March 6, 2018

The Honorable Lamar Alexander  
The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito  
The Honorable Steve Daines  
The Honorable Cory Gardner  
The Honorable Martin Heinrich  
The Honorable Angus King  
The Honorable Thom Tillis  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators:

Thank you for your leadership in developing the National Park Restoration Act, an important effort to overcome the more than $11 billion backlog in maintenance in our national parks. Roads, buildings, trails, campgrounds, water systems and more suffer from this accumulated problem – and visitor safety and enjoyment of our parks natural and historic resources are very real concerns.

Without a new and extraordinary effort, the backlog cannot be eliminated. The backlog is nearly four times the annual appropriations of the National Park Service. While we do believe that steps can and should be taken to avoid further growth in this backlog, the national parks cannot return to sound condition without efforts like you are proposing.

The nation’s outdoor recreation industry contributes more than 2% of the nation’s GDP and totals some $673 billion annually in Gross Output. Consumers spend $887 billion on outdoor recreation every year. Our industry depends on sustainable infrastructure in national parks and other public lands and waters for our continuation and growth.

We express support for your legislation and the creation of the National Park Restoration Fund. Federal receipts associated with the sale of publicly-owned energy resources which exceed current scoring create an opportunity to make a strategic contribution to our national parks early in the second century of the National Park Service. We applaud your goal of not adversely impacting the Land and Water Conservation Fund, payments to states associated with onshore and offshore oil and gas revenues and the Reclamation Fund.

We look forward to working with you to perfect your proposal and to achieving a historic and important step forward for places all Americans cherish.

American Horse Council  
Archery Trade Association  
Association of Marina Industries  
American Sportfishing Association  
Boat Owners Association of The United States  
International Snowmobile Manufacturers  
Association  
Marine Retailers Association of the Americas  
Motorcycle Industry Council  

National Association of RV Parks & Campgrounds  
National Marine Manufacturers Association  
National Park Hospitality Association  
Outdoor Industry Association  
Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle Association  
RV Industry Association  
Recreation Vehicle Dealers Association  
Specialty Equipment Manufacturers Association  
Specialty Vehicle Institute of America