



**LWCFCoalition.com**

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## **House Natural Resources Committee Votes to Provide Full Dedicated Funding for LWCF**

**WASHINGTON** – The House Natural Resources Committee today voted to advance legislation to provide full, dedicated funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). The bill (H.R.3195), the Land and Water Conservation Fund Permanent Funding Act, is a House companion to S. 1081 and was introduced by Rep. Jeff Van Drew (D-N.J.), Committee Chair Raúl Grijalva (D-AZ), and Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA).

Passage of the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management and Recreation Act (Dingell Act) earlier this year permanently reauthorized LWCF after a lengthy effort in Congress. On the heels of this major victory, today's vote continues a commitment to LWCF to ensure that the program receives full and dedicated funding each year.

*The following statement can be attributed to Jonathan Asher, Government Relations Director at The Wilderness Society and a spokesman for the LWCF Coalition:*

“The LWCF Coalition applauds Representative Van Drew, Chair Grijalva and the members of the House Natural Resources Committee for approving legislation to fully fund the Land and Water Conservation Fund. For too long, LWCF funds have been siphoned off for non-conservation government spending. H.R. 3195 is a simple fix to restore honest budgeting to America's most important conservation and recreation program.

“Congress has permanently protected LWCF's unique structure and funding source, which was a critically important step. Now, we must ensure the funding goes where it is intended. The LWCF Coalition urges Congress to pass this legislation to ensure LWCF gets permanent, full, and dedicated funding.”

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**About the Land and Water Conservation Fund**

The Land and Water Conservation Fund is America's most important conservation and recreation program, responsible for protecting parks, trails, wildlife refuges and recreation areas at the federal, state and local level. For more than 50 years, it has provided critical funding for land and water conservation projects, access to recreation including hunting and fishing, 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 \$887 billion annually to the U.S. economy, supporting 7.6 million jobs.

### **About the LWCF Coalition**

The LWCF Coalition is comprised of more than 1,000 state and regional conservation and recreation organizations of all sizes, land owners, small businesses, ranchers, sportsmen, veterans, the outdoor recreation industry and conservationists working together to protect America's public lands and safeguard our shared outdoor heritage for future generations.

The Coalition is united in its advocacy for full, dedicated funding of the Land and Water Conservation Fund, which will ensure the continued conservation of our national parks, forests, wildlife refuges, wilderness, civil war battlefields, working lands and state and local parks. For more information on LWCF and the places in each state that LWCF funds have protected, visit [www.lwcfcoalition.com](http://www.lwcfcoalition.com)