



January 13, 2017

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski, Chairman
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
United States Senate
304 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
VIA FAX 202-224-6163

Dear Chairman Murkowski:

The Outdoor Recreation Industry Roundtable (ORIR) supports the nomination by President-elect Trump of U.S. Representative Ryan Zinke of Montana to serve as United States Secretary of the Interior, an appointment of utmost importance to the outdoor recreation industry. Both land and water management are under the direction of the Department of Interior, with policies directly impacting America's recreational access to federally managed lands and waterways. We respectfully request that this letter be included in the record for the confirmation hearing on January 17, 2017.

As background, the Outdoor Recreation Industry Roundtable is a coalition made up of America's leading outdoor recreation trade associations. ORIR represents the thousands of U.S. businesses that produce and provide equipment, gear, apparel, vehicles and services for the 142 million Americans who enjoy our nation's public lands, waterways, and byways. Spanning outdoor recreational activities such as boating, fishing, hunting, camping, snow sports and powersports, and including recreational vehicles, outdoor equipment and clothing used to pursue these activities, the Outdoor Recreation Industry Roundtable is dedicated to growing diverse outdoor participation, expanding recreational access for Americans, promoting conservation, and bolstering sustainable domestic jobs. The outdoor recreation industry generates \$646 billion-per-year in economic activity and provides an estimated 6.1 million direct jobs.

As a lifelong outdoor enthusiast, hunter and angler, Rep. Zinke understands the importance of access to and funding for America's public lands and waters, and the outdoor industry's critical economic impact. Rep. Zinke was a co-sponsor of the Outdoor Recreation Jobs and Economic

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Impact (REC) Act of 2016, which was recently signed into law and ensures that outdoor recreation jobs are counted by the federal government and will be measured as part of the overall GDP for the first time ever.

We look forward to working with him and the team at the Department of Interior to advance the outdoor recreation sector, grow jobs in the U.S., and ensure robust public access and treasured experiences in the outdoors that also boost our nation's physical and mental well-being.

Sincerely,

Outdoor Recreation Industry Roundtable

American Recreation Coalition
American Sportfishing Association
Archery Trade Association
BoatUS
International Snowmobile Manufacturers Association
Marine Retailers Association of America
Motorcycle Industry Council
National Marine Manufacturers Association
National Shooting Sports Foundation
Outdoor Industry Association
Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle Association
Recreation Vehicle Dealers Association
Recreation Vehicle Industry Association
Specialty Vehicle Institute of America

Cc: Members, Energy and Natural Resources Committee, United States Senate