

## **PETITION TO THE HOUSE OF COMMONS IN PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED**

We, the undersigned electors of Canada, draw the attention of the House of Commons to the following:

**THAT** Canadians place a high value on the healthy natural ecosystems which are fundamental to our nation's heritage, self-image and future prosperity;

**THAT** the species which comprise those ecosystems are increasingly stressed and in decline as a result of climate change and other human-caused damage to the habitats upon which their survival depends;

**THAT** Bill C-38 gutted the habitat protections formerly provided under the Fisheries Act;

**THAT** Bill C-45 eliminated federal regulatory oversight of infrastructure projects for approximately 99% of Canada's lakes and rivers;

**THAT** those legislative changes were made without any public consultation, in the absence of independent expert analysis of the likely consequences, and through the mechanism of omnibus budget implementation bills which drastically limited opportunities for open Parliamentary scrutiny;

**THAT** those changes were also made in spite of the fact that the majority of Canadians believe the federal government is not doing enough to ensure the survival of Canada's endangered plants and animals and should strengthen and better enforce federal species-at-risk legislation, as evidenced by the December 13, 2012 Ipsos Reid poll;

**THAT** as citizens of a leading democracy, Canadians are entitled to far more input into proposed legislation that will impact our future and that of our children than the Government has thus far afforded in its changes to environmental protection;





