

# NOTICE OF A PUBLIC LISTENING SESSION ON THE PRESIDENT'S AMERICA'S GREAT OUTDOORS INITIATIVE

Orlando, Florida

Please join senior representatives from the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) for a public listening session and discussions in Florida on conservation, recreation, and reconnecting people to the outdoors. The session will be held August 26 from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. at Osceola Heritage Park in Kissimmee, Florida.

This past April, at the White House Conference on America's Great Outdoors, President Obama signed a memorandum establishing the America's Great Outdoors Initiative to develop a conservation agenda worthy of the 21st century and to reconnect Americans with our great outdoors. The President understands that protecting and restoring the lands and waters that we love and reconnecting people to the outdoors must happen at the local level.

Therefore, President Obama directed the principal leaders of the America's Great Outdoors Initiative to travel across the country to listen and learn from people directly involved in finding grassroots solutions to conserve our lands, waterways, historical and cultural resources, and reconnect Americans to the outdoors. The President indicated that the sessions should engage the full range of interested groups, including tribal leaders, farmers and ranchers, sportsmen, community park groups, foresters, youth groups, businesspeople, educators, State and local governments, recreation and conservation groups, and others.

This listening session in Florida offers an opportunity for us to engage in a conversation about the solutions you and your community have created to address the challenges and opportunities facing land and water conservation; for engaging people in outdoor activities; and in restoring and conserving our vital natural and cultural resources.

The public listening session and discussions on August 26 provide an opportunity for the leaders of the America's Great Outdoors Initiative to hear from you and other voices in the region about solutions for building a 21st century conservation and recreation agenda and for reconnecting people with the outdoors. Please join us. Here are the details:

## **Listening Session and Discussion Information:**

WHEN	Thursday, August 26, 3:30- 6:30 pm
WHERE	Osceola Heritage Park Exhibition Building 1901 Chief Osceola Trail Kissimmee, Florida 34744
WHO	Senior Washington, D.C. and local leadership from Department of the Interior, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and other Federal agencies will be present to hear your thoughts and to participate in a conversation with you about America's Great Outdoors.
PLEASE REGISTER	This event is free and open to the public. For planning purposes it would be helpful if you would pre-register by Friday, August 20 by sending an email to

[AGOOOrlando@fws.gov](mailto:AGOOOrlando@fws.gov) (or fax 404- 679- 4082) with your name, the name of the organization with which you are affiliated, if any, your telephone number and email address. We will make every effort to accommodate everyone.

In the event you are unable to participate in person, please submit your comments and ideas via the America's Great Outdoors website at <http://www.doi.gov/americasgreatoutdoors/>.

If you have questions, please call Veronica McClurkin at (404) 679-7171. We look forward to your participation – please join us!