

NASORLO 2022 LWCF Resolution

PREAMBLE

The National Association of State Outdoor Recreation Liaison Officers (NASORLO), are appointed officials of the State and Territorial Governors who are the chief administrators of the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund Stateside Assistance (LWCF) throughout the United States and US Territories. Actions by current and past NASORLO members have resulted in projects which have developed and protected outdoor recreation parks and recreation areas in every geographic region of the United States, every county, nearly every city or town, and throughout our territories.

President
Douglas Beck
Maine

WHEREAS, on September 3, 1964, President Lyndon Johnson, signed into law the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act, passed by the United States Congress, to provide urban and rural outdoor recreation opportunities on state, federal and local lands for all Americans. When the Act was passed by Congress its primary purpose was to provide outdoor recreation for Americans in close to home locations and guaranteeing that sixty percent (60%) of the Act's funds were to be dedicated to the states and territories; and

Vice President
Eric Feldbaum
New Hampshire

WHEREAS, over the past 58 years the LWCF Act created the most successful federal/state/local outdoor recreation partnership in history, which generated hundreds of millions of dollars in matching funds from private, local and state sources to at least double the federal funds for outdoor recreation projects; and

Secretary
Janice Keillor
Nevada

WHEREAS, in excess of 42,000 grants to states and localities were awarded LWCF State Assistance Grants Program funds over the past 58 years for planning, acquisition and development of outdoor recreation opportunities in 99% of the nation's counties. These grants represent an investment of \$4.2 billion in federal LWCF assistance, matched with private, local and state sources representing a minimum total of \$8.4 billion for outdoor recreation. These collectively provide close-to-home recreation opportunities readily accessible to America's youth, adults, senior citizens and the physically or mentally challenged; and

Past President
Linda Lanterman
Kansas

WHEREAS, the LWCF Act was recently permanently re-authorized and made permanent with full and mandatory funding at the \$ 900 million dollar level with a 40% share by the John D. Dingell Conservation, Management and Recreation Act of 2019 which restored a 40% share for the State Assistance Program for outdoor recreation state and local grants; and

Executive Director
Doug Eiken
Missouri

WHEREAS, a state by state assessment by the National Park Service, the federal administrator of the LWCF, and NASORLO have shown a significant unmet needs for outdoor recreation in state, local and urban areas; and

Board of Directors

Lauren Imgrund
Pennsylvania

WHEREAS, NASORLO will play an active role in the implementation of the State Assistance Program administration and are relevant stakeholders in advocating for a successful implantation and administration of outdoor recreation grants funded through LWCF; and

Robert Ehemann
Delaware

WHEREAS, a recent assessment of the potential economic impact generated from the expected infrastructure projects using the State Assistance Program for FY 21 is estimated in-excess of \$ 554 million dollars and supports 8918 jobs; (2020 IUE construction data) and

Antoinette Norfleet
Georgia

WHEREAS, NASORLO looks forward to working cooperatively with the National Park Service and all interested stakeholders, including the nation's Governors, Congress and the Administration towards the goal of more a efficient and effective management of the LWCF State Assistance Program, and

Justin Hancock
South Carolina

WHEREAS, NASORLO and its state and territorial members seeks authority to allow the use of a percentage of the annual allocations to administer and oversee the stewardship of the program at the state and territorial level; and

Audrey Mularie
Minnesota

WHEREAS, NASORLO seeks the maximum use of LWCF state grants during the economic recovery period following the pandemic and has recommended a temporary reduction in the state and local 50% matching requirement; and

Christie Bayus
Michigan

WHEREAS, The NASORLO Board of Directors met on January 21, 2022 for purposes of discussing the ongoing issues related to the state and territorial administration of the Land and Water Conservation Act and made important suggestions and recommendations to improve the State Assistance Program of the LWCF.

Dana Lagarde
Texas

Brian Stith
Missouri

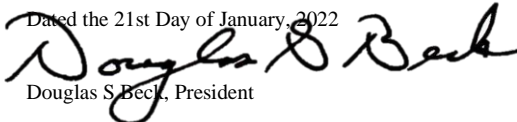
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the National Association of State Outdoor Recreation Liaison Officers Board on behalf of its Membership requests that Congress direct the Department of the Interior and the National Park Service to consider the following recommendations made by the Board of Directors, that; 1. A working group be established and empowered to address the policies and rules to improve communication, efficiency and the regulation related to the administration of the State Assistance Program, including the creation of a formal LWCF State Assistance Advisory Board; 2. Authorize an amount of the annual apportionment for each state and territory to be used for administration. 3. And ensure that 40% of each year's LWCF be dedicated to State outdoor recreation grants as stated in the John D. Dingell and Great American Outdoors Act.

Sedrick Mitchell
California

Mick Rogers
Arizona

Randy Kittle
South Dakota

Meghan Duffy
Washington

Dated the 21st Day of January, 2022

Douglas S. Beck, President

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NASORLO is a 501 c (6) organization of appointed state and territorial officials working to provide outdoor recreation by investing proceeds from the LWCF state assistance program in state and local projects. www.nasorlo.org