



Top 11 LWCF Recreation Projects



About these projects

Putting LWCF Dollars to Work

The passage of the Great American Outdoors Act guarantees \$900 million in mandatory annual funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund, the most important tool for funding outdoor recreation in the United States. To help put these funds to work, the Outdoor Recreation Roundtable (ORR) put out a call for projects from outdoor recreation partners from around the country--including land management agencies, state departments of natural resources, outdoor businesses and community members. ORR hopes that these projects will engage more people in outdoor recreation, help create recreation economies, and grow the outdoor recreation industry for years to come.

From the complete list,
ORR has identified eleven outstanding projects from across the country that are eligible for FY22 funding.



These projects showcase ORR's priorities for the outdoor industry:

- increasing recreation access for diverse user groups
- promoting rural economic development by adding value to nearby communities
- enhancing opportunities for underrepresented groups (e.g. Black, Indigenous, and Persons of Color, Low-income, Disabled, Immigrants, etc.)

ORR looks forward to engaging with agency partners at the federal and state levels over the next year to ensure that these projects break ground in a timely, cost-effective manner.



Palisade Wall Repair at Alpine Tunnel Historic District

Location: Gunnison National Forest

State: Colorado

Cost: \$565,000

The Alpine Tunnel National Historic District consists of a 13 mile by 200' wide area of the former Denver, South Park, and Pacific Railroad as it crossed the continental divide from 1880 thru 1911. The Alpine tunnel was at one time the highest (11,523') railroad tunnel on the continent. Since 1911 the former grade (hiking trail on the east side and motorized trail on the west side) has been a popular attraction. GNF estimates 1,000 visitors per month in the prime summer months.

In 2016 a snow avalanche destroyed a 50' long segment of the Palisade Wall road closing access to the historic Alpine Tunnel site to all, but those able to make the 7 mile hike. This project seeks to restore the damaged section of the wall to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Historic Preservation. The working estimate (from a historic stone mason and a rock scaling company) is \$565,000 for the total restoration. This project will restore the accessibility of the site to accommodate visitors and employees with disabilities. This project will also allow the historic structures at Alpine Station to be maintained and preserved by the volunteers of the Passport in Time (PIT) program of the USDA Forest Service (they have not been maintained since 2015).

Backpacking
Hiking
Biking
Equestrian
Hunting
Motorized Use
Skiing
Snowboarding
Wildlife Watching
Rock Climbing



Fishing Pier, Delaware City Branch Channel of the C&D Canal

Location: Delaware City

State: Delaware

Cost: \$500,000-\$750,000

Fishing
Wildlife Viewing
Walking
Biking

This project is a multi-use platform on the west side of the Delaware City Branch Channel of the C&D Canal. The use for the project was for fishing and wildlife viewing which is adjacent to a widely used, very popular multi-purpose connector trail opened in 2016.

Funding fell through in a shovel ready construction project of a fishing pier and wildlife observation. This platform complements the Connector Trail between the City of Delaware City and the Mike Castle recreation Trail that runs east-west along the C&D Canal in Delaware. This trail connects to the Ben Cardin Trail in Maryland.

The connector trail is a restoration, in part, of the original C&D Canal tow-path.



Animas River Wave Features

Location: Farmington

State: New Mexico

Cost: \$1,750,000+

Fishing
Canoeing
Kayaking
Rafting

The City of Farmington commissioned a River Wave Feasibility Study that is slated to be complete in the coming weeks. It has identified over 10 locations along the Animas River that could be developed into "features" along the river both for rapids and stand up waves. They hope to be able to implement this vision and create as many of these exciting features as possible to help solidify Farmington as a destination for water sport in the Four Corners.



Restore Rumney

Location: Rumney

State: New Hampshire

Cost: \$250,000-\$500,000

Backpacking
Hiking
Wildlife Viewing
Rock Climbing

The Rumney climbing area in New Hampshire is the most popular climbing destination throughout the Northeastern US. Continued heavy use alongside zero maintenance and zero upgrades is resulting in a heavily damaged ecosystem and recreational experience. This project would stabilize and prevent continued impacts at cliff bases and provide critical maintenance to the network of trails throughout the destination. Field work would be completed by Access Fund and AmeriCorps Conservation programs.





