



September 29, 2021

The Honorable Larry Hogan
Governor of Maryland
100 State Circle
Annapolis, MD 21401

Governor Hogan,

The Outdoor Recreation Roundtable (ORR) and its member associations wish to express our sincere appreciation for your announcement of the creation of an Office of Outdoor Recreation in the state of Maryland and the hiring of the first Executive Director, J. Daryl Anthony. Please see us as key partners committed to the success of Executive Director Anthony, this office, and the \$7.1 billion recreation economy in Maryland.

ORR is America's leading coalition of outdoor recreation trade associations. Through 34 national outdoor trade associations, ORR's members represent over 110,000 American businesses that produce vehicles, equipment, gear, apparel and services for the millions of Americans who annually enjoy our national parks, waterways, byways, trails and outdoor spaces. The various outdoor recreation business sectors represent more than 2.1 percent of annual Gross Domestic Product and produce a combined \$788 billion output for the U.S. economy, supporting 5.2 million direct jobs.

We thank you – as well as the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and Department of Commerce – for seizing this opportunity to strengthen coordination and investment in the powerful economic engine that is the outdoor recreation industry in the great state of Maryland, home to some of our nation's most treasured lands and waters, outdoor businesses and world-class recreation. Thanks to your efforts – and the efforts of the Maryland Outdoor Recreation Economic Commission chaired by Secretaries Haddaway-Riccio and Schulz – Maryland has become one of this country's leaders in growing this vital part of the economy, from our backyards to the backcountry.

Outdoor recreation is a major force in Maryland, generating \$7.1 billion annually, supporting 89,000 jobs and accounting for 1.7 percent of the state's GDP. The billions of dollars that the outdoor recreation economy brings into the state each year build healthy communities, boost sustainable rural economies and promote conservation of the state's impressive natural resources.

ORR and our members again thank you for your leadership in this effort and look forward to working with you to support this office and its team in the coming months and years in order to ensure all Marylanders have access to the outdoors and well-planned infrastructure. These investments will create a robust outdoor recreation economy that supports Maryland jobs, communities, quality of life and the Maryland experience for generations to come.

Sincerely,

American Horse Council
American Sportfishing Association
American Trails

Archery Trade Association
Association of Outdoor Recreation and Education
Bill's Marine Service*
Boat Owners Association of the United States
Chessie Marine Sales, Inc.*
Coastal Conservation Association Maryland*
Deep Creek Marina*
Leo's Vacation Center*
Marine Retailers Association of the Americas
Marine Trades Association of Maryland*
Maryland Association of Campgrounds*
Maryland State Park Advisory Board*
Motorcycle Industry Council
National Association of RV Parks and Campgrounds
National Marine Manufacturers Association
National RV Dealers Association
North Point Yacht Sales*
Outdoor Industry Association
Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle Association
RV Industry Association
Specialty Equipment Market Association
Specialty Vehicle Institute of America
W. L. Gore & Associates*

* - Maryland businesses