

August 19, 2026

Dr. Leigh Altadonna
161 Greenwood Avenue
Wyncote, PA 19095-1337

Dear Dr. Altadonna:

Thank you for reaching out to me regarding the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and your commitment to conservation. I appreciate hearing from you.

The Endangered Species Act (ESA) is one of our nation's best tools to protect at-risk species from extinction. I have been clear in my support for the ESA.

On March 31, 2026, the Endangered Species Committee, under the Trump Administration, met for the first time in decades and voted to exempt oil and gas drilling from restrictions in the Gulf of Mexico. This move threatens many protected species in the area, and further undermines the authority of Congress and the ESA. I am committed to defending existing ESA protections and other environmental safeguards in Pennsylvania and beyond.

Recently, the Senate considered a joint resolution of disapproval aimed at limiting the reach of the ESA. I am proud to have voted against this effort. S.J.Res. 69 attempted to reverse the US Fish and Wildlife Service's Barred Owl Management Strategy. Fortunately, my colleagues agreed with me and the measure was defeated.

Thank you again for contacting me to share your thoughts. Please do not hesitate to reach out in the future about other issues of importance to you. If I can be of assistance, or if you'd like to learn more about my work on behalf of Pennsylvanians and our commonwealth, I encourage you to visit my website, <https://www.fetterman.senate.gov/>.

Sincerely,

John Fetterman
United States Senator