



LWCFCoalition.com

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**Senate Reaffirms Bipartisan Commitment to LWCF  
Rejects Sen. Lee's amendment attacking America's most important  
conservation and recreation program**

**WASHINGTON** – The LWCF Coalition today applauded the U.S. Senate for decisively rejecting a harmful amendment that would have compromised the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), America's most important conservation program.

*The following statement can be attributed to Tom Cors, director of government relations for lands at The Nature Conservancy and a spokesman for the Land and Water Conservation Fund Coalition:*

"We applaud the U.S. Senate for rejecting this amendment to weaken the Land and Water Conservation Fund. The Lee amendment would have jeopardized LWCF's core conservation mission, but the votes cast today defeating this proposal show the broad, bipartisan support for LWCF and its critical work. LWCF is essential to the protection of our national parks, and – contrary to the false arguments that accompanied this amendment – we can tackle park maintenance challenges without weakening LWCF. We do not need to choose one over the other.

"For too long, LWCF funds have been siphoned off for non-conservation purposes, which is why it is critical for Congress to provide full and dedicated funding for LWCF. This program has the support of the outdoor recreation industry, governors, mayors, sportsmen, small business owners, conservation leaders, landowners, ranchers, and millions of Americans, and we look forward to working with Congress to fully fund LWCF."

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**About the Land and Water Conservation Fund**

The Land and Water Conservation Fund is America's most important conservation 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.org](http://www.lwcfcoalition.org).