

# Idaho

Our Land, Our Water, Our Heritage



## LWCF Funded Places in Idaho

### Federal Units

- Big Wood River
- Blackwell Island
- \*Bear River Watershed CA
- Boise Front ACEC
- Bruneau River
- Caribou-Targhee NF
- Camas NWR
- City of Rocks NRes
- Clearwater NF
- Craters of the Moon NPM/Oregon NHT
- Frank's Church Wilderness
- Gray's Lake NWR
- Hagerman Fossil Beds NM
- Hells Canyon NRA
- Henrys Lake ACEC
- Hulls Gulch
- Idaho Land Exchange
- Idaho NFs/ ID Wilderness/ WSRs
- Idaho Lands
- Kaniksu NF
- \*Lewis and Clark NHT
- Lower Salmon ACEC
- Middle Fork Clearwater WSR
- Middle Fork Salmon WSR
- Minidoka NHS
- Nez Perce NHP
- Nez Perce NHT
- Payette NF
- Salmon WSR
- Salmon-Challis and Sawtooth NRA
- Sands Desert HMA
- Sawtooth NF
- Sawtooth NRA
- Snake River Birds of Prey NCA
- Soda Springs Hills
- St Joe WSR
- Thousand Springs ACEC
- Upper Snake/South Fork Snake
- Wolf Lodge/Beauty Bay SRMA

**Federal Total \$207,800,000**

\*multistate project

## LWCF Success in Idaho

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) has provided funding to help protect some of Idaho's most special places and ensure recreational access for hunting, fishing and other outdoor activities. Idaho has received approximately \$291.6 million in LWCF funding over the past five decades, protecting places such as the Boise Foothills, Sawtooth Valley and Hell's Canyon National Recreation Areas, Middle Fork Clearwater and Middle Fork Salmon Wild and Scenic Rivers.

Forest Legacy Program (FLP) grants are also funded under LWCF, to help protect working forests. The FLP cost-share funding supports timber sector jobs and sustainable forest operations while enhancing wildlife habitat, water quality and recreation. For example, the FLP contributed to places such as Henry's Lake, the South Fork Snake River and the McArthur Lake Wildlife Corridor. The FLP assists states and private forest owners to maintain working forest lands through matching grants for permanent conservation easement and fee acquisitions, and has leveraged approximately \$38.2 million in federal funds to invest in Idaho's forests, while protecting air and water quality, wildlife habitat, access for recreation and other public benefits provided by forests.

LWCF state assistance grants have further supported hundreds of projects across Idaho's state and local parks including the Boise Greenbelt and Wood River Trails, Coeur d'Alene's Tubbs Hill and Sandpoint's City Beach. 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 Idaho's economy. The Bureau of Economic Analysis has found that outdoor recreation generates \$2.3 billion in value added to Idaho's economy, 33,831 homegrown jobs, and accounts for 3.2% of the state's economy. Further, the U.S. Census reports that each year over 1 million people hunt, fish, or enjoy wildlife-watching in Idaho, contributing over \$923 million in wildlife recreation spending to the state economy.

## State Programs

Forest Legacy Program	\$38,200,000
Habitat Conservation (Sec. 6)	\$2,200,000
Stateside	\$43,400,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$291,600,000</b>

**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](http://www.lwcfcoalition.org)

## LWCF in Idaho

### Sawtooth National Recreation Area

The 756,000-acre Sawtooth National Recreation Area comprises one of the largest and most magnificent national recreation areas in the US. Four mountain ranges: the Sawtooths, Boulders, White Clouds, and Smokies provide scenic landscapes in every direction, with more than 50 major peaks over 10,000 feet, 300 lakes, and 250 miles of trails. The headwaters of four of Idaho's major rivers originate here: the Salmon, South Fork of the Payette, the Boise, and the Big Wood. The Sawtooth NRA offers some of the finest and most renowned outdoor recreation in the world including fishing, white-watersports, hiking, backpacking, snowmobiling, mountain biking and Nordic skiing. To protect the historic uses and compatible public recreation values of this landscape, the Forest Service has utilized LWCF dating back to 1972 to acquire conservation easements that protect some 17,000 acres of private ranch lands within.

### Fiscal Year 2021 Agency Priority Project List for Idaho

Agency	Project	Amount	Delegation
BLM	Lower Salmon River SMRA	\$4,000,000	Crapo, Risch/Fulcher
BLM	Upper Snake/South Fork Snake River SMRA and Main Snake River	\$4,450,000	Crapo, Risch/Simpson
FWS	Bear River Watershed Conservation Area	\$1,000,000	Crapo, Risch/Simpson
NPS	City of Rocks National Preserve	\$350,000	Crapo, Risch/Simpson
FS	Panther Creek Watershed; Salmon-Challis	\$915,000	Crapo, Risch/Simpson
FLP	Pirchard Creek	\$1,730,000	Crapo, Risch/Fulcher
FLP	Moyie River Corridor	\$1,475,000	Crapo, Risch/Fulcher

### Status of the Land and Water Conservation Fund

In 2019, permanent authorization of LWCF was secured as part of S. 47, the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act. Passage of the Dingell Act ensures that LWCF no longer faces the uncertainty of potential expiration, and that the unique structure and inflow of funds to LWCF is protected. Then in 2020 permanent full funding for LWCF was enacted into law in the Great American Outdoors Act— ensuring that each year the \$900 million deposited into the LWCF account actually goes towards conservation and recreation priorities. Over the previous 55 years of the program, more than \$22 billion was diverted from LWCF to other, unknown purposes. That meant that our public lands, waters, and historic sites were put in peril. As open space continues to shrink, LWCF investments become even more critical to providing the outdoor opportunities for all future generations. [Click here to view a map of future LWCF projects.](#)