



May 2, 2022

The Honorable Joe Manchin
Chair
Senate Energy and Natural Resources
Committee
306 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington D.C. 20510

The Honorable John Barrasso
Ranking Member
Senate Energy and Natural Resources
Committee
307 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Manchin and Ranking Member Barrasso,

On behalf of the American Sportfishing Association (ASA), we thank the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee for including the America's Outdoor Recreation Act of 2022 (S.3266) in the May 3, 2022, business meeting. As the trade association for the recreational fishing industry, ASA provides the industry a unified voice when emerging laws and policies could significantly affect business or sportfishing itself. Our members include manufacturers, retailers and allied organizations that comprise the \$125 billion recreational fishing economy. We urge the Committee to pass the America's Outdoor Recreation Act because it would help modernize and enhance management of, and access to, our nation's public lands, benefiting recreational fishing and other outdoor recreation activities.

Outdoor recreation is part of the fabric of America. For centuries, Americans have benefited from access to public lands and waters, yet legislation has lagged to acknowledge the importance of these activities to the American people and economy. Now is the time for Congress to ensure federal policies reflect Americans' growing interest in outdoor recreation.

The Outdoor Recreation Act addresses a wide range of outdoor recreation priorities, from improving visitation data collection and reporting, to helping to stop the spread of aquatic invasive species, to modernizing campgrounds through public-private partnerships, to identifying long-distance bike trails on federal lands.

We are grateful for the ongoing work of the Committee to advance legislation that will strengthen the management and conservation of the nation's public lands and waters. We look forward to working with the Committee on this and other important measures that benefit the recreational fishing industry and America's anglers.

Sincerely,

Mike Leonard
Vice President of Government Affairs

AMERICAN SPORTFISHING ASSOCIATION

1001 N. Fairfax Street, Suite 501, Alexandria, VA 22314 • 703-519-9691 • Fax: 703-519-1872
Web: www.ASAFishing.org • Email: info@ASAFishing.org