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U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on
Merchant Marine and Fisheries
Room 1334, Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

February 3, 1986

Ms. Lora L. Leschner
Chairperson
Pacific Seabird Group
Box 321
Bolin, California 94924

Dear Ms. Leschner:

Thank you for your recent letter regarding the status of H.R. 1406, the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act of 1980.

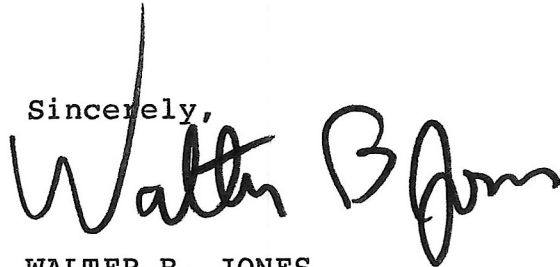
As you may be aware, the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries reported H. R. 1406 on May 9, 1985, and the House of Representatives passed the legislation on July 29, 1985. The legislation is now pending action in the Senate. I am enclosing a copy of the bill and the report for your information.

Both the Subcommittee on Fisheries and Wildlife Conservation and the Environment and the full Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries considered many possible ways to fund the nongame program. The decision was reached to seek a straight reauthorization because there were no assurances that money raised from alternative funding sources would be earmarked for the nongame program.

I share your concern over the nongame program. Recently I requested the Fish and Wildlife Service to specify exactly what it is spending for this program. I am enclosing a copy of that letter for your information.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,



WALTER B. JONES
Chairman

Enclosures