Outdoor Recreation Roundtable Position on Trade

Outdoor recreation relies on free and fair trade to sustain the thousands of businesses that make up the industry. The outdoor recreation industry accounts for 2.2 percent of the U.S. gross domestic product, contributing over $734 billion in goods and services.

The current administration’s practice of levying tariffs on a wide variety of products has inadvertently had an adverse impact on the recreational community. From backpacks to boats, RVs and other motorized and non-motorized equipment, recreation is being caught in the crosshairs.

Outdoor recreation is facing tariffs on raw materials such as steel, aluminum, fiberglass and upholstery as well as component parts essential to manufacturing countless products. In addition, our allies have retaliated against key American-made recreational products, with devastating export tariffs. Recreation is being squeezed at both ends, with higher input costs and lost export sales.

Ultimately the consumer will pay the price as most manufacturers are unable to absorb all of the tariff costs. This will make outdoor recreation less affordable to the average American and could stymie economic growth in a vibrant manufacturing and retail sector.

ORR supports the protection of intellectual property rights and leveling the playing field to unfair competition, but the current application of tariffs threatens the health of our robust outdoor economy. History has proven that tariffs are ultimately counterproductive and injurious to American companies, workers and consumers.

Sincerely,

American Sportfishing Association
Archery Trade Association
International Snowmobile Manufacturers Association
National Marine Manufacturers Association
PeopleForBikes
RV Dealers Association
RV Industry Association
Specialty Equipment Market Association