



land and water conservation fund

STATE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

2008 ANNUAL REPORT



National Park Service
Land and Water Conservation Fund



National Program Goals

Reflecting the goals of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Act, the goals of the LWCF State Assistance Program are:

- Meet state and locally identified public outdoor recreation resources needs to strengthen the health and vitality of the American People.
- Increase the number of protected state and local outdoor recreation resources and ensure their availability for public use in perpetuity.
- Encourage sound planning and long-term partnerships to expand the quantity and ensure the quality of needed state and local outdoor recreation resources.



COEUR d'ALENE, IDAHO: Tubbs Hill Park

LWCF provided critical funding to help acquire and preserve this stunning urban forest. Today, a 2.2-mile loop trail provides spectacular scenic vistas of Lake Coeur d'Alene and unparalleled access to close to home recreation in the heart of Coeur d'Alene.

Image: John Schwandt

supporting recreation

close to home



I am pleased to share this annual report of the Land and Water Conservation Fund's State Assistance Program for Fiscal Year 2008. The program's accomplishments continue to reflect a high level of performance in providing millions of American families with everyday recreation opportunities which are conveniently located "close to home" in thousands of communities nationwide.

This program is not an effort by the National Park Service alone. For more than 43 years now, the Land and Water Conservation Fund has been working in partnership with states and communities to support, enhance and create public parks for the benefit and use of all. It is one of the best reflections of our goal to cooperate with partners in extending the benefits of outdoor recreation throughout our nation.

All of us in the Fund's State Assistance Program are proud to work with our partners all across America, especially with our state partners to reconnect people with parks and to strengthen and grow the capacity of our recreation facilities to serve them. This report shows our collective best for 2008. On behalf of all Americans, we pledge to do even more in the years ahead.

Lindi L. Harvey
Deputy Director, Support Services
National Park Service

new park highlights

In 2008, the quality of life in more than 300 communities was enhanced by new parklands or improved facilities for outdoor recreation.



WATERBURY, VERMONT: Natural Playground

The Natural Playground at Thatcher Brook Primary School is an excellent example of an innovative built environment that fosters creative play among children. The project was a terrific community effort including many volunteer hours to create a kid's paradise.

Steve Lotspeich, Community Planner
Town and Village of Waterbury

new park highlights

KANSAS: Hillsdale State Park



LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ACHIEVEMENTS

Grant Dollars	\$37,721,350*
Matching Dollars Leveraged	\$61,360,262
Recreation Areas Funded	315
New Acres Permanently Protected	53,060

*includes some prior year funds

“This park has quickly become a hub for toddlers and young adults, and the boardwalk/trail system offers a quiet relaxing stroll through northwest woodlands and along a salmon-bearing stream.”

Brian Meyer,
Park Maintenance Supervisor
Woodinville, Washington



CLOSE TO HOME RECREATION IMPROVEMENTS to the 18-acre Rotary Community Park provide an inviting urban forest environment, pedestrian and bicycle trails, and a wide variety of active recreational opportunities. The heavily forested park, which features a half-mile trail along the creek was designed as an outdoor environmental classroom with interpretive facilities, salmon viewing platforms, wetland boardwalks and paths.

The park also features components designed to serve at-risk youth and support latch-key programs. These facilities include a concrete BMX/skatepark with a barrier-free events plaza, picnic tables, and a multi-purpose play court. In addition, there are trails, a playground, picnic shelter, and a pedestrian/bicycle path that connects the park to adjacent neighborhoods.



WOODINVILLE, WASHINGTON: Rotary Community Park



LUDINGTON, MICHIGAN:
Stearns Skate Park



SPEARFISH CANYON, SOUTH DAKOTA:
Roughlock Falls Nature Area



NASHUA, NEW HAMPSHIRE:
June Caron Park

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN FY 2008

I know what a community can do when it bands together for a cause. This park has made intergenerational connections which have truly enhanced our community.

Heather L.V. Loney, Director
Ludington Community Development

No single perspective adequately tells the whole story of the Land and Water Conservation Fund's impact, but collectively our performance measures provide a better picture of the program's wide-ranging impacts:

DIRECT COMMUNITY IMPACT: In FY 2008, 47 states, the District of Columbia and Guam obligated \$37.7 million dollars in LWCF federal grant monies to acquire recreation lands, and to develop new and upgrade outdoor recreation facilities. This much-needed assistance made a direct impact on park and recreation facilities in or near 305 local communities and helped "encourage active participation to strengthen the health and vitality of the citizens of the United States (Public Law 88-578)."

NEW PARK LANDS PERMANENTLY PROTECTED: In FY 2008, a total of 7,937 new acres were made available for recreation use and enjoyment. In many communities, these acres mean brand new parks and recreation facilities. Examples are included in the Project Sites list at the end of this report.

BUILDING AND UPGRADING PARKS: For most communities, meeting citizen needs for recreation and physical activity is a three-fold challenge: acquiring land for recreation, developing new recreation facilities and enhancing existing facilities. In FY 2008, 273 local park and recreation areas were enhanced with grants to develop new or rehabilitate existing outdoor recreation and support facilities. Almost 66% of these LWCF-assisted sites (180) benefited from entirely new recreation facilities, site improvements or enhancements.

