Tennessee

#SaveLWCF

Our Land, Our Water, Our Heritage

America's most important conservation and recreation program will expire in less than a year unless Congress acts. For 52 years, the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) has protected national parks and open spaces in every corner of the United States. But in less than 52 weeks, it could be gone forever and along with it, future protection of the places we love.

<u>LWCF</u> has invested more than \$201 million to protect Tennessee's outdoor places, preserve historic sites, increase sportsmen's access, and to build close to home parks. From national forests and wildlife refuges to ball fields and community parks, LWCF has protected Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Shiloh National Military Park, Panther Creek State Park, Cumberland Mountain, and Roan Mountain State Park.

Tennessee's \$21.6 billion <u>outdoor recreation industry</u> is an economic powerhouse – supporting 188,000 jobs which generate \$6.5 billion in wages and salaries and produces \$1.4 billion annually in state and local tax revenue.

Hump Mountain, Cherokee National Forest & Appalachian National Scenic Trail

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

"As a native son who has lived and worked in both the eastern and western part of the state, I know that LWCF funds have enhanced the quality of life in every part of Tennessee. We can't stop investing in our parks, forests and outdoor recreation areas, or we will start undermining the foundation of what makes it so great to live and work in Tennessee." - Witt Langstaff, Jr., Former Board President of Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy

Chickamauga-Chattanooga National Military Park

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 Wauhautchie 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