

Dear members of Congress,

We, the undersigned professional scientific societies, associations, and organizations, are writing to ask you to take immediate action to protect and restore life-saving and essential scientific research that benefits American families and communities. This scientific research is funded by American taxpayers and authorized by Congress and cannot be unilaterally halted by the executive branch.

The nonpartisan organizations signing this letter collectively represent more than 99,000 chemists, geologists, economists, ecologists, engineers, geographers, marine biologists, sociologists, oceanographers, historians of science, and educators. We represent not only professional scientists but also technologists, assistants, administrative, service, and custodial staff, without whom scientific research and programs would not be possible. We work in all 50 states, Washington, DC, and US territories to lay the foundation for life-saving medical discoveries, clean air and water in our communities, safe and abundant food, healthy ecosystems and wildlife, and thriving local innovation economies.

The actions of this administration have already caused significant harm to American science and are risking the health and safety of our communities. These cuts devastate our ability to conduct important research in the public interest, including [finding cures for cancer](#) and ensuring our [food and water supplies are safe](#). Public health experts have been prohibited from [sharing important information with the public](#). Federal scientists have been barred from communicating with international colleagues, [preventing critical US input](#) into international conservation and management decisions.

Indiscriminate cuts or pauses to federal science and research agencies are damaging critical research and the nation's economy. [Thousands of dedicated public servants have been fired](#), including early-career scientists who were disproportionately impacted. This jeopardizes the next decade of science and innovation gains, particularly at a time when many senior scientists are retiring. Vital sources of funding have been slashed, including funding that [trains the next generation of scientific talent](#). Because of this, some universities have paused graduate admissions and even [rescinded admissions offers](#). Delays and drastic cuts in federal grant funding will not only [negatively impact universities](#), but also have economic [repercussions in the areas surrounding universities](#). Every dollar invested by the National Science Foundation generates approximately two dollars in economic output in communities surrounding universities, and every dollar invested by the National Institutes of Health generates approximately \$2.46.

The suspension of congressionally mandated efforts to broaden participation in science and technology is hampering our ability to produce the next generation of talent essential to our global competitiveness. Essential and cost-effective diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility programs provide critical support for training a robust and internationally competitive science workforce, fostering talent that would otherwise be excluded. When the STEM workforce is diverse, so is the knowledge and creativity brought to solving pressing problems. These important efforts have been misconstrued and demonized, and our members from underrepresented minority groups have been unfairly singled out for funding removal and personal harassment.

We ask that Congress take immediate action to:

- Enforce legislative control over congressionally-approved federal funds

- Restore a federal grant expert peer review process that is free from “ideological review,” and restore canceled funding streams and grant programs
- Allow government scientists to do their important work, including speaking with the public and collaborating with international colleagues
- Oppose drastic cuts to workforces at federal scientific research and funding agencies, and oppose drastic cuts to future grants
- Protect individual government scientists from being singled out for harassment
- Cease attacks on, and restore funding to, diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts in the scientific community

We are proud of our diverse expertise, disciplines, and perspectives, and we are all united by a common principle: that federally funded scientific research and study is a common public good and should not be politicized, attacked, or frozen. Congress must act now to provide clarity and certainty in this chaotic moment. We stand ready to work with you to provide further information on the importance of scientific research to your state and priorities.

Signed,

American Aging Association	Linguistic Society of America
American Arachnological Society	Minorities in Shark Sciences
American Association of Geographers	North American Lake Management Society
American Elasmobranch Society	Northeast Algal Society
American Fisheries Society	Organization of Biological Field Stations
American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering	Out to Innovate
AISES	Pacific Seabird Group
American Ornithological Society	Paleontological Society
American Phytopathological Society	Philosophy of Science Association
American Society for Bone and Mineral Research	Phycological Society of America
American Society of Ichthyologists & Herpetologists	Science Communication Trainers Network
American Society of Mammalogists	Society for the Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in Science
American Society of Naturalists	Society for Conservation Biology North America
American Society of Plant Biologists	Society for Freshwater Science
American Sociological Association	Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology

Benthic Ecology Meeting Society

Society for Personality and Social Psychology

BirdsCaribbean

Society for the Study of Evolution

Botanical Society of America
Coastal and Estuarine Research
Federation

Society of Systematic Biologists

Freshwater Mollusk Conservation
Society

Society of Wetland Scientists

United States Society for Ecological Economics

Herpetologists' League
International Association for Great
Lakes Research

Urban Wildlife Working Group

Waterbird Society

International Coral Reef Society
International Society for Vertebrate
Morphology

Western Society of Naturalists

Wilson Ornithological Society

This letter was coordinated by the Union of Concerned Scientists with the assistance of David Shiffman, a UCS Science Network member.

