June 12, 2017

Mr. Mick Mulvaney, Director
Office of Management and Budget
725 17th St., NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Director Mulvaney:

The 124 undersigned organizations represent millions of Americans who partake in outdoor recreation on this nation’s forests, parks, and other public lands. Our members ski, climb, mountain bike, paddle, hike, and camp on public lands and they reap enormous benefits from these experiences. To pursue these activities, our members depend on having access to federal lands where they can immerse themselves in nature with their friends and families, away from urban areas and development.

On March 13th, 2017, the President signed Executive Order 13781 directing you to develop a plan for reorganizing the executive branch including recommending agencies, programs, and functions for elimination. Subsequently, you launched a 28-day comment period asking the American public to weigh in on how to reorganize, reduce, and eliminate agencies. We write to you today to express our strong support for continued and robust investment in the conservation and recreation programs of the land management agencies: the U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, and the Bureau of Land Management. Together, these agencies administer on behalf of the American people 674 million acres of lands that see over half a billion visits annually.

For a modest investment (less than 0.4% of the federal budget), our federal land management agencies generate innumerable benefits worth billions of dollars. They provide us clean water and air, trails and campgrounds, and unmatched outdoor recreation experiences. Most importantly, they provide the recreation infrastructure and opportunities that fuel a $887 billion outdoor recreation economy that generates 7.6 million jobs. In the 12 Western states alone, the agencies manage 193,500 miles of hiking trails and 12,659 miles of mountain bike trails. Likewise, virtually all backcountry skiing, 43% of whitewater paddling, and 71% of climbing in the West occurs on lands managed by these agencies.

Funding the recreation and conservation programs of these agencies has an outsized impact and is a great investment for the American people. Consider that recreational visits to parks, forests, refuges, and other public lands generate $33 billion in direct spending and nearly 600,000 jobs, and contribute $37 billion to GDP annually. Consider also that the clean water that our national forests provide to over 66

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2. 82 Fed. Reg. 22355 (March 15, 2017)
5. Data from Winter Wildlands Alliance, American Whitewater, and Mountain Project
million people in 3,400 communities in 33 states is worth over $7.2 billion annually. In that same vein, clean air, clean water and other ecological services provided by our National Wildlife Refuges provide $32.3 billion in benefits to local communities.

Outdoor recreationists understand the link between healthy lands and healthy lifestyles. **We therefore urge you not to cut – and in fact invest more – in the conservation and recreation programs administered by the US Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and the National Park Service. Likewise, we fully support the Environmental Protection Agency.** The EPA and its programs ensure that our public lands provide clean air, clean water, and a healthy environment. Without the EPA our public lands will lose these essential qualities.

While we disagree with the premise that drastic changes to our federal land management agencies are necessary, to the extent that you intend to reorganize and possibly eliminate agencies, we respectfully request that you consider the importance of the federal land management agencies and their conservation and recreation programs. These include, but certainly are not limited to, the 1) Forest Service’s Recreation, Wilderness, and Heritage; Legacy Roads and Trails; Trails; Land Management Planning, Assessment, and Monitoring; and Fisheries and Wildlife Habitat Management Programs; 2) the BLM’s Recreation Resources Management, National Landscape Conservation System; 3) The Operation of the National Park System, National Recreation and Preservation, and many other accounts within the National Park Service budget; and 4) Cross-cutting programs like the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

Thank you for considering these comments.

Sincerely,

Adam Cramer
Executive Director
Outdoor Alliance
Washington D.C.

On behalf of the following organizations:

**Alaska**
Brian Okonek
President
Alaska Quiet Rights Coalition
Anchorage, AK

---

7 USDA Forest Service. Information on Water Resources. Available at: [https://www.fs.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsinternet/cs/detail/jut/p/z0/04_Sj9CPykssyOxPlMnMz0vMAfljo8zijQwqwNHCWn_DIBpsPyBcqYX8fO2oCA B2cx5g/?position=Contribution%20Content%20Html&pname=Forest%20Service&ss=119995&navtype=SubNavigation&navigaid=1101401000000000b

**Alabama**
Tom Nelson, DVM  
President  
Northeast Alabama Bicycle Association  
Anniston, AL

Mary Anne Swanstrom  
President  
SORBA Huntsville  
Huntsville, AL

James Wells  
President  
Southeastern Alabama Mountainbikers  
Dothan, AL

**Arizona**
Lorraine Montuori  
President  
Desert Foothills Mountain Bike Association  
Cave Creek, AZ

Brent Roberts  
President  
Board President  
Prescott mountain Bike Alliance  
Prescott, AZ

Michael Bonnette  
President  
Rim Country Mountain Biking Association  
Payson, AZ

