

The recent actions taken by the Trump administration to dismantle federal agencies, fire federal employees, and freeze federal funding have posed significant threats to the health of our lake resources, undermining vital protections for water quality and aquatic ecosystems. The Washington State Lake Protection Association, which strives to promote the protection of lakes through the collaboration of diverse interests, stands in strong support of federal agencies, federal employees, and federally funded science initiatives that are crucial for safeguarding water quality, advancing research, and preserving aquatic resources. The contributions of our federal colleagues and partners within the aquatic science community are integral to addressing the complex challenges facing our lakes. We also emphasize the importance of promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion within the aquatic science community to ensure that all voices are heard, and that environmental protection benefits every community. We echo the [sentiments of the North American Lake Management Society](#), and direct any WALPA members who may be impacted by recent executive actions to the resources provided in their statement.

WALPA President Dr. Angela Strecker and President-Elect Wafa Tafesh have sent a letter voicing our concerns to Washington's federal representatives. We invite you to join us by contacting your own representatives and urging them to protect the federal employees, agencies, and funding that support our irreplaceable aquatic resources. Please feel free to use the following template, ([link to download](#)) as well as these links to find contact information for your representatives in the [House](#) and [Senate](#).