All Abilities Park

Playground

Location: Farmington

State: New Mexico

Cost: \$750,000-\$1,000,000

The City, in conjunction with a private non-profit, is working to develop an "All Abilities Park" to provide an accessible, all ages park that meets the needs of those with handicaps or ailments that prevent them from enjoying typical parks and playgrounds. The hope is to garner funding for the feasibility and acquisition of land for the project.



Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area Restoration

Location: Red Rock Canyon NCA

State: Nevada

Cost: \$500,000-750,000

Red Rock Canyon NCA is one of the most popular recreation destinations in the Las Vegas area, with visitation reaching 2 million visitors annually. Sensitive soils, the delicate desert environment, lack of maintenance and intense use is creating an ever increasing network of eroding social trails and braided user access points. Funding is in critical need for the essential restoration efforts and maintenance needs throughout the NCA - resource damage is rampant throughout the NCA including the areas within Federally Designated Wilderness areas.

Backpacking
Hiking
Equestrian
Wildlife Viewing
Rock Climbing



Crooked River Acquisition

Location: Jefferson County

State: Oregon

Cost: TBD

The 101-acre Crooked River Canyon property (currently held by Trust for Public Land) provides critical access to the Crooked River. The Crooked River is a nationally designated wild and scenic river which runs through the high desert in central Oregon and provides remote recreational opportunities including fishing, whitewater boating, wildlife viewing, and stunning scenic views. Because of the influx of cold ground spring water through the canyon walls, the river is home to unique ecosystems of lush gardens of plants rare to central Oregon's arid climate. Despite the fact that this river is nationally designated, there is very limited public access. All points where the river is easily accessible are privately owned, making it very difficult for the public to enjoy this resource. This property is one of the few areas where public access is available. The Crooked River Canyon parcel contains the "outstandingly remarkable" scenic and recreational values that led Congress to designate the Lower Crooked River as a part of the national wild and scenic river system.

Boating
Fishing
Canoeing
Kayaking
Rafting





Indian Creek Climbing Conservation

Location: Indian Creek

State: Utah

Cost: \$500,000-\$750,000

Backpacking
Hiking
Rock Climbing

Indian Creek Unit of Bears Ears National Monument is a historic climbing area with more than a dozen distinct climbing walls. Access Fund, partnering w BLM, is looking to stabilize approach trails, cliffside areas and protect surround resources (vegetation, cultural, etc). Work will include AF trail crews and AmeriCorps Conservation Youth crews focused on Ancestral Land youth. Specific work is extensive erosion control, trail work and stone work.





Make Beacon Hill Public

Location: Spokane County

State: Washington

Cost: \$3,211,500

Mountain Biking
Hiking
Walking
Trail Running

The Spokane County Parks, Recreation and Golf Department and the City of Spokane Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to buy 231 acres on Beacon Hill, connecting existing parks to create a contiguous 566-acre urban regional park. Located in the heart of Spokane County and the city of Spokane, Beacon Hill has been at the epicenter of mountain biking in the region for decades as well as a popular neighborhood area for hiking, dog walking, trail running, and more. This project not only will preserve miles of trail but also an urban space that serves one of Spokane's most distressed and disadvantaged neighborhoods.





