

**PARTNERS OUTDOORS 2008:  
UNLOCKING THE FUN AND BENEFITS OF THE OUTDOORS TO ALL AMERICANS, AND  
ESPECIALLY YOUTH**

**Date:** January 13-16, 2008

**Location:** Snowbird Ski and Summer Resort's Cliff Lodge  
Post Office Box 929000  
Snowbird, UT 84092  
(801) 742-2222

**Theme:** *Unlocking the fun and benefits of the outdoors to all Americans, and especially youth, in partnership with families, youth organizations, churches and other organizations.*

Participants in Partners Outdoors 2008 will continue discussions at Partners Outdoors 2007 and during the Recreation Forums about strategies for increasing and enhancing the benefits derived by the nation from visits to public lands and waters. Special attention will be given to new and modified recreational activities, from geocaching to digital photography, from group camping to adventure sports, as a means to attract youth and non-traditional public land visitors. In addition to traditional participants, representatives of such organizations as Boy Scouts and Boys and Girls Clubs, school systems and youth health advocates, will be invited to participate in the discussions.

Partners Outdoors 2008 will include a half day field seminar in the Wasatch-Cache National Forest that will focus on innovative programs to attract visitors and for public/private partnerships to meeting important environmental, educational, public health and other concerns. Topics will range from managing new technologies to creating recreation "gateway centers."

The session may also include a post-trip allowing additional learning about innovative partnership-based programs in the region. Details will be provided separately.

**Participation:** Participation in Partners Outdoors is by invitation only and will be restricted to approximately 150 persons. Invitations are extended by sponsoring organizations, including seven federal agencies, the National Association of State Park Directors and the American Recreation Coalition. Attendees hold senior management positions in the recreation and resources fields or are identified as candidates for such posts. Confirmation of attendance is required by December 1, 2007.

**Accommodations:** Meetings and overnight accommodations will be at the Snowbird Ski and Summer Resort in Little Cottonwood Canyon, approximately 30 minutes from Salt Lake City, Utah. The ski area operates under a permit on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest, one of the Forest Service's lead urban forests. In addition to discussions regarding the relationship between the resort and the Forest Service, Partners Outdoors 2008 will also include discussions of other recreation activities at and near the ski area, including hiking and mountain biking. Participants are

offered a special rate of \$139 single/double occupancy or, for federal employees, \$107 single/double occupancy. *Each federal agency partner will compile a list of its participants and forward that list to the American Recreation Coalition, which will then make all initial room reservations. Each participant will then be notified by ARC and asked to call Snowbird and **provide credit-card information to finalize the reservation.*** January occupancy at Snowbird is extremely high and no alternative accommodations are convenient. While a small block of rooms has been reserved at Snowbird for Saturday night, those arriving on Saturday will also be offered accommodations near the Salt Lake City airport.

**Transportation:** Salt Lake City's International Airport is served by most major airlines. The resort is located approximately 30 miles (40 minutes) from the airport, with most travel on Interstate-quality roadways. Participants may rent a car or take Canyon Transportation, which runs every ½ hour. Canyon can be reached at (800) 255-1841 or arrangements can be made through Snowbird Central Reservations at (800) 453-3000 up to 48 hours prior to arrival. The current round-trip pre-paid price is \$58 per person, plus driver gratuity.

**Tuition/Event Costs:** Each participant will be charged a fee of \$450 for all materials and meals offered in conjunction with the Partners Outdoors 2008 conference. Participation in certain optional activities may involve an additional cost. The basic fee may be sent to the American Recreation Coalition before the conference or may be paid at the time of registration. No refunds for cancellations will be honored after December 15, 2007. Checks should be made payable to the American Recreation Coalition. ***Provisions for guests at selected events can be arranged at an additional charge and should be requested in advance and in writing.***

**Displays:** There will be limited areas for the display of materials relating to partnership activities between federal agencies and for-profit enterprises. Arrangements should be made through the American Recreation Coalition at (202) 682-9530.

**Expected Outcomes:** Central objectives of Partners Outdoors are to (1) create a shared understanding of societal benefits available through recreational use of America's public lands and waters among public and private sector leaders in the recreation field and (2) identify partner organizations capable of providing assistance in attracting and assisting urban visitors – especially youth – to public lands. In addition, each Partners Outdoors seeks to (1) produce a report and recommendations for presentation to federal policymakers and recreation industry CEOs and (2) initiate one or more specific pilot, partnership-based efforts linked to the theme of the specific Partners Outdoors. The 2008 session will produce a report available via the Internet website with information on innovative programs designed to help Americans, especially youth, benefit from visits to public lands.

**Attire:** Normal dress will be "business casual," but recreational attire will also be appropriate at most sessions. Although we hope that participants will be able to temporarily disengage from day-to-day realities, they may be reached with phone

messages or by fax.

September 25, 2007