



Doe Mountain Trail No. 60; Credit Deborah Lee Soltesz



# The Land and Water Conservation Fund

*The most important conservation and outdoor recreation program for Arizona*

## What's at Stake?

After 52 years of remarkable accomplishment, the LWCF will vanish unless Congress takes action to save it. **What will be lost if Congress chooses to let the LWCF expire?**

- The principle of asset-for-asset reinvestment in conservation, where the sale of one national natural resource (offshore energy) is offset by investing a small portion of royalties in a permanent capital investment in land and water for the American public. Much support for the program is based on the fact that it is not paid for with taxpayer dollars.
- The \$900 million deposited each year directly into the LWCF account at Treasury represents an essential conservation tool for our communities and a longstanding conservation offset for offshore oil and gas production.
- This year the Administration has proposed to ZERO OUT LWCF and to divert ALL its OCS revenue, with Secretary Zinke and others citing the NPS maintenance backlog as a higher priority—going so far as to suggest “the LWCF model” as the basis for using OCS revenues for the parks backlog even as the Administration proposes to bleed LWCF itself dry.

- Without long-term protection for its authorization and funding, the LWCF is left on an exposed and slippery slope for the program's funding to be eroded by competing priorities, austerity measures or ideological opponents.
- All landowners have the right to see their land conserved if that is their wish, and deserve viable options for keeping working lands in production through easement sales. LWCF is a program that works, with communities clamoring for access to funding through a multi-year process. We must not allow that process to be further handicapped or cut off altogether by letting LWCF expire.

## Economic Benefits



Active outdoor recreation is an important part of Arizona's economy. The Outdoor Industry Association has found that active outdoor recreation generates \$21.2 billion annually in consumer spending in Arizona, supports 201,000 jobs across the state which generate \$5.7 billion in wages and salaries and produces \$1.4 billion annually in state and local tax revenue. The U.S. Census Bureau reports that each year over 1.5 million people participate in hunting, fishing, and wildlife watching in Arizona, contributing \$2.1 billion to the state economy.

## LWCF in Maricopa County

Project Title	Date	Amount	County
Grayhawk Community Park: Phase I	2007	\$225,614	Maricopa
Queen Creek Horseshoe Park/Equestrian Centre	2006	\$935,000	Maricopa
Maguire Park Development	2006	\$42,000	Maricopa
Western Glendale Regional Park: Phase II	2006	\$192,675	Maricopa
75th Avenue & Greenway Park	2005	\$500,000	Maricopa
Goodyear Community Park	2005	\$638,732	Maricopa
Desert Mountain Park Ballfield Complex	2004	\$427,421	Maricopa
Asu West Community Park	2004	\$500,000	Maricopa
Buckeye Skate Park	2004	\$35,000	Maricopa
Long Homestead Park Development	2004	\$154,560	Maricopa
Tempe Sports Complex: Phase II	2002	\$487,269	Maricopa
Augusta Ranch Park Development	2002	\$367,463	Maricopa
Fountain Park: Phase II	2001	\$214,757	Maricopa
Initial Park Development At 63rd Ave & Garfield	1995	\$227,500	Maricopa
McClintock Swimming Pool Renovation	1994	\$370,000	Maricopa
Buffalo Ridge Park Improvements	1993	\$114,500	Maricopa
Coldwater Park Ballfield Lighting	1991	\$55,355	Maricopa
Wellik Park Development: Phase I	1991	\$75,000	Maricopa
Other Projects	1989-1966	\$23,270,701	Maricopa
<b>Total:</b>		<b>\$28,833,548</b>	

### LWCF Spotlight: Maricopa County

Located in the Phoenix Metropolitan area, the **Horseshoe Park and Equestrian Area** hosts a wide variety of events—such as both English and Western equestrian persuasion, home shows, RV and car shows, concerts and weddings.



### LWCF Federal Funds in Arizona

The LWCF is a simple idea: that a portion of offshore drilling fees should be used to protect special places such as the Grand Canyon and Saguaro National Parks, Lake Mead National Recreation Area, Coconino National Forest, Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge, and San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area. In total, Arizona receives \$234,700,000 from the LWCF to fund essential programs such as the Forest Legacy Program (\$4,300,000), the Habitat and Conservation Program (\$4,700,000) and the State and Local Grants Program (\$60,000,000).

**“We protect wilderness and inspire Americans to care for wild places.”**