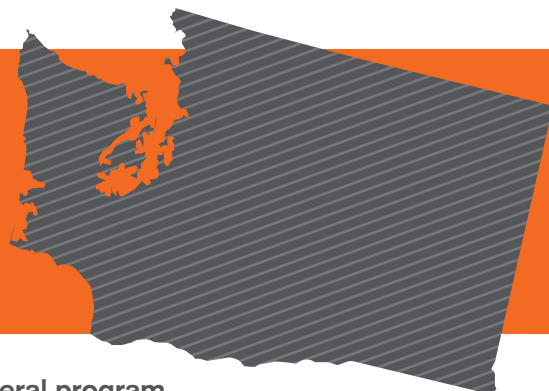


# #I Can See LWCF FROM WASHINGTON



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. [lwcfc coalition.com](http://lwcfc coalition.com)*

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### **Project Name/Unit:** Yakima River Canyon (Bureau of Land Management)

**LWCF Contribution:** \$1.8 million

**Stakeholders Involved:** Yakima Conservation Campaign

**Keywords/Characteristics (eg. rec access, drinking water, consolidating maintenance):** Fishing and recreation access, habitat conservation, water resources

**Short Description:** The Yakima River is Washington's only Blue Ribbon River, attracting anglers from all over the world. LWCF funding has been key to protecting the headwaters of the Yakima River within the Wenatchee National Forest, ensuring water quality and habitat for salmon, steelhead, and bull trout. LWCF has also helped ensure public access to the river for angling, rafting, kayaking and other outdoor recreation. The project has been ranked a national priority in 2017, and funding is needed to continue to ensure this world-class outdoor resource is protected for future generations.



Anglers on the Yakima River  
Credit: Yakima Conservation Campaign

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

**LWCF Contribution:** \$25 million

**Stakeholders Involved:** Pacific Crest Trail Association

**Keywords/Characteristics (eg. rec access, drinking water, consolidating maintenance):** Recreation access, wildlife habitat and corridors, consolidation of maintenance/checkerboard, finishing our parks/trails

**Short Description:** The Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) attracts hikers and horseback riders from around the world and runs through some of Washington's most awe-inspiring landscapes – from the Goat Rocks and Glacier Peak wilderness areas to North Cascades National Park. Over the last 15 years, approximately \$25 million from LWCF has been used to acquire and permanently protect more than 18,000 acres along the PCT. But there are still many private properties on and near the PCT for sale. Without permanent protection, they could be developed. LWCF has made progress in protecting some key corridors along the trail on what was a checkerboard of national forest and private timberland properties, but more needs to be done.



Hikers on the Pacific Crest Trail Snoqualmie Pass  
Credit: Connie Davis

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### **Project Name/Unit:** Mount Rainier National Park (NPS)

**LWCF Contribution:** \$7.1 million

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

**Short Description:** Ascending to 14,410 feet above sea level, Mount Rainier is a defining point of Washington's landscape. As nearly two million people visit Mount Rainier National Park every year, access is a significant concern. The Carbon River entrance is the closest access point for dense population centers to the north. The Carbon River road and camping facilities had been repeatedly washed out by flooding from the glacier-fed river, resulting in road closures and hundreds of thousands of dollars in recurring repairs. LWCF funding allowed for the Ipsut Creek campground to be relocated safely above the floodplain, and the conversion of a historic farm house into a new visitor center. Funding appropriated through the Land and Water Conservation Fund is helping to complete the protection of the Carbon River Gateway and park expansion area. The property is easily accessible from the road and contains a small knoll commanding a beautiful view of the valley, making it ideal as an overlook and interpretative site. Land acquisition ensured that the agency can address Carbon River Road floods thus reducing the frequent and considerable maintenance costs – \$750,000 as a result of a 1996 flood alone.



Mt. Rainier National Parke  
Credit: National Park Service

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**Project Name/Unit: San Juan Island National Historical Park (NPS)**

**LWCF Contribution:** \$7.7 million

**Stakeholders Involved:** The Conservation Fund

**Keywords/Characteristics (eg. rec access, drinking water, consolidating maintenance):** Recreation access, historic preservation, trail conservation

**Short Description:** “The preservation of this important land within San Juan Island National Historical Park builds upon our efforts to protect and expand public access to Washington’s natural landscapes and cultural heritage,” said Senator Cantwell. “I was proud to work with local stakeholders to preserve nearby Mitchell Hill and keep it in the public domain. This new addition is a great example of the importance of the Land and Water Conservation Fund in ensuring that treasured lands will be there for future generations to enjoy.” One-hundred and fifty years ago, hundreds of American and British troops faced off for control of San Juan Island. The historical importance of the Pig War is only matched by the outstanding beauty of the San Juan Islands. The expansion of San Juan Island National Historical Park will help preserve this site of natural and historic significance for residents and visitors today, and for future generations. The Park Service protected the 320-acre Mitchell Hill property along the southern border of English Camp, preserving a trail network of 2.9 miles and a remnant of the 19th century military road linking English Camp to American Camp.



