



**LWCFCoalition.com**

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**NEWS RELEASE**

## **Conservation Champion Deb Haaland Confirmed as Secretary of the Interior**

***Historic Cabinet Pick will Lead Department During Critical Time  
for Land and Water Conservation Fund***

WASHINGTON – The LWCF Coalition today applauded Senate confirmation of Congresswoman Deb Haaland to serve as the first Native American Secretary of the Interior. Secretary Haaland will lead the Department at an exciting moment for LWCF, including implementation of the Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA) and the Biden Administration’s ambitious goals of conserving thirty percent of America’s public lands and waters by 2030 (30 X 30). During her confirmation hearing on February 24, Secretary [Haaland reiterated her commitment to direct LWCF’s dedicated full funding to priority conservation needs across the country.](#)

“Secretary Haaland’s confirmation represents an historic opportunity to bring the benefits of a fully funded LWCF to every community in the U.S.,” said Lesley Kane, Chair of the LWCF Coalition. “LWCF will also be instrumental in achieving the President’s goal of conserving 30% of America’s lands and waters by 2030. This is a moment of unprecedented opportunity for increasing access to nature for all, but it does not come without challenges. We appreciate Secretary Haaland’s history of staunch support and look forward to her leadership as the Department relies on LWCF to safeguard iconic landscapes, provide close to home recreation in every community in the U.S., support millions of outdoor recreation-related jobs, and grow the economy.”

### **About the Land and Water Conservation Fund**

The Land and Water Conservation Fund is America’s most important conservation program, responsible for protecting parks, wildlife refuges and recreation areas at the federal, state and local level. For 55 years, 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 land owners, 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](http://www.lwcfcoalition.org).