



LWCFCoalition.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 18, 2018

CONTACT: Justin Bartolomeo

(202) 789-4365

jbartolomeo@hdmk.org

House Rejects Anti-LWCF Amendment

Washington, DC – *The following statement may be attributed to Tom Cors, Director of Government Relations for Lands at The Nature Conservancy and a spokesman for the LWCF Coalition.*

“We congratulate the House of Representatives for decisively rejecting Representative Biggs’ attack on the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), America’s most important conservation and recreation program. This misguided amendment would have robbed Peter to pay Paul, defunding key Bureau of Land Management conservation priorities to address just a tiny fraction of needed repairs in our national parks. That is an unacceptable and ineffective trade-off and we thank our many bipartisan supporters in the House who recognized this and voted “no”.

“The conservation of our nation’s shared outdoor heritage has always been an area of bipartisan agreement, as America’s public lands are a defining aspect of our values and national character. LWCF is overwhelmingly supported by the American people, a fact which was reflected in the recently enacted Omnibus Appropriations Act, bipartisan legislation that increased LWCF funding.

“Rolling back critical investments in America’s parks, lands and historic sites further jeopardizes irreplaceable natural and historic landmarks and landscapes while eroding increased access to outdoor recreational opportunities and increased access including access for sportsmen and women.

“The LWCF Coalition will continue to work with the Appropriations Committee and conservation champions in the House, and with their Senate counterparts, to protect America’s most important conservation and recreation program into the future so that there is access to recreation for every American no matter where they live or play.”

###

About the Land and Water Conservation Fund

The Land and Water Conservation Fund is America’s most important conservation program, responsible for protecting parks, wildlife refuges and recreation areas at the federal, state and local level. For 50 years, 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 a trillion dollars annually to the U.S. economy, supporting 9.4 million jobs.

About the LWCF Coalition

The LWCF Coalition is the umbrella group of more than 1,000 state and local land owners, 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.

The Coalition is united in its advocacy for the reauthorization and full funding of the Land and Water Conservation Fund, which will ensure the continued conservation of our national parks, forests, wildlife refuges, wilderness, civil war battlefields, as well as state and local parks.

For more information on LWCF and the places in each state that have been protected using LWCF funds, visit www.lwcfcoalition.org