PROTECTING PARKS FOREVER: Finally, beyond the program's direct assistance to develop and enhance facilities, every assisted site is protected against conversion to non-recreation use to ensure the federal and state/local investment remains available, not just for today's citizens, but for all future generations of Americans. In FY 2008, LWCF stewardship protection was expanded by a total of 53,060 acres and 155 park sites.

accomplishments

NATIONAL PROGRAM GOAL	PERFORMANCE GOAL	PERFORMANCE MEASURE	SUCCESS
1. Meet state and locally identified public outdoor recreation resources needs to strengthen the health and vitality of the American People.	1. Increase the quantity of outdoor recreation resources for public use and enjoyment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of new parks created for public outdoor recreation use and enjoyment. • Number of new acres of land and water made available for public outdoor recreation use and enjoyment. • Number of parks where new outdoor recreation facilities were developed. 	33 parks 7,937 acres 180 parks
	2. Enhance the quality of outdoor recreation resources for public use and enjoyment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of parks enhanced through new development or rehabilitation of outdoor recreation and support facilities. 	273 parks
	3. Ensure close-to-home public outdoor recreation resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of local jurisdictions where LWCF grant projects are located. 	305
2. Increase the number of protected state and local outdoor recreation resources and ensure their availability for public use in perpetuity.	4. Increase the number of acres of protected outdoor recreation resources for public use and enjoyment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of new acres protected. • Number of new sites protected under the LWCF Program. 	53,060 acres 155 sites
	5. Ensure that outdoor recreation resources funded through the LWCF Program are retained and used for public outdoor recreation in perpetuity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of LWCF projects inspected and determined to be open for public outdoor recreation use. • Percent of inspected acres funded by the LWCF determined to be open for public outdoor recreation use. 	4,569 projects 100% of inspected acres
3. Encourage sound planning and long-term partnerships to expand the quantity and ensure the quality of needed state and local outdoor recreation resources.	6. Stimulate planning initiatives to help states identify outdoor recreation needs and establish the implementation strategies to meet those needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total number of approved SCORP plans. • Number of SCORP plans that were updated in 2008. 	54 plans 7 plans
	7. Leverage local and state matching investments that support outdoor recreation projects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of projects that exceed the 50% non-federal match. 	51 projects

parks and recreation needs

THE NATIONAL NEED FOR PARKS AND RECREATION: \$27 BILLION IN 2008

To measure the national need for public outdoor recreation facilities and parkland acquisition at the state and local level, the National Park Service annually requests each state to estimate the total amount of requests for financial assistance that were not funded for the past fiscal year. With all fifty states responding, this chart demonstrates a consistent picture of increasing national demand for recreation facility development and parkland acquisition funding: 88% of the states reported that 95% of funding needs are unmet.

This year's substantial increase in estimated unmet need from the 2007 report reflects our continuing efforts in working with states to formulate comprehensive estimates beyond their unfunded LWCF applications, to reflect a total estimated unmet need for outdoor recreation facilities, regardless of potential funding source. This year more States were able to add local unmet needs to their State park system needs. Both factors (going beyond unfunded LWCF requests and adding local needs) help account for the increase in numbers over 2007.

* Unmet needs shown are as reported by each applicable State.
NR= Not Reporting.

2008 LWCF UNMET NEEDS

STATE	2008 LWCF APPORTIONMENT	UNMET NEED*	% UNMET NEED
Alabama	\$363,309	\$52,000,000	99%
Alaska	\$208,984	\$5,066,831	96%
Arizona	\$441,526	\$45,000,000	99%
Arkansas	\$288,434	\$10,000,000	97%
California	\$1,962,145	\$2,270,000,000	100%
Colorado	\$394,719	\$454,000,000	100%
Connecticut	\$353,642	\$89,000,000	100%
Delaware	\$219,272	\$16,525,000	99%
Florida	\$996,988	\$8,237,806,653	100%
Georgia	\$555,911	\$9,000,000,000	100%
Hawaii	\$244,054	\$23,230,946	99%
Idaho	\$238,610	\$4,126,716	95%
Illinois	\$809,807	\$9,824,200	92%
Indiana	\$458,033	\$469,000,000	100%
Iowa	\$306,053	\$1,407,169	82%
Kansas	\$304,261	\$41,900,900	99%
Kentucky	\$347,118	\$11,300,000	97%
Louisiana	\$387,192	\$172,670,361	100%
Maine	\$227,770	\$15,000,000	99%
Maryland	\$446,608	\$9,894,760	96%
Massachusetts	\$509,388	\$72,000,000	99%
Michigan	\$645,042	\$71,662,658	99%
Minnesota	\$405,455	\$70,000,000	99%
Mississippi	\$292,091	\$50,000,000	99%
Missouri	\$433,651	\$63,844,830	99%
Montana	\$217,966	\$347,639,013	100%
Nebraska	\$258,756	\$95,225,000	100%
Nevada	\$284,737	\$8,033,424	97%
New Hampshire	\$233,390	\$1,115,000	83%
New Jersey	\$623,567	\$399,697,536	100%
New Mexico	\$266,457	\$22,500,000	99%
New York	\$1,139,569	\$104,368,200	99%
North Carolina	\$522,201	\$1,351,000,000	100%
North Dakota	\$207,789	\$4,031,019	95%
Ohio	\$720,218	\$14,886,825	95%
Oklahoma	\$332,778	\$5,009,795	94%
Oregon	\$345,227	\$14,629,823	98%
Pennsylvania	\$763,175	\$51,000,000	99%
Rhode Island	\$235,445	\$4,000,000	94%
South Carolina	\$351,584	\$850,000,000	100%
South Dakota	\$211,498	\$13,226,725	98%
Tennessee	\$428,050	\$1,261,390,000	100%
Texas	\$1,203,151	\$139,126,743	99%
Utah	\$294,687	\$520,416,480	100%
Vermont	\$203,190	\$19,300,000	99%
Virginia	\$508,207	\$69,241,621	99%
Washington	\$469,285	\$357,720,592	100%
West Virginia	\$250,309	\$12,770,086	98%
Wisconsin	\$421,445	\$50,000,000	99%
Wyoming	\$203,057	\$1,000,000	83%
District of Columbia	\$52,754	\$18,500,000	100%
Guam	\$50,000	\$1,670,000	97%
Puerto Rico	\$344,845	\$12,000,000	97%
Virgin Islands	\$50,000	\$31,200,000	100%
American Samoa	\$50,000	NR	
Northern Marianas	\$50,000	NR	
TOTAL	\$23,133,400	\$27,045,958,906	99.9%*



*Our local,
state, and
national
parks*

must be promoted and funded as the solution for the health, social, and environmental problems facing our nation today. Parks are places where children can play, people can exercise, families can bond, seniors can socialize, youth can be mentored, cultures can share and celebrate their differences, and everyone can connect with nature. Vibrant parks are a cost-effective means of creating humane, livable communities, and preserving the beauty of America for our future generations.

