

Our Land, Our Water, Our Heritage

LWCF in NEVADA

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

LWCF Funded Units in Nevada

Federal Program

Ash Meadows NWR
Desert NWR
Humboldt NF
*Lake Mead NRA
Moapa Valley NWR
Red Rock Canyon NCA
Soldier Meadow Ranch
Stillwater NWR
Toiyabe NF

Federal Total \$ 59,700,000

Forest Legacy Program

\$ 438,000

Habitat Conservation (Sec. 6)

\$ 1,400,000

State Program

Total State Grants \$ 40,700,000

Total \$ 102,238,000

*multi-state project



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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 \$102 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 \$600,000 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.

Economic Benefits

Active outdoor recreation is an important part of the Nevada economy. The Outdoor Industry Association has found that active outdoor recreation generates \$12.6 billion in consumer spending in Nevada, 87,000 jobs which generate \$4 billion in wages and salaries, and produces \$1.1 billion annually in state and local tax revenue. Further, the U.S. Census reports that each year over 788,000 people hunt, fish, or enjoy wildlife-watching in Nevada, contributing \$917 million in wildlife recreation spending to the state economy.



Recreation at Lake Mead NRA Credit: NPS
Top: Ruby Mountains Toiyabe NF Credit: USFS



Recreation at Red Rocks Canyon NCA
Credit: BLM

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 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.

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, Nevada'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