

Oklahoma

Our Land, Our Water, Our Heritage



LWCF Funded Places in Oklahoma

Federal Units

- Chickasaw NRA
- Deep Fork NWR
- Little River NWR
- Ouachita NF
- Ozark Plateau NWR
- Tishomingo NWR
- Washita Battlefield NHS

Federal Total \$11,122,218

State Programs

Habitat Conservation (Sec. 6)	\$1,958,187
American Battlefield Protection Program	\$259,125
Stateside	\$63,094,594

Total \$76,434,124

LWCF Success in Oklahoma

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) has provided funding to help protect some of Oklahoma's most special places and ensure recreational access for hunting, fishing and other outdoor activities. Oklahoma has received approximately \$76.4 million over the past five decades, protecting places such as the Ozark Plateau and Deep Fork National Wildlife Refuges, and Fort Smith National Historic Site.

Throughout its history, the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) has provided funding to help protect some of Oklahoma's most special places and ensure recreational access for hunting, fishing and other outdoor activities. Public lands such as the National Park Service's Chickasaw National Recreation Area, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Tishomingo National Wildlife Refuge, and Wichita NEC.

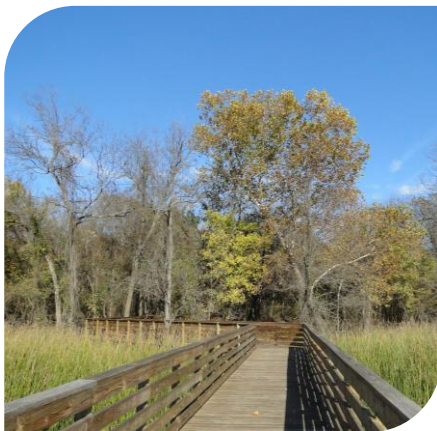
LWCF state assistance grants have further supported hundreds of projects across Oklahoma's state and local parks including Oklahoma City Youth Park, Beavers Bend State Park, and Fort Cobb State Park Campground. Additionally, the Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Program (ORLP), has annual funding opportunities for city park projects in economically disadvantaged areas.



Economic Benefits

Active outdoor recreation is an important part of Oklahoma's economy. The Bureau of Economic Analysis has found that outdoor recreation generates \$4.5 billion in value added to Oklahoma's economy, 48,852 homegrown jobs, and accounts for 1.9% of the state's economy. Further, the U.S. Census reports that each year 1.7 million people hunt, fish, or enjoy wildlife-watching in Oklahoma, contributing over \$1.4 billion in wildlife recreation spending to the state economy.





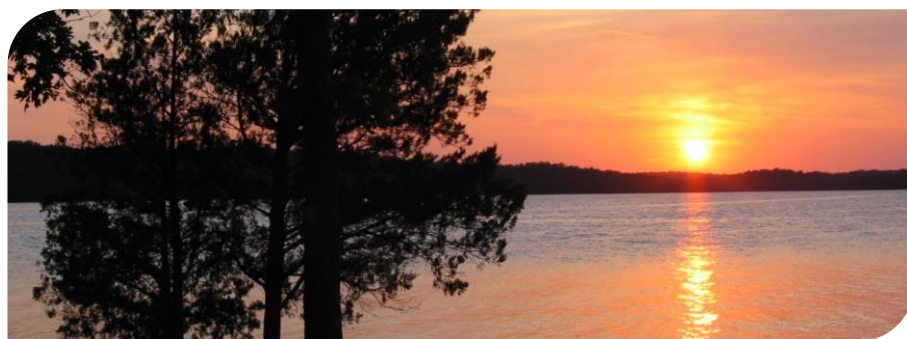
LWCF in Oklahoma

Chickasaw National Recreation Area

Located on almost 10,000 acres of land in south central Oklahoma, the Chickasaw National Recreation Area hosts roughly 1.3 million visitors per year. Chickasaw protects the areas natural resources, including animal and plant habitat, while providing visitors with exceptional recreational and cultural opportunities. The area is divided into two parts: the Platt Historic District and the Lake of the Arbuckles. The Platt Historic District housed a Civilian Conservation Corps camp which focused on masonry, forestry, and landscaping work. Today, guests can visit many remodeled houses from this camp. Lake of the Arbuckles provides many great recreational opportunities, including boating, swimming, fishing, hunting, hiking, and bicycling. LWCF funds were instrumental in providing the balance between conservation and recreation found in Chickasaw National Recreation Area.

Fiscal Year 2025 Agency LWCF Project List for Oklahoma

Agency	Project	Amount	Delegation
FLP	Musket Mountain Forest	\$15,915,000	Lankford, Mullin/Brecheen



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, for 55 years the promise of LWCF was broken as \$22 billion was diverted from the program.

The **Great American Outdoors Act** ended the diversion and ensures that LWCF's permanently authorized \$900 million is used for conservation and recreation projects each year.

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.



www.lwcfcoalition.org

Status of the Land and Water Conservation Fund

In August 2020, permanent, dedicated funding for LWCF was secured through the Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA) – ensuring that each year the \$900 million deposited into the LWCF account is directed to conservation and recreation priorities; however, in FY24 Congress backtracked on that promise when they rescinded \$94 million of unobligated LWCF funding (\$89M from the NPS State & Local Assistance Program & \$5M from BLM). GAOA has not eliminated the backlog of LWCF priorities that are waiting in line as nearly all LWCF programs remain oversubscribed - each year the LWCF supplemental project list includes about \$200 million in urgent needs that are authorized to use this funding. To support these critical projects, unspent LWCF funding should be reallocated to the states by the Secretary of the Interior (per the LWCF Act) or reprogrammed by Congress to LWCF sub-programs with outstanding funding need. If funding is rescinded rather than reallocated or reprogrammed, landowners and communities miss out on LWCF funding, and these critical priorities could be lost forever.

FY25 Budget Update: The Biden Administration's FY25 budget proposal included detailed LWCF priority project lists and balanced program allocations, as well supplemental project lists over and above LWCF's current \$900 million funding level. [Click here to view a map of past LWCF projects](#)