

July 17, 2020

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

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

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Minority Leader McCarthy,

The National Utility Contractors Association (NUCA) represents represent construction contractors, manufacturers, and distributors who build and maintain a wide range of underground facilities and transportation infrastructure. Member companies provide the manpower and equipment needed to build, repair, and maintain the infrastructure needed for water and wastewater infrastructure, gas distribution, broadband, electric and as well as the nation's surface transportation system. NUCA supports the Great American Outdoors Act, which would provide needed resources to the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) and provide over 100,000 construction jobs.

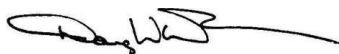
The LWCF, which has existed for over 50 years, has been plagued by funding shortfalls. This legislation would permanently fund the LWCF to ensure the protection of, and access to irreplaceable lands and local recreation opportunities in every state and boost recovery of the American economy. Through full, mandatory annual funding of \$900 million to the LWCF, the bill would mean the program would no longer be subject to the annual appropriations process.

The legislation would also create a new five-year trust fund of up to \$9.5 billion from unallocated onshore and offshore energy revenues to address a \$20 billion deferred maintenance backlog in America's national parks and public lands. These resources would be split up among five land agencies with 70% going to the National Park Service, which funds badly needed water and wastewater infrastructure projects on public lands.

The bill would achieve the twin goals of protecting our nation's public lands and repairing the deteriorating infrastructure needed to support them by providing critical investments that will benefit future generations of both the American people and American wildlife.

Again, we thank you for your leadership in advancing this important legislation, expected to be considered by the House in the near future.

Best Regards,



Doug Carlson
Chief Executive Officer