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KEEPING THE GREAT IN THE GREAT OUTDOORS

It has been fifty years since so many outdoor recreation industry sectors have been this enthusiastic about the prospects of improving recreation on federally-managed lands and waters. We see a unique opportunity to collaborate with a President who truly understands the hospitality industry and a recreation-friendly Vice President from Indiana, a state of significant importance to the Made in America recreation vehicle and boating industries.

In his first 100 days in office, President Donald Trump is setting an agenda to emphasize and prioritize outdoor recreation on federal lands, highlighted by selecting former Montana Congressman Ryan Zinke as Secretary to lead the Department of the Interior and donating his first quarter salary to the National Park Service. Secretary Zinke, a strong supporter of the \$887 billion outdoor recreation industry, is working closely with the Outdoor Recreation Industry Roundtable to increase access to recreational opportunities and enjoyment on all federal lands and waters. The Administration is also moving swiftly to attack the backlog of deferred maintenance at national parks and modernize the visitor experience.

The President's proposals open the door for greater access to public lands for recreation and increased investment to overcome some \$20 billion in deferred maintenance – something prior Administrations of both parties have not resolved. The outdoor recreation industry is also encouraged by the President's willingness to tackle America's long-term infrastructure challenges. His promise of a trillion dollar infrastructure initiative will increase access to the nation's recreation lands through better bridges, roads, waterways, and restored infrastructure within our nation's parks. Furthermore, visitors would realize vastly improved connectivity, which will boost outdoor safety and enjoyment.

However, America continually faces major federal budgetary challenges so outdoor recreation businesses recognize it is time for a fresh approach. To enable Americans to truly enjoy their lands and waters, we must embrace the public-private partnerships that will unleash the capital required to repair our crumbling and outdated recreation infrastructure and add vital capacity. Public-private partnerships have a long and successful history on federal lands, delivering world-class ski areas and park lodging, built and maintained by high performing businesses with long-term commitments.

We stand ready to help lift our public lands and waters out of the Eisenhower era and into a 21st century future where high quality visitor experience and recreational enjoyment is the norm, not the exception. The only way to make this vision a reality is by recognizing that federal public land budgets and management practices are no longer keeping pace with a changing America and that urban, digital-age visitors will demand more services, connectivity and access. By recognizing this fact and tapping into the outdoor recreation companies who have the most at stake, we can grow the outdoor recreation industry and keep the "great" in The Great Outdoors—which is exactly what we expect this President and his team will do.



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