

2015 Recreation Issues Forum

Rayburn House Office Building
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MATT BORMET - is the Senior Legislative Assistant for Congressman Rick Larsen, a Democrat representing Washington State's Second District, who is Ranking Member of the House Aviation Subcommittee. He is Mr. Larsen's lead staffer on aviation and other transportation policy, arctic issues, energy, environment, fisheries, agriculture, hunger, and tribal policy. He previously served as Legislative Assistant for Senator Ron Wyden of Oregon, working on transportation issues. He has a Master of Arts degree in Philosophy and Social Policy from The George Washington University and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy from American University. In his spare time, he is a baseball fan, bicyclist, and backpacker.

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DERRICK CRANDALL – is the President and Chief Executive Officer of the American Recreation Coalition, a position he has held since 1981. He also serves as Co-Chair of the Scenic Byways Coalition and the Coalition for Recreational Trails. He served as a member of the President's Commission on Americans Outdoors from 1985 to 1987 and was named to the President's Commission on Environmental Quality in 1991, the same year that he received the Chevron Conservation Award. He was also Chairman of the Take Pride in America Advisory Board, appointed by the Secretary of the Interior, and a Founding Director of the National Forest Foundation, appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture. He has served on several national judging panels, including co-chairing the U.S. Department of the Interior's Take Pride in America award program. Among the dozens of public-policy programs in which he has played a central role are the National Scenic Byways Program, Recreation Fee Demonstration Program, Recreational Trails Program, Wallop-Breaux Program, and the National Recreation Lakes Study Commission. These efforts have been recognized in many ways, including induction into the RV Hall of Fame and receipt of the Annual Award of the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators. *USA Today* has described him as "the outdoor guru." He received the Spirit of Take Pride Award in October 2004 and was recognized with a Centennial Award by the Forest Service. He serves as a member of the National Park System Advisory Board Health and Recreation Committee. Mr. Crandall served on the Board of the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE) for seven years, including two terms as Vice Chairman. He received ASAE's Professional

Performance Award in 1980, his Certified Association Executive recognition in 1990 and was named an ASAE Fellow in 1992. He has served in leadership roles on numerous community and philanthropic organizations, including the executive committee of WOW-Wonderful Outdoor World. He is an honors graduate of Dartmouth College.

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THOM DAMMRICH – assumed the role of president with the National Marine Manufacturers Association in November 1999, and has over 35 years of association management experience. Since taking the helm fifteen years ago, Dammrich has helped NMMA increase its membership upwards of 30 percent. Today, the association represents more than 1,600 members that produce 80 percent of the recreational boating products currently sold in North America. Under his leadership, NMMA has bolstered industry advocacy at both the state and federal level as well as expanded industry and consumer-related research, and statistics efforts. Most notably, Dammrich was instrumental in helping finally unite the industry behind a strategy to increase the number of people who participate in recreational boating. The first-official national advertising and marketing campaign for the industry’s Grow Boating Initiative was launched in 2006. Dammrich furthers his involvement and commitment to recreational boating interests by serving on several industry boards. He was elected president of ICOMIA, the International Congress of Marine Industry Associations. He also serves on the American Sportfishing Association; American Boat and Yacht Council; and the International Council of Marine Industry Associations. Additionally, Thom was appointed by the Secretary of the Interior to serve on the Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership Council (a federal advisory committee to the Secretary of the Interior,) and by the Secretary of Commerce. Dammrich’s academic accomplishments include an MBA and MS in accounting, with a bachelor’s degree in economics. He is also a Certified Public Accountant. Thom and his wife, Carol, have four adult children.

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EMILY DOUCE – is Associate Director, Budget and Appropriations for the National Parks Conservation Association. In that position, she supports NPCA’s advocacy efforts for national parks funding. She researches and advocates for more funding for the national parks, both through appropriations and supplementary sources. She leads the National Parks Second Century Action Coalition comprised of travel and tourism, conservation, outdoor industry and historic preservation groups, to advocate for additional park funding with Congress and the Administration. Ms. Douce has a Master of Science degree in Environmental Resource Policy from The George Washington University and a Bachelor of Science degree from Texas A&M University. She enjoys spending time with her family, restoring her old house, and being in the outdoors.

