

The Honorable Charles Schumer Leader U.S. Senate 322 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi Speaker U.S. House of Representatives 1236 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Mitch McConnell Minority Leader U.S. Senate 317 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy Minority Leader U.S. House of Representatives 2468 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Leader Schumer, Leader McConnell, Speaker Pelosi, and Leader McCarthy,

On behalf of the outdoor recreation economy, the Outdoor Recreation Roundtable Association – along with the 35 national associations and more than 140 local associations and small businesses from across the country who have signed this letter – would like to express our strong support for the America's Outdoor Recreation Act (S.3266) and urge its passage through both the Senate and the House of Representatives either as part of the National Defense Authorization Act or other legislative package before the end of the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress. This bipartisan, commonsense legislation would appropriately meet the growing demand for access to the outdoors while also protecting public lands and waters for future use at no additional cost to taxpayers. We believe the America's Outdoor Recreation Act will improve experiences on public lands and waters, advance conservation efforts, and continue to grow the outdoor recreation economy, especially in rural communities.

The America's Outdoor Recreation Act unanimously passed the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee earlier this year and is awaiting a full Senate vote. It 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.

According to the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), the outdoor recreation industry generated \$689 billion in economic output, accounted for 1.8 percent of GDP, and supported 4.3 million American jobs in 2020, and was also growing faster than the economy in every indicator prior to the pandemic. New data on the size and impact of this industry will be released by BEA



November 9<sup>th</sup>, and we believe it will show the largest year ever for our industry, reflecting Americans' renewed desire to recreate outdoors. To ensure this vital sector continues to grow and support communities, economies, jobs, and more, the outdoor recreation community asks you to advance the America's Outdoor Recreation Act of 2022 before this Congress ends.

This transformative legislation could be a win-win for businesses, conservation, and Democrats and Republicans alike, and we look forward to working with you and your staffs on it.

Sincerely,

## **National Organizations**

Access Fund

**America Outdoors Association** 

American Alpine Club

American Horse Council

American Mountain Guides Association

American Sportfishing Association

**American Trails** 

**Archery Trade Association** 

**Backcountry Hunters and Anglers** 

Boat Owners Association of the United States

**CHM Government Services** 

Diving Equipment and Marketing Association

International Mountain Biking Association

International Snowmobile Manufacturers Association

Marine Retailers Association of the Americas

Motorcycle Industry Council

**National Deer Association** 

National Forest Recreation Association

National Marine Manufacturers Association

National RV Dealers Association

National Wild Turkey Federation

Orion, the Hunter's Institute

**Outdoor Industry Association** 

PeopleForBikes

Professional TrailBuilders Association

Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle Association

REI Co-op

**RV Industry Association** 

Specialty Equipment Market Association

Specialty Vehicle Institute of America



Surfrider Foundation
The Corps Network
The Mountaineers
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
Winter Wildlands Alliance

## State/Local Organizations

Blue Ridge Off-Road Cyclists

Colorado Mountain Bike Association

Mountain Bike the Tetons

New England Mountain Bike Association - Midcoast Maine Chapter & Sidecountry Trails

Rogue Valley Mountain Bike Association

Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Coalition

Southern Nevada Mountain Biking Association

Clifford Agocs - Timberline Mountain Guides

Anna Alewine - Pisgah Climbing School

Mark Allen - Mountain Bureau

Ben Ammon - Irwin Guides, Aspen Expeditions, RMI Expeditions, Pro Guiding Service

Elias de Andres-Martos - San Juan Mountain Guides, Mountain Trip

Kristin Arnold - Moxie Mountain Guides

John Barkhausen - Kaf Adventures, Mountain Madness

Doug Bernard - Sawtooth Mountain Guides, Pro Guiding Service

Berndt Bittlingmaier - Pro Guiding Service

Kurt Blair - San Juan Mountain Guides

Zebulon Blais - Blackbird Mountain Guides

Miles Britton - Timberline Mountain Guides

Christopher Brown - Certified Guides Co-op, Backcountry Pros, Red River Adventures

