

#I Can See LWCF FROM TENNESSEE

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. lwcfcoalition.com

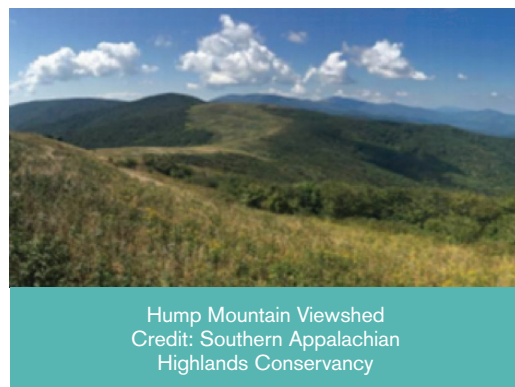
Project Name/Unit: Hump Mountain, Cherokee National Forest & Appalachian National Scenic Trail (U.S. Forest Service, NPS)

LWCF Contribution: \$1.6 million

Stakeholders Involved: Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy, Appalachian Trail Conservancy

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

Short Description: Situated in the treasured Highlands of Roan conservation area, Hump Mountain is a key Appalachian National Scenic Trail viewshed tract. Views from the stunning Hump and Little Hump balds on the Appalachian Trail encompass the entire area between Big Ridge and Bear Ridge, which serves as habitat for rare and threatened species such as the Gray's Lily and Golden-winged Warbler. Funding from LWCF will link the Cherokee and Pisgah National Forests, and will directly adjoin over 2,000 acres National Forest lands that were acquired with prior year LWCF funds. The Hump Mountain acquisition will also eliminate further expansion of nearby subdivision development and minimize encroachment on the adjacent Appalachian Trail.



Hump Mountain Viewshed
Credit: Southern Appalachian
Highlands Conservancy

Project Name/Unit: Conasauga River, Cherokee National Forest (U.S. Forest Service)

LWCF Contribution: \$43.5 million to Cherokee NF

Stakeholders Involved: The Nature Conservancy, The Conservation Fund

Keywords/Characteristics (eg. rec access, drinking water, consolidating maintenance): Water resource protection, recreation access

Short Description: Located in the Cherokee National Forest, this LWCF project purchased an inholding that protected water resources, recreation access, and connectivity in the forest.

Project Name/Unit: Rocky Fork, Cherokee National Forest (U.S. Forest Service)

LWCF Contribution: \$43 million to Cherokee NF

Stakeholders Involved: Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy, The Conservation Fund, Appalachian Trail Conservancy

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

Short Description: Protected the Appalachian Trail from a real estate development that would have cut off the Trail. Purchased 1.2 miles of trail footpath. Filled in a massive (10,000 acre hole in CNF). Reduced maintenance costs by consolidating boundary.

Project Name/Unit: Chickamauga-Chattanooga National Military Park (NPS)

LWCF Contribution: \$10 million

Stakeholders Involved: The Trust for Public Land

Keywords/Characteristics (eg. rec access, drinking water, consolidating maintenance): Historic preservation, recreation access

Short Description: Created at the request of Civil War veterans in 1890, the Chickamauga-Chattanooga National Military Park protects important Civil War sites in and around the city of Chattanooga, including Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge, Moccasin Bend, and the Chickamauga Battlefield south of the city. LWCF investments of more than \$10 million in recent years — through National Park Service land acquisition inside the park and using American Battlefield Protection Program grants outside the park boundaries — have ensured the permanent protection of important historic sites that are also part of Chattanooga’s enviable network of open space. Protected lands that have benefited from LWCF funds include the sites of several key battles fought during a pivotal period in late 1863: Billy Goat Hill, where Union General William T. Sherman camped before the Battle of Missionary Ridge; a portion of the Wauhatchie Battlefield; and multiple properties on Lookout Mountain, site of the famed “Battle Above the Clouds.”