Sedrick V. Mitchell
Deputy Director, External Affairs,
California State Parks;
President,
National Association of State
Outdoor Recreation Liaison Officers

A CLOSER LOOK AT UNFUNDED REQUESTS IN 2008

In addition to estimating the unmet need for outdoor recreation facilities and parkland acquisition, the National Park Service asked each state to provide examples of unfunded projects. Here is a sampling of what we learned:

MISSOURI In Missouri, where the unmet need was estimated at \$64 million, there were more than 35 unfunded local community projects, including urgently needed park development and renovation in Browning, Sunset Hills and Wentzville. As in many other states, the number of local requests is not fully representative of need, but instead reflect diminished funding levels. The state park system has a backlog of more than 200 projects, including funding for major improvements and repairs on the popular 225-mile Katy Trail and campground facility renovations at Mark Twain State Park.

NEW HAMPSHIRE Fourteen local projects were profiled in New Hampshire's report on its \$1 million total unmet need. Unfunded projects include a multi-use facility in Chester which would have provided facilities for organized athletics, walking and running trails, cross country ski and snowshoe trails, and beach area for swimming, fishing, and boating. In Goffstown, expansion of Barnard Park would have included upgrading the existing track and field venues to NHIAA Class L standards, improving and expanding the playground and renovating the pool. In Henniker, LWCF funding was sought to support land acquisition along the Con-toocook River: more than a mile of river frontage would provide spectacular views of the river along with hiking, snowshoeing, and picnicking.

VIRGINIA Virginia's estimate of more than \$69 million in unmet need highlights a rapidly growing demand for close to home recreation that is exemplified by projects for new community park facilities in Manassas and Hillsville, and a new sports complex in Gloucester County that would feature four regulation-sized softball



MISSOURI: Katy Trail State Park

parks and recreation
needs

COEUR d'ALENE, IDAHO: Winton Park



MUSKOGEE CITY, OKLAHOMA: Three Forks Harbor



DOVER, DELAWARE: Dover Park



ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VIRGINIA: Mint Springs Valley Recreation Area



parks and recreation needs



fields and two soccer fields. The complex is a component of a master plan to create a regional park which also includes passive recreation, such as trail and environmental education areas.

UTAH Projects identified for protecting and expanding Utah's state park system are currently estimated at \$180 million, which represents 35% of the state's \$520 million in overall unmet need. On the community level, the demand for parks, trails, and new ball fields continues to grow. Among communities along the Wasatch Front, there were \$94.5 million in unfunded requests, including 9 new ball fields, 5 new parks, and 5 recreation trails, along with requests for park facility upgrades from more than twenty communities.

NEVADA Nevada's \$8 million estimate in unmet needs represents critical projects at more than a dozen state parks, including Cave Lake, Fort Churchill, South Fork, Spring Valley, Ward Charcoal Ovens, Washoe Lake, and Wild Horse, for campground facilities, picnic areas, park roadway improvements and public access for fishing. Last year the state used \$271,000 in LWCF funding for 4 projects.



BROWNS SUMMIT, NORTH CAROLINA:
Haw River State Park

Over the past 43 years, North Carolina has received almost \$75 million in LWCF assistance for state and local parks and recreation projects. It continues to support our efforts today with funding for critical land acquisition at Mayo River and Haw River, two new state parks in the rapidly growing Piedmont area, where land conservation and recreational facilities are in high demand and development pressure is intense.

Lewis Ledford, Director
North Carolina Parks and Recreation

DOI Conservation priorities

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR 2008 CONSERVATION PRIORITIES

At-Risk Species

Through this priority, the Department seeks to sustain biological communities by focusing on conserving the most imperiled components and improving the health of watersheds, landscapes, and marine resources. For listed species, bureaus can identify priority opportunities to enhance the condition of private lands consistent with restoration activities identified by the FWS recovery plans. The Department and its bureaus should also support State Comprehensive Wildlife Plans to benefit both ESA listed and candidate species.

Wild Birds

The Wild Birds initiative is intended to conserve birds and their habitats to assure healthy and sustainable populations. Three outcomes are envisioned:

- (1) conserve priority bird habitat;
- (2) collect scientific data that support plans and guide management actions; and
- (3) educate citizens to understand the needs and stressors of birds.

Healthy Habitats

The goal of this priority is to enhance habitat on federally-managed and adjoining lands. A prominent example

of this priority being put into action is BLM's Healthy Lands initiative. Outcomes envisioned by this priority include improving the condition of wildlife habitat, with a special emphasis on sage brush and sage grouse habitat, promoting the recovery of species, and helping assure continued access to and multiple-use of public lands while improving the ecological landscape. To achieve these outcomes, bureaus should continue to work with their Federal and non-Federal partners to address issues such as decreasing native vegetation for fish and wildlife, the influx of non-native species, and degraded water quality.

