

New Hampshire

Our Land, Our Water, Our Heritage



LWCF Funded Places in New Hampshire

Federal Units

- Appalachian Trail
- Great Bay NWR
- Merrimack River Atlantic Salmon Smolt Release
- Saint Gaudens NHS
- Silvio Conte NFWR
- Umbagog NWR
- White Mountains NF

Federal Total \$80,163,777

State Programs

Forest Legacy Program	\$33,354,261
Stateside	\$41,298,871

Total \$154,816,910

LWCF Success in New Hampshire

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) has provided funding to help protect some of New Hampshire's most special places and ensure recreational access for hunting, fishing and other outdoor activities. New Hampshire has received approximately \$154.8 million in LWCF funding over the past five decades, protecting places such as the White Mountain National Forest, Umbagog National Wildlife Refuge, Saint Gaudens National Historic Site and the Appalachian National Scenic Trail.

Forest Legacy Program (FLP) grants are also funded under LWCF, to help protect working forests. The FLP cost-share funding supports timber sector jobs and sustainable forest operations while enhancing wildlife habitat, water quality and recreation. For example, the FLP contributed to places such as Connecticut Lakes in Coos County and Pillsbury-Sunapee Highlands in Grafton, Sullivan and Merrimack Counties. The FLP assists states and private forest owners to maintain working forest lands through matching grants for permanent conservation easement and fee acquisitions, and has leveraged \$33.3 million in federal funds to invest in New Hampshire'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 New Hampshire's state and local parks and forests including Moose Brook State Park in Gorham, Pisgah State Park in the Monadnock Region, Rolfe Park and Oak Hill in Concord. Additionally, the Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Program (ORLP), has annual funding opportunities for city park projects in economically disadvantaged areas.

Economic Benefits

Active outdoor recreation is an important part of New Hampshire's economy. The Bureau of Economic Analysis has found that outdoor recreation generates \$3.3 billion in value added to New Hampshire's economy, 30,852 homegrown jobs, and accounts for 3.2% of the state's economy. Further, the U.S. Census reports that each year 839,000 people hunt, fish, or enjoy wildlife-watching in New Hampshire, contributing over \$560 million in wildlife recreation spending to the state economy.





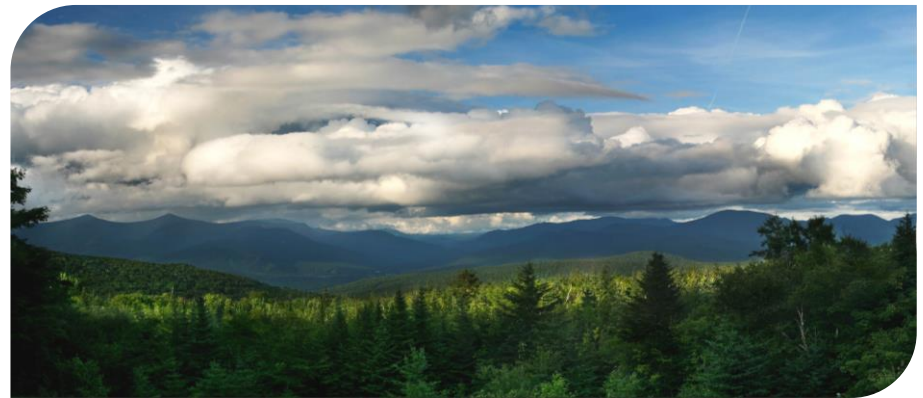
LWCF in New Hampshire

Umbagog National Wildlife Refuge

Kayakers, canoeists, and anglers explore numerous coves and bays on Lake Umbagog and dozens of rivers, streams, and lesser ponds that surround the lake. Hunters, hikers, nature photographers, and wildlife watchers all find extensive opportunities in the refuge's remote expanses. The Umbagog Refuge is a well-known and sought-after fishing area that offers anglers the opportunity to fish for warm water species such as smallmouth bass, brown bullheads, perch, and pickerel in Lake Umbagog and for cold water species, notably brook trout, in the feeder streams and surrounding ponds.

Fiscal Year 2025 Agency LWCF Project List for New Hampshire

Agency	Project	Amount	Delegation
USFWS	Silvio Conte NWR*	\$2,000,000	Shaheen, Hassan/Pappas, Kuster
USFWS	Great Thicket NWR*	\$1,500,000	Shaheen, Hassan/Pappas, Kuster



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, for 55 years the promise of LWCF was broken as \$22 billion was diverted from the program.

The **Great American Outdoors Act** ended the diversion and ensures that LWCF's permanently authorized \$900 million is used for conservation and recreation projects each year.

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.



www.lwcfcoalition.org

Status of the Land and Water Conservation Fund

In August 2020, permanent, dedicated funding for LWCF was secured through the Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA) – ensuring that each year the \$900 million deposited into the LWCF account is directed to conservation and recreation priorities; however, in FY24 Congress backtracked on that promise when they rescinded \$94 million of unobligated LWCF funding (\$89M from the NPS State & Local Assistance Program & \$5M from BLM). GAOA has not eliminated the backlog of LWCF priorities that are waiting in line as nearly all LWCF programs remain oversubscribed - each year the LWCF supplemental project list includes about \$200 million in urgent needs that are authorized to use this funding. To support these critical projects, unspent LWCF funding should be reallocated to the states by the Secretary of the Interior (per the LWCF Act) or reprogrammed by Congress to LWCF sub-programs with outstanding funding need. If funding is rescinded rather than reallocated or reprogrammed, landowners and communities miss out on LWCF funding, and these critical priorities could be lost forever.

FY25 Budget Update: The Biden Administration's FY25 budget proposal included detailed LWCF priority project lists and balanced program allocations, as well supplemental project lists over and above LWCF's current \$900 million funding level. [Click here to view a map of past LWCF projects](#)