



May 19, 2021

The Honorable Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher
Chair, Assembly Committee on Appropriations
State Capitol, Room 2114
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Assemblymember Gonzalez Fletcher,

On behalf of California Outdoor Recreation Partnership and the Outdoor Industry Association, we urge you to pass **AB 30 - The Human Right to Nature Act** and **AB 1500 - Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2022** out of Assembly Appropriations Committee tomorrow. We support AB 1500 as we strongly believe in the bond's efforts around climate resiliency and the strategic restoration and stewardship of California's natural infrastructure over decades to come. Coming out of the pandemic, we are also in favor of the economic recovery behind the bond as it will reduce the statewide unemployment rate by funding employment opportunities for the California Conservation Corps and other wildfire prevention and conservation efforts.

We strongly support AB 30 as it would establish that the State of California recognizes that access to nature and the benefits of nature are human rights. Coming off of the Governor's 30x30 Initiative, as outdoor recreation enthusiasts and professionals, we want to make sure that equitable access is as high of a priority as conservation. Supporting equitable access has many benefits, which include mental and physical health, and overall well-being of people. Prioritizing the health of your constituents is at an all-time high coming out of the pandemic. This bill will allow departments under CNRA to use expenditures to allow and improve access to nature for all. It directs state agencies to prioritize investments and access to nature to communities in need, including communities of color, Indigenous Peoples, and economically disadvantaged communities.

As an industry, we are heavily focused on advocating to increase access for outdoor recreation. This includes funding for recreation infrastructure, including investments in parks, trail maintenance, transportation, education, new parks in under-served communities, public lands, private land conservatories, and waters. This also includes resource planning as well as climate resilience and adaptation for recreation infrastructure affected by fire, snow, flood, and coastal access. In this capacity, we look forward to further working with you and the California State Senate Committee on Appropriations.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt Lyon".

Matt Lyon
Board Chair
California Outdoor Recreation Partnership

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rich Harper".

Rich Harper
Director of Government Affairs
Outdoor Industry Association