Support for the Great American Outdoors Act

May 11, 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
Minority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

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

Dear Majority Leader McConnell, Speaker Pelosi, Minority Leader Schumer, and Minority Leader McCarthy:

Our organizations, and the members we represent, strongly support passage and subsequent enactment of the Great American Outdoors Act (S. 3422) as quickly as possible. This bill is necessary to support the public lands we all rely upon by achieving the twin goals of protecting America’s special places and repairing deteriorating infrastructure. We urge you to vote in favor of this crucial legislation and to oppose any amendments to it.

The bill will help address priority repairs in our national parks and on other public lands by directing up to $9.5 billion over five years to address maintenance needs within the National Park System, other public land agencies, and Bureau of Indian Education schools. It will also fully and, permanently dedicate $900 million per year already being deposited into the Land and Water Conservation Fund, our nation’s most important conservation program, to ensure protection of and access to irreplaceable lands and local recreation opportunities.

This legislation was introduced on March 9 and has the strong bipartisan support of a majority of the Senate. It is consistent with legislation supported by a surpassing bipartisan majority in the House, and the President has specifically requested this bill for his signature, creating an unprecedented opportunity for a historic win for the American public and the places they care about.

The Great American Outdoors Act will ensure a future for nature to thrive, kids to play, and hunters and anglers to enjoy. National parks and public lands provide access to the outdoors for hundreds of millions of people every year and habitat for some of our country’s most iconic wildlife. These treasured places also tell the stories that define and unite us as a nation. Funds provided in this bill will secure these vital resources while preserving water quantity and quality, sustaining working landscapes and rural economies, increasing access for recreation for all Americans no matter where they live, and fueling the juggernaut of our outdoor economy.

In 2018, over 318 million national park visits led to $20.2 billion in direct spending at hotels, restaurants, outfitters, and other amenities in gateway communities, supporting over 329,000 jobs and generating over $40.1 billion in total economic output. Nationally, outdoor recreation contributes $778 billion in consumer spending and supports 5.2 million jobs.

The Great American Outdoors Act will ensure that our parks and other public lands continue to preserve our nation’s heritage and recreation opportunities, and that local communities and economies in these areas will continue to flourish.
We urge you to support our parks and public lands by voting for the Great American Outdoors Act (S. 3422) as a clean bill with no amendments. Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,

National

American Battlefield Trust
American Conservation Coalition
American Endurance Ride Conference
American Forests
American Hiking Society
American Horse Council
American Littoral Society
American Mountain Guides Association
American Rivers
American Society of Civil Engineers
American Sportfishing Association
American Trails
American Woodcock Society
Appalachian Mountain Club
Appalachian Trail Conservancy
Archery Trade Association
Audubon Naturalist Society
Back Country Horsemen of America
Backcountry Hunters & Anglers
Bonefish & Tarpon Trust
Boone and Crockett Club
City Parks Alliance
Clean Water Action
Cliff Garten and Associates Inc.
Coalition for American Heritage
Coalition to Protect America's National Parks
Coalitions & Collaboratives
Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation
Continental Divide Trail Coalition
Defenders of Wildlife
Diving Equipment & Marketing Association
Docomomo US
Environment America
Fly Fishers International
GreenLatinos
Heart of the Rockies Initiative
HECHO(Hispanics enjoying Camping Hunting and the Outdoors)
Hicamp
Hispanic Access Foundation
Hispanic Federation
Izaak Walton League of America
Just Get Outdoors
Land Trust Alliance
League of Conservation Voters
Marine Retailers Association of the Americas
Moonshot Missions
Motorcycle Industry Council
National Association of RV Parks and Campgrounds
National Coast Trail Association
National Deer Alliance
National Forest Recreation Association
National Marine Manufacturers Association
National Park Foundation
National Park Hospitality Association
National Parks Conservation Association
National Recreation and Park Association
National Shooting Sports Foundation
National Trust for Historic Preservation
National Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route Association
National Wildlife Federation
National Wildlife Refuge Association
Natural Gear Camouflage
Natural Resources Defense Council
Outdoor Alliance
Outdoor Industry Association
Outdoor Recreation Roundtable
Pacific Crest Trail Association
Partnership for the National Trails System
Patagonia
PeopleForBikes
Piragis Northwoods Co
Public Lands Alliance
Quality Deer Management Association
Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle Association
REI Co-op
Ruffed Grouse Society
RV Industry Association
Scenic America
Sierra Club
Society of Outdoor Recreation Professionals
Specialty Equipment Marketing Association
Specialty Vehicle Institute of America
Student Conservation Association
Surfrider Foundation
The Archaeological Conservancy
The Brice Institute
The Conservation Alliance
The Conservation Fund
The Corps Network
The Cougar Fund
The Evangelical Environmental Network
The Garden Club of America, Inc.
The Lyme Timber Company
The Nature Conservancy
The Pew Charitable Trusts
The Trumpeter Swan Society
The Trust for Public Land
The Trust for the National Mall
The Wilderness Land Trust
The Wilderness Society
The Wildlife Society
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
United States Tour Operators Association
Urban Promise Ministries
US Water Alliance
Wildlands Network
Winter Wildlands Alliance

