

# LOUISIANA

## LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND STATE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

### **The Need for LWCF State Assistance in Louisiana**

Presidential outdoor recreation studies under three different administrations in 1964, 1986 and 2010, as well as an independent report by a non partisan Outdoor Recreation Resources Group in 2009 have all documented the importance and need for the LWCF. And underscored the benefits to the nation of providing places for outdoor recreation close to home.

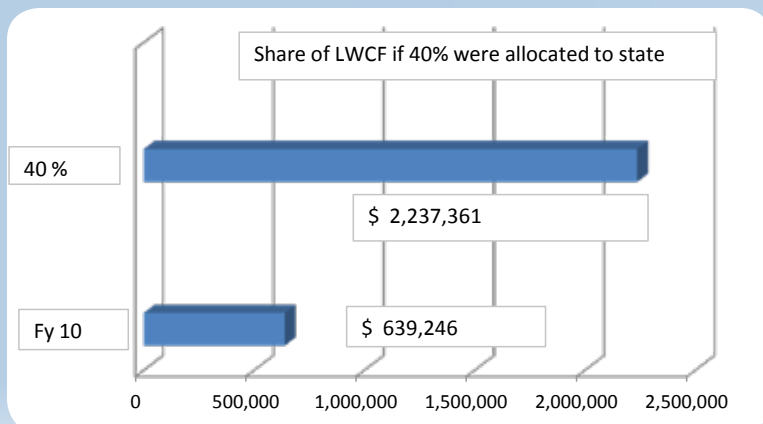
### **LWCF State Assistance Program in Louisiana**

Louisiana has grown in recent years and so has the need for outdoor recreation resources. The National Park Service reported the average annual need for recreational facilities development in Louisiana over the last three fiscal years was \$176,697,798. One of the primary reasons for the size of this need has been the lack of equity in the distribution of the LWCF to the states which led to reduced State Assistance appropriations. In FY 2010 the LWCF distribution to Louisiana was \$ 639,246 which barely funded smaller local needs for projects and met only 0.4% of the total need.



## What would a 40% Allocation to the State Assistance Program Accomplish?

In FY 2010, if 40 % of the LWCF had been available for state grants, Louisiana would have received \$2,237,361 for local and state grants, which when matched would provide an additional \$4,474,722 in parks and open space improvements, addressing 3 % of the total annual need. Over the long term, with this level of funding and the matching requirement applied, much of the backlog of projects identified in Louisiana would be have been addressed. This graph demonstrates the level of funding that was provided to the state in FY 10 and how much more would have been available for state grants in Louisiana if a 40 % state share had been required. It is essential to restore equity, so that outdoor recreation needs close to home can be addressed.



## What benefits would be gained in Louisiana from requiring a 40% allocation in LWCF?

1. Locally based projects support economic activity through equipment sales and tourism in Louisiana.
2. Local LWCF projects provide access for citizens for active lives which have community health benefits.
3. LWCF park projects in Louisiana increase the value of adjacent property and the tax base.
4. Research shows that parks funded with LWCF are key components in community development revitalization.
5. LWCF projects in Louisiana provide places for local and regional sports and community events.
6. LWCF projects provide direct benefits providing jobs and contracts for local businesses and employees.

## Where can I find a listing of Louisiana projects and the communities that have benefitted from this program?

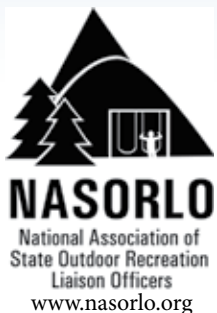
Data from the NPS shows that, on a national basis, 98% of all communities in our country have utilized state and local LWCF grants for projects in the past. You can find the projects for each county in Louisiana by going to the National Park Service State Assistance website at:  
<http://waso-lwcf.ncrc.nps.gov/public/index.cfm>.



(or scan this)

## The LWCF has an impact in Louisiana by providing economic benefits and jobs

A recent study by the Outdoor Industry Foundation, estimates a \$4.7 billion economic contribution of active outdoor to the Louisiana economy and provides more than 48,000 jobs. It generates 225 million dollars in annual state tax revenue and produces 3.2 billion dollars annually in retail sales and services across Louisiana. Additionally, the state and local projects supported by the LWCF provide direct benefits by providing employment for the contractors and their employees who work on these projects. These jobs are created close to home and support the local economy. These data demonstrate the development of facilities and areas using the LWCF State Assistance program pays off in Louisiana.



**National Recreation and Park Association**  
[www.nrpa.org](http://www.nrpa.org)



**The National Association of State Park Directors**  
[www.naspd.org](http://www.naspd.org)