

February 13, 2025

Dear Bureau of Land Management,

Backcountry Hunters & Anglers (BHA) seeks to ensure North America's outdoor heritage of hunting and fishing in a natural setting. Our members prioritize protecting native wildlife to ensure abundant populations persist on the landscape for current and future generations. We support the North American Wildlife Conservation Model, which asserts that wildlife is held in public trust as a scientifically managed natural resource that can be enjoyed by all Americans, and we oppose the privatization of wildlife and practices that place wild populations at risk.

With these principles in mind, the Nebraska Chapter of BHA (NE BHA) has significant concerns regarding the proposed sale of BLM-managed land in Nebraska. Public lands are invaluable resources that provide access for hunting, fishing, outdoor recreation, and wildlife conservation. NE BHA strongly urges the BLM **not to sell** the following types of BLM land:

- Any parcels that are publicly accessible including those accessible via other public land or waterways.
- Generally accessible parcels that provide opportunities for outdoor recreation.
- Parcels with quality wildlife or fish habitat, which is essential for sustaining healthy ecosystems.
- Parcels that connect wild areas, serving as critical corridors for wildlife movement and migration.

If any parcels are sold, NE BHA requests that the funds from the sale be used to **increase public access elsewhere in the state** or to **expand already accessible public lands**. Ensuring that Nebraskans do not lose valuable opportunities to enjoy and conserve public lands should be a priority.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely, Brian Bird bird@backcountryhunters.org Nebraska BHA Chapter Coordinator