Post-Fire Restoration

Consistent with the National Fire Plan this conservation priority focuses on restoration and post-fire recovery of fire-prone and fire-adapted ecosystems. Goals under this banner include reducing the threat of catastrophic wildfire, improving forest and rangeland health, and restoring and recovering lands post-fire.

Coastal Habitat

This conservation priority is intended to promote policies and programs that engender responsible use and stewardship

of U.S. coastal resources. The President's Ocean Action Plan encompasses many of the concepts and goals of this priority. Strategies for success include effective management of coasts and their watersheds including coordination of bureau and agency activities; promotion of responsible and efficient use and conservation of ocean, coastal, and great lakes resources; and support for partnerships to develop and implement comprehensive management strategies.

Water

Achievement of natural resource conservation aims in the West depends heavily on reducing crises and conflict over water supply, and improving water supply and delivery. Efforts to improve water use efficiency through use of technology and alternative water use regimes will continue to be important. Water crises can be averted and mitigated by working with partners to settle water claims and manage or adjust water rights to achieve benefits to DOI trust resources in a mutually acceptable manner.

Note: For 2009, the following priority has been added: "Engage Today's Youth in the Great Outdoors"

PRIOR LAKE, MINNESOTA: Pike Lake Acquisition



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR CONSERVATION PRIORITIES

In 2008, the Department of the Interior (DOI) identified a set of conservation priorities around which coordination might occur. Designed as a non-prescriptive tool to maximize existing funds and achieve better conservation outcomes, the DOI priorities were shared with the States to consider in their project selection of public outdoor recreation projects as explicitly guided by each State's Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.

A national review conducted in cooperation with the States identified 41 projects funded in 2008 where projects selected according to State-specific SCORP goals converged with the goal of one or more of DOI conservation priorities. Here is a sampling:

PIKE LAKE ACQUISITION, MINNESOTA: The acquisition of 30 acres fronting Pike Lake creates significant connectivity for wildlife habitat and water quality because of its strategic location within a regional conservation context. This property is a high priority in-holding within an important wildlife habitat corridor that connects the community of Prior Lake with the Minnesota River. The natural area is the cornerstone of a larger conservation vision that directly connects two natural areas: an adjacent natural area to the south is currently being dedicated to the city and a YMCA Camp to the north.

ARMSTRONG AND RANDALL COUNTIES, TEXAS: Palo Duro Canyon State Park, Gaynor Addition

priorities



SEATTLE, WASHINGTON: Discovery Park, Capehart Acquisition

DISCOVERY PARK ACQUISITION, WASHINGTON Located in Seattle, Washington, the 500+ acre site is managed as a natural area on the shores of Puget Sound, home to endangered fish and Orcas. Originally transferred to the City through the Federal Lands to Parks Program, the Navy retained an 18 acre inholding in the heart of the park which was transferred to a private developer in 2004. Acquisition of this inholding by the City will limit the potential for impacts to the park infrastructure and setting.

PALO DURO CANYON STATE PARK ACQUISITION, TEXAS Commonly known as the “Grand Canyon of Texas,” the acquisition of 2,911 acres of native High Plains shortgrass prairie, and grassland-mesquite-Juniper habitats contiguous with Palo Duro Canyon State Park will result in permanent protection and management of ecologically significant habitats. Texas Parks and Wildlife ownership will not only protect the rim from development that would be extremely detrimental to the park, but also provide public recreational access for spectacular views not available from the canyon floor where state park facilities are currently concentrated.

GREAT SALT LAKE ACQUISITION (BLAIR DAHL PARK), UTAH The City of West Point in Davis County is acquiring 21 acres for the creation of Blair Dahl Park near Great Salt Lake. The City plans to enhance the birding habitat and to educate the public on the unique resources contained within the shores of the Great Salt Lake. The wetlands of the Great Salt Lake provide important nesting and foraging habitat for over 250 species of birds. The lake is a critical link in the Pacific Flyway between North and South America.

AVILA RANCH ACQUISITION, CALIFORNIA Acquisition of 2,355 acres near the City of Avila Beach will protect habitat and open space, and will create new outdoor recreation opportunities in an area threatened by residential development and habitat fragmentation. This acquisition supports a larger conservation vision of protected coastal landscapes by creating a corridor of connected lands that stretch from Avila Beach through the hills to Montana de Oro State Park and provide a 20 mile extension of the California Coastal Trail. It is one of the largest tracts of unprotected lands within the Irish Hills and its protection has been identified as a top priority by state agencies, local community members and conservation groups.

