

The Honorable Raul Grijalva Chairman House Committee on Natural Resources 1324 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Bruce Westerman Ranking Member House Committee on Natural Resources 1329 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Grijalva and Ranking Member Westerman:

On behalf of the outdoor recreation community, we would like to express our strong support for advancing comprehensive outdoor recreation legislation that appropriately meets the growing demand for accessing the outdoors, while also protecting public lands and waters for future use. We believe that bipartisan legislative solutions will improve experiences on public lands and waters, advance conservation efforts, and continue to grow the outdoor recreation economy, especially in rural communities.

As you know, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee recently passed the America's Outdoor Recreation Act of 2022 by unanimous consent, and the bill is currently awaiting action by the full Senate. This bipartisan legislation includes important initiatives, including comprehensive permit streamlining, better mechanisms to improve campgrounds, investments in broadband infrastructure, authorities to work with rural communities to help grow local economies, and approaches to gather better visitation data at a time of unprecedented visitor demand. This legislation helps modernize outdoor recreation infrastructure, manage already conserved lands and waters to support businesses recovering from COVID-19 and now impacted by wildfires and drought, ensure better access to the outdoors for all Americans, mitigate the impacts of ever-increasing visitation in some areas and create jobs by supporting rural economies, communities, and quality of life – all of which comes at no additional cost to taxpayers.

We appreciate your leadership in advancing important legislation through the House Natural Resources Committee that will address several needs within outdoor recreation and rural economic development. We believe comprehensive outdoor recreation legislation would help unify the bills your committee has passed with other important initiatives that are urgently needed to protect our lands and waters and appropriately invest in recreation infrastructure.

According to the most recent data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis released last year, the outdoor recreation industry generated \$689 billion in economic output, accounted for 1.8 percent of GDP and 4.3 million American jobs, and was growing faster than the economy in every indicator. The outdoor recreation community asks you to advance a comprehensive outdoor recreation package this year that aligns with the Senate's America's Outdoor Recreation Act of 2022.

We look forward to working with you and your staff on an outdoor recreation package that brings together the entire outdoor recreation community and could be passed this year. This transformative legislation could be a win-win for businesses, conservation, and Democrats and Republicans alike.

Sincerely,



Access Fund

American Alpine Club

**America Outdoors** 

American Horse Council

American Mountain Guides Association

American Sportfishing Association

**Archery Trade Association** 

**Association of Marina Industries** 

**Backcountry Hunters and Anglers** 

**CHM Government Services** 

Diving Equipment and Marketing Association

International Mountain Bicycling Association

International Snowmobile Manufacturers Association

Marine Retailers Association of the Americas

Motorcycle Industry Council

National Association of RV Parks and Campgrounds

**National Deer Association** 

**National Forest Recreation Association** 

National Marine Manufacturers Association

National RV Dealers Association

National Ski Areas Association

**National Wild Turkey Federation** 

**Outdoor Alliance** 

**Outdoor Industry Association** 

**Outdoor Writers Association of America** 

PeopleForBikes

**Professional Trailbuilders Association** 

Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle Association

**RV Industry Association** 

**Snowsports Industries Association** 

Specialty Vehicle Institute of America

**Sports & Fitness Industry Association** 

**Surfrider Foundation** 

The Corps Network

The Mountaineers

Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership

Wildlife Management Institute

Winter Wildlands Alliance