Developing the Cap Sante Marina RV Park

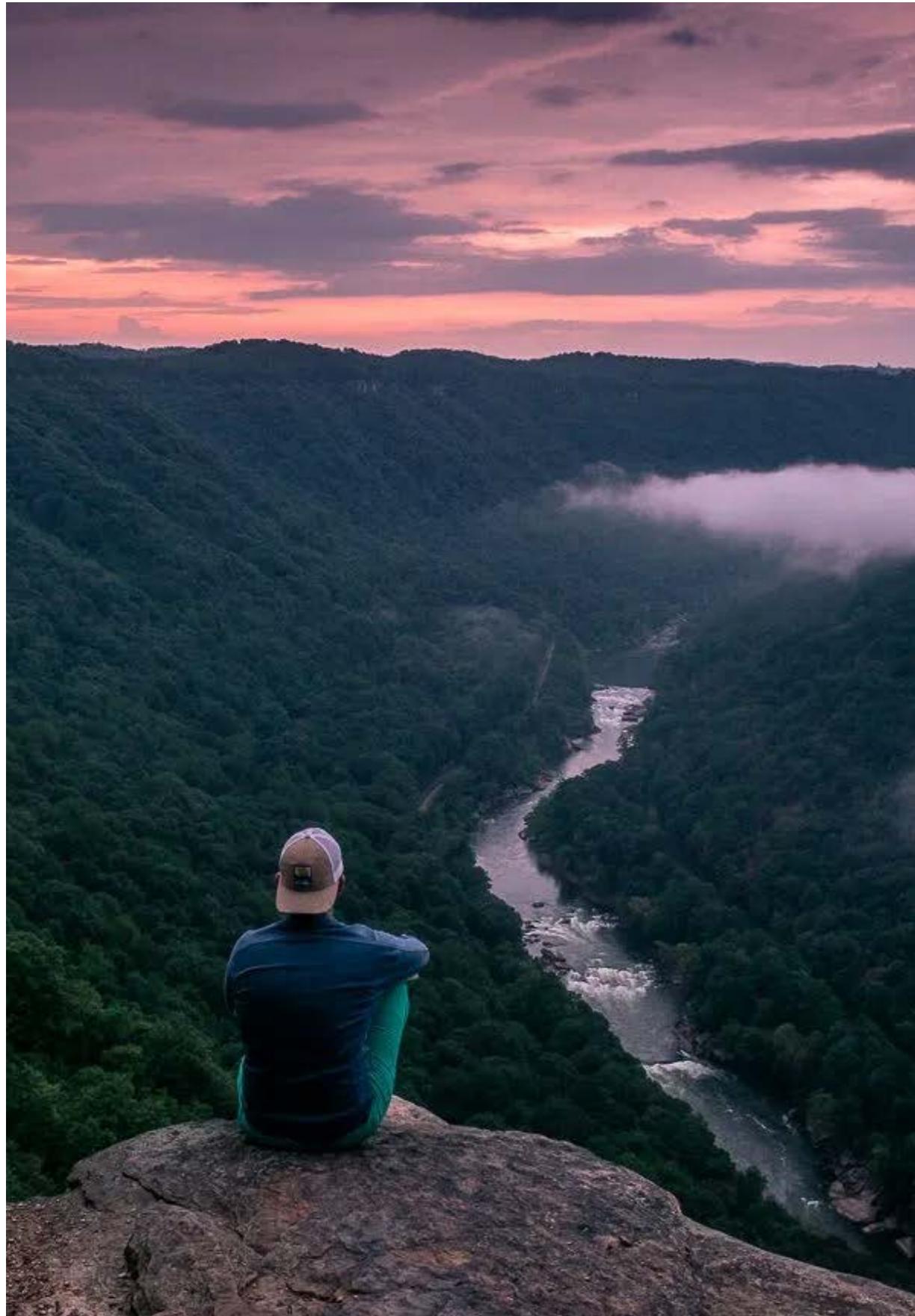
Location: Port of Anacortes

State: Washington

Cost: \$2,311,971

RV
Motorized Use

The Port of Anacortes will use this grant to develop a recreational vehicle (RV) park in the Cap Sante Marina. The current RV park is a gravel lot with 22 spaces and no utility hook-ups, forcing drivers to run their motors for electrical power. The Port will create 25 spaces with hedges for privacy, add a garbage and recycling area, and install utility hook-ups for sewer, water, cable, and power. The hook-ups will eliminate the reliance on generators and reduce noise and air pollution. The Port also will collect and treat stormwater and pave roads and pathways. The new RV park will connect visitors to the marina restroom and laundry services and to waterfront parks and regional trails.



New River Gorge National River Trail Modernization

Location: New River Gorge

State: West Virginia

Cost: \$250,000-\$500,000

The 110 mile hiking trail system at the New River Gorge National River is in dire need of restoration, maintenance and modernization. The bulk of hiking trails at this NPS Unit were originally user-generated trails, not adopted into the system. This trail system has never seen an effort to bring the system to modern standards or a comprehensive maintenance program. Trail conditions throughout the system are rapidly deteriorating and creating further resource impacts and safety concerns. This project will provide critical jobs for local young adults through AmeriCorps programs and NPS trail staff to upgrade the system.

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