

Arizona

Our Land, Our Water, Our Heritage

#SaveLWCF

America's most important conservation and recreation program will expire in less than a year unless Congress acts. For 52 years, the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) has protected national parks and open spaces in every corner of the United States. But in less than 52 weeks, it could be gone forever and along with it, future protection of the places we love.

[LWCF](#) has invested over \$228 million over the past five decades to protect Arizona's iconic outdoor places, open access for hunting, fishing, hiking, and other outdoor activities, and to build close to home parks. From community playgrounds and ballfields to Arizona's iconic national parks, wildlife refuges, and historic sites, LWCF has protected places like the Grand Canyon and Saguaro National Parks, Coconino National Forest, and Lake Mead National Recreation Area through the federal programs, and places like Lost Dutchman and Patagonia Lake State Parks through the state and local programs.

Arizona's \$21.2 billion [outdoor recreation industry](#) is an economic powerhouse – supporting 201,000 jobs, which generate \$5.7 billion in wages and salaries, and produces \$1.4 billion annually in state and local tax revenue.

ET RANCH

LWCF money was recently used near Safford, AZ to protect ET Ranch, a 600-acre property located adjacent to the North Santa Teresa Wilderness Area. With the protection of this property, for the first time ever there is now guaranteed and permanent access to existing public lands for hunting, hiking, and backpacking opportunities. This acquisition improves public access to the 6,600-acre BLM wilderness area, located northwest of Safford, and the nearby 26,800-acre Santa Teresa Wilderness Area in the Coronado National Forest.



ET Ranch, Santa Teresa Wilderness Area Credit: USDOI

“For half a century, bipartisan support of LWCF has helped to meet a broad spectrum of conservation needs across Arizona and America. Sportsmen and women across the state support the LWCF because it expands recreation access for hunting, fishing, and other public use, provides critical funding for recreation and conservation projects, and provides vital investment in safeguarding and enhancing the economic asset that our federal, state and local public lands represent.” – Jim Unmacht, Executive Director, AZ Sportsmen for Wildlife Conservation

ARIZONA NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

The Arizona NST is an 800-mile-long trail that stretches from Mexico to Utah, spanning the entire state. It connects deserts, mountains, canyons, wilderness, history, communities and people through remote and challenging wilderness and more easily accessible passages. Every year more hikers, equestrians, mountain bikers and trail runners are discovering the Arizona Trail, but most don't realize that it is not fully protected—there are 88 miles of trail on State Land, and that land can be sold at any time. LWCF funds are necessary for the long-term protection of the trail corridor, so that this resource can provide the same unique Arizona experience for future generations to enjoy.



Mountain bikers on the Arizona NST

#SaveLWCF to protect the places we love in Arizona!

www.lwcfcoalition.org/lwcf52weeks/