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November 16, 2012

Daniel M. Ashe
Director
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1849 C St. NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001

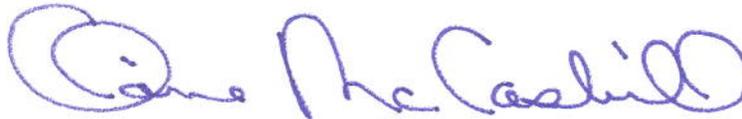
Dear Director Ashe,

I write regarding the proposed rule, published in the Federal Register on September 27, 2012, to list the grotto sculpin as endangered and to designate critical habitat under the authority of the Endangered Species Act.

Many of my constituents have contacted me expressing significant concern regarding the implications of the proposed rule. The 60-day public comment period for the proposed rule extends through November 26, 2012. As the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service moves forward in this process, I request that you carefully consider the comments submitted by my constituents regarding the economic and other impacts of the proposed rule.

As we work to achieve import conservation goals, we must also carefully consider costs to landowners and communities and work to minimize those costs wherever possible. I appreciate your attention to this matter. Should your staff have any questions, please contact Mr. Gary Gorski in my office at (202) 224-6154.

Sincerely,



Claire McCaskill
United States Senator

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