



March 27, 2023

The Honorable Tom Tiffany  
Chairman  
House Natural Resources Committee  
Subcommittee on Federal Lands  
1324 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Joe Neguse  
Ranking Member  
House Natural Resources Committee  
Subcommittee on Federal Lands  
1332 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Chair Tiffany and Ranking Member Neguse,

The Outdoor Recreation Roundtable Association – on behalf of the 48 outdoor recreation trade associations, businesses, and state Offices of Outdoor Recreation we represent – writes to thank you for your upcoming hearing on components of an outdoor recreation legislative package. This historic legislation would revolutionize the \$862 billion outdoor recreation economy and pave the way for its continued growth.

This bipartisan, bicameral legislative package would truly transform the way Americans access and enjoy their public lands and waters by streamlining permitting processes to ease burdens on outfitters and guides; improving access to recreational opportunities; ensuring access to green spaces in underserved communities; developing, improving, and completing long-range trails; investing in rural communities; and so much more. All of this would be accomplished at no additional cost to the taxpayer. And this bill is well-timed: the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis reported that the outdoor recreation economy grew three times faster than the U.S. economy from 2020 to 2021.

We strongly support advancing this comprehensive piece of legislation that appropriately meets the growing demand for access to the outdoors while also protecting public lands and waters for future use. Most bills that are the focus of this hearing have been worked on by policymakers – including those on this Committee – and stakeholders for years. The strong support from the industry and conservation community, as well as both sides of the political aisle, highlight the importance of this bill. The members of the outdoor recreation economy look forward to working with you and your staffs on this package that could be a win-win for businesses, conservation, rural communities, and the economy.

Sincerely,

Chris Perkins, Senior Director  
Outdoor Recreation Roundtable