Signatory Professional Societies and Associations:



The American Aging Association (AGE) is a scientific society that promotes biomedical aging studies directed towards slowing the aging process and increasing the functional lifespan of humans, supports public communication of science related to aging and age-associated disease, and fosters the scientific and professional development of trainees focused on aging science. (620 members)

<https://www.americanagingassociation.org/>



The American Arachnological Society is dedicated to the scientific study of arachnids (spiders and their relatives). (700 members) www.americanarachnology.org



The American Association of Geographers (AAG) supports a global community of 10,000 members who use their scientific knowledge to make our world a better place to live by studying complex, unfolding relationships between people and the land they live on. <https://www.aag.org/>



The American Elasmobranch Society is the world's oldest and largest scientific study dedicated to the scientific study and sustainable management of sharks, skates, and rays. (450 members) <https://elasmobranch.org/>



American Fisheries Society

The American Fisheries Society, founded in 1870, is the world's oldest and largest professional society dedicated to fisheries, fish, and aquatic species. The mission of the American Fisheries Society is to improve the conservation and sustainability of fishery resources and aquatic ecosystems by advancing fisheries and aquatic science and promoting the development of fisheries professionals. (6500 members) <https://fisheries.org>



The American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering (AIMBE) is a nonprofit organization headquartered in Washington, D.C., representing the most accomplished individuals in the fields of medical and biological engineering. (3,000 members) <https://aimbe.org/>



AISES is focused on substantially increasing the representation of Indigenous peoples in the United States and Canada in science, technology, engineering, and math studies and careers. (7884 members) <https://aises.org/>



The American Ornithological Society (AOS) is an international society dedicated to connecting ornithologists, science, and bird conservation by supporting science that advances the understanding and conservation of birds; promoting broad access to ornithological science; supporting ornithologists throughout their career paths; and fostering a welcoming, diverse, supportive, and dynamic ornithological community. (3,059 members) <https://americanornithology.org/>



The American Phytopathological Society is a global community of individuals with a shared interest in plant health. APS's mission is to support our members discovery, dissemination, and application of new knowledge of plant health to promote the development and adoption of economically and

environmentally sustainable practices. Members are employed in professional areas such as teaching, research, industry, government, and private consulting. (3600 members) www.apsnet.org



The American Society for Bone and Mineral Research (ASBMR) is a professional, scientific and medical society established to bring together clinical and experimental scientists who are involved in the study of bone and mineral metabolism. (3000 members) <http://www.asbmr.org/>



Founded in 1913, The American Society of Ichthyologists & Herpetologists is the oldest international society dedicated to the scientific study of fishes, amphibians, and reptiles. (1000 members) <https://www.asih.org/>



The American Society of Mammalogists (ASM) is the world's largest and oldest professional organization devoted to the study of mammals. Our core mission is to promote science as the basis for managing and conserving mammals, to diversify the field of mammalogy, and to advance the scientific understanding of mammals globally. (2000 members) <https://www.mammalsociety.org/>



The American Society of Naturalists, founded in 1883, is one of the oldest scientific societies in the U.S., The society is dedicated to advance and disseminate knowledge of broad biological principles, including evolutionary biology, genetics, ecology, and behavior, and the conceptual unification of the biological sciences broadly. (1151 members) <https://www.amnat.org/home.html>



The American Society of Plant Biologists is the nation's largest plant science society. It works to nurture, empower, and inform the community of plant biologists and to advance plant science education, careers, research, leadership, advocacy, and public engagement. (2000 members) <https://aspb.org/>



American Sociological Association

The American Sociological Association serves sociologists in their work, advances sociology as a science and profession, and promotes the contributions and use of sociology to society. (9000 members)

<https://www.asanet.org/>



The Benthic Ecology Meeting Society (BEMS) is a non-profit organization established to run a yearly meeting to exchange scientific information focusing on marine benthic ecosystems (e.g., rocky intertidal, coral reef) and to foster the next generation of benthic biologists. The mission of the BEMS is to promote research in benthic ecosystems, support the exchange of information about benthic ecology, and encourage student participation to develop the next generation of benthic ecologists. BEMS is organized exclusively for educational and scientific purposes. (900 members) <https://bem.disl.edu/>



BirdsCaribbean is a vibrant international network of members and partners committed to conserving migratory, resident and endemic birds, and their habitats in the insular Caribbean (including Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands). We raise awareness, promote sound science, and empower partners to build a region where people appreciate, conserve, and benefit from thriving bird populations and ecosystems. (350 members) <https://www.birdscaribbean.org>



BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA
leading scientists and educators
since 1893

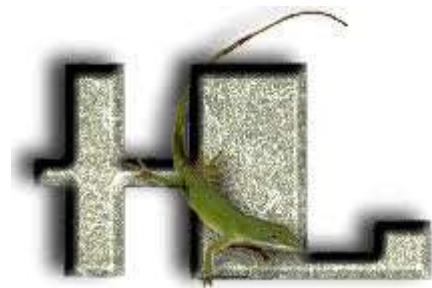
The Botanical Society of America is the leading Society and professional home for botanists and plant scientists dedicated to inspiring and promoting an inclusive global community committed to advancing fundamental knowledge and innovation in the botanical sciences for the benefit of people and the environment. (3126 members) www.botany.org



The Coastal and Estuarine Research Federation is an international professional society dedicated to the understanding and appreciation of estuaries and coasts, the wise use and management of these environments, and making the results of their research and management actions available to colleagues, policymakers, and the public. Members of the Federation include students, researchers, resource managers, and educators representing academic and research institutions, government, industry, and non-governmental organizations. (1006 members) <https://www.cerf.science/>



The Freshwater Mollusk Conservation Society is dedicated to conservation of and advocacy for freshwater mollusks (327 members) <https://molluskconservation.org>



The Herpetologists' League is an international organization of people devoted to promoting the scientific study and conservation of amphibians and reptiles. (350 members) <https://herpetologistsleague.org/>



The International Association for Great Lakes Research (IAGLR) is a scientific organization made up of researchers studying the Laurentian Great Lakes, other large lakes of the world, and their watersheds, as well as those with an interest in such research. IAGLR members encompass all scientific disciplines with a common interest in the management of large lake ecosystems on many levels. (700 members) <https://iaglr.org/>



The International Coral Reef Society promotes the acquisition and dissemination of scientific knowledge to secure coral reefs for future generations. **We Are:** Over 1,300 individuals representing a broad spectrum of coral reef researchers, educators, managers, students, communicators, and citizens from 75 countries. Our vision is to be a leader in coral reef scientific discovery, to contribute to the education of future coral reef scientists, and to be a strong voice for science informing policies that protect coral reefs. <https://coralreefs.org/>



The International Society for Vertebrate Morphology is focused on organizing the premier conference in the diverse fields intersecting vertebrate morphology (anatomy and function), held every 2-3 years in a different location worldwide. (1506 members globally; about 50% are USA-based) <https://www.isvm-icvm.org/>



Linguistic Society of America

The mission of the Linguistic Society of America is to advance the scientific study of language. LSA plays a critical role in supporting and disseminating linguistic scholarship to linguists and the general public for the advancement of knowledge and the betterment of society. (2700 members) www.lsadc.org



Minorities in Shark Sciences is an organization dedicated to broadening participation in marine science, particularly in the study of sharks, skates and rays. More than 85% of our network identify as members of a marginalized community. Learn more about our organization here: www.misselasmoo.org. (500 members and Friends of MISS)



The North American Lake Management Society serves a mission to forge partnerships among citizens, scientists, and professionals to foster the management and protection of lakes and reservoirs. (1067 members) <https://www.nalms.org/>



The Northeast Algal Society is a regional phycological society dedicated to furthering phycological (algal) research and education in the Northeastern United States and Eastern Canada. We work to encourage and promote the growth and development of phycology as a pure and applied phase of biological sciences and to promote the general welfare and good fellowship of phycologists and other biologists, particularly in the States and Provinces of northeastern North America. (352 members) <https://northeastalgae.org/index.php>



The Organization of Biological Field Stations (representing 300 individual members and field stations) supports environmental research, education, and public understanding of scientific activities based at biological field stations and marine laboratories. <https://www.obfs.org>.



Out to Innovate is a professional society to support and advocate for LGBTQ+ people in STEM fields. (261 members) <https://www.outtoinnovate.org/home>



The Pacific Seabird Group (PSG) is a society of professional seabird researchers and managers dedicated to the study and conservation of seabirds. PSG was formed in 1972 out of a need for increased communication among academic and government seabird researchers. The principal goals of PSG are (1) to increase the quality and quantity of seabird research through facilitating exchange of information and (2) to identify and assess the importance of threats to seabird populations and provide government agencies and others with expert advice on managing the threats and populations. (499 members) <https://pacificseabirdgroup.org/>



