

Our Land, Our Water, Our Heritage

LWCF in NEW MEXICO

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

LWCF Funded Units in New Mexico

Federal Program

Aztec Ruins NM
Baca Ranch (Valles Caldera)
Bandelier NM
Bluewater Canyon ACEC
Carson NF
Chaco Culture NHP
Cibola NF
Continental Divide NST
El Malpais NCA
El Malpais NM
Fort Union NM
Gila NF
Kasha-Katuwe Tent Rocks NM
La Cienega ACEC
Lesser Prairie Chicken ACEC
Lincoln NF
Lower Gila Box ACEC
New Mexico BLM
Organ Mountains ACEC
Orilla Verde Recreation Area/Taos
Overflow Wetlands HMP
Pecos NHP
Petroglyphs NM
Rio Chama WSR
Rio Grande WSR
Rio Grande del Norte NM
*Sangre de Cristo CA
Salinas Pueblo Missions NM
Santa Fe Watershed Protection
Santa Fe NF
Sevilleleta NWR
White Mountains Wilderness
Valle de Oro NWR

Federal Total \$ 258,800,000

Forest Legacy Program

\$ 10,700,000

American Battlefield Protection Program

\$ 15,000

State & Local Program

Total State Grants \$ 42,700,000

Total \$312,215,000

*multistate project

LWCF Success in New Mexico

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) has provided funding to help protect some of New Mexico's most special places and ensure recreational access for hunting, fishing and other outdoor activities. New Mexico has received approximately \$312 million in LWCF funding over the past five decades, protecting places such as the Petroglyph, El Malpais, and Kasha-Katuwe Tent Rock National Monuments, the Gila, Cibola, Santa Fe and Carson National Forests, and the Rio Grande Wild and Scenic River.

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 High Country Ranch in Rio Arriba Country and Horse Springs Ranch in Catron County. The Forest Legacy Program 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 \$10.7 million in federal funds to invest \$12.5 million in New Mexico'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 Mexico's state and local parks including Mesilla Valley Bosque State Park in Dona Ana County and the Eagle Nest Lake Park in Colfax County.

Economic Benefits

Active outdoor recreation is an important part of the New Mexico economy. The Outdoor Industry Association has found that active outdoor recreation contributes \$9.9 billion annually in consumer spending to New Mexico's economy, supports 99,000 jobs which generate \$2.8 billion in wages and salaries and produces \$623 million annually in state and local tax revenue. The U.S. Census Bureau reports that each year 947,000 people participate in hunting, fishing, and wildlife watching in New Mexico contributing \$823 million to the state economy.



School Group at Pecos NHP Credit: NPS
Top: El Malpais NCA Credit: BLM



Recreation on Rio Grande WSR
Credit: BLM

LWCF in New Mexico

Rio Grande Wild & Scenic River/Taos Gorge

The canyonlands of the upper reaches of the Rio Grande comprise one of the most spectacular landscapes in New Mexico. Within New Mexico, the Rio Grande is not only an important natural and ecological resource, it is also critical to water supplies and the economy. About 1.3 million people, or nearly 70% of the state's population, live in the ten counties along the river. The Rio Grande provides vital drinking water to these residents and irrigation water for agricultural purposes. The Land and Water Conservation Fund has provided funds to protect the wild and scenic river, consolidate holdings to prevent fragmentation, ensure recreational access, and prevent development from marring the canyon.

Fiscal Year 2018 Agency Priority Project List for New Mexico

Agency	Project	Amount	Delegation
BLM	Rio Grande del Norte National Monument	\$900,000	Heinrich, Udall/Lujan
NPS	Valles Caldera National Preserve	\$531,000	Heinrich, Udall/Lujan
FS	Heart Bar Ranch: Gila NF	\$2,500,000	Heinrich, Udall/Pearce
FS	Tampico III: Cibola NF	\$2,600,000	Heinrich, Udall/ Pearce, Lujan
FLP	Brazos Cliff	\$2,055,000	Heinrich, Udall/Lujan

The Fiscal Year 2018 President's Budget:

The President's Fiscal Year 2018 Budget proposal would virtually eliminate the LWCF, 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, New Mexico'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

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

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