge Congress to:

- Ensure that Endangered Species Act (ESA) recovery plans incorporate local, public input from the outset and provide clearly defined goals, objectives, and alternative recovery options.
- Support legislation to improve and modernize the ESA to reflect current scientific wildlife management principles.
- Empower states and local governments to make species management decisions throughout the ESA listing and delisting process.