

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