



The Conservation Alliance

Outdoor Business Giving Back to the Outdoors

February 5, 2009

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi
Office of the Speaker
H-232, US Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Business Support for the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (S.22)

Dear Speaker Pelosi,

On behalf of the 165 members of the Outdoor Industry Conservation Alliance, we thank you for your long-standing commitment to land and water conservation. We represent outdoor gear and clothing manufacturers, retailers, and related vendors based throughout the United States. **We are writing to voice our strong support for the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (S.22), and to urge you to do all that you can to ensure its swift passage through the House of Representatives.**

Ours is an industry that depends heavily on protected public lands and waterways as places where our customers use the products we make and sell. The customers of our growing \$33-billion industry recreate in the wildest of lands and rivers, and we provide them with the high-quality equipment they need to do so. The Omnibus Public Land Management Act is a bipartisan package of bills that would protect two million acres of Wilderness and 1000 miles of Wild and Scenic Rivers, and prohibit new oil and gas development on 1.2 million acres of public land in Wyoming. The bill would preserve special places in California's White Mountains and Sierra Nevada, Colorado's Rocky Mountain National Park, Idaho's Owyhee Canyonlands, Oregon's Mount Hood, and National Forest lands in Virginia and West Virginia. It would also protect spectacular rivers in California, Wyoming, Idaho, and Oregon.

This package represents a rare conservation opportunity, and one that would benefit our growing industry. Americans increasingly look to their public lands for recreation, adventure, and solace. As economic uncertainty increases, Americans are staying closer to home, looking for opportunities in their backyards to enjoy outdoor experiences. In economic terms, the demand for protected public lands is high, and this package would ensure a supply of wild places to meet that demand. The Omnibus Public Land Management Act is an investment in our economic future, and in the future of outdoor recreation in America.

We know you confront an unprecedented set of challenges. We hope that in the midst of those challenges, you find a way to move one of the largest and most widely-supported conservation initiatives of our generation.

Sincerely,

Please see below for signatures

cc: Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid
House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer



Casey Sheahan
CEO
Patagonia, Inc.
Ventura, CA



Tim Bartels
VP of Sales
Columbia Sportswear
Portland, OR



Peter Metcalf
Founder & CEO
Black Diamond
Salt Lake City, UT



Will Manzer
CEO
Eastern Mountain Sports
Peterborough, NH



Mandy Cabot
CEO
Dansko
West Grove, PA



Kirk Richardson
Director of Corporate Responsibility
KEEN Footwear
Portland, OR



Bill Kulczycki
President
Filson
Seattle, WA



Mike Steck
VP of Marketing
Yakima Products, Inc.
Portland, OR



Brian Scranton
Director of Marketing
Chaco
Paonia, CO



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Mark Bryden
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Smartwool
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Fred Clark
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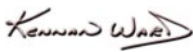
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