2008 LWCF STATE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PROJECTS REFLECTING DOI CONSERVATION PRIORITIES

State / Project *	LWCF Grant	State / Project *	LWCF Grant
CALIFORNIA		MARYLAND	
Avila Ranch Acquisition	\$876,346	Hughes Farm Acquisition	\$937,500
Battle Creek Wildlife Area Bridge	\$73,687	MINNESOTA	
Big Basin Redwoods State Park, Little Basin Acquisition	\$557,276	Pike Lake Acquisition	\$254,924
Carpinteria Bluff Acquisition	\$214,000	NEVADA	
Cold Creek High Trail Acquisition	\$136,097	Morgan Mill Trailhead	\$150,000
Oyster Bay Turf Project	\$173,875	NEW HAMPSHIRE	
Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park	\$102,750	Hiking Trails For Little River Park	\$15,393
Woodbridge Ecological Reserve Development	\$91,044	NEW JERSEY	
FLORIDA		Salem River Wildlife Management Area Acquisition	\$756,089
Bill Keith Preserve	\$200,000	NORTH CAROLINA	
Neal Preserve	\$200,000	Haw River State Park Land Acquisition	\$713,624
NW 170th Street Greenway	\$100,000	Mount Ida Wilderness Area	\$82,500
Ormond Beachfront Park	\$200,000	OHIO	
Prairie Pine Preserve	\$200,000	Loveland Nature Preserve	\$57,500
Sawallis Park Acquisition/Orange Lake Overview	\$33,000	Big Creek at Snake Hill	\$55,000
GEORGIA		SOUTH CAROLINA	
Carrollton Greenbelt	\$110,000	Lake Wateree Land Acquisition, Singleton Creek	\$177,961
Sandy Creek Buffer Park	\$110,000	Caesars Head State Park Acquisition	\$175,792
Pulaski County Riverfront Park	\$48,400	TENNESSEE	
INDIANA		Paris Landing State Park	\$686,656
Harry R. Huston Sports Center & Nature Preserve	\$200,000	TEXAS	
LOUISIANA		Palo Duro Canyon State Park, Gaynor Addition	\$1,860,000
Bryan Park	\$150,000	UTAH	
Camp Salmen Nature Park	\$125,000	Blair Dahl Park	\$150,000
Tuten Park Improvements	\$150,000	WASHINGTON	
Desoto Veterans' Memorial Park Trail	\$50,000	Discovery Park, Capehart Acquisition	\$506,100
MAINE		WEST VIRGINIA	
Colonial Pemaquid Historic Site Acquisition	\$82,500	Ronceverte Island Park Improvements	\$100,000
Ferry Beach Nature Center	\$66,000	TOTAL	
Moosehead Lake & Carry Brook Inlet	\$270,605	\$11,199,619	

* Some projects not listed may also have smaller components meeting a conservation priority.

PLANNING FOR CLOSE TO HOME RECREATION

To direct the investment of LWCF funds, each state is required to undertake a planning process every five years with public input to review statewide opportunities and challenges for public outdoor recreation. This effort culminates in a SCORP (Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan) and conveys state-specific policies and actions to support the overall goals of the LWCF program.

By design, the SCORP requirements for a five-year review and for seeking public input ensures that these plans reflect and respond to changing trends and needs in outdoor recreation. Currently, SCORPs are reporting a nationwide desire for locating and renovating public park and recreation facilities within easy access, preferably by walking or bicycling, to where people live. Health professionals are also advocating the benefits of local outdoor recreation areas, both for physical health and for boosting a sense of well-being. An accessible park is a healthy alternative to sitting in front of televisions and computer screens, is fuel efficient, allows more time to interact with family and friends, and nurtures a sense of spirit and pride for the community. A sampling of recent SCORPs reveal the following:

CALIFORNIA In one California SCORP survey, 65 percent of the youth respondents said that “providing more recreation areas closer to their home, such as sports fields, skateboard parks, and open space areas” would help them participate in outdoor activities more often. Further, the SCORP concluded that providing more accessible and safer park settings promotes inspiration, discovery, and learning, and encourages outside activities, active living, and a healthy lifestyle for all Californians.

ILLINOIS The Illinois SCORP recognizes that it is an individual choice whether to be active or sedentary, but the way communities design their environment for physical activity can encourage or impede that choice. Lack of access to convenient outdoor recreation opportunities is commonly cited as a major barrier to regular physical activity. Providing recreation facilities that are easily accessible and close-to-home makes it convenient for people to incorporate physical activity into their daily lives.

NEW MEXICO Urban dwellers in New Mexico are demanding more recreational opportunities located in closer proximity to their homes. The rural areas also need close-to-home outdoor recreation options; however the lack of fiscal as well as human resources makes the provision of outdoor recreation opportunities challenging. For these communities, the LWCF is one of few known funding sources for outdoor recreation investments, according to the SCORP.

NEW YORK In discussing the links between health and outdoor recreation, the New York SCORP observes that health professionals realize that to make physical activity easier, the environment must be conducive to physical activity such as



LEWISTON, IDAHO: Modie Park
Image: Philip Shinn

Visit us at [nps.gov/lwcf](https://www.nps.gov/lwcf)

The LWCF website provides current program information, including announcements on state apportionments, LWCF project highlights, program contacts, the LWCF grants manual, and all federal forms needed for a LWCF project. The website also provides a link to a comprehensive listing of all funded projects to date. The list includes summary reports by year and by state as well as listings by state and county.



making sure that people have easy access to trails, parks, and recreation facilities, especially located close to where people live and work for use several times a week.

VIRGINIA The SCORP explores the links between health and wellness and outdoor recreation. It states that the lack of parks and recreation close to home, hectic schedules, high-fat foods, automobile-oriented development and expanding forms of electronic leisure contribute to obesity which results in significant health-care costs. The increase in the diagnosis and treatment of some forms of mental illness is a parallel trend that may be related to the lack of time spent in outdoor play.

WASHINGTON The SCORP states that work schedules and family obligations as well as lack of facilities close to home are often identified as barriers to recreation participation, and that an urban park's proximity to residential areas has a direct impact on actual use. Ideally, sites and facilities would be close to where people live, and would be accessible by public transportation, foot, or bicycle.