**California**
Steve Messer  
President  
Concerned Off-Road Bicyclists Association  
Los Angeles, CA

Nate Greenberg  
President  
Eastern Sierra Avalanche Center  
Mammoth Lakes, CA

Kensie Haroutunian  
President  
Friends Of Joshua Tree  
Joshua Tree, CA

Darrel Jury  
President  
Friends of Plumas Wilderness  
Meadow Valley, CA

Wendy Schneider  
Executive Director  
Friends of the Inyo  
Bishop, CA

Tom Johnson  
Board President  
Mammoth Lakes Recreation  
Mammoth Lakes, CA

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President/CEO  
Mammoth Lakes Trails and Public Access Foundation  
Mammoth Lakes, CA
Geoffrey McQuilkin
Executive Director
Mono Lake Committee
Lee Vining, CA

Kevin Loomis
President
San Diego Mountain Biking Association
San Diego, CA

Steve Larson
President
SHARE Mountain Bike Club
Corona Del Mar, CA

David Reichel
President
Tahoe Backcountry Alliance
South Lake Tahoe, CA

Colorado
Erik Murdock
Policy Director
Access Fund
Boulder, CO

Jonathan Cox
President
Advance Colorado Fund - Bailey Hundo
Palmer Lake, CO

Maria Povec
Policy Director
American Alpine Club
Golden, CO

Jason Bertolacci
Co-founder
berbur, llc
Denver, CO

Greg Williams
Executive Director
Sierra Buttes Trail Stewardship
Graeagle, CA

Alan Jacoby
Board President
Sierra Eastside Mountain Bike Association (SE MBA)
Mammoth Lakes, CA

Marcus Libkind
President
Snowlands Network
Campbell, CA

Suzanne Webel
President
Boulder Area Trails Coalition
Boulder, CO

J.B. Haab
Boulder Climbing Community
Boulder, CO

Steven Watts
Executive Director
Boulder Mountainbike Alliance
Boulder, CO

Kate Rau
Executive Director
Colorado High School Cycling League
Boulder, CO
Gary Moore  
Executive Director  
Colorado Mountain Bike Association  
Denver, CO

Julie Mach  
Conservation Director  
Colorado Mountain Club  
Golden, CO

Keith Bauer  
Executive Director  
Crested Butte Nordic  
Crested Butte, CO

Robert Andrew  
President  
Cyclists 4 Community  
Boulder, CO

Adam Haid  
Founder / Board Member  
Erie Singletrack Advocates  
Erie, CO

Nicholas Jimroglou  
President  
High County River Rafters  
Wheat Ridge, CO

Al Head  
Stewardship Coordinator  
The Golden Giddyup  
Golden, CO

David Wiens  
Executive Director  
International Mountain Bicycling Association  
Boulder, CO

Kenny Bearden  
Executive Director  
Overland Mountain Bike Club  
Fort Collins, CO

Lindsay Bourgoine  
Manager, Advocacy & Campaigns  
Protect Our Winters  
Boulder, CO

Mike Pritchard  
Executive Director  
Roaring Fork Mountain Bike Association  
Aspen, CO

Mike Smith  
Board Member  
Salida Mountain Trails  
Salida, CO

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President  
Silent Tracks  
Crested Butte, CO

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President  
Cape Fear SORBA  
Wilmington, DE

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Florida
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Trail Director
Flagler Area Biking SORBA
Palm Coast, FL

Joseph Schwarz
Board Member
Florida Mudcutters
Fort Myers, FL

Jared Hartman
President
Ocala Mountain Bike Association
Ocala, FL

Jose Sanchez
President
Tallahassee Mountain Bike Association
Tallahassee, FL

Georgia
Brett Davidson
President
Atlanta Chapter of the Southern Off Road Bicycle Association
Atlanta, GA

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President
CVA SORBA
Columbus, GA

Mike Palmeri
President
Ellijay Mountain Bike Association
Ellijay, GA

Lisa Broughton
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Gwinnett Area Trail Riders
Lawrenceville, GA

Chris Sieverson
President
SORBA West Georgia
Hiram, GA

Jay Wilkes
President
SORBA Woodstock
Woodstock, GA

Tom Sauret
Executive Director
Southern Off-Bicycle Association
Gainesville, GA

Woody and Kathy Wood
Owners
Woody's Mountain Bikes
Helen, GA
**Idaho**
John Robison
Public Lands Director
Idaho Conservation League
Boise, ID

Sarah Michael
President
Nordic and Backcountry Skiers Alliance of Idaho
Sun Valley, ID

Tim Adams
Executive Director
Teton Valley Trails And Pathways
Driggs, ID

Mark Menlove
Executive Director
Winter Wildlands Alliance
Boise, ID

Brett Stevenson
Board Chair
Wood River Bicycle Coalition
Sun Valley, ID

**Mississippi**
Timothy Phelps
President
North Mississippi Trail Alliance
Olive Branch, MS

Jeremy Polk
President
Tri-County Mountain Bike Association
Madison, MS

**Montana**
Tom Kohley
Chairman
Beartooth Recreational Trails Association
Red Lodge, MT

Lance Pysher
President
Bitteroot Backcountry Cyclists
Hamilton, MT

Greg Peters
President
Montana Backcountry Alliance
Missoula, MT

Ben Horan
Executive Director
MTB Missoula
Missoula, MT

Hilary Eisen
Member Representative
Outdoor Alliance Montana
Bozeman/Missoula, MT

Chad Broderius
Chair
Pedal United
Billings/Red Lodge, MT

Ian Jones
President
Southwest Montana Mountain Bike Association
Bozeman, MT

Claudine Tobalske
WMTCC Chair
Western Montana Climbers Coalition
Missoula, MT
North Carolina
Kevin Colburn
National Stewardship Director
American Whitewater
Cullowhee, NC

