



Appalachian Mountain Club

Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)

Proven Track Record

LWCF was established with bipartisan support in 1964 as a means of ensuring that all Americans benefit from the permanent protection of open spaces and the development of outdoor recreation facilities. LWCF is a dedicated fund that takes in \$900 million per year from offshore oil and gas drilling royalties.

LWCF has paid for everything from neighborhood parks to ball fields to the Cape Cod National Seashore to the Appalachian Trail. It is a critical resource for the balanced development of our cities and the protection of wildlife habitat.

AMC's FY07 LWCF Funding Recommendation: \$320 million

While AMC strongly supports funding LWCF at its full \$900 million level, building back up to this level of support will take time. For FY07, AMC seeks:

- \$220 million for the Federal Program supporting needed lands for our National Forests, National Wildlife Refuges, and other federal ownerships
- \$100 million for the State Grants Program to support the visions outlined by states across the nation and to assist them in leveraging other sources of funding

Funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund

Although authorized by Congress at \$900 million per year, recent funding levels have decreased significantly. The President's FY07 budget recommendation for LWCF is approximately \$83 million, of which \$45 million may be used to purchase new federal lands nationwide. No funds are proposed for the matching grant program for towns and states.

The Appalachian Mountain Club and LWCF

Founded in 1876, the Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC) is the nation's oldest outdoor recreation and conservation organization. AMC promotes the protection, enjoyment, and wise use of the mountains, rivers, and trails of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic outdoors. AMC was a co-founder of Americans for our Heritage and Recreation, a nationwide coalition of over 5,000 organizations that worked to revitalize LWCF through the Conservation and Recreation Act.