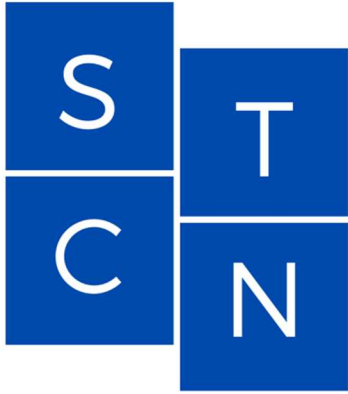
The Paleontological Society is an international nonprofit organization devoted to all aspects of paleontology - plants, animals, protists, microbes, and the traces they leave in the geologic record. Our mission is to advance knowledge of paleontology and understanding of the evolution of life through research, education and advocacy. (1051 members) <https://www.paleosoc.org/>



Founded in 1933, the Philosophy of Science Association promotes research, teaching, and free discussion of issues in the philosophy of science from diverse standpoints. (1233 members) <http://philsci.org/>



The Phycological Society of America was founded in 1946 to promote research and teaching in all fields of phycology. PSA has long been the foremost American scientific society focusing on algae and over the years, its members and leaders have included many of the most productive and highly recognized phycologists not only in the United States but throughout the world (550 members) <https://www.psaalgae.org/>



The Science Communication Trainers Network is the first and only professional society for science communication trainers. (410 members) <https://www.sctn.online/>



SACNAS is an inclusive organization whose mission is to foster the success of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans, from college students to professionals, in attaining advanced degrees, careers, and positions of leadership in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). SACNAS provides STEM career development through its many programs, events, and resources. Everyone is welcome to become a SACNAS member. (9000 members) <https://www.sacnas.org/>



Society for Conservation Biology
North America Section

The Society for Conservation Biology North America is a professional society focused on the conservation of biodiversity, healthy ecosystems, and human connections, with members and local chapters located throughout the United States and Canada. (1135 members) <https://scbnorthamerica.org/>



The Society for Freshwater Science supports the scientific study and sustainable management of freshwater ecosystems. (1563 members) <https://freshwater-science.org/>



**The Society for
Integrative &
Comparative
Biology**

SICB fosters research, education, public awareness and understanding of living organisms from molecules and cells to ecology and evolution. SICB encourages interdisciplinary cooperative research that integrates across scales, and new models and methodologies to enhance research and education. (2407 members) <http://www.sicb.org/>



The Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP) is the world's largest organization dedicated to personality and social psychology, supporting members worldwide. SPSP promotes scientific research, professional development, and public engagement through its journals, conferences, and programs. (5500 members) <https://spsp.org/>



SOCIETY for the STUDY of EVOLUTION

The Society for the Study of Evolution is an international professional society whose mission is to promote evolutionary biology research, education, application, outreach, and community building in an equitable and globally inclusive manner. (3000 members) <https://evolutionsociety.org/>



The Society of Systematic Biologists

The Society of Systematic Biologists is the world's largest professional society dedicated to the study of biological diversity and its origins. It focuses on understanding evolutionary relationships among organisms, species, higher taxa, or other biological entities, such as genes, and the evolution of the properties of taxa including intrinsic traits, ecological interactions, and geographic distributions. For more information on SSB, go to its website <https://www.systbio.org> (600 members)



The Mission of the Society of Wetland Scientists is to promote understanding, conservation, protection, restoration, science-based management, and sustainability of wetlands. (3000 members)
<https://www.sws.org/>



The United States Society for Ecological Economics (USSEE) provides a venue for intellectual exchange and collaboration on issues related to the theory, policy, and implementation of sustainable development. The society consists of an interdisciplinary group of academics and practitioners who seek

to develop solutions to complex and interrelated economic, social, and environmental problems. (153 members) <http://www.ussee.org/>



The Urban Wildlife Working Group is the world's largest professional society focused on the ecology and management of wildlife in urban areas. (340 members) urbanwildlifegroup.org



The Waterbird Society is an international society composed of biologists, researchers, conservationists, students, and others interested in the behavior, ecology, and global conservation of waterbirds. Our members focus on a range of aspects from conservation and management of waterbird species to advancing the latest scientific waterbird research. (281 members) <https://waterbirds.org/>



The Western Society of Naturalists is a scientific society focused on ecology, evolution, natural history, and marine biology, primarily concentrated on the west coast of North America. The Society's annual meeting is a venue for sharing new scientific findings, and has a strong focus on training the next generation of scientists, with a strong commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility in science and mentorship. (~700 members) <http://wsn-online.org/>



The Wilson Ornithological Society is an international scientific society comprising members who share a curiosity about birds. The WOS produces the quarterly Wilson Journal of Ornithology as the latest iteration of scientific journal publication supported by the Society since 1888. The WOS is committed to providing mentorship to both professional and amateur ornithologists through the sponsorship of research, teaching, and conservation. (1086 members) <https://wilsonsociety.org/>