

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 22, 2017

Dear Colleague:

As co-chairs of the Senate Outdoor Recreation Caucus (SORC), we invite you to join (or re-join) this caucus for the 115th Congress, which supports hikers and climbers, hunters and anglers, paddlers and surfers, off-road motorists and mountain bikers, skiers and outdoor enthusiasts of all stripes in your state. These activities contribute significantly to health and vibrancy of local economies throughout the country.

The goal of the SORC is to encourage healthy, active lifestyles that foster an appreciation of America's lands and waters and support local communities through outdoor recreation. We will also help ensure the growth and success of outdoor manufacturers, retailers, suppliers, and outfitters that enhance the outdoor experience. The American legacy is interwoven with strong ties to our land and water, and this caucus will honor and help preserve that legacy with an eye towards ensuring outdoor businesses continue to grow and thrive, creating healthy communities and healthy economies.

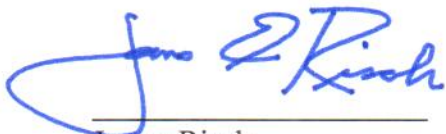
This bipartisan caucus educates Senate members and staff about issues such as the outdoor recreation economy, federal support for outdoor activities and education, trends in domestic manufacturing, global sourcing and retail of outdoor products, recreation access and use on public and private resources, and construction and maintenance of our public outdoor recreation infrastructure. Over the past few years, the SORC has hosted briefings on the economic benefits of outdoor recreation and the wildfire funding issue. We will continue to highlight practices and policies that connect Americans with outdoor activities with a special focus on encouraging youth participation.

As we hear more about Americans who are disconnected to the outdoors and physical activity, engaging in outdoor recreation offers one promising solution to this health crisis while at the same time reinforcing America's legacy of use and enjoyment of its land and water and supporting some of the most innovative and dynamic companies in America. Whether by foot, bike, horse or off-road vehicle, America offers a wide variety of outdoor pursuits for all tastes in all seasons. From urban parks to the backcountry, Americans have an almost limitless ability to connect with the natural world. In that spirit, the Senate Outdoor Recreation Caucus will encourage Americans to engage in, understand and reap the benefits of outdoor recreation.

We look forward to holding our next briefing in April. Please confirm your continued participation on the Senate Outdoor Recreation Caucus, by contacting Ayla Neumeyer with Senator Jim Risch at ayla_neumeyer@risch.senate.gov (4-1008) or Maya Hermann with Senator Martin Heinrich at maya_hermann@heinrich.senate.gov (8-1383).

Please join us in promoting outdoor recreation in the Senate, in your state, and among your constituents.

Sincerely,



James Risch
U.S. Senator



Martin Heinrich
U.S. Senator