

Joe Lombardo Governor, State of Nevada State Capitol Building 101 N. Carson Street Carson City, NV 89701

Dear Governor,

The Outdoor Recreation Roundtable (ORR) and our members congratulate you on your recent election to the state's highest elected office and the beginning of your term ahead. ORR is comprised of over 40 organizations representing over 110,000 businesses across the outdoor recreation economy – which generates \$862 billion in economic output and 4.5 million jobs, comprising 1.9% of the nation's GDP and 3% of all employees in the country, according to the U.S. Department of Commerce. This important sector grew three times as fast as the overall economy in 2021.

The outdoor recreation economy is also a major contributor in Nevada. In 2021, Nevada's outdoor recreation economy <u>contributed</u> \$4.9 billion in value added (2.5% of GDP) and 50,563 jobs, growing a stunning 28.4% from 2020-2021. Nevada can attribute this success to outstanding recreation opportunities in RVing, Boating/Fishing, Hunting/Shooting/Trapping, Motorcycling/ATVing, and Snow Activities, among other activities. And outdoor recreation contributes much more, including increased rural prosperity, improved public health, recruitment and retention of talented employees across sectors, and environmental stewardship and responsible resource development.

Nevada is also fortunate to enjoy the benefits of a state office of outdoor recreation, led by Colin Robertson. Nevada is one of 18 states that have created these offices, which serve as central champions for the outdoor recreation economy. Their efforts include economic development initiatives, stakeholder outreach, conservation and stewardship of public lands and waters, youth engagement, and unifying the business voice to engage diverse public and private stakeholders. In 2022, the Division of Outdoor Recreation helped to leverage more than \$15 million in new federal funding for Nevada, in support of outdoor recreation and outdoor tourism, especially benefitting Nevada's rural communities. OREC offices are also integral to forming Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plans, which serve as guides for all public outdoor recreation in urban and rural neighborhoods, cities, and regions, and are required to receive funding from the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

We would appreciate a meeting with you and your staff to further discuss your state's fast-growing outdoor recreation economy and ways we might support your efforts. ORR stands ready to help grow this essential part of the economy and contribute to the well-being of your residents and visitors alike.

Sincerely,

American Sportfishing Association Association of Marina Industries Boat Owners Association of the United States CHM Government Services Marine Retailers Association of the Americas Motorcycle Industry Council National Association of RV Parks and Campgrounds National Marine Manufacturers Association National Wild Turkey Federation Outdoor Writers Association of America Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle Association RV Industry Association Society of Outdoor Recreation Professionals Specialty Vehicle Institute of America VF Corporation