Jordan Cargill - Mountain Shadow Adventures

Christian Chilcott - Professional Mountain Guides, Backcountry Adventure Guides

TJ Ciotti - BCMG

Adam Clark - International Mountain Guides, The Mountain Guides Montana

Joshua Cole - North Cascades Mountain Guides

Taggart Cole - Mountain Madness, Montana Alpine Guides

John Collis - Alpine Ascents International, Moab Cliffs and Canyons

Rob Coppolillo - Vetta Mountain Guides

Dan Corn - American Avalanche Institute, Exum Mountain Guides, Alpine Ascents International, Alaska Mountaineering School, Valdez Heli Ski Guides, Jackson Hole Mountain Resort

Ben Coryell - Golden Mountain Guides

Aaron Dahill - Exum Mountain Guides

Derek DeBruin - Red River Adventures, Weber State University, Certified Guides Cooperative



Jeff Dobronyi - Certified Guides Cooperative, Exum Mountain Guides

Hayden Dougherty - Timberline Mountain Guides, Beartooth Mountain Guides

Jason Edwards - International Mountain Guides

Mike Elges - Cascade Mountain Ascents, Alpine Ascents International

Anouk Erni - Sierra Mountain Center

Derek Esposito - Baker Mountain Guides

Lindsay Fixmer - Montana Alpine Guides, Montana State University

Alex Fletcher - American Alpine Institute

Ben Gardner - American Alpine Institute

Keith Garvey - All Mountain Adventures, Telluride Helitrax

Adam Gellman - American Alpine Institute, Petra Cliffs

Kai Girard - Exum Mountain Guides, Alaska Mountaineering School, Jackson Hole Alpine Guides

Dawn Glanc - San Juan Mountain Guides

Dunham Gooding - American Alpine Institute

Casey Graham - USAF Academy Outdoor Adventure Programs 10th Force Support Squadron

Mark Grundon - Sierra Climbing School

Matt Hainstock - North Cascades Mountain Guides, Pika Mountain Works

Lindsey Hamm - Mountain Bureau, Mountain Madness

Ben Haskell - Pro Guiding Service

Ian Havlick - 8880 Mountain Guides, Irwin Guides, Exum Mountain Guides

Angela Hawse - Silverton Avalanche School, Eddie Bauer, Sterling Rope, Metolius Climbing Equipment

Kurt Hicks - Edgeworks Climbing

Joseph Hobby - Utah Mountain Adventures, Cascade Mountain Ascents, Wild Paths Guiding

Brenda Hollon - Verascapes

Kyle Hornor - Mountain Madness, Mountain Trip, Colorado Mountain School

Ryan Huetter - Sierra Mountain Guides

Woody Jacobson - Kaf Adventures

Akio Joy - Beartooth Mountain Guides

Peter Keane - Timberline Mountain Guides, Inc.

Sheldon Kerr - Moxie Mountain Guides

Trevor Kostanich - Pro Guiding Service, Trevor Kostanich Ski Guide

Paul Koubek - Yosemite Mountaineering School, International Alpine Guides

Henry Kramer - Timberline Mountain Guides, San Juan Mountain Guides

Andrew Krause - American Alpine Institute

Taylor Lais - Jackson Hole Mountain Guides, Montana Mountaineering Association

Lee Lazzara - Alpine Ascents International

John Lemnotis - Red River Adventures

Micah Lewkowitz - Splitter Alpine

Geoffrey Lodge - Timberline Mountain Guides, Oregon Ski Guides

David Lottmann - Northeast Mountaineering



Zach Lovell - Colorado Mountain School, University of Utah, Aspen Expeditions, American Alpine Institute

Matt Lubar - Cascade Mountain Ascents, International Alpine Guides

John MacKinnon - Buena Vista Mountain Adventures, Sterling College

Paul Maier - RMI Expeditions

Jeffrey Mascaro - Smile Mountain Guides, San Juan Mountain Guides, Denver Mountain Guiding

Jason D. Martin - American Alpine Institute, Ltd.

