

MAINE

Our Land, Our Water, Our Heritage



LWCF Funded Places in Maine

Federal Program

Acadia NP
Maine NWRs
Maine Coastal Islands NWR
Moosehorn NWR
Petit Manan NWR
Rachel Carson NWR
Saddleback Mountain
Saint Croix IHS
Sunhaze Meadows NWR

Federal Total \$ 67,000,000

Forest Legacy Program

\$ 79,900,000

State Program

Total State Grants \$ 41,000,000

Total \$ 187,900,000

LWCF Success in Maine

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) has provided funding to help protect some of Maine's most special places and ensure recreational access for hunting, fishing and other outdoor activities. Maine has received approximately \$188 million in LWCF funding over the past five decades, protecting places such as Acadia National Park and Preserve, the Saint Croix Island International Historic Site, Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge and the Appalachian National Scenic Trail.

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 Grafton Notch and the Katahdin Forest. 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 \$80 million in federal funds to invest in Maine'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 Maine's state and local parks and forests including Rangeley Lake State Park, Bigelow Preserve and the Allagash Wilderness Waterway.

Economic Benefits

Active outdoor recreation is an important part of the Maine economy. The Outdoor Industry Association has found that active outdoor recreation supports \$8.2 billion in consumer spending in Maine, 76,000 jobs across Maine which generate \$2.2 billion in wages and salaries, and produces nearly \$548 million annually in state and local tax revenue. Further, the U.S. Census reports that each year over 1 million people hunt, fish, or enjoy wildlife-watching in Maine, contributing over 1.5 billion to the state economy in wildlife recreation spending.



Recreation at Acadia NP Credit: NPS
Top: Moosehorn NWR Credit: USFWS

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

LWCF in Maine

Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge

Consisting of meandering tidal creeks, coastal upland, sandy dunes, salt ponds, marsh, and productive wetlands, the Rachel Carson NWR provides critical nesting and feeding habitat for a variety of migratory birds along the Atlantic Flyway. The salt marsh habitat found at Rachel Carson NWR is relatively rare in Maine, which is better known for its dramatic, rocky coastline. Upland portions of the landscape in and around the refuge host a unique, unusually dense concentration of vernal pools that provide habitat for several rare plant and animal species. Acquisitions at the refuge also provided an important buffer between the intense development pressure along the southern Maine coast and its fragile coastal estuaries.

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, Maine'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
TOTAL	\$425,000,000	- \$12,867,000*

*proposed rescission of already appropriated LWCF funds



Ranger programming at Acadia NP
Credit: NPS

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