

A few facts about public lands funding

KEY FUNDING

The **Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)** is a key source of public lands funding for federal agencies and states.

Every dollar spent on LWCF projects results in a \$4 return on investment.¹

\$ = \$\$\$\$

LWCF was guaranteed full funding at **\$900 million each year** by Congress in 2020.²

Economic analysis predicts that LWCF can create up to **27,700 new jobs** when funded at \$900 million per year.³

WAITING TO BE FIXED

The four main land management agencies in the U.S. reported a **deferred maintenance backlog of \$25.78 billion** in 2020.⁴ Deferred maintenance projects include everything from pit toilet repairs to vegetation treatments.



PUBLIC SUPPORT

Around **8 in 10 Western voters** support increasing funding for maintenance and infrastructure on public lands.⁵



Around **8 in 10 Western voters** support recent investments in infrastructure in national parks and public lands to restore natural areas.⁶

REFERENCES

- [1. Trust for Public Land \(2015\).](#)
- [2. LWCF Coalition](#)
- [3. Peltier, Heidi. Boston University: "Employment impacts of conservation spending." \(2020\)](#)
- [4. Congressional Research Service \(2021\).](#)
- [5. Center for Western Priorities, Winning the West \(2020\).](#)
- [6. Center for Western Priorities, Winning the West \(2022\).](#)