



SPORTSMAN'S ALLIANCE of MAINE

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SPORTSMAN'S ALLIANCE OF MAINE QUESTIONNAIRE FOR CANDIDATES SEEKING FEDERAL OFFICE 2014 ELECTION YEAR

***All Candidate Endorsements are at the SAM Boards Discretion
Surveys are due by July 25, 2014**

Name: _____

Address: _____ Town: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Thank you for having the courage and vision to put your name forward as a candidate to serve in the national legislature. The Sportsman's Alliance of Maine is Maine's largest member organization dedicated to our outdoor heritage and to the conservation of our natural resources. Our members are keenly aware of the importance of your views regarding outdoor issues, and are very active in the political process.

Please return your completed questionnaire by July 25, 2014 and send to:

**The Office of the Executive Director
The Sportsman's Alliance of Maine
205 Church Hill Road
Augusta, ME 04330**

- 1. SAM is a strong proponent of the right of Maine people to keep and bear arms. In Congress, there have been a number of proposals to restrict access to firearms or to limit the availability of firearms and accessories in order to insure public safety, even though experts maintain that reducing gun violence is tied more closely to better access to mental health care than in reducing the ability of law-abiding citizens to exercise their 2nd Amendment rights. Can we count on you to stand with Maine's law-abiding citizens and to defend the right to keep and bear arms? If not, why?**

Yes _____

No _____

Undecided _____

2. One proposal in Congress is to expand criminal background checks to almost all private firearm sales. Do you support expanding NICS system background checks to private sales?

Yes _____ No _____ Undecided _____

3. The creation of a new north woods national park has long been opposed by the Sportsman’s Alliance of Maine because access for traditional recreation is banned; including, activities like hunting and snowmobiling. Will you oppose the creation of a national park in Northern Maine?

Yes _____ No _____ Undecided _____

4. Wolves vanished from Maine in the 1880’s. Since that time, Maine’s landscape has changed a great deal. Some are proposing re-introducing the gray wolf back to the Northeast, where it would be a protected predator—thereby eliminating efforts to not only control the Eastern coyote, which is a voracious predator of whitetail deer, rabbits, and every non-game species, but also would mean the end of furbearer trapping in the Northeast as well. SAM opposes efforts to introduce wolves into the Northeast, especially on Federal lands. Can we count on you to stand with us on that effort? If not, why?

Yes _____ No _____ Undecided _____

5. Maine sportsmen are proud of our stewardship of our natural resources, and we support the protection and recovery of species listed under the federal Endangered Species Act. But the Act has been used as a tool to further anti-hunting, animal protection agendas and was never meant to tie up state and federal agencies in court spending precious conservation dollars defending wildlife policies from reckless lawsuits. Will you support reforms to the Endangered Species Act that would let species management be governed by science and keep wildlife policies from being litigated? If not, why?

Yes _____ No _____ Undecided _____

6. Trapping is an important part of our wildlife heritage and an important management tool for wildlife agencies. Trappers help enhance the survivability of endangered and non-game species by keeping predator populations at an optimal level, and help farmers, woodsmen and homeowners by controlling nuisance animals. Do you support trapping? If not, why not?

Yes _____ No _____ Undecided _____

7. As above, Maine’s ability to manage growing populations of Eastern coyotes has been challenged because of the Federal decision to list the Canada lynx under the “threatened” section of the Endangered Species Act. In fact, Canada lynx exist in large numbers—in Canada. Maine is at the southern fringe of its range. Do you support clarifying that protections under the Act of a species in “all or part” of its range should only apply if a species is truly in trouble, not just uncommon? If not, why not?

Yes_____

No_____

Undecided_____

8. SAM has long opposed the establishment of a saltwater fishing license. Because of new language adopted in the reauthorization of the Magnusson-Stevens Act, the Federal government now mandates either a registry or a license for fishing in salt water. This change has no clear direction or purpose, and just imposes more paperwork and fees on charter captains and private fishermen. Do you support repealing those provisions? If not, why not?

Yes_____

No_____

Undecided_____

Thank you for completing this survey.