

# Our Land, Our Water, Our Heritage

LWCF in SOUTH DAKOTA

HELP PROTECT SOUTH DAKOTA'S QUALITY OF LIFE BY SUPPORTING FULL FUNDING FOR THE LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND

## LWCF Funded Units in South Dakota

### Federal Program

Black Hills NF

\*Dakota Grassland CA

\*Dakota Tallgrass Prairie

Karl Mundt NWR

Missouri NRR

South Dakota NWRs

Wind Cave NP

Tallgrass Prairie Project

**Federal Total** \$ 49,800,000

### Forest Legacy Program

\$ 1,200,000

### State & Local Program

Total State Grants \$ 37,600,000

### Total

\$ 88,600,000

\*multistate project

## LWCF Success in South Dakota

The Land and Water Conservation Fund has helped protect some of South Dakota's most treasured places. South Dakota has received approximately \$88.6 million over the past five decades, protecting places such as Wind Cave National Park, the Black Hills National Forest, the Missouri National Recreational River, the Dakota Grassland Conservation Area and the Dakota Tallgrass Prairie Wildlife Management 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 Blood Run National Historic Landmark Area in Lincoln County, SD. 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 \$1.2 million in federal funds in South Dakota'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 Dakota's state and local parks including Lewis & Clark Recreation Area in Yankton County, Hartford Beach State Park in Roberts County, and Dinosaur Park in Rapid City, SD in Pennington County.

## Economic Benefits

Active outdoor recreation is an important part of the South Dakota economy. Each year, 251,000 sportsmen and 432,000 wildlife watchers combine to spend \$550 million on wildlife-associated recreation in South Dakota. According to the Outdoor Industry Association, outdoor recreation in South Dakota generates \$4.7 billion in consumer spending, \$48,000 in direct South Dakota jobs, \$1.2 billion in wages and salaries \$255 million in state and local tax revenue. At least 70% of South Dakota residents participate in outdoor recreation each year.



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



Wind Cave NP Credit: NPS  
Top: Black Hills NF Credit: USFS



Missouri NRR  
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.



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## LWCF in South Dakota

### Blood Run National Historic Landmark Area

Situated in an agricultural landscape at the heart of the Blood Run National Historic Landmark Area, this project represents an opportunity to preserve a nationally important cultural icon and a unique large tract of forest with oak trees left untouched since the 1880's. This project will protect the rich pre-settlement history of the Oneota Native American culture as well as forest, wetland and grassland habitats. The area is most immediately threatened by development. Preservation and establishment of this tract as the Good Earth State Park at Blood Run will complement Blood Run NHL. Without protection, this cultural icon will be lost forever.

### Fiscal Year 2018 Agency Priority Project List for South Dakota

Agency	State	Project	Amount	Delegation
FWS	ND/SD	Dakota Grassland Conservation Area	\$5,000,000	Thune, Rounds/Noem
FWS	ND/SD	Dakota Tallgrass Prairie Wildlife Management Area	\$2,000,000	Thune, Rounds/Noem

### The Fiscal Year 2018 President's Budget:

The President's Fiscal Year 2018 Budget proposal would virtually eliminate the Land and Water Conservation Fund, reducing the program's budget by nearly 85% from this year's enacted level. Under this proposal, funding for federal land conservation at America's National Parks, National Forests, National Wildlife Refuges and other public lands would be slashed as much as 89%. State grant programs to support local recreation facilities, state parks, wildlife habitat and other community conservation priorities would also be largely wiped out. Working forest protection—which opens up public access and protects drinking water supplies while still keeping jobs in the woods—is eliminated altogether. Without robust LWCF funding in FY 2018, South Dakota's conservation and outdoor recreation needs could be put on hold or lost forever.

### FY17 Enacted vs. FY18 Budget Request Comparison

Agency/Program	FY17 Enacted Funding	FY18 President's Budget
National Park Service	\$42,023,000	\$14,856,000
Bureau of Land Management	\$31,416,000	\$3,609,000
U.S. Forest Service	\$54,415,000	\$7,000,000
Fish and Wildlife Service	\$49,995,000	\$17,051,000
Sec. 6 Habitat Conservation	\$30,800,000	\$0
Forest Legacy Program	\$62,347,000	\$0
Highlands Conservation Act	\$10,000,000	\$0
American Battlefield Protection	\$10,000,000	\$8,481,000
State & Local Assistance	\$110,006,000	\$3,043,000