

# Our Land, Our Water, Our Heritage

LWCF IN OHIO

HELP PROTECT OHIO'S QUALITY OF LIFE BY SUPPORTING FULL FUNDING FOR THE LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND

## LWCF Funded Units in Ohio

### Federal Program

Cuyahoga Valley NP

Dayton Aviation NHP

Fallen Timbers

Hopewell Culture NHP

James Garfield NHS

Little Beaver Creek

WSR

Ottawa NWR

Perry's Victory IPMem

Wayne NF

**Approximate**

\$ 174,000,000

**Federal Total**

### State Program

Approximate Total

Stateside Grants

\$ 146,000,000

### Forest Legacy Program:

Approximately \$5,000,000

**Approximate Total**

\$ 325,000,000

## LWCF Success in Ohio

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) has provided funding to help protect some of Ohio's most special places and ensure recreational access for hunting, fishing and other outdoor activities. Ohio has received approximately \$325 million in LWCF funding over the past four decades, protecting places such as the Cuyahoga Valley National Park, Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge, Wayne National Forest, James Garfield National Historic Site.

Forest Legacy Program (FLP) grants are also funded under LWCF, to help protect working forests-- supporting timber sector jobs and sustainable forest operations while enhancing wildlife habitat, water quality and recreation at places such as the Vinton Furnace Experimental Forest in Clinton, Vinson and Madison counties. The Forest Legacy Program assists states and private forest owners to maintain working forest lands through matching grants for permanent conservation easement and fee acquisitions, and has leveraged approximately \$5 million in federal funds to invest \$8 million in Ohio's forests, while protecting air and water quality, wildlife habitat, access for recreation and other public benefits provided by forests.

LWCF state assistance grants have further supported hundreds of projects across Ohio's state and local parks including Chestnut Hills Trailhead in Portage County, City of Toronto War Memorial in Jefferson County and Middle Bass Island in Ottawa County.



Picnickers at the Blossom Music Center in Cuyahoga Valley National Park

## Economic Benefits

Active outdoor recreation is an important part of the Ohio economy. The Outdoor Industry Association has found that active outdoor recreation generates \$17.4 billion in consumer spending in Ohio, 196,000 jobs which generate \$5.1 billion in wages and salaries, and produces \$1.3 billion annually in state and local tax revenue. Further, the U.S. Census reports that each year 5 million people hunt, fish, or enjoy wildlife-watching in Ohio, contributing \$3.2 billion in wildlife recreation spending to the state economy.



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# LWCF in Ohio

## Cuyahoga Valley National Park

Located between Cleveland and Akron, Cuyahoga Valley National Park conserves the Cuyahoga River valley and the associated historic canal and railroad corridors in Summit and Cuyahoga counties. The park is a major year-round outdoor recreation attraction in northeastern Ohio; each year it attracts almost 3 million visitors, making it one of the most visited National Parks in the country. The Land and Water Conservation Fund has been used to expand recreational opportunities, protect cultural and historical sites, and prevent the development of inholdings.



Navarre Marsh in the Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge

## Ohio and the Fiscal Year 2015 President's Budget:

Below is information regarding the Ohio project recommended for LWCF funding in the President's Fiscal Year 2015 budget. This project will enhance recreation and conservation, protect clean water, often reduce management costs resulting in savings to the agencies, and support jobs and economic vitality across Ohio's communities.

<u>Agency</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Funding Request</u>	<u>District and Rep.</u>
FLP	OH	Little Smokies	\$1,285,000	2- Wenstrup

LWCF is a simple idea: that a portion of offshore drilling fees should be used to protect important land and water for all Americans. These are not taxpayer dollars. Unfortunately, the promise of LWCF has been broken. The program is authorized to receive up to \$900 million each year—but most of these funds have been diverted elsewhere. Now is the time to fix this and ensure that funds retained in the LWCF account are used for their intended conservation and recreation purposes.

LWCF supports the acquisition of land and conservation easements to protect our national parks, wildlife refuges, forests, trails, and BLM sites, grants funds to the states for local and state park needs, protects critical wildlife habitat, watersheds and recreational access, and conserves working farms, ranches and forestlands that enhance local economies.

## The Fiscal Year 2015 President's Budget:

The President has proposed to fully fund LWCF at \$900 million in FY2015, restoring a long-standing promise that a small portion of the revenues from offshore oil and gas development are used to make strategic investments to protect America's irreplaceable natural, historic and recreational outdoor places.

The Ohio project above is included within the following allocation of funds among projects and programs:

<b>2015 President's Request</b>		
<b>Bureau of Land Management:</b>	<b>Federal Projects</b>	<b>\$79.4 million</b>
	<b>Sportsmen &amp; Recreational Access</b>	<b>\$10 million</b>
<b>US Fish and Wildlife Service:</b>	<b>Federal Projects</b>	<b>\$166.3 million</b>
	<b>Sportsmen &amp; Recreational Access</b>	<b>\$2.5 million</b>
<b>National Park Service:</b>	<b>Federal Projects</b>	<b>\$155 million</b>
	<b>American Battlefield Protection Grant Program</b>	<b>\$13.5 million</b>
	<b>Recreational Access</b>	<b>\$2.5 million</b>
<b>US Forest Service:</b>	<b>Federal Projects</b>	<b>\$123.7 million</b>
	<b>Priority Recreational Access</b>	<b>\$2 million</b>
	<b>Sportsmen &amp; Recreational Access</b>	<b>\$2 million</b>
<b>State Grants:</b>	<b>NPS State Assistance Grants</b>	<b>\$100.1 million</b>
	<b>NPS Urban Parks and Recreation Fund</b>	<b>\$25 million</b>
	<b>Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund</b>	<b>\$100 million</b>
	<b>Forest Legacy Program</b>	<b>\$100 million</b>



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