

Alaska

#SaveLWCF

Our Land, Our Water, Our Heritage

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 \$142 million to protect Alaska's outdoor places, iconic national parks, and increase sportsmen's access. From national wildlife refuges and national forests to ballfields and community parks, LWCF has protected places like Katmai National Park & Preserve, Tongass National Forest, Tanana Lakes Recreation Area, Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge, and working forests in Bristol Bay Borough County and along the Agulowak River.

Alaska's \$7.3 billion [outdoor recreation industry](#) is an economic powerhouse – supporting 72,000 jobs which generate \$2.3 billion in wages and salaries and produces \$337 million annually in state and local tax revenue.

Denali National Park and Preserve

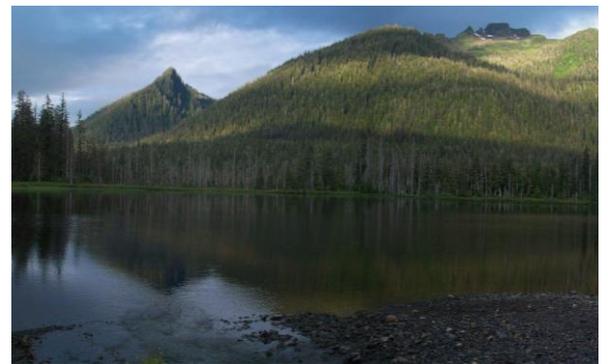
Home to North America's highest peak, Denali National Park and Preserve is a spectacular Alaskan treasure. With over 6 million acres of interior Alaskan wilderness protected, outdoor adventurers can experience the diverse landscape and observe native species that call it home. Over \$17 million of LWCF funding has gone towards protecting land within the park, including the purchase of 350 acres of mining claims which were at risk for development. Denali was established in 1917 with the support of gold miners, who, in exchange for their support, could continue mining in the Kantishna Hills. When mining operations ended, the area was at significant risk of being sold to a private developer. Luckily, LWCF funding was available and was used to guarantee that the integrity of the park was protected for the wildlife that call it home and the people who enjoy recreation opportunities in the area.



Mining claims protected in Denali NP&P Credit: TPL

Admiralty Island National Monument, Tongass National Forest

Conservation of private inholdings within the nearly one million-acre Admiralty Island National Monument has been a multi-phase effort over many years by diverse partners in southeast Alaska's Tongass National Forest. Native Alaskan families who wish to see their land preserved for future generations have been able to use LWCF as a resource to make those wishes a reality, as in the case of the last privately-owned property on Whitewater Bay, which was protected by LWCF in 2013. But unprotected parcels remain. At over 22,000 acres, the Cube Cove property is the largest private inholding within a National Monument and Wilderness Area. Because of its potential to increase sportsmen's access, create more public recreation opportunities, and reduce maintenance costs, this project is a major priority for Fiscal Year 2018 funding. Trespassing on this private land has been an ongoing issue, with hunters and anglers requiring permits and permission to enter the area in pursuit of Sitka Blacktail Deer, cutthroat trout, and Dolly Varden char. LWCF funds have already brought 12,000 acres of this parcel into the Monument, but the landowner and partners need LWCF funding to continue the important work of protecting this landscape and guaranteeing public access for future generations.



Tongass National Forest Credit: USFS

#SaveLWCF to protect the places we love in Alaska!

www.lwcfcoalition.org/lwcf52weeks/