The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) is America’s premier federal program that reinvests offshore energy revenue into conservation to ensure that we all have access to the outdoors. Whether it is a local community park or playground, or the vast expanses of our federal public lands, Congress created the LWCF over a half-century ago to guarantee America’s natural, historical and outdoor recreation heritage.

TELL YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS ABOUT YOUR CONNECTION TO THESE LWCF PLACES NEAR YOU.

Project overviews courtesy of the LWCF Coalition. lwfccoalition.com

**Project Name/Unit:** Trinity Divide, Pacific Crest Trail (U.S. Forest Service)

**Stakeholders Involved:** The Trust for Public Land, Pacific Crest Trail Association, USFS, Michigan-California Timber Company

**Keywords/Characteristics (eg. rec access, drinking water, consolidating maintenance):** Recreation access, water resource protection, Wildlife habitat, Connectivity to existing national forest lands, finishing our parks/trails

**Short Description:** Thanks to FY18 funding from LWCF, 10,500 acres of property lying along the popular Trinity Divide section of the trail within the Shasta-Trinity National Forest were purchased from Michigan-California (Mich-Cal) Timber Company and have been protected. Both the Forest Service and the Pacific Crest Trail Association had identified these lands as a top conservation priority in recognition of their importance to the trail itself and of the diverse resources and recreation opportunities they offer off-trail. Previously, a narrow PCT trail easement through Mich-Cal’s Trinity Divide inholding was all that existed for public use and enjoyment of this spectacular area, leaving off-trail backpacking and other recreation off-limits to the public, and leaving open the possibility of resource loss and conversion right up to the trail corridor. This acquisition includes a trailhead at Scott Mountain Summit on Highway 3 which provides access west into the Trinity Alps Wilderness Area, and east into the Trinity Divide and Mount Eddy. Located between the mountain communities of Weaverville, Etna and Yreka, this portion of the PCT will become more easily accessible for horse packing and day or weekend hiking trips. The acquisition will place Masterson Meadows Lake, Grouse Lake and Lost Lake — all previously on private land — within easy reach of the trailhead for day hikes or overnight camping stays. Reliable spring water sources on this new section will also improve overnight camping locations for PCT hikers and backpackers. The FY18 appropriation of $5,000,000 will continue the progress made to date, following the appropriation of $4,905,000 in FY17, and is helping ensure the completion of this important section of the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail.

**Project Name/Unit:** San Bernardino National Forest (U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management)

**LWCF Contribution:** $22.6 million

**Keywords/Characteristics (eg. rec access, drinking water, consolidating maintenance):** Drinking water protection, habitat conservation, recreation access

**Short Description:** The San Bernardino National Forest encompasses the wild lands of the San Bernardino and San Jacinto mountain ranges in Riverside and San Bernardino counties. The Fleming Ranch property, which is located within the
national forest and is visible from a five-mile stretch of the Pacific Crest Trail, is encompassed in a broader landscape-level project. The ranch previously contained the largest unprotected portion of the upper watershed of Herkey Creek, which flows into Lake Hemet and is a tributary of the south fork of the San Jacinto River. It is also home to the California spotted owl, least Bell’s vireo and the federally endangered mountain yellow-legged frog. These species and others have benefited from the protection of Fleming Ranch as the impacts of climate change increase. The wetland and riparian habitats on Fleming Ranch have natural resilience to climate change due to the tract’s hydrology, and can offer habitat refuge. Improved forest health, water quality protection, habitat protection, and better public access will follow from federal acquisition of Fleming Ranch.

Project Name/Unit: California Desert Southwest/Catellus (U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management)

LWCF Contribution: $13.7 million in Catellus

Stakeholders Involved: Wildlands Conservancy

Keywords/Characteristics (eg. rec access, drinking water, consolidating maintenance): Recreation access, habitat conservation

Short Description: At more than 587,000 acres, The Wildlands Conservancy’s Catellus acquisition is the largest nonprofit land acquisition donated to the American people in U.S. history. It included funding of more than 85,000 acres in the Mojave National Preserve, more than 20,000 acres in Joshua Tree National Park, and over 210,000 acres in 20 Bureau of Land Management wilderness areas, and hundreds of thousands of acres of important habitat. TWC also funded two land exchanges that netted an additional 45,886 acres of conservation lands to the Bureau of Land Management. This acquisition represents the largest landscape connectivity and wildlife corridor completed with nonprofit funds in North America.