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MARIANNE FOWLER – is Senior Strategist for Policy Advocacy for the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy (RTC). Based in Washington, D.C., she has led RTC through four reauthorizations of the federal transportation bill. Ms. Fowler has nurtured the growth of the trails movement, for both recreational and transportation purposes, for almost 25 years. Ms. Fowler also serves on the board of American Trails and co-chairs the Coalition for Recreational Trails. Before joining RTC in 1988, she served as the Political Director for the National Women’s Political Caucus. In this week preceding the release of the British film ‘*Suffragette*,’ it should be noted that Ms. Fowler was the first American arrested in pursuit of equality for women in the campaign to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment.

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RYAN HAMBLETON - is a Senior Professional Staff Member for the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform on the Subcommittee on the Interior. He joined the Committee staff in January 2011, where he has focused on energy and environment issues and, previously, financial services oversight matters. Prior to joining the Committee, Mr. Hambleton spent seven years working for U.S. Senator Jim Bunning (R-KY), handling energy, environment, foreign affairs, defense, and a variety of other legislative issues, and prior to that, for U.S. Senator Bob Smith (R-NH). He is a graduate of Colby College in Waterville, Maine. A native of New Hampshire, he currently resides in Washington, D.C.

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FRANK HUGELMEYER – is President of the Recreation Vehicle Industry Association, a position he officially assumed October 1, 2015. From 2000 to 2014, Mr. Hugelmeyer was the President and CEO of the Outdoor Industry Association, the association of the outdoor recreation industry based in Boulder, Colorado. In this capacity, he worked with the world's premier outdoor brands and business executives in the areas of recreation economics, public lands policy and consumer trends. Beginning in November 2014, he was President of Recreation Influence Strategies LLC, a Denver-based management consulting firm where he has been recognized internationally as a leading expert on outdoor recreation business and consumer trends. As such, he has consulted regularly with companies that include The North Face, Patagonia, Timberland, L.L. Bean, REI and Amazon, along with numerous governmental agencies, nonprofit groups and foundations. In addition, he has served on a wide variety of boards and advisory groups including the Outdoor Foundation, National Forum on Children and Nature, Sustainable Apparel Coalition, Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership, Western Governors' Association Recreation Task Force and President Obama's Partnership for America's Great Outdoors.

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DESTRY JARVIS – has spent the past 44 years working professionally in the parks, recreation, historic preservation, tourism, and youth engagement fields, in senior positions for both nonprofit associations, the U.S. Department of the Interior, and as a for-profit consultant. For the past 13 years, Mr. Jarvis has conducted high-level consulting in policy and management of units of the national park system, cooperative land use planning at the local, state and federal levels, preservation of farmland and open spaces, public lands natural and cultural resources management, tourism marketing and policy, historic preservation, and recreation programs, carrying capacity determination, agri- and eco-tourism, appropriate development in public spaces, and concessions assessments.

Prior to his consulting business, Mr. Jarvis' professional positions included: Executive Director, National Recreation & Park Association; Vice President, National Association of Service and Conservation Corps; Assistant Director, National Park Service; Senior Advisor to the Assistant Secretary, U.S. Department of the Interior; Executive Vice President, Student Conservation Association; and Vice President, National Parks Conservation Association.

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MICHAEL LEWAN - serves as Grassroots and Government Relations Manager for the National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA) where he directs the organization's grassroots advocacy efforts through the Boating United platform. He is also responsible for NMMA's legislative and regulatory portfolio on several policies, including taxes, energy, labor and the environment. Mr. Lewan has been with NMMA since 2013, having previously worked in similar capacities for other advocacy groups in Washington, D.C. He has two Master's degrees from Syracuse University in Public Policy and Communications, and is a proud graduate of the University of Miami.

