MDF GOALS

• To restore, improve and protect mule deer habitat (including land and easement acquisitions) resulting in self-sustaining, healthy, free ranging and huntable deer populations.

• To encourage and support responsible wildlife management with government agencies, private organizations and landowners.

• To promote public education and scientific research related to mule deer and wildlife management.

• To support regulated hunting as a viable component of mule deer and black-tailed deer conservation.

• To develop programs that focus on recruitment and retention of youth into the shooting sports and conservation.

MDF BY THE NUMBERS

• 40,000 Members and 150 Chapters.

• $8.5 Million raised for conservation each year.

• 1.5 Million acres of mule deer habitat treated or restored.

IDAHO

1,998 Members and 10 Chapters
and the Forest Service to keep their lands open to hunting, recreational fishing, and shooting, and facilitate the use of and access to federal public lands and waters for these activities. The bills would also require federal land managers to assess and receive public input on additional opportunities to expand and enhance sportsmen’s access to public land.

Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act Reauthorization (House and Senate Bill Only): This bill reauthorizes FLTFA, a successful western federal lands program that, before it expired in 2011, facilitated strategic federal land sales by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in order to provide funding for high-priority land conservation within or adjacent to federal lands in the 11 contiguous western states and Alaska. FLTFA must be reauthorized in order to be utilized again.

Sage Grouse/Mule Deer Habitat Restoration Legislation: In the last century, conifers like junipers and pinon pines have unnaturally encroached into native sagebrush ecosystems across the west. The result has been to significantly ‘crowd out’ native grasses and forbs that are essential for species including sage grouse and mule deer. The Sage-Grouse and Mule Deer Habitat Conservation and Restoration Act (H.R. 1793, S. 468) provides the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management with authority to undertake restoration projects that are categorically in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act to remove pinon/juniper trees and restore these native sagebrush habitats.

Request: Cosponsor H.R. 1793 or S. 468 to ensure federal agencies have the ability to actively manage the sagebrush ecosystem.
The Mule Deer Foundation is the only conservation group in North America dedicated to restoring, improving and protecting mule deer and black-tailed deer and their habitat, with a focus on science and program efficiency. Mule deer are the one North American big game species that have faced population declines in recent years.

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COLORADO

3,668 Members and 20 Chapters

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITY

Sportsmen’s Legislation/Energy Bill Conference

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Energy Bill Conferees have been appointed in both chambers and formal proceedings to reconcile the differences between the House and Senate bills will soon commence. After nearly a decade of tireless efforts, we have never been closer to enacting comprehensive legislation that will authorize and bolster important wildlife habitat conservation programs while protecting and increasing hunting, fishing, and shooting access on public lands.

Requests: We ask that the House and Senate Energy Bill conferees include a bipartisan and bicameral compromise on comprehensive sportsmen’s legislation, including the Senate bipartisan compromise on LWCF and Making Public Lands Public, that can be enacted as part of the Energy bill conference report.

Should the conference fail, we ask that these measures be prioritized so that they can be enacted before the end of the 114th Congress.

Sportsmen’s Priority Measures that will be considered as part of the Energy Bill Conference deliberations include:

Wildfire Disaster Funding: The Wildfire Disaster Funding Act would guarantee up-front funding for fighting catastrophic wildfires and reduce the need to transfer funds from non-suppression accounts.

Land and Water Conservation Fund (Senate Bill Only)

The Senate Energy bill includes a bipartisan compromise to permanently reauthorize LWCF, the fund that has conserved millions of acres of fish and wildlife habitat and expanded recreational access. LWCF’s “Making Public Lands Public” provision focuses on improving access to existing public lands with LWCF funding.

Making Public Lands Public (House Bill and part of Senate LWCF provisions): Requires the greater of 1.5% or $10 million of annual LWCF funding be made available to secure recreational public access to existing federal lands that have significantly restricted access to hunting, fishing, and other recreational activities.

Target Practice and Marksmanship Training Support Act (House and Senate Bill): Enables states to allocate a greater proportion of federal funding to create and maintain shooting ranges on federal and non-federal lands and will have access these funds for a longer period of time. Federal land agencies are also encouraged to cooperate with state and local authorities to maintain shooting ranges.

Recreational Fishing and Hunting Heritage Opportunities Act (House and Senate Bills) & the HUNT Act (Senate Bill Only): These bills would require the Bureau of Land Management
and the Forest Service to keep their lands open to hunting, recreational fishing, and shooting, and facilitate the use of and access to federal public lands and waters for these activities. The bills would also require federal land managers to assess and receive public input on additional opportunities to expand and enhance sportsmen’s access to public land.

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Legend

CO Juniper Habitats
Mule Deer Habitat

Mule Deer Habitat and Juniper
Opportunities to treat and remove juniper in important mule deer habitats

Colorado
(Approximately 27.3 Million Acres)
The Mule Deer Foundation is the only conservation group in North America dedicated to restoring, improving and protecting mule deer and black-tailed deer and their habitat, with a focus on science and program efficiency. Mule deer are the one North American big game species that have faced population declines in recent years.

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**MDF BY THE NUMBERS**

- 40,000 Members and 150 Chapters.
- $8.5 Million raised for conservation each year.
- 1.5 Million acres of mule deer habitat treated or restored.

