NEW JERSEY

Our Land, Our Water, Our Heritage

LWCF Funded Places in New Jersey

Federal Program
Cape May NWR
*Delaware Water Gap NRA
Edison NHS
Edwin Forsythe NWR
*Gateway NRA
Great Swamp NWR
Morristown NHP
Pinelands NRes
Sterling Forest
Supawna Meadows NWR
Wallkill River NWR
Federal Total $ 198,700,000

Forest Legacy Program
$ 17,200,000

Habitat Conservation (Sec. 6)
$ 3,300,000

American Battlefield Protection Program $ 197,500

Highlands Conservation Act
$ 13,900,000

State Program
Total State Grants $ 123,900,000

Total $357,200,000
*multistate project

Reenactment at Morristown NHP Credit: NPS
Top: Delaware Water Gap NRA Credit: NPS

LWCF Success in New Jersey

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) has provided funding to help protect some of New Jersey's most special places and ensure recreational access for hunting, fishing and other outdoor activities. New Jersey has received approximately $357.2 million in LWCF funding over the past five decades, protecting places such as the Garden State's five national wildlife refuges, the Highlands Region, Morristown National Historic Park, Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, 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 the Raritan River Watershed in Hunterdon and Morris Counties and Upper Delaware River Watershed in Sussex 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 $17 million in federal funds to invest in New Jersey'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 New Jersey's state and local parks including the Old Bridge Waterfront Park, and Salem River Wildlife Management Area.

Economic Benefits

Active outdoor recreation is an important part of the New Jersey economy. The Outdoor Industry Association has found that active outdoor recreation generates $18.9 billion in consumer spending in New Jersey, 143,000 jobs which generate $5.9 billion in wages and salaries, and produces $1.2 billion annually in state and local tax revenue. Further, the U.S. Census reports that each year 2.4 million people hunt, fish, or enjoy wildlife-watching in New Jersey, contributing $1.7 billion in wildlife recreation spending to the state economy.

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

LWCF in New Jersey

Wallkill NWR
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

Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge

Located ten miles north of Atlantic City, the Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge covers approximately 46,000 acres of pristine wildlife habitat. The refuge includes birds of prey such as peregrine falcons, bald eagles and osprey, and is visited by thousands of birds in the spring and fall on their long migrations. In the summer months, the Forsythe NWR draws tens of thousands of visitors and seasonal residents who are attracted to its ample recreational opportunities. The refuge faces dangers from development that threaten to undermine its ecological integrity. Several regional organizations, the State of New Jersey and local towns are committed to protecting lands critical to the refuge.

Fiscal Year 2019 Agency Priority Project List for New Jersey

Agency	Project	Amount	Delegation
FWS	Edwin B. Forsythe NWR	$500,000	Menendez, Booker/ Van Drew, Kim

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, New Jersey'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

For more information:
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Note - All approximate totals derived from appropriations bills
- Forest Legacy Program & Sec. 6 funded from LWCF starting in 2004