



LWCFCoalition.com

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NEWS RELEASE

LWCF Coalition Applauds Grants Expanding Access to Parks for All

WASHINGTON, DC – The LWCF Coalition today applauded the announcement by Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland of \$150 million available for grants made through the Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership (ORLP) Grant Program. These competitive grants are funded through the Land and Water Conservation Fund – State and Local Assistance Program – and support outdoor recreation projects to create and improve local parks in underserved areas around the country.

“LWCF grants to municipalities provide an enormous return on investment, bringing vital health and economic benefits into communities,” said Lesley Kane Szynal, co-chair of the LWCF Coalition. “Passage of full, permanent funding of LWCF in the Great American Outdoors Act will provide a greater and more consistent flow of dollars to increase access to nature and quality outdoor recreation opportunities in underserved and park-deprived areas. This significant investment will be critical to meeting the Biden-Harris Administration’s ambitious conservation goals, promoting environmental justice and close-to-home recreation, and was made possible through the full funding of LWCF passed and allocated by Congress.”

ORLP acquisition and development grants are used to support projects in cities that reinvigorate urban parks and other outdoor recreation spaces, with priority given to projects located in areas that are economically disadvantaged and lacking outdoor recreation resources.

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.com