



# NEWS

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Office of the Secretary  
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CONTACT: Al Nash  
202-208-4990

## Secretary Norton Announces \$94 Million For State Recreation Grants From Land and Water Conservation Fund

(WASHINGTON) - Interior Secretary Gale A. Norton today announced funding grants of more than \$94 million from the Land and Water Conservation Fund for Fiscal Year 2003. The LWCF grants provide assistance to the 50 states, the territories and the District of Columbia for enhancing parks and other recreational opportunities.

The state grant program is a cornerstone of Secretary Norton's commitment to involve state governments in conservation planning activities. The states are responsible for analyzing their recreational needs and setting priorities for funding, supervising the selection of projects, and the work, ensuring compliance with federal guidelines.

"This Administration places a high premium on acknowledging and respecting the role of states in making local decisions," Norton said. "President Bush is keeping his commitment to help states and local communities make decisions that affect their daily lives."

The Land and Water Conservation Fund was created by Congress in 1964 and is managed by the National Park Service. The program is intended to create and maintain a nationwide legacy of high quality recreation areas and facilities and to stimulate non-federal investments in the protection and maintenance of recreation resources across the United States. It provides matching grants to state and local governments for the acquisition and development of public outdoor recreation areas and facilities. The LWCF is primarily funded by the collection of royalty receipts from oil and gas leases on the Outer Continental Shelf.

Since 1965, more than \$3.4 billion have been made available to state and local governments to invest in and improve over 39,000 outdoor and recreational projects. States and local municipalities have matched this amount, thereby doubling the investment to a total of \$6.8 billion. Of the total number of projects, approximately 10,000 have helped states and local communities to acquire more than 2.5 million acres of additional parkland.

Note to Editors: Attached is a state-by-state breakdown of the FY 2003 LWCF grant allocations.

### Land and Water Conservation Fund State Grant Allocations

Fiscal Year 2003

Alabama \$1,562,998	New Hampshire \$954,476
Alaska \$835,530	New Jersey \$2,628,475
Arizona \$1,760,604	New Mexico \$1,048,717
Arkansas \$1,165,213	New York \$4,823,954
California \$8,163,535	North Carolina \$2,183,878
Colorado \$1,590,503	North Dakota \$840,210
Connecticut \$1,490,890	Ohio \$3,060,736
Delaware \$896,322	Oklahoma \$1,344,663
Florida \$4,090,362	Oregon \$1,376,204
Georgia \$2,216,475	Pennsylvania \$3,302,890
Hawaii \$975,429	Rhode Island \$966,770
Idaho \$927,385	South Carolina \$1,477,640
Illinois \$3,286,244	South Dakota \$847,286
Indiana \$1,895,541	Tennessee \$1,781,544
Iowa \$1,197,148	Texas \$4,931,742
Kansas \$1,194,809	Utah \$1,165,250
Kentucky \$1,388,087	Vermont \$822,123
Louisiana \$1,614,914	Virginia \$2,127,888
Maine \$925,366	Washington \$1,928,926
Maryland \$1,886,043	West Virginia \$1,020,340
Massachusetts \$2,142,275	Wisconsin \$1,733,167
Michigan \$2,769,402	Wyoming \$808,079
Minnesota \$1,656,407	District of Col. \$145,360
Mississippi \$1,148,937	Puerto Rico \$1,308,141
Missouri \$1,775,781	Virgin Islands \$50,000
Montana \$857,011	Guam \$50,000
Nebraska \$1,021,669	American Samoa \$50,000
Nevada \$1,119,661	Northern Marianas \$50,000

**TOTAL** \$94,383,0000

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