Regional

Accokeek Foundation
American Farmland Trust - Pacific Northwest
Assateague Coastal Trust
Blue Mountain Land Trust
Chesapeake Conservancy
Damascus Citizens For Sustainability
Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation
Great Divide Pictures
Great Smokey Mountains Association
Kaniksu Land Trust
MassConn Sustainable Forest Partnership
Montana Conservation Corps
Natchez Trace Parkway Association
National Bobwhite Conservation Initiative
New England Forestry Foundation
Nez Perce Trail Foundation
Northeastern Minnesotans for Wilderness
Northern Forest Center
Northwest Youth Corps
Northwoods Alliance Inc.
Nuestra Tierra Conservation Project
Old Spanish Trail Association
Opacum Land Trust
Open Space Institute
Openlands
Partners in Forestry Coop
Partnership for the Delaware Estuary
Potomac Chapter, American Society of Landscape Architects
Potomac Riverkeeper Network
Potomac Valley Audubon Society
Rock Creek Conservancy
San Juan Citizens Alliance
Santa Fe Trail Assoc
Singletrack Trails Inc.
Southeast Tourism Society
Southeastern Climbers Coalition
Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy
Sustainable Northwest
The Anza Trail Foundation
The Lands Council
The Mountain Pact
Upper Saco Valley Land Trust
Western National Parks Association
Western Rivers Conservancy
Wild Salmon Center

