

OREGON

Our Land, Our Water, Our Heritage



LWCF Funded Places in Oregon

Federal Program

Grande Ronde WSR/ACEC
Bandon Marsh NWR
Bear Valley NWR
Cascade Head NSA
Cascade Siskiyou NM
*Columbia River Gorge NSA
Criterion Ranch
Fort Clatsop NMem
Hart Mountain Antelope Range
Hells Canyon NRA
Jacksonville Woodlands Historical Park
John Day Fossil Beds NM
John Day National WSR
Klamath Forest NWR
*Lewis and Clark NHP
Malheur NF
Mt Hood NF
Nestucca Bay NWR
New River ACEC
Nez Perce NHP
North Umpqua National WSR
Paulina Guard Station
Oregon Coastal Refuges
Oregon NFs
Oregon City
Oregon Trail NHT
Oregon Dunes NRA
Oregon Islands NWR
Owyhee WSR
*Pacific Crest NST
*Pacific Northwest Streams
Rogue WSR
Sandy River/Oregon NHT
Siletz Bay NWR
Siskiyou NF
Siuslaw NF
Snake River Breaks ERMA
Steens Mountain
Three Sisters Wilderness
Tualatin NWR
Upper Klamath Lake NWR
*Wallowa-Whitman NF
Warner Basin ACEC
West Eugene Wetlands
Williamette NF
Wood River Ranch
Yaquina Head

Federal Total \$ 250,100,000

LWCF Success in Oregon

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) has provided funding to help protect some of Oregon's most special places and ensure recreational access for hunting, fishing and other outdoor activities. Oregon has received approximately \$335.6 million in LWCF funding over the past five decades, protecting places such as the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, Oregon Coast Wildlife Refuges, West Eugene Wetlands, Hells Canyon National Recreation Area and the Oregon National Historic Trail.

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 South Eugene Hills in Lane 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 \$12.5 million in federal funds to invest in Oregon'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 Oregon's state and local parks including the Tualatin Hills Nature Park in Beaverton to Volunteer Park in Springfield, to Sawyer Park in Bend and Fern Hill Park in Portland.

Economic Benefits

The Outdoor Industry Association has found that active outdoor recreation generates \$16.4 billion annually in consumer spending in Oregon, supports 172,000 jobs across the state which generate \$5.1 billion in wages and salaries and produces \$749 million annually in state and local tax revenue. The U.S. Census Bureau reports that each year over 1.8 million people participated in hunting, fishing, and wildlife watching in Oregon contributing \$2 billion to the state economy.



Recreation at Hells Canyon NRA Credit: USFS
Top: Mt Hood NF Credit: USFS

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

Forest Legacy Program

\$ 12,500,000

Habitat Conservation (Sec.6)

\$ 9,000,000

State & Local Program

Total State Grants \$ 63,500,000

Total \$ 335,600,000



Oregon NHT 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 Oregon

Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area

The Columbia River Gorge is a spectacular river canyon, 80 miles long and up to 4,000 feet deep, cutting the only sea level route through the Cascade Mountain Range. It is more than a natural wonder; the Gorge is a critical transportation corridor and is home to 75,000 people, resource dependent communities, farms and schools. The Gorge offers a multitude of outdoor recreational opportunities, including biking, fishing, camping and canoeing. Sections of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail and the Pacific Crest Trail pass through the Gorge, offering excellent hiking opportunities. LWCF has helped protect many parts of this National Scenic Area, which the Forest Service estimates receives over 2.3 million visitors per year.

Fiscal Year 2020 Agency Priority Project List for Oregon

Agency	Project	Amount	Delegation
BLM	Sandy River	\$500,000	Wyden, Merkley/Blumenauer
BLM	Table Rocks SRMA	\$2,700,000	Wyden, Merkley/Walden
NPS	Lewis and Clark NHT	\$2,555,000	Wyden, Merkley/Bonamici
FS	Wasson Creek; Siuslaw	\$4,268,000	Merkley, Wyden/DeFazio, Schrader
FS	Three Rivers; Siuslaw	\$720,000	Wyden, Merkley/DeFazio
FLP	Hood River Forest and Fish Conservation Project Phase III	\$5,000,000	Merkley, Wyden/Walden
FLP	Arch Cape Watershed	\$1,000,000	Wyden, Merkley/Bonamici

Status of the Land and Water Conservation Fund

In 2019, permanent authorization of LWCF was secured as part of S. 47, the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act. Passage of the Dingell Act ensures that LWCF no longer faces the uncertainty of potential expiration, and that the unique structure and inflow of funds to LWCF is protected. The focus is now on permanent full funding for LWCF – ensuring that each year the \$900 million deposited into the LWCF account actually goes towards conservation and recreation priorities. Over the 55 years of the program, over \$22 billion has been diverted from LWCF to other, unknown purposes. That means that our public lands, waters, and historic sites have been put in peril. As open space continues to shrink, LWCF investments become even more critical to providing the outdoor opportunities for all future generations

The Land and Water Conservation Fund Permanent Funding Act – S. 1081 and H.R. 3195 – have passed through their respective committees and are ready for floor votes in both chambers.