**NEW MEXICO**

783 Members and 8 Chapters

**LEGISLATIVE PRIORITY**

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Request: Cosponsor H.R. 1793 or S. 468 to ensure federal agencies have the ability to actively manage the sagebrush ecosystem.

**Mule Deer Habitat and Juniper**

Opportunities to treat and remove juniper in important mule deer habitats

**Wyoming**

(Approximately 8.8 Million Acres)
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**MDF GOALS**

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- To develop programs that focus on recruitment and retention of youth into the shooting sports and conservation.

**MDF BY THE NUMBERS**

- **40,000 Members and 150 Chapters.**
- **$8.5 Million raised for conservation each year.**
- **1.5 Million acres of mule deer habitat treated or restored.**

**MONTANA**

3,017 Members and 21 Chapters

**LEGISLATIVE PRIORITY**

**Sportsmen’s Legislation/Energy Bill Conference**

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**Request:** Cosponsor H.R. 1793 or S. 468 to ensure federal agencies have the ability to actively manage the sagebrush ecosystem.

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**Legend**

- MT Juniper Habitats
- Mule Deer Habitat

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**Mule Deer Habitat and Juniper**

*Opportunities to treat and remove juniper in important mule deer habitats*

Montana

(Approximately 11.7 Million Acres)
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MDF GOALS

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MDF BY THE NUMBERS

- 40,000 Members and 150 Chapters.
- $8.5 Million raised for conservation each year.
- 1.5 Million acres of mule deer habitat treated or restored.

UTAH

6,458 Members and 15 Chapters

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITY

Sportsmen’s Legislation/Energy Bill Conference

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MDF BY THE NUMBERS

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ARIZONA

1,807 Members and 17 Chapters

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITY

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The majority of the Foundation’s priority provisions that were included in the Senate’s Bipartisan Sportsmen’s Act (S. 405) and the House’s SHARE Act (H.R. 2406) are also included in comprehensive Energy legislation passed by both the House and Senate.

Energy Bill Conferees have been appointed in both chambers and formal proceedings to reconcile the differences between the House and Senate bills will soon commence. After nearly a decade of tireless efforts, we have never been closer to enacting comprehensive legislation that will authorize and bolster important wildlife habitat conservation programs while protecting and increasing hunting, fishing, and shooting access on public lands.

**Requests:** We ask that the House and Senate Energy Bill conferees include a bipartisan and bicameral compromise on comprehensive sportsmen’s legislation, including the Senate bipartisan compromise on LWCF and Making Public Lands Public, that can be enacted as part of the Energy bill conference report.

Should the conference fail, we ask that these measures be prioritized so that they can be enacted before the end of the 114th Congress.

**Sportsmen’s Priority Measures that will be considered as part of the Energy Bill Conference deliberations include:**

**Wildfire Disaster Funding:** The Wildfire Disaster Funding Act would guarantee up-front funding for fighting catastrophic wildfires and reduce the need to transfer funds from non-suppression accounts.

**Land and Water Conservation Fund (Senate Bill Only)**

The Senate Energy bill includes a bipartisan compromise to permanently reauthorize LWCF, the fund that has conserved millions of acres of fish and wildlife habitat and expanded recreational access. LWCF’s “Making Public Lands Public” provision focuses on improving access to existing public lands with LWCF funding.

**Making Public Lands Public (House Bill and part of Senate LWCF provisions):** Requires the greater of 1.5% or $10 million of annual LWCF funding be made available to secure recreational public access to existing federal lands that have significantly restricted access to hunting, fishing, and other recreational activities.

**Target Practice and Marksmanship Training Support Act (House and Senate Bill):** Enables states to allocate a greater proportion of federal funding to create and maintain shooting ranges on federal and non-federal lands and will have access these funds for a longer period of time. Federal land agencies are also encouraged to cooperate with state and local authorities to maintain shooting ranges.

**Recreational Fishing and Hunting Heritage Opportunities Act (House and Senate Bills) & the HUNT Act (Senate Bill Only):** These bills would require the Bureau of Land Management
and the Forest Service to keep their lands open to hunting, recreational fishing, and shooting, and facilitate the use of and access to federal public lands and waters for these activities. The bills would also require federal land managers to assess and receive public input on additional opportunities to expand and enhance sportsmen’s access to public land.

Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act Reauthorization (House and Senate Bill Only): This bill reauthorizes FLTFA, a successful western federal lands program that, before it expired in 2011, facilitated strategic federal land sales by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in order to provide funding for high-priority land conservation within or adjacent to federal lands in the 11 contiguous western states and Alaska. FLTFA must be reauthorized in order to be utilized again.

Sage Grouse/Mule Deer Habitat Restoration Legislation: In the last century, conifers like junipers and pinon pines have unnaturally encroached into native sagebrush ecosystems across the west. The result has been to significantly ‘crowd out’ native grasses and forbs that are essential for species including sage grouse and mule deer. The Sage-Grouse and Mule Deer Habitat Conservation and Restoration Act (H.R. 1793, S. 468) provides the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management with authority to undertake restoration projects that are categorically in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act to remove pinon/juniper trees and restore these native sagebrush habitats.

Request: Cosponsor H.R. 1793 or S. 468 to ensure federal agencies have the ability to actively manage the sagebrush ecosystem.