State and Local

10,000 Friends of Pennsylvania
15 Minute Field Trips
1785 Inn
350 Maine
508 Main St
A Walk in the Woods
AdventureKEEN
Adventures on the Gorge
Ala Kahakai Trail Association
Alachua Conservation Trust
Chispa Arizona
Chuck Robbins Chapter 656 of Trout Unlimited
Citizens for Pennsylvania’s Future (PennFuture)
Citizens For Water
Citizens United to Protect the Maurice River
City of Michigan City Indiana Department of Parks and Recreation
City of Roseburg
Clean Ocean Access
Coalition of Oregon Land Trusts
College Republicans at Belmont University
Collette Travel
Colorado Mountain Club
Colorado Youth Corps Association
Columbia Land Trust
Community Training Works Inc.
Concerned Off-Road Bicyclists Association
Concrete Safaris Inc.
Congaree Land Trust
Connecticut Audubon Society
Connecticut Forest & Park Association
Connecticut Land Conservation Council
Connecticut Ornithology Association
Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park
Conservation Alabama
Conservation Council For Hawaii
Conservation Legacy
Conservation Minnesota
Conservation Northwest
Conservation Trust for NC
Conservation Voters of South Carolina
Conserving Carolina
Contour Design Studio LLC
Cornerstone Studios
Cowboy Trail Rides
Cradle of Texas Conservancy, Inc.
Cycle for One Planet
Cypress Chapter, Izaak Walton League
Dade Heritage Trust, Inc.
Dana Bronfman LLC
Darby Communications
Davidson Lands Conservancy
Delaware Center for the Inland Bays
Delaware Electric Vehicle Association (DEEVA)
Delaware Greenways
Delaware Nature Society
Delaware Wild Lands, Inc.
Delta Waterfowl
Denali Citizens Council
Denali Mountain Works
Deschutes Land Trust
Dishman Hills Conservancy
Dolores River Boating Advocates
Door County Kayak Tours, llc.
Downeast Salmon Federation
Dry Creek Trial Riders
E Mau Na Ala Hele
Eagle Valley Land Trust
EarthCorps
East Bay Regional Park District
East Bay Regional Parks Association
East Coast Greenway Alliance
East Cooper Land Trust
Eastern RI Conservation District
Eastern Sierra Land Trust
Eastham Chamber of Commerce
Ecological Connections
Edward Hopper House
Elks Run Watershed Group
Empire Chamber of Commerce
Enchanted Circle Trails Association
Endangered Habitats League
Eno River Association
Environment California
Environment Colorado
Environment Connecticut
Environment Florida
Environment for the Americas
Environment Georgia
Environment Maine
Environment Maryland
Environment Massachusetts
Environment Michigan
Environment Minnesota
Environment Missouri
Environment Montana
Environment NC
Environment Nevada
Environment New Jersey
Environment New Mexico
Environment Oregon
Environment Texas
Environment Virginia
Environmental Justice Center at Chestnut Hill
United Church
Estes Park ATV rentals
Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance
Excelsior Sewing Llc.
Experience Learning
Explore Asheville
Flathead Lakers
Flathead Land Trust
Florida Bay Forever
Historic Madison, Inc
Historic Pullman Foundation
History Nebraska
Hoosier Environmental Council
HospitalityMaine
Hudson Highlands Land Trust
Idaho - Montana Chapter of American Society of Landscape Architects
Idaho Coalition of Land Trusts
Illinois Division of the Izaak Walton League
Illinois Environmental Council
Indiana Chapter ASLA
Indiana Dunes Tourism
Indiana Forest Alliance
Indiana Parks Alliance
Indigo Bluffs RV Park & Resort
Institute for Ecological Health
Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake
International Inbound Travel Association
Izaak Walton League - Cypress Chapter
Jackson Hole Conservation Alliance
James River Association
Jefferson County Convention & Visitors Bureau
Jefferson County Democratic Party
Jefferson County Open Space
John Burroughs Association
Joshua's Tract Conservation & Historic Trust, Inc.
Kalmiopsis Audubon Society
Kansas Land Trust
Katmai Conservancy
Kennebec Land Trust
Kentucky Association of Convention and Visitors Bureaus
Kentucky Travel Industry Association
Kern Audubon Society
Kestrel Land Trust
Kingsport Chamber
Kingston Greenways Association
LA Conservation Corps
Lafayette Flats Boutique Vacation Rentals
Lafayette Inn
Lake Charles/SWLA CVB
