DAVID R. PARKS

SENATOR District No. 7

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Government Affairs

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October 29, 2020

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The Honorable Catherine Cortez Masto United States Senate 516 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510-0001

The Honorable Jacky Rosen United States Senate 144 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510-0001

The Honorable Mark Amodei United States House of Representatives 104 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515-0001 The Honorable Dina Titus United States House of Representatives 2464 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515-0001

The Honorable Susie Lee United States House of Representatives 522 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515-0001

The Honorable Steven Horsford United States House of Representatives 1330 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515-0001

Re: Great American Outdoors Act of 2020

Dear Senator Cortez Masto, Senator Rosen, Congressman Amodei, Congresswoman Titus Congressman Horsford, and Congresswoman Lee:

The Legislative Committee on Public Lands writes to urge your support of the Great Basin National Park federal funding requests, particularly funds for maintenance backlogs on public lands, under the <u>Great American Outdoors Act</u> (GAOA).

As you know, the GAOA allocates \$1.4 billion to the newly established National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund to complete projects on federal lands within the United States Forest Service footprint over the next five years. These funds will address the maintenance backlog that is necessary for achieving improvements on public lands such as repairing roads, trails, campgrounds, and other deferred maintenance projects.

According to recent <u>National Park Service</u> estimates, Great Basin National Park is in need of \$20 million in maintenance and improvements, including \$15 million in deferred maintenance, \$2 million in capital improvements, and \$3 million in other facility maintenance. As the only national park in Nevada, Great Basin National Park is not only a unique natural wonder, it is also an important economic asset to the state and especially to the communities in eastern Nevada. These improvements will ensure that the park will remain an attractive destination now and in the future.

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In closing, the Committee thanks you for your support of the passage of the GAOA and for your consideration of this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me or Jered McDonald, Committee Policy Analyst, at (775) 684-6825 or via email at jered.mcdonald@lcb.state.nv.us if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

David R. Parks Chair, Legislative Committee on Public Lands 2019–2020 Legislative Interim

DP/ma:W205011