# WASHINGTON



## Our Land, Our Water, Our Heritage

### LWCF Funded Places in Washington

**Federal Program** 

Alpine Lakes Wilderness Columbia NWR

\*Columbia River Gorge NSA

Cowiche Canyon Preserve

Dungeness NWR Ebey's Landing NHR

Fishtrap Lake Conservation Area

Grays Harbor NWR Julia Hansen NWR

Kaniksu NF

\*Lewis and Clark NHP

Moses Coulee

Mt. St. Helens NVM

Mt Baker-Snoqualmie NF

Mount Rainier NP

MTSG/I-90/Cascades

Nisqually NWR

Olympic NF

\*Pacific Crest NST
\*Pacific NW Streams

Protection Island NWR Quinault Indian Reservation

Ridgefield NWR

Rock Creek Watershed San Juan Island NHP

San Juan Islands NWR

Turnbull NWR

Washington Cascades-Yakima River

\*Wallowa-Whitman NF

Washington State Land Exchange

Wenatchee NF White Salmon WSR

Willapa NWR

**Federal Total** \$ 447.000.000

**Forest Legacy Program** 

\$46,000,000

Habitat Conservation (Sec. 6)

\$ 134,200,000

State & Local Program

**Total State Grants Total** 

\*multistate project

\$72,100,000 \$ 699,300,000

### **LWCF Success in Washington**

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) has provided funding to help protect some of Washington's most special places and ensure recreational access for hunting, fishing and other outdoor activities. Washington has received approximately \$699 million in LWCF funding over the past five decades, protecting places such as the Mount Rainier and Olympic National Parks, Pacific Crest Trail, Cascade Ecosystems, Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge and the Skagit Wild and Scenic River

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 Mount Saint Helens Forest in Washington County and Issaguah Creek Headwaters in King 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 \$46 million in federal funds to invest in Washington'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 Washington's state and local parks including Sacagawea Heritage Trail in Benton County, Fallen Leaf Lake in Clark County and Tacoma Narrows in Pierce County.

#### **Economic Benefits**

Active outdoor recreation is an important part of the Washington economy. The Outdoor Industry Association has found that active outdoor recreation contributes \$26.2 billion annually in consumer spending to Washington's economy, supports 201,000 jobs which

generate \$7.6 billion in wages and salaries and produces \$2.3 billion annually in state and local tax revenue. The U.S. Census Bureau reports that each year over 2.7 million people participate in hunting, fishing, and wildlife watching in Washington contributing over \$3 billion to the state economy.



Recreation at White Salmon WSR Credit: USFWS Top: North Cascades NP Credit: NPS

Ranger tour at Olympic NP 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

#### **LWCF** in Washington

#### Yakima River

The Yakima River is Washington's only Blue Ribbon River, attracting anglers from all over the world. LWCF funding has been key to protecting the headwaters of the Yakima River within the Wenatchee National Forest, ensuring water quality and habitat for salmon, steelhead, and bull trout. LWCF has also helped ensure public access to the river for angling, rafting, kayaking and other outdoor recreation. The project has been ranked a national priority in 2017, and funding is needed to continue to ensure this world-class outdoor resource is protected for future generations.

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

| Agency | Project  | Amount      | Delegation                          |
|--------|--|-------------|-------------------------------------|
| FWS    | Willapa NWR  | \$1,000,000 | Cantwell, Murray/Herrera<br>Beutler |
| FS     | Washington Cascades/Yakima<br>River Watershed; Okanogan-<br>Wenatchee                      | \$4,000,000 | Cantwell, Murray/Reichert           |
| FS     | Columbia River Gorge National<br>Scenic Area; Columbia River<br>Gorge National Scenic Area | \$1,400,000 | Cantwell, Murray/Herrera<br>Beutler |

#### 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, Washington'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<br>Funding | FY19 President's<br>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*            |

<sup>\*</sup>proposed rescission of already appropriated LWCF funds