Alabama

Barbour

Old Creek Town Park (2)

Calhoun

Piedmont RV Park & Primitive Campground (3)

Choctaw

Haguewood Park (7)

Coffee

Enterprise Recreational Park (2)
Tiger Town Park (2)

Colbert

Gattman Park (5)

Covington

Kirkpatrick Park (2)

Jefferson

Midfield Swimming Pool (7)

Lawrence

H.A. Alexander Park Splash Pad (5)

Madison

Ditto Landing (5)

Mobile

Quarles Skate Park (1)

Tallapoosa

Dadeville Municipal Park (3)

Alaska

Anchorage

Chugach State Park (1)

Fairbanks North Star

Tanana Lakes Recreation Area (1)

Juneau

Fish Creek Park (1)

Arizona

Apache

Eagar Sports Complex (1)

Maricopa

Grayhawk Community Park (5)

Yavapai

Slide Rock State Park (1)

Arkansas

Lee

Mississippi River State Park (1)

Pulaski

Little Rock Zoo (2)

California

Alameda

Oyster Bay Shoreline Park (13)

Butte

Lake Oroville State Recreation Area (4)

Contra Costa

Mount Diablo State Park (10)

Kern

Central Park (22)
Olive Park East (22)

Lake

Clear Lake State Park (1)
Lucerne Third Avenue Plaza (1)

Los Angeles

Civic Center Park-Covina (32)
Cold Creek Preserve (30)
Milton & Harriet Goldberg Recreation Area (26)

Madera

Sports & Leisure Park (19)

Monterey

Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park (17)

Napa

Bothe-Napa Valley State Park (1)

Orange

Seal Beach Pier (45)

Riverside

Arlington Heights Sports Park (44)

Projects listed by county; number in parentheses indicates congressional district.

land and water conservation fund 2008 project sites



The Land and Water Conservation Fund is a visionary program established by Congress in 1965 to preserve, develop and assure accessibility to quality outdoor recreation resources for active participation in recreation and “to strengthen the health and vitality of the citizens of the United States (Public Law 88-578).”

Projects are listed by county with congressional districts in parentheses. Images featured in this section highlight current and recently completed LWCF projects. A State may not be represented in this park list – an occurrence due most frequently to a decision to combine its apportionment from successive years in order to have sufficient funds for a desired project(s). States have three years to obligate funds to new projects once made available to them.

La Sierra Park (44)
Lake Perris State Recreation Area (45)

Sacramento
Earl Warren Park (5)
Hinkle Creek Nature Area(3)
Southside Park (5)

San Diego
Linda Vista Community Park (53)

San Joaquin
Valverde Park (18)
Woodbridge Ecological Reserve (11)

San Luis Obispo
Avila Ranch (23)
San Simeon State Park (23)

Santa Barbara
Carpinteria Bluff Nature Preserve (23)
Carpinteria State Beach (23)
El Capitan State Beach (23)

Santa Cruz
Big Basin Redwoods State Park (14)

Shasta
Battle Creek Wildlife Area (2)

Tulare
Lindsay City Park (21)

Yolo
Playfields Park (1)
Putah Creek (1)

Colorado

Boulder
Heil/Lyons Connector Trail (2)

Clear Creek
Summit Lake Park (2)

Larimer
Lory State Park (4)

Connecticut

Middlesex
Sunrise Park (2)

Delaware

Sussex
Delaware Seashore State Park (1)

Florida

Brevard
Southeast Community Park (15)

Broward
Bill Keith Preserve (20)
John E. Mullin Park (23)
Pioneer Park (22)

Dade
98th Street Park (20)
NW 170th Street Greenway (21)

Lake
Wootton Park (8)

Lee
Prairie Pine Preserve (14)

Manatee
Neal Preserve (13)

Marion
Sawallis Park/Orange Lake Overview (5)

Palm Beach
Anchorage Park (22)
PGA National Park and Linear Passive Area (22)

Pinellas
Lake Belleview (9)

Saint Lucie
Jetty Park (16)

Seminole
Fort Mellon Park (3)

Volusia
Ormond Beachfront Park (7)

Projects listed by county; number in parentheses indicates congressional district.

Georgia

Baldwin

Cooper Park (12)
Harrisburg Community
Park (12)
Walter B. Williams
Recreation Park (12)

Ben Hill

Blue-Gray Park (8)

Carroll

Carrollton Greenbelt (11)

Clarke

Sandy Creek Buffer Park (11)

Clayton

Charles Milton Daniel
Park (13)

Dawson

War Hill Park (9)

Forsyth

Ducktown Park (9)

Jefferson

Jefferson County Recreation
Park (12)

Laurens

Bedingfield Park (8)
Hilburn Park (8)
Springdale Park (8)
Stubbs Park (8)

Peach

North Peach Park (2)

Pulaski

Riverfront Park (8)

Rockdale

Lorraine Trailhead (4)

Walton

Walnut Grove Park (7)

Wilkinson

East Wilkinson Community
Park (8)

Hawaii

Isaac Hale Memorial Park (2)

Idaho

Ada

Lucky Peak State Park -
Sandy Point Unit (2)

Bonner

Sandpoint Sports
Complex (1)

Bonneville

McCowin Park (2)

Illinois

Saint Clair

Engleman Farm Park (12)

Indiana

Cass

Harry R. Huston Sports
Center (2)



SUSSEX COUNTY, DELAWARE: Junction and Breakwater Trail

Marshall

Argos Community Park (2)

Miami

Miami State Recreation
Area (5)

Kansas

Ellis

Cedar Bluff State Park (1)

Ellsworth

Kanopolis State Park (1)

Montgomery

Elk City State Park (4)

Scott

Scott State Park (1)

Kentucky

Hickman

Hickman County
Recreational Complex (1)

Kenton

Crescent Springs Community
Park (4)

Logan

Auburn Municipal Park (1)



As a young child with a mobility disability, I was excluded from participation in the very basics of play with my peers as I could not maneuver my wheelchair over the grassy and uneven terrain. Now as a mother it is incredibly important to me that I share in my daughter's playground experience and Dell Holmes Park offers such an experience. I would like to express my appreciation and admiration to the City of St. Petersburg for creating not only a beautiful, but a fully accessible park.

Barbara Page
Advocacy Center for Persons with Disabilities, Inc.
St. Petersburg, Florida

ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA: Dell Holmes Park

Projects listed by county; number in parentheses indicates congressional district.