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LAURA LOOMIS - is the Deputy Vice President for Government Affairs for the National Parks Conservation Association where she manages the Association's legislative and policy advocacy staff. Ms. Loomis has been with the Association for 39 years and, for the past 10 years, has been focused on improving funding for national park transportation systems.

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CHRIS MALOOF – is Vice President of Operations for Active Network's Outdoor Division, which manages campground reservations for state and federal clients as well as the hunting and fishing license systems for state agencies. Mr. Maloof is the executive sponsor for the recreation.gov program, providing senior leadership, oversight and advocacy for the recreation.gov project within the larger framework of The Active Network. He has served as a general manager at Active Network, overseeing the school accounting ERP solutions business. Prior to Active, he spent five years at General Electric Aviation, including two years as the F-18 jet engine product manager. Mr. Maloof holds an MBA degree from Harvard

Business School and a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from Boston University, where he graduated *summa cum laude*.

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BEN PENDERGRASS – is Vice President, Government Affairs of the American Horse Council (AHC). The AHC is a Washington-based association that represents the horse community before Congress and the federal regulatory agencies. The AHC includes individual members and over 150 equine organizations representing all horse breeds and virtually every facet of the horse industry. In this capacity Mr. Pendergrass works on a wide range of legislative and regulatory issues that impact the equestrian community. Previously, Mr. Pendergrass served for several years on the legislative staff of Senator Pete Domenici (R-NM). Mr. Pendergrass is a graduate of Tulane University.

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DAN PUSKAR – has served as the Executive Director of the Association of Partners for Public Lands, the leading voice for America's nonprofit public lands partners, since June 2013. Prior to his current role, he led the Partnerships and Government Relations team at the National Park Foundation, where he launched capacity-building programs for national park friends groups and advanced the foundation's legislative and policy agenda. Mr. Puskar began his public lands career as a ranger in Mesa Verde National Park, Colorado. He makes his home in Washington, D.C. and stays active through hiking, ultimate Frisbee, and the flying trapeze.

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JASON RANO – is the Director, Government Relations at the National Park Foundation, the Congressionally-chartered philanthropic partner of the National Park Service. In this role, he led the successful effort to pass the National Park Service 100th Anniversary Commemorative Coin Act. Additionally, he is working on the effort to draft and pass Centennial-focused legislation in Congress and engaging members of Congress on the National Park Service Centennial and the Find Your Park public-engagement campaign. Prior to joining NPF, Mr. Rano spent six years in the Government Affairs department at Environmental Working Group – the last three as Director. During his tenure at

EWG, he helped lead a team that worked on reform of the Toxic Substances Control Act, the Farm Bill, reform of the Renewable Fuel Standard, and improving our food systems and environmental health. He has also served on Capitol Hill for the late Senator Frank R. Lautenberg (D-NJ) and in city government for then Baltimore Mayor Martin O'Malley. Director, Government Relations National Park Foundation

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GARY SCHIFF - has spent 35 years with the U.S. Forest Service and has been on loan since January 2015 to the House Natural Resources Committee, Federal Lands Subcommittee. He has worked in a variety of assignments with postings in Taos, New Mexico, Carson City, Nevada, and Washington, D.C., among others. His assignments have included District Ranger, acting Winter Sports Program Manager, Legislative Affairs Staff (recreation account) and acting Director positions. Mr. Schiff's assignments on the Committee have included FLREA, Lake Tahoe Restoration Act, LWCF, Forest Resilience, Secure Rural Schools, Small Tracts Act and others. He and his wife Laurel have three grown children, two of whom live in Israel.