Lookout Mountain, Chickamauga-Chattanooga NMP
Credit: Trust for Public Land

Project Name/Unit: Karst Forest at Grassy Cove Forest Legacy Project (Forest Legacy Program — state grant)

LWCF Contribution: \$1,350,000

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

Short Description: Conservation of this 1,000-acre area protected the karst forests of Bear Den and Brady Mountains which converge to enclose Grassy Cove. Grassy Cove, the largest sinkhole in North America, is surrounded by the Cumberland Mountains. Eighteen GCN species, including a federally threatened species and 3 species of G2/G3 ranking have been documented on the property. The property is within the original boundary of a National Natural Landmark. The property protects the viewshed of the adjacent Cumberland Trail State Park, Tennessee’s only linear park. The forest has recreational opportunities including access to eight caves on the property.

Project Name/Unit: Obed Wild and Scenic River (NPS)

LWCF Contribution: \$5.4 million

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

Short Description: The Obed Wild and Scenic River is one of the crown jewels of the northern Cumberland Mountains in TN. Flowing through Morgan and Cumberland counties, the Obed is critical to local economies and communities as a tourist and recreational destination. Local county governments, tourism boards, and non-profits (such as Friends of the Obed, TNC and TN Citizens for Wilderness Planning) worked with the Park Service to raised critical funds to match LWCF money used to acquire and protect critical riparian corridor, public access points and scenic vistas along the Obed — maintaining its reputation as one of the most beautiful rivers in the eastern U.S.



Obed Wild and Scenic River
Credit: NPS

Project Name/Unit: Fiery Gizzard Forest Legacy Project (Forest Legacy Program — state grant)

LWCF Contribution: \$500,000

Stakeholders Involved: The Conservation Fund

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

Short Description: 3,282 acres were protected through a conservation easement, supporting the region’s largest sawmill located about seven miles from the project. Timber-based jobs are important to the South Cumberland region of Tennessee. The nearby Fiery Gizzard trail system is one of the premier backpacking destinations in the country and is visited by hundreds of thousands of hikers annually. An LWCF state grant also supported acquisition of 2,900 acres in the South Cumberland State Recreation Area, allowing continued access along the Fiery Gizzard trail and demonstrating the community-supporting synergy among LWCF’s programs.

Project Name/Unit: Appalachian National Scenic Trail (NPS, USFS)

LWCF Contribution: \$10,889,000 across the entire trail; \$330,000 in TN

Stakeholders Involved: The Trust for Public Land

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

Short Description: The “granddaddy” of the National Trails System is the Appalachian National Scenic Trail envisioned by Benton MacKaye in the 1920s and 1930s and stretching 2,180 miles from Georgia to Maine. The Appalachian Trail (AT) is a centerpiece of conservation efforts throughout the East. Acting as a spine that connects large tracts of forests, wilderness and more developed parkland, it traverses 14 states, runs through 88 counties, connects more than 75 public land units (federal, state and local) and has upward of 2.5 million visitors each year. The trail is managed and maintained by volunteers, providing substantial cost savings to federal agencies. To date, LWCF has helped protect nearly 200,000 acres of the highest valued lands within the Appalachian Trail corridor, from the birthplace of the AT in New York’s Bear Mountain State Park, to Great Smoky Mountains National Park in Tennessee, up the Blue Ridge Parkway to George Washington National Forest in Virginia and beyond. Recent trail protection projects at Crocker Mountain in Maine and Rocky Fork in Tennessee were funded in part through LWCF. Future projects are targeted in Tennessee, North Carolina, Virginia, Pennsylvania and Vermont to protect the remaining unprotected miles of trail and lands along its corridor.

LWCF EXPIRES SEPTEMBER 30, 2018

TELL YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS WHY THE FUND IS SO IMPORTANT TO OUTDOOR RECREATION AND HOW PROTECTING PLACES TO PLAY OUTSIDE DIRECTLY FUELS YOUR BUSINESS. #SAVELWCF