John Gannon
President
Nantahala Area Southern Off-Road Bicycling Association
Cullowhee, NC

Jack Brown
President
Northwest North Carolina Mountain Bike Alliance
Lenoir, NC

Stephen C. Williams
President
Piedmont Fat Tire Society
Greensboro, NC

Emily Watts
President
Tarheel Trailblazers
Charlotte, NC

New Hampshire
Tyler T. Ray
Granite Chief
Granite Backcountry Alliance
North Conway, NH

New Jersey
Ellen Moskowitz
Trustee Kayak and Canoe Club of New York
New Jersey

New Mexico
Daniel Roberts
President
Albuquerque Mountain Bike Association
Albuquerque, NM

Mary Ann DeBoer
President
Chama Valley Outdoor Club
Chama, NM

Shelley Longmire
Current board member
Santa Fe Fat Tire Society
Santa Fe, NM
Nevada
Paul W. Papa
President
Southern Nevada Mountain Bike Association (SNMBA)
Las Vegas, NV

New York
Rob Cook
President
Cycle-CNY: Chapter of International Mountain Bicycling Association
Ithaca, NY

Christine Guarino
Vice President
Fats in the Cats
Kingston, NY

Christopher Trombley
Program Director
NYCMTB
New York, NY

Margaret Siller
Treasurer
Zoar Valley Paddling Club
Buffalo, NY

Oregon
Russell Plaeger
Restoration Coordinator
Bark
Portland, OR

Lance Colburn
Secretary
Blue Mountain Singletrack Trails Club
La Grande, OR

Russell Pascoe
Conservation Chair
Lower Columbia Canoe Club
Portland, OR

Adam Baylor
Stewardship and Communications Manager
Mazamas
Portland, OR

Chris Rotvik
President
Northwest Trail Alliance
Portland, OR

Russ Pascoe
Board member
Oregon Kayak and Canoe Club
Portland, OR

Robert Alan Ping
Chief Instigator and NCIA race league director
Oregon Youth Mountain Biking
Portland, OR

Wayne Clark
Board President
Team Dirt
Corvallis, OR
**Pennsylvania**
Lisa Zaverack
President
Anthracite Mountain Pedalers
Forty Fort, PA

David A. Kurtz
Assistant Scoutmaster
Boy Scout Troop 32
State College, PA

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Steve Masone
President
Midlands SORBA
Columbia, SC

**Tennessee**
Jason Campbell
President
SORBA Mid TN
Nashville, TN

**Utah**
Tracy Bentley
Shop Owner
Chile Pepper Bike Shop
Moab, UT

Lukas Brinkerhoff
President
Dixie Mountain Bike Trails Association
St. George, UT

Chris Adams
Board President
Wasatch Backcountry Alliance
Salt Lake City, UT

Tracy Bentley
President and Chief Coach
Mach One Slalom Team
Bellefonte, PA

Cat Newsom
President
Southeastern Pennsylvania Trail Riders
Philadelphia, PA

Trisha Hedrick
Secretary-Treasurer
Northeastern Utah Mountain Bikers
Vernal, UT

Tracy Bentley
Board Chair
Moab Mountain Bike Association
Moab, UT
### Virginia

- **Mike Aronoff**  
  Owner  
  Canoe Kayak and Paddle Co. LLC  
  Vienna, VA

- **Greg Rollins**  
  President  
  rvaMORE  
  Richmond, VA

### Washington

- **Gus Bekker**  
  President  
  El Sendero Backcountry Ski and Snowshoe Club  
  Wenatchee, WA

- **Yvonne Kraus**  
  Executive Director  
  Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance  
  Seattle, WA

- **John Latta**  
  Founder  
  Inland Northwest Backcountry Alliance  
  Spokane, WA

- **Jon Hoekstra**  
  Executive Director  
  Mountains to Sound Greenway  
  Seattle, WA

- **David Mainer**  
  President  
  Paddle Trails Canoe Club (200+ members)  
  Seattle, WA
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wyoming</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Charles Manganiello</td>
<td>Marco Restani</td>
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<td>Wyoming Wilderness Association</td>
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cc.  
Honorable Ryan Zinke, Secretary of the Interior  
Honorable Sonny Perdue, Secretary of Agriculture  
Senate Interior Appropriations Committee  
House Interior Appropriations Committee