



## American Recreation Coalition

*Dedicated to the protection and enhancement of everyone's right to health and happiness through recreation.*

# NEWS

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### RECREATION COMMUNITY SUPPORTS OUTDOOR RECREATION SATELLITE ACCOUNT (ORSA)

Washington, DC (April 28, 2016) – Leading members of the recreation community recently applauded U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell's announcement of the creation of a pilot Outdoor Recreation Satellite Account (ORSA) to assess the economic significance of outdoor recreation. The account will be a joint action between the Federal Recreation Council and the Bureau of Economic Analysis.

In a joint statement, Thom Dammrich, President of the National Marine Manufacturers Association, and Frank Hugelmeyer, President of the Recreation Vehicle Industry Association, thanked Secretary Jewell for her action, emphasizing the importance of the nation's public lands and waters to the outdoor recreation industry. "The nation's public lands and waters play an essential role for the recreation industry and the American public. Virtually all Americans participate in some form of outdoor activity at these places. This activity results in an estimated \$650 billion in annual expenditures on RVs and boats, lift tickets and entrance fees, fishing and hunting licenses and surfboards, campground fees and OHVs – and much more. Expenditures on recreation create manufacturing jobs, jobs in retailing and repairs, lifeguard posts at public beaches and guide jobs in the backcountry, jobs at insurance firms and hotels. Federal agencies host more than a billion recreation visits. ORSA is vital to making good choices in allocating federal funds through the budget process and in investing private funds which enhance recreation on public lands and waters."

More than 20 key organizations representing RVing, boating, fishing, archery and more joined to urge the Congress to now fully and sustainably fund ORSA through the FY17 budget. Those letters of support can be read [here](#). The Department of Commerce, which has recently created similar satellite accounts for the arts, and for travel and tourism, estimates that the account can be in place in three years or less at a cost of approximately \$3.5 million.

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**AMERICAN RECREATION COALITION** — is a nonprofit, Washington-based association providing a unified voice for recreation interests on issues such as public land management. ARC's membership is more than 100 organizations, including national and regional associations and corporations that represent a major share of the \$650 billion a year recreation/leisure industry and enthusiast groups representing millions of recreationists. Since 1979, ARC has forged public-private partnerships to enhance and protect outdoor recreation opportunities and resources. ARC conducts research, organizes national meetings and disseminates information, including through its Web site [www.funoutdoors.com](http://www.funoutdoors.com). ARC plays a leading role in key coalitions, including the Coalition for Recreational Trails, and leads efforts to celebrate June as Great Outdoors Month® including National Get Outdoors Day, a national effort to invite children to enjoy healthy, active outdoor lives.

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