

Invest in the outdoors

PASS THE AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL ACT

OUTDOOR RECREATION ROUNDTABLE ASSOCIATION

America's public lands and waters are the backbone of a **$1.3 trillion** outdoor recreation economy that supports **5.3 million jobs** and makes up **2.3 percent** of our nation's GDP. But aging trails, campgrounds, marinas and boat launches put that access at risk.

In 2020, the Great American Outdoors Act created the National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund (LRF) to address the maintenance backlog on America's public lands. Since its creation, the LRF has repaired critical infrastructure across our public lands and waters, ensuring safety and access for America's outdoor recreation economy.

The National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Bureau of Indian Education have used the LRF to address billions of dollars in repair needs and create thousands of jobs. The LRF was created with overwhelming bipartisan support, and now requires extension to address more projects.

The bipartisan America the Beautiful Act would continue this investment in our public lands and waters, so every American can keep getting outside, and the businesses and communities who depend on them can continue to grow. Introduced by Senators Daines (R-MT), King (I-ME), Cramer (R-ND), and Warner (D-VA), and House Natural Resources Chairman Westerman (R-AR-4) and Ranking Member Huffman (D-CA-2), the bipartisan America the Beautiful Act would:

- Reauthorize and strengthen the Legacy Restoration Fund.
- Modernize campgrounds, marinas, boat launches, trails and other recreation infrastructure.
- Require two-year project lists for Congressional review.
- Improve requirements for reporting to Congress.
- Strengthen rural economies and the small businesses that depend on public lands and waters.

Reauthorize the Legacy Restoration Fund *to grow the outdoor recreation economy and preserve these experiences for future generations.*

From 2020 to 2025, the Legacy Restoration Fund delivered:

- Safer and expanded access to hiking, biking, RVing, paddling, camping, skiing, boating, climbing, fishing, horseback riding, motorized use, and more.
- Vital support for the economic development of rural economies and gateway communities.
- Reduced deferred maintenance backlogs across public lands and waters to improve and protect our natural resources.
- Modernized recreation infrastructure improving the visitor experience for millions of visitors.

Projects funded by the LRF have revitalized campgrounds, repaired trail systems, modernized water infrastructure, and enhanced access to recreation across all 50 states. Below are examples of successful LRF projects by recreation segment, illustrating how these investments strengthen the recreation economy, create jobs, and expand access to the outdoors.



MOAB RECREATION AREA (UT)

Agency: Bureau of Land Management

Recreation Sectors: Mountain biking, ATV/OHV, hiking, camping

LRF Investment: $200,000

Project Overview: The project provided significant funding to address critical drainage failures, infrastructure repair at high-use trailheads, and mitigation of flood damage, ensuring safer and more reliable access for thousands of campers, bikers, ATV/OHV users, and hikers. By repairing drainage and access infrastructure, the investment helps maintain high-quality recreation access while protecting fragile desert surfaces and reducing long-term maintenance costs.

BIG HOLE RECREATION SITE (MT)

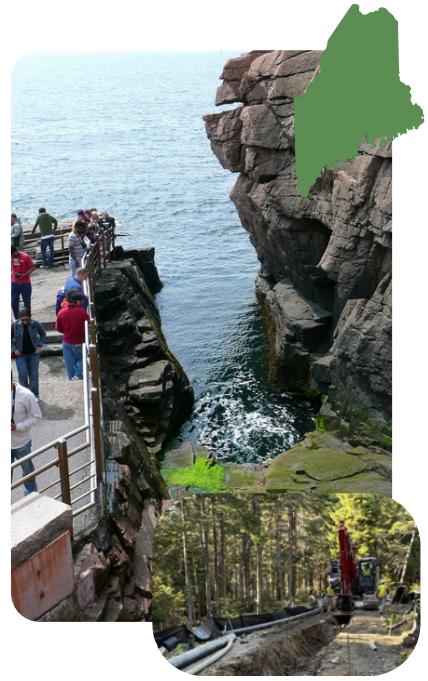
Agency: Bureau of Land Management

Recreation Sectors: Fishing, boating, rafting

LRF Investment: $916,000

Project Overview: LRF investments funded improvements at Big Hole Recreation Site, which provides primary access to four separate day-use areas. Project work included improving the sites' boat ramps to provide the public with a safer and more durable river access point and paving the sites' parking lots to create safe traffic flow and reduce future maintenance costs.





REHABILITATE SCHOODIC POINT WATER AND WASTEWATER SYSTEMS - ACADIA NATIONAL PARK (ME)

Agency: National Park Service

Recreation Sectors: Camping, hiking, fishing

LRF Investment: $8,658,000

Project Overview: This project rehabilitated the Schoodic Point potable water and wastewater systems, replaced wastewater collection lines, reconstructed wells, implemented systems to reduce the potential for freezing, and improved the consistency of water availability throughout the park. With over 250,000 visitors to Acadia National Park using these facilities each year, the 1970s-era water systems were in dire need of repairs. The systems reduce the risk of environmental contamination and compromised health and safety of visitors and employees, improving the visitor experience for thousands of campers, hikers, anglers, and other recreators.



