

SOUTH CAROLINA

Our Land, Our Water, Our Heritage



LWCF Funded Places in South Carolina

Federal Program

ACE Basin NWR
Cape Romain NWR
*Chattooga WSR
Congaree NP
Cowpens NB
Fort Sumter NM
Francis Marion NF
*Longleaf Pine Initiative
Ninety Six NHS
Sumter-Francis Marion NF
Sumter NF
Waccamaw NWR

Federal Total \$ 192,800,000

Forest Legacy Program
\$ 39,400,000

Habitat Conservation (Sec. 6)
\$ 1,700,000

American Battlefield Protection Program
\$ 2,000,000

State & Local Program
Total State Grants \$ 59,300,000

Total \$ 295,200,000

*multistate project

LWCF Success in South Carolina

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) has provided funding to help protect some of South Carolina's most special places and ensure recreational access for hunting, fishing and other outdoor activities. South Carolina has received approximately \$295 million in LWCF funding over the past five decades, protecting places such as Fort Sumter National Monument, Cape Romain, Waccamaw and Ace Basin National Wildlife Refuges, Congaree National Park, and Francis Marion National Forest as well as sites protected under the Civil War Battlefield Preservation Program

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 Catawba-Wateree Forest in Chester County and the Savannah River Corridor in Hampton 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 \$39 million in federal funds to invest in South Carolina'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 South Carolina's state and local parks including Rifle Range Road Park in Mount Pleasant, Myrtle Beach State Park Boardwalk, Manchester Meadows Park in Rock Hill, and Jones Gap State Park.

Economic Benefits

Active outdoor recreation is an important part of the South Carolina economy. The Outdoor Industry Association has found that active outdoor recreation generates \$16.3 billion annually in consumer spending in South Carolina, supports 151,000 jobs across the state which generate \$4.6 billion in wages and salaries and produces \$1.1 billion annually in state and local tax revenue. Further, the U.S. Census reports that over 893,000 people hunt, fish or watch wildlife in South Carolina each year, spending \$2.5 billion on wildlife-related recreation.



Recreation at Congaree NP Credit: NPS
Top: Francis Marion NF Credit: USFS

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



Fort Sumter NM
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

For more information:
Amy Lindholm, alindholm@outdoors.org

LWCF in South Carolina

Mountain Bridge Wilderness Area

The Mountain Bridge Wilderness Area includes 13,000 acres of mountain woodlands and multiple state parks that LWCF has made possible, including Caesar's Head and Jones Gap State Park and protected areas, such as the Wildcat Wayside hiking trail between both parks. Caesar's Head and Jones Gap offer 60+ miles of hiking trails and access to multiple scenic waterfalls as well as camping and trout fishing in the Middle Saluda River, South Carolina's first designated scenic river. LWCF investments through the NPS State and Local Assistance Program helped to protect these places, including over \$1 million for trail development.

Fiscal Year 2019 Agency Priority Project List for South Carolina

Agency	State	Project	Amount	Delegation
FS	SC	South Carolina's "Promise of the Piedmont"; Sumter	\$2,000,000	Graham, Scott/ Duncan, Norman
FLP	SC	Liberty Hill Extension	\$1,330,000	Graham, Scott/ Norman
NPS	NC/SC/ TN/VA	Overmountain Victory National Historical Trail	\$185,000	Graham, Scott/ Norman

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, South Carolina'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

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