

Our Land, Our Water, Our Heritage

LWCF in PENNSYLVANIA

HELP PROTECT PENNSYLVANIA'S QUALITY OF LIFE BY SUPPORTING FULL FUNDING FOR THE LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND

LWCF Funded Units in Pennsylvania

Federal Program

Allegheny NF
Allegheny Portage NHS
*Appalachian Trail
Brandywine Battlefield
Cherry Valley NWR
*Delaware Water Gap NRA
Flight 93 NMem
Fort Necessity NB
Friendship Hill NHS
Gettysburg NMP
Grey Towers NHS
*Highlands Conservation Act
Independence NHP
John Heinz Tinicum NWR
Johnstown Flood NMem
Paoli Battlefield
Upper Delaware SRR
Valley Forge NHP

Federal Total \$ 132,400,000

Forest Legacy Program

\$ 8,000,000

Habitat Conservation (Sec.6)

\$ 262,000

American Battlefield Protection Program

\$ 4,400,000

State & Local Program

Total State Grants \$ 164,700,000

Total \$ 309,800,000

*multistate project



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LWCF Success in Pennsylvania

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) has provided funding to help protect some of Pennsylvania's most special places and ensure recreational access for hunting, fishing and other outdoor activities. Pennsylvania has received approximately \$309.8 million in LWCF funding over the past five decades, protecting places such as the Flight 93 National Memorial, Gettysburg National Military Park, Valley Forge National Historical Park, Appalachian National Scenic Trail and the Allegheny National Forest. Recently, LWCF funds were also used to help found the Cherry Valley National Wildlife Refuge.

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 Tree Farm at Michaux State Forest in Adams County and the Birdsboro Waters project in Berks 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 \$8 million in federal funds to invest \$12 million in Pennsylvania'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 Pennsylvania's state and local parks including the Mt. Pisgah State Park, Ricketts Glen State Park, and the Delaware State Forest.

Economic Benefits

The Outdoor Industry Association has found that active outdoor recreation generates \$29.1 billion annually in consumer spending in Pennsylvania, supports 251,000 jobs across the state which generate \$8.6 billion in wages and salaries and produces \$1.9 billion annually in state and local tax revenue. The U.S. Census Bureau reports that each year over 5.4 million people participated in hunting, fishing, and wildlife watching in Pennsylvania contributing \$5.4 billion to the state economy.



Flight 93 NM Credit: NPS
Top: Gettysburg NMP Credit: NPS

LWCF in Pennsylvania

Flight 93 National Memorial

On the morning of September 11, after hearing word about the hijacking of other planes and the horrific destruction in New York City and the Pentagon, the passengers and crew of Flight 93 made a collective and daring decision to take action. Working together, they fought for control of the plane, ultimately crashing it in a field near Shanksville, Pennsylvania and thereby thwarting an attack on the U.S. Capitol building - its intended target. All aboard including 37 passengers and 7 crew members died bravely to save lives and prevent another deadly attack. Honoring the passengers and crew and marking their place in history has been essential for our collective healing, remembrance and inspiration. LWCF contributed \$10 million to the acquisition of the property on which the Memorial is located and scenic easements in the surrounding area.



Cherry Valley NWR
Credit: USFWS

Fiscal Year 2018 Agency Priority Project List for Pennsylvania

Agency	Project	Amount	Delegation
FWS	Cherry Valley NWR	\$2,500,000	Casey, Toomey/ Cartwright
FLP	Northeast Connection	\$2,400,000	Casey, Toomey/Marino

The Fiscal Year 2018 President's Budget:

The President's Fiscal Year 2018 Budget proposal would virtually eliminate the Land and Water Conservation Fund, reducing the program's budget by nearly 85% from this year's enacted level. Under this proposal, funding for federal land conservation at America's National Parks, National Forests, National Wildlife Refuges and other public lands would be slashed as much as 89%. State grant programs to support local recreation facilities, state parks, wildlife habitat and other community conservation priorities would also be largely wiped out. Working forest protection—which opens up public access and protects drinking water supplies while still keeping jobs in the woods—is eliminated altogether. Without robust LWCF funding in FY 2018, Pennsylvania's conservation and outdoor recreation needs could be put on hold or lost forever.

FY17 Enacted vs. FY18 Budget Request Comparison

Agency/Program	FY17 Enacted Funding	FY18 President's Budget
National Park Service	\$42,023,000	\$14,856,000
Bureau of Land Management	\$31,416,000	\$3,609,000
U.S. Forest Service	\$54,415,000	\$7,000,000
Fish and Wildlife Service	\$49,995,000	\$17,051,000
Sec. 6 Habitat Conservation	\$30,800,000	\$0
Forest Legacy Program	\$62,347,000	\$0
Highlands Conservation Act	\$10,000,000	\$0
American Battlefield Protection	\$10,000,000	\$8,481,000
State & Local Assistance	\$110,006,000	\$3,043,000

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.



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