HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
NATURAL RESOURCES
CHAIRMAN BRUCE WESTERMAN

To:	House Committee on Natural Resources Republican Members
From:	House Committee on Natural Resources Republican Staff
Date:	Tuesday, June 23, 2026
Subject:	Markup of the *"Great American Outdoors Act 250"*

The House Committee on Natural Resources (Committee) will hold a markup on **Wednesday, June 24, 2026, at 10:30 a.m.,** in room 1324 Longworth House Office Building. The bill to be considered is H.R. 9250 (Rep. Westerman), *"Great American Outdoors Act 250"*.

Member offices are requested to notify Madeline Kelley (madeline.kelley@mail.house.gov) by 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 23, 2026, to confirm their Member's attendance at the mark-up.

I. KEY MESSAGES & TOP LINE ACTIONS

- The Great American Outdoors Act 250 (GAOA 250) is bipartisan legislation that reauthorizes one of President Trump's signature legislative achievements and implements key reforms to better prioritize project selection, distribution, and submissions. It streamlines and accelerates project delivery, promotes public-private partnerships that stretch federal dollars further and enhances transparency and accountability.

- GAOA 250 enhances public access, modernizes infrastructure, and creates new outdoor recreation opportunities while addressing mission-critical deferred maintenance. The bill also supports 72,500 jobs across the country, generates $26.4 billion in revenue for rural, gateway communities, and bolsters the $1.3 trillion outdoor recreation economy.

- The legislation's key reforms include:
    - Simplifying and expediting environmental reviews for high-priority deferred maintenance projects
    - Generating new, sustainable revenue sources through the codification and expansion of foreign visitor fees and incentivizing private donations
    - Strengthening prohibitions on acquiring land or interests in land and creating new authority to dispose of constructed assets on the deferred maintenance list
    - Creating clear and objective project-selection criteria that more appropriately balance the distribution of funding across the country
    - Supporting new public-private partnerships that make project delivery faster and more efficient
    - Mandating clear, quantifiable, and standardized metrics for calculating deferred maintenance across agencies

    - Instituting new transparency requirements for agencies by requiring regular reporting to Congress
    - Cutting red tape for contracting by increasing micro-purchase thresholds and providing for additional acquisition flexibilities

- H.R. 9250 will have an amendment in the nature of a substitute (ANS). Members should ensure that amendments are drafted to the ANS.

II. EXPECTED LEGISLATION

H.R. 9250 (Rep. Westerman), ***"Great American Outdoors Act 250"***

Led by Chairman Bruce Westerman (R-AR) and Ranking Member Jared Huffman (D-CA), the Great American Outdoors Act 250 (GAOA 250) reauthorizes the National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund (LRF) at $1.9 billion for an additional five years, consistent with the Trump administration's Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 budget request.[1] GAOA 250 enhances public access, modernizes infrastructure, and creates new outdoor recreation opportunities while addressing mission-critical deferred maintenance at lands managed by the National Park Service (NPS), U.S. Forest Service (USFS), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and Bureau of Land Management (BLM), as well as within the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE). Funding is divided between these agencies as follows: NPS receives 70 percent of overall funding; USFS receives 15 percent; and USFWS, BLM, and BIE respectively each receive 5 percent of overall funding. GAOA 250 provides new, comprehensive, and sustainable revenue streams for the LRF through onshore energy revenues (including oil, gas, coal, and renewable energy), private donations, and the codification and expansion of foreign visitor fees. These funding sources will ensure that our national parks, public lands and BIE facilities are modernized and well-maintained without relying on taxpayer funds or increasing costs for American families.

GAOA 250 reauthorizes the LRF and makes significant reforms to better prioritize project selection, distribution, and submissions; streamline and accelerate project delivery; promote public-private partnerships that stretch federal dollars further; and enhance transparency and accountability. First, the bill creates new, objective selection criteria to ensure that projects are properly prioritized and appropriately distributed across large and small units. The bill also allows project lists to be submitted on two-year cycles, improving planning and providing greater transparency. Second, the legislation codifies a new consolidated categorical exclusion to expedite and streamline environmental reviews for deferred maintenance projects. Third, the bill promotes public-private partnerships by bolstering donation requirements and incentivizing private, philanthropic contributions to address priority deferred maintenance. Finally, the bill enhances transparency and accountability by requiring more regular agency reporting and mandating that agencies standardize their methodologies for calculating deferred maintenance. GAOA 250 also improves agency accountability by creating limitations on administrative expenses, strengthening prohibitions on the acquisition of land or interests in land, and establishing a new mechanism for the agencies to reduce deferred maintenance by disposing of constructed assets on the deferred maintenance list.

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[1] "Budget of the U.S. Government", Office of Management and Budget, Fiscal Year 2027, https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/budget_fy2027.pdf.

An amendment in the nature of a substitute (ANS) will be offered at markup reflecting technical assistance (TA) from the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) and aligning provisions of the bill with the version of the legislation marked up by the U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Major changes include an additional revenue generating offset that allows DOI to license intellectual property, such as the NPS arrowhead logo, for a fee. The ANS also includes additional streamlining provisions under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and National Historic Preservation Act.[2] The ANS further adjusts the breakdown between transportation and non-transportation percentages, incorporates minor reconstruction projects into the definition of deferred maintenance, modifies the submission of project details and data sheets to Congress, and incorporates DOI TA regarding the foreign visitor fee codification. Additional technical changes via a manager's amendment are also anticipated.

The bill currently has 124 bipartisan cosponsors, including 62 Republicans and 62 Democrats. The legislation has also been endorsed by 140 organizations, a list of which can be found here.

Hearing information from the Committee's legislative field hearing in Hot Springs National Park, Arkansas, including testimony, may be viewed here, and the hearing memo may be viewed here.

Staff contact: Aniela Butler (Aniela@mail.house.gov).

III. CBO SCORE

Not available.

IV. EFFECT ON CURRENT LAW (RAMSEYER)

H.R. 9250

[2] 42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.; 54 U.S.C. 300101 et seq.