Forest McBrian - Pro Guiding Service

Ian McConnell - Guided Exposure

Ian McEleney - American Alpine Institute

Zack McGill - Cascade Mountain Ascents, Alpine Ascents International

Hannah McGowan - Alpine Ascents International

Nate McKenzie - Ascent Climbing, Paradox Sports

Andrew Megas-Russell - Colorado Mountain School, Jackson Hole Mountain Guides

Justin Merle - International Mountain Guides

Adam Mitchell - Rock-About Climbing Adventures

Marty Molitoris - Alpine Endeavors, LLC

Keith Moon - Eastern Mountain Sports Climbing School

Erik Moore – NASTC

Craig Muderlak - Pro Guiding Service, Edgeworks Climbing

Gary Newmeyer - Jackson Hole Mountain Guides, Alpine Ascents International

Zack Novak - Ibex Ascents LLC

William Nunez - San Juan Expeditions

Michael O'Connor - Smile Mountain Guides, Sierra Mountain Guides

Nadav Oakes - Montana Mountaineering Association, Jackson Hole Mountain Guides, Alaska Mountaineering School

Patrick Ormond - San Juan Mountain Guides, Alpine Ascents International

Don Pachner - Pachner and Associates, LLC

Todd Passey - In The Company of Guides, Wasatch Mountain Guides

Daniel Peck - Pro Guiding Service, The Mountain Bureau

Taylor Peterson - American Alpine Institute

Andrew Pledger - Utah Valley University

Mike Poborsky - Jackson Hole Mountain Guides

Gavin Porter - Montana Mountaineering Association

Mike Powers - American Alpine Institute

Kyle T. Pratt - Baker Mountain Guides, Miyar Adventures, American Alpine Institute

Dale Remsberg - Jackson Hole Mountain Guides

Elliott Reed - Timerberline Mountain Guides, Three Sisters Backcountry

Aaron Richards - Pro Guiding Service

Mike Riley - American Alpine Institute, Prescott College

Shane Robinson - Graybird Guiding, Certified Guides Cooperative



Kel Rossiter - Adventure Spirit Rock+Ice+Alpine

Justin Rotherham - Mountain Bureau LLC

Eddie Schoen - Pro Guiding Service, Colorado Mountain School, Silverton Avalanche School

Matt Schonwald - BC Adventure Guides

Ryan Scott - Atlantic Climbing School

Matthew Sellick - Pikes Peak Alpine School

Jesse Selwyn - San Juan Mountain Guides, Mountain Madness

Brandon Seymore - Timberline Mountain Guides, Blackbird Mountain Guides

Chris Simmons - Simmons Mountain Works

Grant Simmons - Cathedral Mountain Guides

Kevin Shon - Montana Mountaineering Association, American Alpine Institute, Blue Ridge Mountain Guides, Eastern Mountain Sports

Matt Shove - Ragged Mountain Guides

David Shuer - Alpine Ascents International

Dave Shuey - North Cascades Mountain Guides

Paul Smotherman - Methow Valley Climbers-Washington Climbers Coalition

Adam Snyder - Timberline Mountain Guides

Michael Soucy - American Avalanche Institute, Colorado Mountain School

Jonathon Spitzer - Alpine Ascents International

Dave Stimson - Sierra Mountain Center

Jeff Tarshis - Pro Guiding Service, The Mountain Bureau

Alex Teixeira - Mooney Mountain Guides LLC

Joseph D. Thompson - Colorado Mountain School, American Avalanche Institute, Rab USA

Ben Traxler - Prescott College, Sierra Mountain Guides, American Alpine Institute

Geoff Unger - Certified Guides Cooperative

Martin Volken - Pro Guiding Service

Michael Wachs - Certified Guides Cooperative

Jeff Ward - North Cascades Mountain Guides

Brooke Warren - Alpine Ascents International, San Juan Mountain Guides

Hans Webster - International Mountain Guides

William Webster - International Mountain Guides, Northwest Mountain School

Travis Weil - Northwest Mountain School

Zack Wentz - Mountain Bureau, Edgeworks Climbing + Guiding, Kaf Adventures

James Wieman - The Wildland Trekking Company

Christopher Wright - Now!Climbing LLC

Szu-ting Yi - American Alpine Institute

Koby Yudkin - Timberline Mountain Guides, Alpine Ascents International