It took about \$370,000 to develop Soroptimist Park, with funding from the State of Michigan through the Land and Water Conservation Fund, the Community Foundation for Southeastern Michigan and the Association for Retarded Citizens for Western Wayne County. CVS provided more than \$40,000 in donations as well as volunteers to help during the community build that took place in June. The Wayne Rotary was at the forefront of the charitable efforts, too.

Mayor Al Haidous
Wayne, Michigan

Pike
Hardy Park (5)

Trimble
Trimble County Park (4)

Wayne
Monticello/Wayne County Park (5)

Webster
Wheatcroft Community Park (1)

Louisiana

Natchitoches
Ben Johnson Park (4)

Saint Charles
Killona Park (3)

Tangipahoa
MLK Memorial Park (6)
North Oak Recreation Complex (1)

Calcasieu
Tuten Park (7)

Claiborne
Lake Claiborne-Lisbon Landing (4)

Concordia
Learned Park (5)

De Soto
Veterans' Memorial Park Trail (4)

Saint Martin
Stephensville Recreation Complex (3)

Saint Tammany
Camp Salmen Nature Park (1)

Union
Bryan Park (5)

Maine

Androscoggin
Minot Baseball Field (2)

Aroostook
Trotting Park (2)

Franklin
Outdoor Recreation Skating Rink (2)

Kennebec
Monmouth Community Playground (2)
Three Mile Pond Park (1)

Lincoln
Colonial Pemaquid Historic Park (1)

Oxford
Kingfield Community Playground (2)

Penobscot
Dexter Recreation Area (2)

Somerset
Moosehead Lake & Carry Brook Inlet (2)
Pittsfield Community Pool (2)

Waldo
Lake St. George State Park (2)

York
Ferry Beach (1)

Maryland

Frederick
Hughes Farm Park (6)

Michigan

Ingham
Hawk Island County Park (8)
Valhalla Park (8)

Monroe
Frenchtown Township Park (15)
Unity Park (15)

Muskegon
Muskegon State Park (2)

Oakland
Brandon Township Community Park (8)

Presque Isle
Tomahawk Creek State Forest (1)

Schoolcraft
Indian Lake State Park (1)

Wayne
Soroptimist Park (13)

Minnesota

Scott
Pike Lake Park (2)

Mississippi

Adams
Natchez State Park (3)

Hinds
Lefleur's Bluff State Park (4)

Lee
Tombigbee State Park (1)

Lowndes
Lake Lowndes State Park (1)

Marshall
Wall Doxey State Park (1)

Panola
John Kyle State Park (1)

Pike
Percy Quin State Park (3)

Pontotoc
Trace State Park (1)

Rankin
Roosevelt State Park (3)

Tishomingo
J. P. Coleman State Park (1)
Tishomingo State Park (1)

Yalobusha
George P. Cossar State Park (1)

Missouri

Benton
Shawnee Bend Golf Course (4)

Boone
Stephens Park (9)

Christian
City Park (7)

Lafayette
Fairground Park (4)

Scott
Safeplay Playground (8)

Sullivan
Union Ridge Park (6)

Worth
Worth County School Softball Field (6)

Montana

Lake
Salish Point Park (1)

Yellowstone
Pictograph Cave State Park (1)

Nebraska

Burt
Veteran's Athletic Park (1)

Cass
Young Memorial Park (1)

Dixon
Ponca State Park (1)

Nevada

Carson City
Carson City BMX Track (2)
Morgan Mill Road Trailhead (2)

Elko
South Fork State Recreation Area (2)

Projects listed by county; number in parentheses indicates congressional district.

Lincoln

Autumn Winds Park (2)
Spring Valley State Park (1)

Lyon

Out of Town Park (2)

New Hampshire**Cheshire**

Water Street Outdoor
Basketball Park (2)

Coos

Lancaster Skate Park (2)

Rockingham

Exeter Skate Park (1)
George B. White Basketball
Court (1)

Strafford

Little River Park (1)

New Jersey**Salem**

Salem River Wildlife
Management Area (2)

New Mexico**Dona Ana**

Seldon Canyon Recreation
Area (2)

New York**Niagara**

Fort Niagara State Park (28)

Wyoming

Letchworth State Park (26)

North Carolina**Chatham**

Pittsboro Recreation
Complex (4)

Franklin

Bill & Angie Luddy
Recreation Park (2)
Pilot Lions Community
Park (2)

Guilford

Haw River State Park (5)

McDowell

Mount Ida Wilderness
Area (11)

Wake

Main Street Park (4)

Wilson

Burt Gillette Athletic
Complex (1)

North Dakota**Burke**

Lignite City Park (1)

Burleigh

New Generations
Playground (1)

Hettinger

New England Park (1)

Nelson

Aneta City Park (1)

Ransom

Fort Ransom State Park (1)

Sargent

Klefstad Memorial
Swimming Pool (1)

Ohio**Ashtabula**

Village Square (14)

Carroll

Bicentennial Park (18)

Cuyahoga

Big Creek Park (10)
West Creek Greenway (10)

Franklin

Minerva Park (12)

Hocking

Mingo Park (18)

Huron

Mill Pond Park (5)

Jefferson

War Memorial Park (6)

Licking

Hannah's Memorial Park (12)

Madison

Fairfield Memorial Park (15)

Mercer

Mendon Park (5)
Nature Park (8)

Morrow

Heimlick Park (4)

Ottawa

Meadowbrook Marsh (9)

Paulding

Paulding Ball Diamond
Complex (5)

Perry

Roseville Municipal
Swimming Pool (7)

Pickaway

Mary Virginia Crites Hannan
Community Park (7)

Pike

Village Community Park (2)

Shelby

Anna Park (4)

Summit

Ricks-WTRP Park (14)

Van Wert

Willshire Park (5)



Warren

Loveland Nature Preserve (2)

