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NEWS RELEASE

LWCF Coalition Celebrates FY 2022 Appropriations Bill

WASHINGTON – The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Coalition today praised the passage of the fiscal year 2022 appropriations package. The legislation allocates the \$900 million in mandatory funding available this year for LWCF, moving critical projects and grant opportunities forward. The following statement can be attributed to Tom Cors, director of U.S. government relations for lands at The Nature Conservancy.

“The LWCF Coalition commends both House and Senate appropriators for coming together to pass a bipartisan spending package that balances federal, state and local conservation and recreation priorities across LWCF’s ten sub-programs. In the first full year of LWCF’s full, dedicated funding, we are glad to see the bill meet the minimum funding floor of \$900 million set by the Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA) and thankful that harmful rescissions of prior year funding were not included in this year’s package as has been the practice in recent years. Last spring, [a bipartisan group of 46 senators](#) and [192 members of the House](#) signed letters supporting these principles and advocating for LWCF to receive at least the \$900 million the fund is guaranteed by GAOA.

“This important investment in LWCF will provide funding to every corner of the country to increase recreation access for all, build climate resilience, protect drinking water, sequester carbon and conserve critical wildlife habitat. We look forward to working with the House, Senate and the administration to grow LWCF to meet the ever-increasing demand for ready-to-go projects in every state and territory in the next fiscal year and beyond. In that context, we hope Congress will continue to fund additional priorities in future years through reprogramming and congressionally directed spending requests, and that these items will be additive to the LWCF program base funding of \$900 million. This is critical to guaranteeing that every LWCF program and line-item account receives increased, robust funding to support vital conservation and recreation priorities.”

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.