

# Thank you, President Biden, for Conserving America the Beautiful!

The undersigned zoos, aquariums, and museums from across our country are united in thanking you for your vision of conserving America the Beautiful and your commitment to a national goal of conserving at least 30 percent of the lands, waters, and ocean of the United States by 2030. We are committed to working with you by applying our expertise and engaging our communities in order to help implement this initiative and achieve this ambitious yet attainable goal.

From sea to shining sea, our nation has some of the most diverse marine, freshwater, and terrestrial ecosystems on our planet. The value of these ecosystems cannot be underestimated. As organizations committed to animal care, we know that conserving these ecosystems is essential to saving animals from extinction. As science engagement organizations, we recognize the biodiversity and climate emergencies are both alarming and interconnected. And as organizations grounded in our local communities, we also know that conserving these ecosystems is also essential for saving ourselves, ensuring not only our economic but our emotional well-being.

For all of these reasons and more, we strongly support the three overarching goals of America the Beautiful -- protecting biodiversity, enhancing climate mitigation and resilience, and increasing access to nature. We are committed to pursuing conservation across a wide range of geographies through a combination of highly protected areas as well as areas that allow more activity. As highly trusted facilities we are committed to pursuing both strong nature protection and greater access to nature, and we are ready to act and help serve as conduits for conservation in communities across the country.

Zoos, aquariums, and museums welcome more 180 million visitors per year and are in constant contact with our local communities. The goals of America the Beautiful align with our collective missions, and we are ready to advance the agenda with our visitors and generate strong public engagement in the process. Many of our visitors are already expressing their support and are ready to participate. As such, we are uniquely positioned to advance progress, especially in efforts to ensure an informed, inclusive, and collaborative process.

We applaud your efforts, and we look forward to working together with you and your Administration and other leaders to implement this initiative, achieve this national goal and ensure a strong conservation legacy for your presidency and a better future for all Americans.

*Sincerely,*

**ASSOCIATION  
OF ZOOS &  
AQUARIUMS**



**American  
Alliance of  
Museums**

**ASTC**  
**Association of  
Science and  
Technology  
Centers**

*and the undersigned organizations below*