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MARY ELLEN SPRENKEL – is President and CEO of The Corps Network. A long-time champion for youth, Ms. Sprenkel came to The Corps Network in March 2008 as Director of Government Relations. She was promoted to Vice President of External Affairs in 2011 and then appointed Interim CEO in May of 2012, prior to being selected as the President and CEO in October 2012. During her tenure, Service and Conservation Corps have become better known programs to lawmakers and policymakers throughout the federal government. Legislation that would expand and bolster youth programs including Service and Conservation Corps has been routinely introduced in both the U.S. House of Representatives and the United States Senate. Under her leadership, in 2010 more than \$63 million of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act projects were granted to Service and Conservation Corps throughout the country by 15 federal agencies. These projects provided youth with jobs and service opportunities while connecting them to public lands, including national parks and forests. More recently, Ms. Sprenkel has served as a member of the Federal Advisory Committee tasked with

providing recommendations to federal land management agencies on how to implement a 21st Century Conservation Service Corps. In addition to her productive time at The Corps Network, she has 10 years of Capitol Hill experience, including two years on the House Committee on Education and Labor, where she handled postsecondary education, training, and life-long learning programs. She also worked for Representatives Matthew G. Martinez (D-CA) and Nydia Velazquez (D-NY). Before joining The Corps Network, Ms. Sprengel was Vice President of Government Relations at the Education Finance Council, the national trade association for nonprofit and state-based student loan providers. Prior to that, she spent two years as the Assistant to the President of the University of Montana.

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MAE STEVENS – is the Environmental Policy Advisor for Sen. Ben Cardin (D-MD). Before coming to the U.S. Senate, she worked for various House members in a similar capacity for more than three years. Prior to her work on Capitol Hill, she spent more than a decade working to protect the environment at nonprofit organizations in Washington, D.C. and around the country. She holds a Master's degree in Environmental Science and Policy from Columbia University's Earth Institute and a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Science from The George Washington University.

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JESSICA WAHL – is Recreation Policy Advisor for the Outdoor Industry Association where she promotes OIA's recreation policy goals, focusing on securing increased funding, access and infrastructure for outdoor recreation and promoting the outdoor industry agenda in Washington, D.C. She plays a key role in policy development and analysis, political engagement and grassroots organizing. Ms. Wahl came to OIA from the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI), where she worked in the Office of the Secretary on external affairs and youth engagement in the outdoors. She also managed the First Lady's Let's Move Outside! and Let's Move! In Indian Country

initiatives on behalf of the DOI and other agencies. Ms. Wahl received her undergraduate and graduate degrees in American Government and Politics from Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. She is still addicted to politics and the news but is also an avid outdoorswoman, who loves kayaking, climbing, hiking and running.

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JIMMY WARD – is the Senior Legislative Assistant for Representative Cynthia M. Lummis (WY At-Large). He handles a gambit of issues, including natural resources and the environment. He has worked for the Congress since 2009, starting with the other chamber where he worked for Senator Michael B. Enzi (R-WY). Throughout his six years of experience on Capitol Hill, he has been involved in multiple working groups and policy discussions regarding the country's natural resources. Mr. Ward is a graduate of the University of Wyoming with a concurrent major in International Studies and Global Economics.

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STEVE WERNER – is President of American Land & Leisure, which he joined in 2004. This 29-year-old company manages over 400 campgrounds and recreation facilities in 12 states under service agreements with the U.S. Forest Service, a utility company, and California State Parks. Mr. Werner is an accomplished, hands-on, recreation resource manager and leader with over 33 years of experience in the industry. For 20 years, he worked for Thousand Trails Inc., a nationwide, private-membership system of camping resorts, where he was a district manager of operations for several west coast areas and also the national director of training and recreation. When Thousand Trails decided to diversify in the early 1990s, he assisted in setting up policies and procedures for their government campground concessionaire operations. Earlier in his career, he supervised various developed campgrounds, day use beaches, dispersed areas, and other recreation facilities for the Forest Service at Lake Tahoe in California. He is the President Elect for the National Forest Recreation Association, an organization formed in 1984 representing recreation businesses throughout the country that hold permits or contracts on

federal lands. NFRA members are vital partners in providing quality recreation experiences and services. Mr. Werner earned a Master's degree in Recreation Management from Texas A&M University.

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