English Camp  
Credit: NPS

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**Project Name/Unit: Mountains to Sound Greenway (U.S. Forest Service)**

**LWCF Contribution:** \$48.1 million

**Stakeholders Involved:** Trust for Public Land

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

**Short Description:** Extending from the Seattle waterfront to Ellensburg, the Mountains to Sound Greenway is an outdoor paradise with 1,600 miles of trails, the stunning Cascade Crest, excellent whitewater runs, backcountry skiing and snowshoeing, rock climbing routes, and mountain biking. The Land and Water Conservation Fund provided nearly \$50 million over the past 20 years to ensure public access to the Mountains to Sound Greenway along I-90. LWCF was instrumental in creating the Mountains to Sound Greenway and expanding a recreation area around Mount Si, one of Washington’s most popular trails, from 4,600 acres to more than 13,000 acres. Mountains to Sound Greenway is one of the most extensive trail systems in the country and is less than 20 minutes from the Seattle metropolitan area. It serves the needs of over 3.5 million residents and many more tourists who flock to the area for world-renowned outdoor recreation.



Hikers on the Mountain to Sound Greenway  
Credit: Susan M. Viles-Muzzey, TPL

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**Project Name/Unit: Mt. St Helens Forest Legacy Project (Forest Legacy Program — state grant)**

**LWCF Contribution:** \$6.3 million

**Stakeholders Involved:** The Conservation Fund

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

**Short Description:** Leveraging over \$6.3 million in LWCF Forest Legacy Program funds, this Project connects 1.4 million acres of federal, state and private conservation lands and the Property produces an average of 4,900 thousand board feet of Douglas fir

annually. While supporting Washington's forest products industry (ranked #2 nationally), the property also provides critical habitat for wildlife species including federally threatened northern spotted owl and bull trout, and the State's largest elk herd. It conserves the Mt. St. Helens National Monument's viewshed, 6.5 miles of riparian forests, and permanent public access to the State's premier elk hunting destination. Without protection, the property would eventually be divided into 395 20-acre lots leading to irreparable forest fragmentation and impact on Washington's \$16 billion forest and outdoor recreation industries. Protection of Swift Reservoir's shoreline from development into 23 lots will ensure the Reservoir's water quality continues to fully support recreation uses including swimming, fishing, and boating for the thousands of people who visit or camp at the Reservoir each year. The property's 81 miles of interior roads provide the public excellent access to the State's premier elk hunting area and for hiking, fishing, and snowmobiling. A management plan for timber harvest, elk winter range and fire protect-related closures will guide the public access. As a working forest with clear cut areas, this property provides this critical forage habitat for the Mt. St. Helens 2,700-individual elk herd, the largest in the State. The 2012 Washington Timber Harvest Report indicated the total volume of timber harvested in Skamania County was 76,193 Mbf. Harvest from this Property in 2012 represented 4% of this total volume or 3,271 Mbf.

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**Project Name/Unit: Washington Cascades — Yakima River Watershed (U.S. Forest Service)**

**LWCF Contribution:** \$5.7 million

**Keywords/Characteristics (eg. rec access, drinking water, consolidating maintenance):** Recreation access, water quality, habitat protection, consolidation of maintenance/checkerboard

**Short Description:** Over the past several years, LWCF has supported acquisition of private checkerboard forest lands within the boundaries of the Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest in the headwaters of the Yakima River basin. Protection of these lands contributes to water retention and storage and complements the Yakima Basin Integrated Plan — a plan supported by the Yakima Indian Nation; county, federal, and state agencies; irrigation districts; conservation organizations; and agricultural interests. By protecting and restoring headwater forests, the project will ensure water quality and supply for the future, and allow for better forest management and protect habitat for elk, mule deer, steelhead and bull trout. The area is very popular for hiking, camping, climbing, fishing, skiing and hunting.

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**Project Name/Unit: Moses Coulee Project (Bureau of Land Management)**

**LWCF Contribution:** \$1 million

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

**Short Description:** In 2009, BLM used LWCF funding to purchase a 2600 acre property in Douglas County approximately 10 miles south of Mansfield, WA. The land was acquired by BLM in order to protect habitat for shrub-steppe dependent species like sage grouse and prevent future listing of these species. This property also has high recreation value due to its extensive lakeshore frontage along Grimes Lake. The lake is well known as a quality Lahontan cutthroat trout fishery. Much of the eastern shore of Grimes Lake is now in BLM ownership, which ensures continued public access. Sportsmen's websites, such as Hook and Bullet and Northwest Fishing Reports testify to the popularity of this lake for recreational fishing during the summer season. It is also popular for hunting and dispersed camping use.

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**Project Name/Unit: South Puget Sound Coastal Forest (Forest Legacy Program — state grant)**

**LWCF Contribution:** \$10.7 million

**Stakeholders Involved:** Trust for Public Land, The Conservation Fund, The Nature Conservancy

**Keywords/Characteristics (eg. rec access, drinking water, consolidating maintenance):** Recreation access, protection of natural resources, working forestlands

**Short Description:** Through a conservation easement, the South Puget Sound Coastal Forest conserves a working landscape comprised of valuable timber land and shellfish beds in a region economically dependent upon production of these natural resources.



South Puget Sound Coastal Forest (Phase I)  
Credit: USFS

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## 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**