Project Name/Unit: Mojave National Preserve (NPS)

LWCF Contribution: $10.3 million

Stakeholders Involved: Mojave Desert Land Trust

Keywords/Characteristics (eg. rec access, drinking water, consolidating maintenance): Habitat conservation, historic preservation, recreation access, finishing our parks/trails, development pressure

Short Description: The Mojave National Preserve is an expanse of desert lands representing three of the four major North American deserts: the Mojave, Great Basin, and Sonoran. Dozens of seeps and springs coupled with varied elevations and soil types create microhabitats that support a diversity of plant and animal life. The preserve protects the fragile habitat of the desert tortoise, vast open spaces, and historic mining scenes such as the Kelso railroad depot. Unchecked development threatens the significant natural, scenic, and archeological resources in the core of the preserve and along the southern and eastern gateways. $1,873,000 was approved in FY 15 to acquire 1861.66 acres within the preserve. Much of that land is within or adjacent to wilderness areas. The budget request also included an additional $1,351,000 for another 660 acres, but this proposal did not receive FY 15 appropriations. Over 500,000 people visit Mojave National Preserve every year to enjoy hunting, camping, horseback riding, hiking, and ORV recreation.

Project Name/Unit: Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area (NPS)

LWCF Contribution: $184 million

Stakeholders Involved: The Trust for Public Land

Keywords/Characteristics (eg. rec access, drinking water, consolidating maintenance): Recreation access, drinking water protection, habitat conservation, public health

Short Description: The nation's largest urban park, the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area extends 47 miles from the ridge above the Hollywood Sign in the heart of Los Angeles to Point Mugu in Ventura County. The mountains’ beauty and wildlife draw millions of visitors each year to the famous beaches of Malibu or the more than 500 miles of trails. The park abounds with historical and cultural sites, from old movie ranches to Native American centers. Over $184 million in LWCF funding has protected part of this 150,000 acre park, making it accessible to one of the most densely populated regions in the U.S.
Project Name/Unit: Shadowrock (Sec. 6 Habitat Conservation — state grant)
LWCF Contribution: $2.8 million
Keywords/Characteristics (eg. rec access, drinking water, consolidating maintenance): Recreation access, wildlife habitat
Short Description: The 353-acre Shadowrock property located in the Coachella Valley, Riverside County was acquired in 2014 with a Section 6 HCP Land Acquisition grant. The conservation of the property benefits Peninsular bighorn sheep and other listed and sensitive species addressed in the Coachella Valley MSHCP.

Project Name/Unit: Golden Gate National Recreation Area (NPS)
LWCF Contribution: $88,393,000
Keywords/Characteristics (eg. rec access, drinking water, consolidating maintenance): Recreation access, water resource protection, wildlife habitat, finishing our parks/trails
Short Description: Funding from LWCF was leveraged with funding from private donations and other sources to protect the 4,262 acre Rancho Corral de Tierra. Incorporating this land into the Golden Gate National Recreation Area created a new southern gateway into the park and helped connect the Bay Area Ridge Trail with the California Coastal Trail. The project also provided permanent protection of four Coastside watersheds—Denniston, San Vicente, Montara and Martini creeks— and preserved critical habitat for unique and endangered plants and animals.

Project Name/Unit: The Sierra Nevada Checkerboard (U.S. Forest Service)
LWCF Contribution: $6,800,000
Stakeholders Involved: The Trust for Public Land
Keywords/Characteristics (eg. rec access, drinking water, consolidating maintenance): Recreation access, consolidating maintenance
Short Description: In California’s Sierra Nevada, land was given to railroad companies in every-other square mile parcels as an extra incentive to build the Transcontinental Railroad across the rugged mountains. This checkerboard pattern left a legacy of scattered ownership and fragmentation that presents daunting challenges in managing the forests to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfires. The consolidation of these checkerboard parcels has been the work of a joint partnership with the Forest Service, the State of California, and land trusts. Many LWCF projects have combined to achieve landscape-wide conservation in the northern Sierra Nevada. As consolidation of this landscape allows for comprehensive forest management and treatment, preventing and suppressing fire becomes much more efficient.

Project Name/Unit: Cielo Del Norte (Sec. 6 Habitat Conservation Grant — state grant)
LWCF Contribution: $8.8 million in 2 phases
Keywords/Characteristics (eg. rec access, drinking water, consolidating maintenance): Recreation access, wildlife habitat
Short Description: The nearly 500-acre Cielo del Norte property located in the San Diego County Gnatcatcher Core area, in northern San Diego County was acquired in two phases in 2012 and 2015 using 3 City of Carlsbad HMP (Northwest San Diego MSCP) Section 6 HCP Land Acquisition grants. Funding included: Phase A) $6,880,250 from two section 6 grants that were leveraged with a $4,619,750 of State matching funds and $972,790 of in-kind land match from the County of San Diego; and Phase B) $2,000,000 from a section 6 grant that was leveraged with a $4,850,623 SANDAG grant and $6,149,377 from San Diego Gas and Electric. The Escondido Creek Conservancy owns and manages the land for the benefit of coastal California gnatcatchers and other listed and sensitive species addressed in the Carlsbad HMP and San Diego MSCP.

LWCF EXPIRES SEPTEMBER 30, 2018
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