June 28, 2017

The Honorable Pat Roberts  The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
Chairman  Ranking Member
Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition,  Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition,
and Forestry  and Forestry
Washington, D.C. 20515  Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Roberts and Ms. Stabenow,

The sportsmen’s community greatly values the partnerships we have with farmers, ranchers, and private landowners throughout our country. With nearly half of the nation’s private lands in agricultural production, it’s critically important that we maintain strong working relationships to promote policies of mutual benefit.

Vista Outdoor would like to work with the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry (Committee) to solidify and expand these partnerships as part of the 2018 Farm Bill. Programs in the Conservation Title, such as the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Working Lands for Wildlife, and the Voluntary Public Access and Habitat Incentives Program (VPA-HIP) merit expansion and funding as part of the 2018 Farm Bill.

Strong support for the Conservation Title advances the interests of sportsmen and farmers alike. For farmers, the Conservation Title promotes soil integrity, water quality, and economic stability for rural areas. For sportsmen, the Conservation Title improves wildlife habitat, increases land access, and will help to grow the $4.95 billion in federal taxes generated by the sportsmen community each year.

Vista Outdoor also leads by example to support land and wildlife conservation. As the country’s leading designer, manufacturer, and marketer of hunting equipment and sportsmen products, Vista Outdoor contributed more than any other company – over $160 million – to the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Fund during the previous two fiscal years.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to participate in the 2018 Farm Bill process. We look forward to working together to advance the shared interests of the sportsmen and farming communities.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Ryan Bronson
Director, Conservation and Public Policy
Vista Outdoor