MARINA BULKHEADS AT FLAMINGO - EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK (FL)

Agency: National Park Service

Recreation Sectors: Boating, paddling, swimming, hiking

LRF Investment: $19,835,000

Project Overview: The project rehabilitated four marina bulkheads at Flamingo. Prior to the project, existing bulkheads and boat launch ramps were cracking and spalling due to rusting and expanding reinforcing steel. Rehabilitating the bulkheads increases the safety of visitors and staff, protects historic structures, docks, and boat ramps from flooding, and provides safe access to over 600,000 National Park visitors per year.

DALE BUMPERS WHITE RIVER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE (AR)

Agency: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

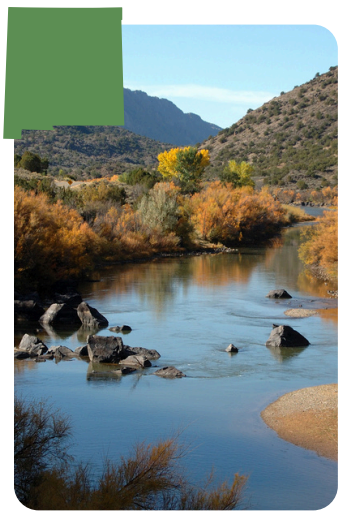
Recreation Sectors: Boating, camping, fishing, hunting, hiking

LRF Investment: $10,070,000

Project Overview: This project improved accessibility and visitor experience at the Dale Bumpers White River National Wildlife Refuge. LRF funds repaired boat launches, rehabilitated campgrounds, and repaired numerous public transportation assets that enable visitor access.



> *These investments are not simply about repairing buildings or roads. They are investments in family fishing trips. They are investments in duck hunters, hikers, paddlers, campers, birdwatchers, and outdoor enthusiasts. They are investments in gateway communities and rural economies. Most importantly, they are investments that ensure future generations can enjoy the same outdoor experiences that have shaped so many of us.*
>
> **Katherine Andrews,** Director, Arkansas Department of Parks



TAOS FIELD OFFICE RECREATION SITES (NM)

Agency: Bureau of Land Management

Recreation Sectors: Camping, paddling, swimming, hiking

LRF Investment: $7,330,000

Project Overview: The project repaired outstanding deferred maintenance issues at key recreation sites across the Farmington District. Recreation sites included the Taos Junction Bridge Campground, the Rio Grande Gorge Visitor Center, the Wild Rivers Rec Area, and the Santa Cruz Lake Rec Area North Shore Campground. Repairs improved the visitor experience and prevented the public from traversing surrounding resources.



DELAWARE WATER GAP NATIONAL RECREATION AREA (PA)

Agency: National Park Service

Recreation Sectors: Bicycling, hiking, swimming, paddling

LRF Investment: $21,500,000

Project Overview: At the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, this project provided substantial, and much-needed, repairs to a highly trafficked roadway. Repairing US Route 209 addressed one of the largest and most expensive infrastructure needs in the park, extended the life of the road and eliminated the ongoing costs. Modernizing this vital piece of the park's infrastructure enhanced safety and access for the millions of people who visit the park each year, including bicyclists and motorists.

TUOLUMNE MEADOWS CAMPGROUND - YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK (CA)



Agency: National Park Service

Recreation Sectors: RV, camping, equestrian

LRF Investment: $26,200,000

Project Overview: A full rehabilitation of Yosemite's largest campgrounds, addressing more than $11 million in deferred maintenance, modernizing infrastructure and improving the camping experience for over 150,000 campers a year.



Bureau of Land Management

MEADOWOOD SPECIAL RECREATION MANAGEMENT AREA (VA)

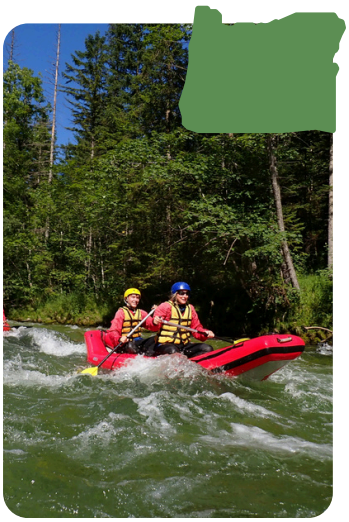
Agency: Bureau of Land Management

Recreation Sectors: Mountain biking, horseback riding, hiking

LRF Investment: $400,000

Project Overview: The project created safe boundaries for the public while protecting resources by replacing deteriorated fencing. It also replaced a deteriorating culvert, removed unsafe structures, and will provide safer experiences for visitors and employees for years to come.

CHIMNEY ROCK CAMPGROUND AND RIVER ACCESS (OR)



Agency: Bureau of Land Management

Recreation Sectors: Camping, boating, fishing, hiking, wildlife viewing

LRF Investment: $434,000

Project Overview: Along Oregon's Crooked Wild and Scenic River, an LRF-funded project renovated Chimney Rock Campground. The project upgraded day-use areas, recreation facilities, and trails, and added an ADA-accessible fishing platform. The project improved safety, accessibility, and the overall experience for campers, anglers, boaters, and hikers who rely on this site as a primary access point to the river corridor.