

# Wyoming

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 more than \$122 million over the past five decades to protect Wyoming's outdoor places, open access for hunting, fishing, hiking, and other outdoor activities, and to build close to home parks. From wildlife refuges to Wyoming's iconic National Parks and National Forests, LWCF has protected places like Grand Teton National Park, the National Elk Refuge, Continental Divide National Scenic Trail, and Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area.

Wyoming's \$5.6 billion [outdoor recreation industry](#) is an economic powerhouse – supporting 50,000 jobs which generate \$1.6 billion in wages and salaries and produces \$514 million annually in state and local tax revenue.

## Grand Teton National Park

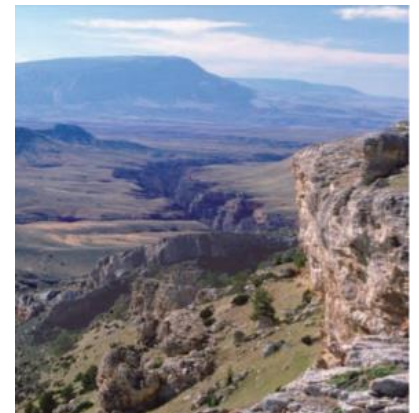
Established in 1929 and home to spectacular mountain scenery and wildlife, Grand Teton National Park has received over \$40 million in LWCF funding to purchase inholdings within the park to bring cohesion to the landscape, reduce maintenance costs, complete wildlife corridors, and prevent non-compatible development. In 2016, a public-private partnership was implemented between the Department of Interior, Grand Teton National Park Foundation, and the National Park Foundation to prevent development of resort housing and trophy homes on one of the most significant viewsheds in the park. LWCF funds covered half of the \$46 million purchase price, with private partners covering the remaining cost. In addition to preserving the integrity of the landscape, this project had significant impacts on water quality, wildlife habitat, migration corridors, recreation opportunities, and overall experience. However, additional funds are needed to complete the final purchase before the Wyoming School Trust Land is forced to sell to a private owner.



*Hikers in Grand Teton NP Credit: NPS*

## Craig Thomas Little Mountain Special Management Area

Located approximately 50 miles from the town of Cody is the Craig Thomas Little Mountain Special Management Area, a remarkable concentration of natural and cultural features managed by the Bureau of Land Management. Little Mountain's well-established populations of elk, black bear, deer, antelope, bighorn sheep, and mountain lion, as well as sage grouse and other small game, make it a destination for thousands of sportsmen each year. The Big Horn River and its tributaries are likewise a major draw for anglers. Because of its importance for outdoor recreation, the protection of this area has been a significant priority for sportsmen and many other Wyomingans. In 2010, \$2 million of LWCF was used to protect Devil's Canyon Ranch, providing permanent recreation access, wildlife protection, and preservation of historic sites.



*Devil's Canyon Ranch Credit: TPL*

**#SaveLWCF to protect the places we love in Wyoming!**

[www.lwcfcoalition.org/lwcf52weeks/](http://www.lwcfcoalition.org/lwcf52weeks/)