Lake Hopatcong Foundation
Land Trust of Napa County
Landmarks Illinois
LANL Foundation
League of Women Voters Iowa
Lemhi Regional Land Trust
Leominster Trail Stewards
Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Inc.
Lewis and Clark Trust, Inc.
Linn County Conservation Board
Littleton Conservation Trust
Loon Echo Land Trust
Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust
Los Angeles River State Park Partners
Los Padres ForestWatch
Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy
Louisiana Hypoxia Working Group
Louisville Tourism
Lowcountry Land Trust
Lowelife's Respectable Citizens Club
Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust
Lower Nehalem Community Trust
Lummi Island Heritage Trust
LuvTrails Inc
LWV Mid-Hudson Region
MA Association of Conservation Commissions
Magic City Fly Fishers Trout Unlimited 582
Mahoosuc Land Trust
Mahoosuc Pathways, Inc.
Maine Appalachian Trail Land Trust
Maine Audubon
Maine Conservation Voters
Maine Outdoor Brands
Maine Outdoor Coalition
Maine Outdoors
Maine Recreation and Parks Association
Maine Tourism Association
Mainspring Conservation Trust, Inc.
Manassas Battlefield Trust
Maple Street Bed and Breakfast
Maryland League of Conservation Voters
Maryland Native Plant Society
Massachusetts Historical Society
Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition
Mayfly Outdoors
Mayo Civic Association, Inc.
McKenzie River Trust
MCM Company, Inc.
Mendocino Land Trust
Miami Waterkeeper
Michigan Bed & Breakfast Assoc
Michigan League of Conservation Voters
Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District
Mile High Youth Corps
Miles Partnership
Mill Basin Civic Association
Millennium Development
Milwaukee Preservation Alliance
Milwaukee Riverkeeper
Minnechaug Land Trust
Minnesota Chapter of The Wildlife Society
Minnesota Office of School Trust Lands
Pee Dee Land Trust
Peninsula Open Space Trust
PennEnvironment
Pennsylvania Council of Churches
Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation
Pennsylvania Recreation and Park Society
Peoria Audubon Society
Petersburg Battlefields Foundation
Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever
Pie Ranch
Piedmont Land Conservancy
Planes Peak Outdoor Recreation Alliance
Pinelands Preservation Alliance
Platte Land Trust
Pocono Heritage Land Trust
Prairie Rivers of Iowa
Preservation New Jersey
Preserve Arkansas
Presumpscot Regional Land Trust
Public Land Solutions
Quimby Family Foundation
R&R Fly Fishing Guide Service
Rangeley Area Chamber of Commerce
Rappahannock League for Environmental Protection
Rappahannock Tribe
Red Rooster Coffee House
Revolution House Media
Rhode Island Bicycle Coalition
Río Grande Valley Broadband of the Great Old Broads for Wilderness
River Through Atlanta Guide Service
RiverLink
Rocky Mountain Conservancy
Rocky Mountain Field Institute
Rocky Mountain Youth Corps
Ruffwear
Rutabaga Paddlesports
Sagebrush Steppe Land Trust
San Bernardino Mountains Land Trust
San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society
San Diego Audubon Society
San Diego Mountain Biking Association
San Juan Back Country Horsemen
San Luis Valley Great Outdoors
Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation
Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority
Santosha on the Ridge
Save Historic Antietam Foundation, Inc.
Save Our Heritage Organization (SOHO)
Save The Lakes Rhode Island
Save the Redwoods League
Scenic Galveston, Inc.
Scenic Rivers Land Trust
Scenic Virginia
Schuykill Headwaters Association
Scotsbluff/Gering United Chamber
Sea and Sage Audubon Society
See Plymouth
Sequoia Riverlands Trust
Sereia Films
Sevier County
Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Coalition
Sheridan Community Land Trust
Shine Beer Sanctuary & Bottleshop
Shirley Heinze Land Trust
Sierra Foothills Audubon Society
Siskiyou Outdoor Recreation Alliance
Skagit Audubon Society
Sleepy Creek Watershed Association
Smith River Alliance
Snake River Fund
Snowy Mountain Chapter Trout Unlimited #610
Soap Creek Outfitters LLC
Society for Historical Archaeology
Society for the Protection of NH Forests
Sonoma Land Trust
