

FLORIDA

Our Land, Our Water, Our Heritage



LWCF Funded Places in Florida

Federal Program

- Apalachicola NF
- Archie Carr NWR
- Big Cypress NPres
- Biscayne NP
- Canaveral NS
- Chassahowitzka NWR
- Crocodile Lake NWR
- Crystal River NWR
- Everglades NP
- Everglades Headwaters NWR/CA
- Ohio Key
- Florida NFs & NPs
- Florida NST
- Florida Panther NWR
- Florida Longleaf Initiative
- Fort Caroline NM
- Great White Herons NWR
- Gulf Islands NS
- Ding Darling NWR
- Lake Wales Ridge NWR
- Lake Woodruff NWR
- Lower Suwannee NWR
- National Key Deer NWR
- Ocala NF
- Osceola NF
- Pelican Island NWR
- Pinellas NWR
- St Johns NWR
- St Marks NWR
- St Vincent NWR
- Timucuan EHP

Federal Total \$ 872,200,000

Forest Legacy Program \$ 20,300,000

Habitat Conservation (Sec.6) \$12,400,000

State Program
Total State Grants \$ 131,100,000

Total \$ 1,036,000,000

LWCF Success in Florida

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) has provided funding to help protect some of Florida's most special places and ensure recreational access for hunting, fishing and other outdoor activities. Florida has received approximately \$1.036 billion in LWCF funding over the past five decades, protecting places such as Everglades National Park, Big Cypress National Preserve, Canaveral National Seashore, Florida National Scenic Trail, and Ding Darling and St. Marks National Wildlife Refuges.

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 Northeast Florida Timberlands in Clay County. 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 \$20.3 million in federal funds to invest in Florida'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 Florida's state and local parks including Cape Florida State Recreation Area in Dade County, Caspersen Beach in Sarasota County, and Paynes Prairie State Preserve in Alachua County.

Economic Benefits

Active outdoor recreation is an important part of the Florida economy. The Outdoor Industry Association has found that active outdoor recreation supports \$58.6 billion in consumer spending in Florida, 485,000 jobs across Florida which generate \$17.9 billion in wages and salaries, and produces nearly \$3.5 billion annually in state and local tax revenue. Further, the U.S. Census reports that each year 7 million people hunt, fish, or enjoy wildlife-watching in Florida, contributing over \$8.1 billion in wildlife recreation spending to the state economy.



Wildlife viewing & recreation at Biscayne NP Credit: NPS
Top: Timucuan EHP Credit NPS

SUPPORT PERMANENT REAUTHORIZATION AND FULL FUNDING FOR THE LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND



Recreation at Big Cypress NPres
Credit: NPS

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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LWCF Florida

Big Cypress National Preserve and Everglades National Park

In FY 2012, Big Cypress National Preserve and Everglades National Park received \$30 million in LWCF funding. Funding for Big Cypress will protect land that is essential to the water quality of South Florida. Through its protection and restoration as wetlands, this land will improve water quality by acting as a protective buffer between natural and urban areas and will also serve as a water storage area. Funding for the Everglades will ensure the continuation of the Florida Everglades Restoration Project, a massive undertaking by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and other stakeholders to restore the natural flow of water in the Everglades ecosystem. Restoring this piece of America's heritage has provided crucial protection to wildlife, increased access to outdoor recreation, promoted smart growth by reducing sprawl, and helped local economies through increased tourism revenues.

Fiscal Year 2019 Agency Priority Project List for Florida

Agency	Project	Amount	Delegation
FWS	Everglades Headwaters NWR and CA	\$2,000,000	Nelson, Rubio/Soto
FWS	St. Marks NWR	\$2,000,000	Nelson, Rubio/Dunn
FLP	Keystone Longleaf Preserve	\$2,300,000	Nelson, Rubio/ Gaetz

The Fiscal Year 2019 President's Budget:

The President's Fiscal Year 2019 Budget proposal would gut the Land and Water Conservation Fund, reducing the program's budget by over 100% from enacted levels. Under this proposal, no projects would be funded for federal land conservation at America's National Parks, National Forests, National Wildlife Refuges, and other public lands. State grant programs to support local recreation facilities, state parks, wildlife habitat, and other community conservation priorities would also be completely wiped out. Without robust LWCF funding in FY 2019, Florida's conservation and outdoor recreation needs could be put on hold or lost forever.

FY18 Enacted vs. FY19 Budget Request Comparison

Agency/Program	FY18 Enacted Funding	FY19 President's Budget
National Park Service	\$46,935,000	- \$1,212,000*
Bureau of Land Management	\$24,916,000	- \$6,608,000*
U.S. Forest Service	\$64,337,000	- \$17,000,000*
Fish and Wildlife Service	\$53,839,000	\$6,953,000
Sec. 6 Habitat Conservation	\$19,638,000	\$0
Forest Legacy Program	\$67,025,000	- \$4,000,000*
Highlands Conservation Act	\$10,000,000	\$0
American Battlefield Protection	\$10,000,000	\$0
State & Local Assistance	\$124,006,000	\$0
TOTAL	\$425,000,000	- \$12,867,000*

*proposed rescission of already appropriated LWCF funds

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