



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 \$102 million to protect Nevada's forests, wildlife refuges, and increase recreation access. From backcountry trails to community parks, LWCF has protected places like Lake Mead National Recreation Area, Moapa Valley National Wildlife Refuge, Toiyabe National Forest, Valley of Fire State Park, and Ash Canyon Gateway in Carson City.

Nevada's \$12.6 billion outdoor recreation industry is an economic powerhouse – supporting 87,000 jobs which generate \$4 billion in wages and salaries and produces \$1.1 billion annually in state and local tax revenue.

Lake Mead National Recreation Area

Located 24 miles from the Las Vegas Strip, Lake Mead is the largest man-made reservoir in the country and was created by the Hoover Dam along the Colorado River, supplying water to Arizona, California and Nevada. It offers year-round recreation including water sports like boating, jet skiing, kayaking, water skiing, and swimming, as well as hiking, wildlife viewing, and more. Lake Mead has received nearly \$5 million from LWCF, protecting this desert oasis and the first ever designated National Recreation Area. With nearly 8 million visitors in 2017, Lake Mead is the 8th most visited unit in the National Park Service, making it a highly sought-after recreation destination serving the Las Vegas metropolis as well as visitors from all over the country and around the world.



Lake Mead NRA, Credit: NPS

“The Nevada Division of State Parks is grateful to have received the LWCF grant for the Pitchfork Ranch section of our newest state park [Walker River State Recreation Area], which will provide an extraordinary retreat for visitors and residents in the surrounding communities. We are looking forward to providing bountiful opportunities for individuals and families to explore the area's unique natural surroundings, wildlife, and recreational activities – all in a pristine and picturesque setting.” - Eric Johnson, Administrator of the Nevada Division of State Parks

Lake Tahoe Basin

Renowned for its startling clarity, Lake Tahoe lies in a large basin straddling the Nevada and California border in the Sierra Nevada. Both states have cooperated to enhance the lake's environmental quality working with the U.S. Forest Service, which manages 75% of the lake's watershed. LWCF investments of more than \$160 million over the years in the basin have been key to protecting the beauty and quality of the lake and surrounding forests in order to help promote public enjoyment. The lake and these investments are at the heart of efforts to invest in the region's recreation-based economy, which includes everything from skiing and snowboarding, to boating and other watersports, to backcountry hiking and mountain biking, while still protecting sensitive species and enhancing the legendary bright blue water that makes Lake Tahoe such a special place.



Lake Tahoe
Credit: Christian Arballo Photography, Flickr

#SaveLWCF to save the places we love in Nevada!

www.lwcfcoalition.org/lwcf52weeks/