Commission meeting 3.18.2023

Thank you for the opportunity to speak today!

My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I live in \_\_\_\_ County.

I would like to say congratulations to Commissioner Myers and Parker on their new appointments, I’m excited to see the balance you both can bring to the Commission and sound management of state resources.

With an end goal of a healthy environment and populations, it might appear there are multiple routes to take. My preference is that of the North American Model of Wildlife conservation which has been the most effective model for over 130 years and continues to adapt to the new challenges each year.

I also support boots on the ground conservation work primarily lead by the various hunting and angling organizations who are practicing what they preach.

Pull from one example below to speak to how these organizations are benefitting the ecosystem, or list a couple facts from your favorite hunting and angling group:

Ducks Unlimited- Mission to conserve, restore and manage wetlands and associated habitats for North America’s waterfowl. These habitats also benefit other wildlife and people. Total acreage conserved in North America: over 2 Million

Pheasants Forever- 15,000 wildlife habitat projects annually, by working in conjunction with local, state and federal natural resource agencies they’ve helped in protecting and opening over 187,000 acres to the public.

Backcountry Hunters and Anglers- On the calendar already are over 294 boots on the ground projects oriented around habitat improvement and public access.

My goal today is to speak in support of the North American Model of wildlife conservation and to shine a light on hunters and anglers who are more than just hunters and anglers, they are conservationists who are investing their time and money in projects and organizations which are directly addressing the struggle of changing habitat.

Thank you all for your time today.