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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Sierra Club endorses Kelly Westlund for Congress

Madison: The Sierra Club today announced the endorsement of Kelly Westlund for election to the Wisconsin 7th Congressional District. Westlund has earned the Sierra Club's endorsement by virtue of her public service, and voting record as an elected official, responses to a candidate questionnaire and her environmental platforms. Sierra Club-endorsed candidates are those judged to be the best advocates for Wisconsin's clean air, clean water, and special places.

"Kelly Westlund is the environmental leader Wisconsin needs in the 7th Congressional District," said Dave Blouin, State Political Chair. "Her commitment to fight climate change, protect Lake Superior from unsafe iron mining, and work for true sustainable economic development has earned her our endorsement. Voters in the 7th Congressional District can count on Kelly Westlund to protect Wisconsin's environment and grow our economy sustainably."

Westlund is challenging incumbent Sean Duffy who has compiled a remarkably poor voting record on environmental and conservation issues since election in 2010. Since 2010, Rep. Duffy has cast 88 votes (out of 93) for an unprecedented party-line ideological assault on the environment and public health*. Duffy voted for billions in subsidies for dirty oil and gas fracking companies, to approve the Keystone XL pipeline and allow mountaintop removal mining pollution of streams, while rolling back environmental protections and cutting funding for renewable energy and energy efficiency. "Rep. Duffy's extremist votes demonstrate he supports polluting industry over his own constituents." said Blouin.

"We're excited to be part of the team working to elect Kelly Westlund to Congress. Kelly Westlund has a sustainable vision for our future that protects our environment and public health, while Sean Duffy only protects the money interests of big oil, gas, and mining. The choice is clear and we're motivated to work to elect Kelly to Congress." said Caryn Treiber, Chair of the Chippewa Valley Group.

The Sierra Club has proudly endorsed three additional incumbent candidates for Congress so far for the 2014 elections. These candidates have been endorsed due to their outstanding environmental voting records. They are: Mark Pocan, (2nd District), Ron Kind, (3rd District), and Gwen Moore (4th District).

*The Sierra Club works with the League of Conservation Voters to compile annual scorecard of votes on the most important issues including energy, climate change, public health, public lands, wildlife conservation and spending on environmental protection. Rep. Duffy's voting record scorecard can be found at: <http://scorecard.lcv.org/moc/sean-duffy>

The Sierra Club is mobilizing members to support endorsed candidates with demonstrated pro-environmental records and platforms. The Sierra Club is the nation's largest and oldest grassroots environmental organization. The John Muir Chapter of the Sierra Club has more than 15,000 members and supporters in Wisconsin.

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