

# LOUISIANA

Our Land, Our Water, Our Heritage



## LWCF Funded Units in Louisiana

### Federal Program

Atchafalaya NWR  
Bayou Cocodrie NWR  
Bayou Sauvage NWR  
Big Branch Marsh NWR  
Black Bayou NWR  
Bogue Chitto NWR  
Cane River Creole NHP  
Cat Island NWR  
Grand Cote NWR  
Isle Dernieres  
Jean Lafitte NHP  
Kistachie NF  
Lake Ophelia NWR  
Louisiana Black Bear NWR  
Red River NWR  
Southeast LA NWRs  
Tensas River NWR  
Upper Ouachita NWR

**Federal Total** \$ 143,000,000

### Forest Legacy Program

\$ 340,000

### Habitat Conservation (Sec. 6)

\$ 500,000

### American Battlefield Protection Program

\$ 450,000

### State Program

Total State Grants \$ 71,700,000

**Total** \$215,990,000

## LWCF Success in Louisiana

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) has provided funding to help protect some of Louisiana's most special places and ensure recreational access for hunting, fishing and other outdoor activities. Louisiana has received approximately \$216 million in LWCF funding over the past five decades, protecting places such as the Jean Lafitte National Historic Park, Kisatchie National Forest, Tensas River, Atchafalaya, Bayou Sauvage and Bogue Chitto 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 Potomac River Hills in Morgan 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 \$500,000 in federal funds to invest in Louisiana'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 Louisiana's state and local parks including Brechtel Park in New Orleans, Lake Bistineau State Park, Lake Claiborne State Park and Lake D'Arbonne State Park.

## Economic Benefits

Active outdoor recreation is an important part of the Louisiana economy. The Outdoor Industry Association has found that active outdoor recreation generates \$12.2 billion in consumer spending in Louisiana, 103,000 jobs which generate \$3.4 billion in wages and salaries, and produces \$893 million annually in state and local tax revenue. Further, the U.S. Census reports that each year over 1.2 million people hunt, fish, or enjoy wildlife-watching in Louisiana, contributing \$2 billion in wildlife recreation spending to the state economy.



Bayou Tour Jean Lafitte NHP Credit: USFWS  
Atchafalaya NWR Credit: USFWS

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

## LWCF in Louisiana



Sportsman at Cat Island NWR  
Credit: USFWS

### Tensas River National Wildlife Refuge

The Land and Water Conservation Fund, along with other federal funds and private sources, was instrumental to protecting thousands of acres of land at Tensas River NWR. The acquisition effort linked separated portions of the refuge and provided significant opportunities for bottomland hardwood reforestation and habitat restoration, especially for the Louisiana black bear. When European settlers first arrived in the area, an estimated 25 million acres of bottomland hardwoods were seasonally flooded in the Mississippi Valley. Currently, less than 5 million acres of this valuable resource remain, fragmented and scattered throughout the valley, serving as islands of wooded habitat.

### Fiscal Year 2019 Agency Priority Project List for Louisiana

Agency	Project	Amount	Delegation
NPS	Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve	\$1,456,000	Cassidy, Kennedy/Scalise, Richmond
FLP	Clear Creek WMA FY19 Forest Legacy Project	\$3,500,000	Cassidy, Kennedy/ Johnson

### 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, Louisiana'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
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$425,000,000</b>	<b>- \$12,867,000*</b>

\*proposed rescission of already appropriated LWCF funds

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](http://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