

COLORADO

Our Land, Our Water, Our Heritage



LWCF Funded Places in Colorado

Federal Program

- Arapaho NF/Arapaho NRA
- Arkansas River SRMA
- Baca Ranch/NWR
- Black Canyon of the Gunnison NP
- Blanca Wildlife Habitat Area
- Canyons of the Ancients NM
- Colorado Canyons NCA
- Colorado NWRs & NFs
- Colorado NM
- CO River/Ruby Canyon NCA
- Comanche Nat Grassland
- Cross Mountain NCA
- Cross Mountain Ranch Hunting & Fishing Access
- Dominguez-Escalante NCA
- Garden Park Fossil Area
- Golden Bair Ranch
- Grand Mesa Slopes SMA
- Great Sand Dunes NP
- Gunnison Basin ACEC
- Gunnison Gorge NCA
- Gunnison NF
- Lake Fork of Gunnison SMA
- McIntire Spring/Conejos River
- Mesa Verde NP
- Perins Peak WHA
- Powderhorn WSA
- Rio Grande NF
- Rocky Mountain NP
- Roosevelt NF
- Ruby Mountain
- Sand Creek Massacre NHS
- San Miguel River
- *Sangre de Cristo CA
- Two Ponds NWR
- Unaweep/Tabeguache NSB
- Uncompahgre/San Juan NF
- Upper Huerfano River EMA
- Upper Colorado River SRMA
- White River NF
- Federal Total** \$ 190,700,000
- Forest Legacy Program** \$ 22,600,000
- Habitat Conservation (Sec. 6)** \$ 1,800,000
- State Program**
- Total State Grants \$63,500,000
- Total** \$278,600,000

LWCF Success in Colorado

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) has provided funding to help protect some of Colorado's most special places and ensure recreational access for hunting, fishing and other outdoor activities. Colorado has received approximately \$278.6 million in LWCF funding over the past five decades, protecting places such as the Great Sand Dunes National Park, Uncompahgre, Arapahoe-Roosevelt, Gunnison and Rio Grande National Forests, and Canyon of the Ancients National Monument.

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 Catspaw Ranch along the headwaters of the Navajo River in Southern Colorado and Ben Delatour Scout Ranch along the Front Range near Fort Collins. 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 \$22.6 million in federal funds to invest in Colorado'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 Colorado's state and local parks including trails development in Lory and Cheyenne Mountain State Parks and park acquisitions at Golden Gate Canyon, Boyd Lake, and Roxborough State Parks.

Economic Benefits

Active outdoor recreation is an important part of the Colorado economy. The Outdoor Industry Association has found that active outdoor recreation generates \$28 billion in consumer spending in Colorado, 229,000 jobs which generate \$9.7 billion in wages and salaries, and produces \$2 billion annually in state and local tax revenue. Further, the U.S. Census reports that each year over 2.2 million people hunt, fish, or enjoy wildlife-watching in Colorado, contributing \$3 billion in wildlife recreation spending to the state economy.

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

LWCF in Colorado

Cross Mountain Ranch

LWCF funding in FY2013 was used to acquire the 920 acre Cross Mountain Ranch on the Yampa River in northwest Colorado. Previously, access to the area was difficult at best because the only feasible routes were through private property or by boat. Now, the conservation lands, as well as the access they provide, are open to all hunters, anglers, boaters, hikers and other outdoor recreationists. The project area includes 2.8 miles of frontage on the Yampa River and provides habitat to 400 elk (including a large number of trophy bulls), mule deer and all four species of Colorado warm-water fish.

Fiscal Year 2020 Agency Priority Project List for Colorado

Agency	Project	Amount	Delegation
BLM	McInnis Canyons National Conservation Area	\$600,000	Bennet, Gardner/Tipton
FLP	Navajo River Headwaters	\$7,000,000	Bennet, Gardner/Tipton

The Fiscal Year 2020 President's Budget:

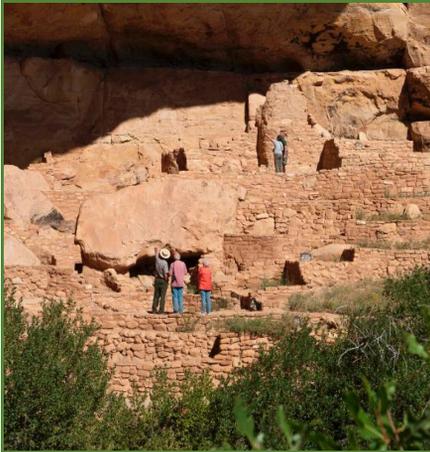
The President's Fiscal Year 2020 Budget proposal would gut the Land and Water Conservation Fund, reducing the program's budget by over 105% from enacted levels. Under this proposal, no projects would be funded for federal land conservation at America's National Parks, National Forests, National Wildlife 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 2020, Colorado's conservation and outdoor recreation needs could be put on hold or lost forever.

FY19 Enacted vs. FY20 Budget Request Comparison

Agency/Program	FY19 Enacted Funding	FY20 President's Budget
National Park Service	\$34,438,000	-\$172,000*
Bureau of Land Management	\$28,316,000	- \$10,000,000*
U.S. Forest Service	\$72,564,000	\$0
Fish and Wildlife Service	\$45,189,000	\$4,540,000
Sec. 6 Habitat Conservation	\$30,800,000	-\$31,008,000*
Forest Legacy Program	\$63,990,000	\$0
Highlands Conservation Act	\$20,000,000	\$0
American Battlefield Protection	\$10,000,000	\$5,000,000
State & Local Assistance	\$124,006,000	\$0
Appraisal and Valuation Services Office	\$9,000,000	\$8,190,000
TOTAL	\$435,000,000	- \$23,450,000*

*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



Step House, Mesa Verde 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

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