



LWCFCoalition.org

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NEWS RELEASE

LWCF Coalition Praises Senate FY 2022 Appropriations Bill

WASHINGTON – The LWCF Coalition today praised the significant commitment to conservation in the Senate’s FY 2022 Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies appropriations bill, which allocates the \$900 million in funding available this year for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). The following statement can be attributed to Tom Cors, director of government relations for lands at The Nature Conservancy and a spokesman for the coalition:

“This bill would make critical investments in our public lands and waters to meet conservation and recreation needs across the country. The LWCF Coalition commends the Subcommittee for following both the letter and the spirit of the Dingell Act, prioritizing federal, state and local conservation projects as Congress can and should do under that law to strike a critical balance and meet a wide array of community needs. We are especially grateful to see the rejection of the practice of rescissions from previous years, ensuring that LWCF funds remain available for their intended purposes. Earlier this year, 46 bipartisan Senators signed a letter supporting those principles and advocating for LWCF to receive the \$900 million the fund is guaranteed by the Great American Outdoors Act.

“We are committed to ensuring LWCF’s flexible tools are used to increase climate resilience and sequester carbon, to bolster and expand the outdoor recreation economy, and to foster equitable access to nature for all Americans. We are particularly grateful for the commitment to these principles that Senate Appropriations Chairman Patrick Leahy and Subcommittee Chairman Jeff Merkley have shown in this legislation. There is a long list of ready-to-go LWCF conservation and recreation projects across the country, and the Subcommittee’s efforts will ensure that many of them move forward as planned.”

About the Land and Water Conservation Fund

LWCF is America’s most important conservation program, responsible for protecting parks, wildlife refuges and recreation areas at the federal, state and local level. For over half a century, it has provided critical funding for land and water conservation projects, recreational construction and activities and the continued historic preservation of our nation’s iconic landmarks from coast-to-coast. LWCF does not use any taxpayer dollars – it is funded using a small portion of revenues from offshore oil and gas royalty payments. Outdoor recreation, conservation and historic preservation activities contribute more than \$778 billion annually to the U.S. economy, supporting 5.2 million jobs.

About the LWCF Coalition

The LWCF Coalition is the umbrella group of more than 1,000 state and local landowners, small businesses, ranchers, sportsmen, veterans, outdoor recreationists and conservation organizations working to protect America's public lands and safeguard our shared outdoor heritage for future generations. For more information on LWCF and the places in each state that have been protected using LWCF funds, visit www.lwcfcoalition.org.