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Anglers for Climate Solutions

The McCain-Lieberman Global Warming Plan Protects America's Top Fishing Holes

Fishing is more than a hobby – it's a family tradition that is passed from generation to generation, connecting parents to their children and everyone to the great outdoors. That's why anglers have so much at stake in the fight against global warming. From the National Academy of Sciences to official reports issued by the Bush

Administration, scientists agree that global warming is a reality today.

Temperatures have already increased by an average of one degree over the past

century. Scientists predict the changes we experience this century could be as much as ten times more severe as more and more carbon pollution is pumped into the atmosphere from smokestacks and tailpipes.



For America's top sport fish, more is at stake from global warming than warmer temperatures. As water temperatures increase and winter snowpack declines, the nation's cold water fish, such as salmon, trout, and sockeye, are increasingly at risk. According to the Environmental Protection Agency:

- ✘ Half or more of **brook** and **rainbow trout** habitat in the Great Lakes region could be lost this century due to rising water temperatures if we fail to act.
- ✘ The Pacific Northwest could face a similar decline in stream habitat for **cutthroat trout, coho, Chinook, chum** and **pink salmon**.
- ✘ As the ocean warms and sea levels rise, global warming even threatens the coastal and tidal wetlands that provide vital fish hatcheries on the Atlantic, Pacific and Gulf coasts.



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But the good news is . . .

Senators John McCain and Joseph Lieberman are building momentum for their bipartisan national plan for action to begin solving global warming – **The Climate Stewardship Act**. This middle-ground approach already has 44 supporters in the U.S. Senate, and is just a few votes short of a majority.



The Climate Stewardship Act would take a first step in dealing with this environmental threat by requiring industry to control the amount of pollution that they emit to the atmosphere. The goals of the Act are modest, but it is important to get started now. The pollution we emit now will linger in the atmosphere for decades, making the problem harder to solve if we fail to act. The Act includes:

- ✓ **Mandatory reductions:** The Act requires power plants, oil companies and factories to collectively reduce their emissions to what they emitted in the year 2000, and it gives them until 2010 to do it.
- ✓ **Balanced, flexible approach:** The Act has won support from industry, farmers, and conservation groups. Companies that recognize the need to reduce pollution support the innovative way the Act allows businesses to devise their own solutions to meet the national emissions goals.
- ✓ **Protects the environment:** Global warming poses a wide range of threats to public health, to our local fish and wildlife resources, and to the wild places that define America's unique landscapes. Scientists predict that up to one-third of species in many regions of the world could be headed toward extinction by 2050 due to global warming if we fail to take action soon.



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