

# IOWA

## Our Land, Our Water, Our Heritage



### LWCF Funded Places in Iowa

#### Federal Program

Driftless Area NWR

Effigy Mounds NM

Herbert Hoover NHS

\*Mark Twain NWR

Neal Smith NWR

\*Northern Tallgrass Prairie

\*Upper Mississippi River NWR

**Federal Total** \$ 14,200,000

**Forest Legacy Program** \$ 1,700,000

**Habitat Conservation (Sec. 6)** \$ 1,300,000

**State Program**  
Total State Grants \$ 54,600,000

**Total** \$ 71,800,000

### LWCF Success in Iowa

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) has provided funding to help protect some of Iowa's most special places and ensure recreational access for hunting, fishing and other outdoor activities. Iowa has received approximately \$72 million in LWCF funding over the past five decades, protecting places such as the Effigy Mounds National Monument, Neal Smith and Driftless Area National Wildlife Refuges and Herbert Hoover National Historic Site.

Forest Legacy Program (FLP) grants are also funded under LWCF, to help protect working forests. The FLP cost-share funding supports timber sector jobs and sustainable forest operations while enhancing wildlife habitat, water quality and recreation. For example, the FLP contributed to places such as Preparation Canyon in Monona County, Saylorville Greenbelt in Boone County and Northeast Upper Bluffs in Allamakee County. The FLP assists states and private forest owners to maintain working forest lands through matching grants for permanent conservation easement and fee acquisitions, and has leveraged approximately \$1.7 million in federal funds to invest in Iowa's forests, while protecting air and water quality, wildlife habitat, access for recreation and other public benefits provided by forests.

LWCF state assistance grants have further supported hundreds of projects across Iowa's state and local parks including City Park Playground in Rockwell City, Clinton Bike Path Recreational Trail and the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center in Monona County.

### Economic Benefits

Active outdoor recreation is an important part of the Iowa economy. The Outdoor Industry Association has found that active outdoor recreation generates \$8.7 billion in consumer spending in Iowa, 83,000 jobs which generate \$2.7 billion in wages and salaries, and produces nearly \$649 million annually in state and local tax revenue. Further, the U.S. Census reports that each year over 1.7 million people hunt, fish, or enjoy wildlife-watching in Iowa, contributing \$1 billion in wildlife recreation spending to the state economy.



Tour of Effigy Mounds NM Credit: NPS  
Top: Northern Tallgrass Prairie Credit: USFWS

**SUPPORT PERMANENT REAUTHORIZATION AND FULL FUNDING  
FOR THE LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND**



Bald Eagles call the Refuge home all year-round Credit: USFWS

LWCF is a simple idea: that a portion of offshore drilling fees should be used to protect important land and water for all Americans. These are not taxpayer dollars. Unfortunately, the promise of LWCF has been broken. The program is authorized to receive up to \$900 million each year—but most of these funds have been diverted elsewhere. Now is the time to fix this and ensure that funds retained in the LWCF account are used for their intended conservation and recreation purposes.

LWCF supports the acquisition of land and conservation easements to protect our national parks, wildlife refuges, forests, trails, and BLM sites, grants funds to the states for local and state park needs, protects critical wildlife habitat, watersheds and recreational access, and conserves working farms, ranches and forestlands that enhance local economies.



[www.lwcfcoalition.org](http://www.lwcfcoalition.org)

## LWCF in Iowa

### Neal Smith National Wildlife Refuge

The Neal Smith National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) was created in 1990 with the purpose of restoring and reconstructing the native tallgrass prairie and savanna habitats. The refuge includes a wide array of recreational opportunities, including an 800-acre drive through bison enclosure, birding, hiking, biking, and wildlife watching. LWCF funds have been used to restore and protect this native landscape and to provide education to the public of the prairie and savanna habitats.

### Fiscal Year 2019 Agency Priority Project List for Iowa

Agency	State	Project	Amount	Delegation
FLP	IA	Heritage Valley	\$3,000,000	Ernst, Grassley/ Blum
FWS	IA/MN	Northern Tallgrass Prairie NWR	\$500,000	Grassley, Ernst/ King

### The Fiscal Year 2019 President's Budget:

The President's Fiscal Year 2019 Budget proposal would gut the Land and Water Conservation Fund, reducing the program's budget by over 100% from enacted levels. Under this proposal, no projects would be funded for federal land conservation at America's National Parks, National Forests, National Wildlife Refuges, and other public lands. State grant programs to support local recreation facilities, state parks, wildlife habitat, and other community conservation priorities would also be completely wiped out. Without robust LWCF funding in FY 2019, Iowa's conservation and outdoor recreation needs could be put on hold or lost forever.

### FY18 Enacted vs. FY19 Budget Request Comparison

Agency/Program	FY18 Enacted Funding	FY19 President's Budget
National Park Service	\$46,935,000	- \$1,212,000*
Bureau of Land Management	\$24,916,000	- \$6,608,000*
U.S. Forest Service	\$64,337,000	- \$17,000,000*
Fish and Wildlife Service	\$53,839,000	\$6,953,000
Sec. 6 Habitat Conservation	\$19,638,000	\$0
Forest Legacy Program	\$67,025,000	- \$4,000,000*
Highlands Conservation Act	\$10,000,000	\$0
American Battlefield Protection	\$10,000,000	\$0
State & Local Assistance	\$124,006,000	\$0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$425,000,000</b>	<b>- \$12,867,000*</b>

\*proposed rescission of already appropriated LWCF funds