Oklahoma

Beckham

Sayre City Park (3)

Comanche

Chattanooga Downtown Park (5)

Creek

Hollier Park (3)

McCurtain

Bill Watts Community Park (2)

Payne

Oklahoma Territorial Plaza (3)

Sequoyah

Vian Park (2)

Oregon

Clackamas

Patterson Memorial Park (5)

Multnomah

East Delta Park (3)

Washington

Shute Park (1)

Yamhill

Courthouse Square Park (1)

Pennsylvania

Cumberland

Adams-Ricci Community Park (19)

Dauphin

Middletown Municipal Pool (17)

Tioga

Island Park (10)

South Carolina

Abbeville

Upper Abbeville County Sports Complex (3)

Greenville

Caesars Head State Park (4)

Kershaw

Lake Wateree Park at Singleton Creek (5)

South Dakota

Brookings

Lake Poinsett Recreation Area (1)

Oakwood Lakes State Park (1)

Brown

Frontier Park (1)

Charles Mix

John Stekly Memorial Park (1)



LAKE CITY, MINNESOTA: Whitewater State Park "Project Get Outdoors" links youth and caring adult mentors to exploration, play and reflection in nature near local communities so youth will be healthy and comfortable in the outdoors and knowledgeable and passionate about their land and community throughout their lives. The project currently operates under the sponsorship of the Parks and Trails Council of Minnesota.

"Pine Knob has attracted a whole new group of park patrons and supporters. It is rewarding to see parents participating in archery and other outdoor activities with their children. We're starting to see many repeat visitors among the kids and families who visit Pine Knob."

Mike Metz, LaGrange County Park Director



LEFT AND OPPOSITE

LAGRANGE COUNTY, INDIANA: Pine Knob Park

The Pine Knob project was an acquisition/development project assisted by a \$200,000 LWCF grant. The project included the construction of accessible trails and boardwalks through woodlands and wetlands and features a 3-D archery course which has attracted large numbers of area sportsmen along with 4-H Shooting Sports, Boy Scouts, school groups and families.

Projects listed by county; number in parentheses indicates congressional district.



LWCF funding provides jobs, protects our natural resources, and builds parks, trails and other places for kids and adults to play and stay healthy. It is vital to keeping Washington a great place to live and work.

Kaleen Cottingham, Director
Washington Recreation and Conservation Office

SUSSEX COUNTY, DELAWARE: Trap Pond State Park



Custer

Custer State Park (1)

Davison

Mt. Vernon City Park (1)

Day

Pickrel Lake Recreation Area (1)

Hughes

Farm Island Recreation Area (1)
Griffin Park (1)

Hutchinson

Freeman City Park (1)

Lawrence

Spearfish Water Park (1)

Lincoln

Newton Hills State Park (1)

Pennington

Vickie Powers Park (1)

Stanley

Oahe Downstream Recreation Area (1)

Union

Union Grove State Park (1)

Tennessee

Henry

Paris Landing State Park (8)

Texas

Armstrong

Palo Duro Canyon State Park (13)

Grimes

Fanthorp Inn State Historical Site (17)

Utah

Davis

Blair Dahl Park (1)

Sanpete

Manti City Park (3)

Weber

Northwest Park (1)
Wild Wood Soccer Park (1)

Vermont

Addison

Button Bay State Park (1)

Virginia

Augusta

Verona Park (6)

Buckingham

James River State Park (5)

Roanoke

Taylor Tract Park (9)

Projects listed by county; number in parentheses indicates congressional district.

The Land and Water Conservation Fund grant program is one of the best ways we can be involved in the enrichment of West Virginia's communities for the future.

Governor Joe Manchin
West Virginia

Independence Rock State Park (1)

Sheridan
Conner Battlefield State Historic Site (1)
West Brundage Lane Pathway (1)

District of Columbia

Hearst Park

Guam

Multi-Park Signage Project (25 Sites)

A state may not be represented in the above park list – an occurrence due most frequently to a decision to combine its apportionment from successive years in order to have sufficient funds for a desired project(s). States have three years to obligate funds to new projects once made available to them.

Washington

King

Boeing Creek Park (7)
Bridle Trails State Park (8)
Discovery Park (7)

West Virginia

Brooke

3rd Street Park (1)

Greenbrier

Ronceverte Island Park (3)

Kanawha

Belle Community Park (2)

Wetzel

Bruce Park (1)

Wood

Williamstown Complex Pool (1)

Wisconsin

Ashland

Copper Falls State Park (7)

Buffalo

Merrick State Park (3)

Calumet

High Cliff State Park (6)

Chippewa

Brunet Island State Park (7)

Dane

Governor Nelson State Park (2)
Lake Kegonsa State Park (2)

Lafayette

Yellowstone Lake State Park (3)

Vernon

Wildcat Mountain State Park (3)

Walworth

Bigfoot Beach State Park (1)

Waukesha

Southern Kettle Moraine State Forest (6)

Wyoming

Big Horn

North East Park (1)

Hot Springs

Hot Springs State Park (1)
Legend Rock State Historical Site (1)

Natrona

Edness Kimball Wilkins State Park (1)

I have been riding mountain bikes for 25 years in states from Texas to Utah and I have to say you got this one right. The trails are fantastic for riders of all skill levels and use the existing terrain beautifully. Keep up the good work and I look forward to more trail expansion.

Rick Parish, Director, Cheyenne Parks and Recreation



CHEYENNE, WYOMING: Curt Gowdy State Park



ARMSTRONG AND RANDALL COUNTIES, TEXAS: Palo Duro Canyon State Park, Gaynor Addition



For more information about the Land and Water Conservation Fund, including state program contacts, please visit us at www.nps.gov/lwcf