Soul River Inc.
South Carolina Wildlife Federation
South Coast Tours
South Dakota Hotel & Lodging Association
South Florida Wildlands Association
Southern Maine Conservation Collaborative
Southern Nevada Conservancy
Southern Off-Road Bicycle Association
Speak Up Wekiva, Inc.
Spice Acres in the CVNP
St. Croix River Association
St. Mary’s River Watershed Association
Studio ray
Superior Hiking Trail Association
Susquehanna National Heritage Area
Tangled Up In Hue
Teens to Trails
Tennessee Citizens for Wilderness Planning
Tennessee College Democrats
Tennessee College Republican Committee
Tennessee Conservation Voters
Texas Land Conservancy
Texas Land Trust Council
The Carpenters’ Company
The Cultural Landscape Foundation
The Custer Beacon
The Friends of Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge
The Good Talk, LLC
The Jersey Shore Partnership
The Land Conservancy for Southern Chester County (TLC)
The Land Conservancy of New Jersey
The Land Trust for Santa Barbara County
The Mountaineers
The Oblong Land Conservancy
The Ohio Environmental Council Action Fund
The Open Space Council for the St. Louis Region
The Otos Group, LLC
The Piedmont Environmental Council
The Star-Spangled Banner Flag House
The Trustees
The UNPavement
The Vital Ground Foundation
The Wetlands Conservancy
The Wetlands Initiative
The Wilderness Society - Wyoming
The Wildlands Conservancy
The ZaneRay Group
Three Rivers Land Trust
Tishomingo County Tourism Council
TOGETHER Bay Area
Tookany/Tacony-Frankford Watershed Partnership
Town of Athol, Massachusetts, Open Space And Recreation Committee
Town of Littleton Parks and Rec
Town of Lyme Open Space Commission
Town of Palmer Conservation Commission
Trail Angels
Trails Inspire, LLC
Trails Utah
Transylvania County Tourism Development Authority
Travelers' Rest Connection
Traverse City Tourism
Treeline Coffee Roasters
TreePeople
Triangle Greenways Council
Triangle Land Conservancy
TripHero
Tropical Audubon Society
Trout Unlimited, Pat Barnes Chapter, Helena, MT
Troyer Group
Upstate Forever
Urbana Park District
Utah Restaurant Association
Valley Creek Restoration Partnership
Valley Forge Park Alliance
Valley Forge Trout Unlimited
Vancouver Audubon Society
Vast Horizons Music, Inc.
Ventana Wilderness Alliance
Vermilionville Living History Museum
Vermont Conservation Voters
Vermont River Conservancy
Vinalhaven Land Trust
Virginia Conservation Network
Virginia Eastern Shore Land Trust
Virginia League of Conservation Voters
Visit Moffat County / Moffat County Tourism Association
Visit Southern WV
VisitLEX
Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado
Voyageurs National Park Association
Walker Basin Conservancy
Wallowa Land Trust
Ward 8 Woods Conservancy
Ward Walker 7 Oaks Ranch
Warm Springs Watershed Association
Washington Association of Land Trusts
Washington Conservation Voters
Washington Environmental Council
Washington Trails Association
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition
Washington Wildlife Federation
Washington’s National Park Fund
Water Stone Outdoors
West Sound Cycling Club
West Virginia Environmental Council
West Virginia Highlands Conservancy
West Virginia Land Trust
West Virginia Rivers Coalition
West Virginia Wilderness Coalition
Western Foothills Land Trust
Western Pocono Trout Unlimited
WestSlope Chapter Trout Unlimited
Wetland Strategies and Solutions, LLC
Whatcom Land Trust
Whitted Bowers Farm
Wilbarger Creek Conservation Alliance
Wildlife Management Institute
Willington Conservation Commission
Willistown Conservation Trust
Wilmington Rowing Center
Wimberley Valley Watershed Association
Windham Regional Commission
Wisconsin Environment
Wissahickon Trails
Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts
Wood River Land Trust
Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Association
Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council
WV Citizen Action Group
Wyoming Outdoor Council
Wyoming Pathways
Wyoming Untrapped
Wyoming Wilderness Association
Wyoming Wildlife Advocates
Yellowstone River Parks Association Inc
Yellowstone Safari Company
YMCA of the Rockies
York Land Trust