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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** February 16, 2023

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**NEWS RELEASE**

## **LWCF Coalition Urges Swift Action on More Equitable Outdoor Access**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Coalition today applauded reintroduction of the Outdoors for All Act in the following statement:

“The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Coalition again applauds Senators Padilla (D-CA) and Collins (R-ME) for reintroducing the Outdoors for All Act, as well as Representatives Nanette Diaz Barragán (D-Calif.-44) and Congressman Mike Turner (R-Ohio-10) for again leading the bill in the House of Representatives. The bill would ensure the prioritization of equitable outdoor access for all Americans by codifying the LWCF-funded Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership (ORLP) Program that provides grant funding opportunities to disadvantaged communities with little access to publicly available outdoor recreation. Equitable access to close-to-home outdoor space hasn’t always been available but it should be. The LWCF Coalition also praised the inclusion of language that lowers the population threshold so that more communities are eligible, and allows Native American Tribes, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiian communities to apply directly for this critical funding,” **said Lesley Kane Szynal, Chair of the LWCF Coalition.**

### **About the Land and Water Conservation Fund**

LWCF is America’s most important conservation program, responsible for protecting parks, wildlife refuges and recreation areas at the federal, state and local level. For over half a century, 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 \$862 billion annually to the U.S. economy, supporting 4.5 million jobs.

### **About the LWCF Coalition**

The LWCF Coalition is the umbrella group of more than 1,000 state and local landowners, 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 [LWCFCoalition.org](http://LWCFCoalition.org).