

Nevada

Our Land, Our Water, Our Heritage



LWCF Funded Places in Nevada

Federal Units

- Ash Meadows NWR
- Bald Mountain
- Black Rock Desert/High Rock Canyon
- Death Valley NP
- Desert NWR
- Humboldt-Toiyabe NF
- Lake Mead NRA
- Lake Tahoe Basin MU
- Moapa Valley NWR
- Red Rock Canyon NCA
- Sheldon NWR
- Stillwater NWR
- Swan Lake NSA
- Water Canyon RA

Federal Total \$125,856,369

State Programs

Forest Legacy Program \$438,000

Habitat Conservation (Sec. 6) \$4,575,922

Stateside \$47,117,410

Total \$177,987,701

LWCF Success in Nevada

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) has provided funding to help protect some of Nevada's most special places and ensure recreational access for hunting, fishing and other outdoor activities. Nevada has received approximately \$178 million in LWCF funding over the past five decades, protecting places such as the Toiyabe National Forest, Stillwater and Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuges, Lake Mead National Recreation Area and Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area.

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 the Ash Canyon Gateway in Carson City. 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 \$438,000 in federal funds to invest in Nevada'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 Nevada's state and local parks including Sunset Park, Lorenzi Park and Springs Preserve in Las Vegas, Valley of Fire State Park and Washoe Lake State Park. Additionally, the Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Program (ORLP), has annual funding opportunities for city park projects in economically disadvantaged areas.

Economic Benefits

Active outdoor recreation is an important part of Nevada's economy. The Bureau of Economic Analysis has found that outdoor recreation generates \$6.1 billion in value added to Nevada's economy, 53,835 homegrown jobs, and accounts for 2.7% of the state's economy. Further, the U.S. Census reports that each year 788,000 people hunt, fish, or enjoy wildlife-watching in Nevada, contributing over \$917 million in wildlife recreation spending to the state economy.





LWCF in Nevada

Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area

Nevada's first National Conservation Area, Red Rock Canyon is 195,819 acres of Mojave Desert located 17 miles west of the Las Vegas Strip. Though it is desert, Red Rock Canyon contains a wide array of animals, including over 100 species of birds, 45 species of mammals and nine major types of vegetation. Among the reptiles and amphibians living in Red Rock Canyon are the Desert Tortoise, which is listed by the Fish and Wildlife Service as Threatened species. Red Rock Canyon provides a different outdoor recreational option than nearby Las Vegas, including camping, hiking, scenic drives, mountain and road biking, horseback riding and rock-climbing.



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, for 55 years the promise of LWCF was broken as \$22 billion was diverted from the program.

The **Great American Outdoors Act** ended the diversion and ensures that LWCF's permanently authorized \$900 million is used for conservation and recreation projects each year.

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

Status of the Land and Water Conservation Fund

In August 2020, permanent, dedicated funding for LWCF was secured through the Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA) – ensuring that each year the \$900 million deposited into the LWCF account is directed to conservation and recreation priorities; however, in FY24 Congress backtracked on that promise when they rescinded \$94 million of unobligated LWCF funding (\$89M from the NPS State & Local Assistance Program & \$5M from BLM). GAOA has not eliminated the backlog of LWCF priorities that are waiting in line as nearly all LWCF programs remain oversubscribed - each year the LWCF supplemental project list includes about \$200 million in urgent needs that are authorized to use this funding. To support these critical projects, unspent LWCF funding should be reallocated to the states by the Secretary of the Interior (per the LWCF Act) or reprogrammed by Congress to LWCF sub-programs with outstanding funding need. If funding is rescinded rather than reallocated or reprogrammed, landowners and communities miss out on LWCF funding, and these critical priorities could be lost forever.

FY25 Budget Update: The Biden Administration's FY25 budget proposal included detailed LWCF priority project lists and balanced program allocations, as well supplemental project lists over and above LWCF's current \$900 million funding level. [Click here to view a map of past LWCF projects](#)