

Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Grant Program **FY2025 Request:** **\$4,200,000**
Reference No: **AMD 32552**

AP/AL: Appropriation **Project Type:** Parks / Recreation
Category: Health/Human Services **Recipient:** NA
Location: Statewide **House District:** Statewide (HD 1 - 40)
Impact House District: Statewide (HD 1 - 40) **Contact:** Theresa Cross
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2024 - 06/30/2029 **Contact Phone:** (907)269-6398

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

Alaska's population growth has increased the demand for public outdoor recreation facilities. The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) offers a chance for local, regional, or State applicants to receive up to 50 percent reimbursement for developing or improving such areas or facilities. Established in 1965 by Congress, the LWCF Act aims to provide high-quality public outdoor recreation for present and future generations. In Alaska, LWCF-assisted projects include ski areas, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)-compliant trails, parks, rifle ranges, sports fields, and skate parks.

Funding:	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029	FY2030	Total
1002 Fed Rcpts	\$2,600,000						\$2,600,000
1003 GF/Match	\$1,600,000						\$1,600,000
Total:	\$4,200,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,200,000

☐ State Match Required
☐ One-Time Project
☐ Phased - new
☐ Phased - underway
☒ Ongoing
0% = Minimum State Match % Required
☒ Amendment
☐ Mental Health Bill

Operating & Maintenance Costs:

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Project Development:	0	0
Ongoing Operating:	0	0
One-Time Startup:	0	0
Totals:	0	0

Prior Funding History / Additional Information:

Sec14 Ch1 SLA2023 P91 L17 HB39 \$4,200,000
Sec11 Ch1 SLA2022 P91 L9 HB281 \$4,200,000
Sec8 Ch1 SLA2021 P75 L8 HB 69 \$5,652,655
Sec11 Ch1 SLA2021 P106 L3 HB 69 \$4,400,000
Sec1 Ch19 SLA2018 P8 L5 SB142 \$600,000
Sec1 Ch1 SLA2017 P6 L16 SB23 \$600,000
Sec1 Ch17 SLA2012 P124 L26 SB160 \$600,000
Sec1 Ch17 SLA2011 P92 L19 SB46 \$3,000,000
Sec7 Ch43 SLA2010 P31 L6 SB230 \$600,000
Sec1 Ch15 SLA2009 P15 L28 SB75 \$600,000

Project Description/Justification:

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) is a federal grant program that provides a 50-50 matching grant for the development or acquisition of public outdoor recreation areas and facilities.

The Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation (DPOR) allocates half of its annual federal appropriation to State Park projects, while the other half is granted to competing local governments for projects within their jurisdictions.

The mission of LWCF is to offer citizens ongoing opportunities for high-quality public outdoor recreation. These projects create short-term jobs during the development phase and have long-term positive economic impacts through use of the park site. The 50 percent matching grants are crucial for funding these projects and can determine whether they are realized. The benefits of these projects extend to the people of Alaska by providing facility development and open spaces.

The LWCF apportionment amount for Alaska can fluctuate unexpectedly from year to year, which makes planning for funding difficult. States are not promptly notified of the expected amount until several months after the fiscal year has begun. The current LWCF apportionment for Alaska is significantly higher than it was a couple of years ago, providing more opportunities for public outdoor recreation projects pending approval of additional receipt authority.

If the funding is not approved, both state and local entities will miss out on federal financial grant assistance for developing or rehabilitating public outdoor recreation facilities such as playgrounds, boat launches, basketball courts, and hiking trails. The funding will expire, resulting in a loss of federal investments for the State.

The following are active Alaska based LWCF Project Grants for state and local governments with the federal share indicated.

Sponsor	Project Name	LWCF: Federal Share \$	Scope of Work
Municipality of Anchorage	Lyons Park	168,640	Install a new inclusive playground and related equipment, safety and accessibility features, park lighting, and furnishings.
Municipality of Anchorage	Folker Park	225,000	Upgrade pathways, play areas, and lighting for safety, utility, and accessibility. Items include children's play and fitness equipment, seating areas, bike racks, trails, and landscaping.
Ketchikan Gateway Borough	Dudley Field Restroom	136,000	Develop a new restroom/concession building with accessible pathways to serve the public at Drechy Dudley ball fields.
Metlakatla Indian Community	Cedars Lake Trail 3: Scout Lake	115,154	Construct new trail connecting two existing trails: Sand Dollar and Scout Lake trails.

Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Grant Program **FY2025 Request:** **\$4,200,000**
Reference No: **AMD 32552**

State of Alaska: Division of Parks	PUCs: Denali, Chugach, and Chena	230,000	Construct six public use cabins at three separate State Park units: two each at Eagle River Campground in Chugach State Park; two at K'esugi Ken Campground in Denali State Park; and two at Chena River State Recreation Area outside Fairbanks.
State of Alaska: Division of Parks	PUCs 2021: Bird Ck and Johnson Lake	99,612	Construct two public use cabins and one vaulted toilet facility at two separate State Park units: one at Bird Creek near Anchorage, the other at Johnson Lake on the Kenai Peninsula.
State of Alaska: Division of Parks	Old Kasilof Landing	1,398,875	Develop a new State Recreation Site on the Kenai Peninsula. Construct roadway, parking lot, trail, and scenic overlook. A boat retrieval system, vaulted toilets, utilities, fencing, gate, signage, barrier rocks and other amenities will be installed.
State of Alaska: Division of Parks	SCORP	221,360	Develop the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, as required by NPS to guide DPOR from 2023-2027.
State of Alaska: Division of Parks	Anchor River SRA Sanitation	391,685	Replace deteriorated double-vaulted toilets with new concrete units. Install barrier rocks and signage as needed.
State of Alaska: Division of Parks	Chena Pump SRS Facility Imps	531,572	Renovate site: pave and stripe existing roadway and parking lot, improve site drainage, replace signage and picnic shelters. Construct a new orientation kiosk.
State of Alaska: Division of Parks	Kasilof River SRS Parking Imps	335,730	Improve site: pave and stripe existing roadway and parking areas, connector trails; replace and update site signage.
State of Alaska: Division of Parks	McHugh Creek Trailhd Sanitation	179,056	Demolish dilapidated vaulted toilet units and install new concrete vaulted toilet units.
State of Alaska: Division of Parks	NLSRA: South Rolly Campgd Imps	391,685	Refurbish and/or enlarge campsites and update/replace signage at this site in the Mat-Su valley.

Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Grant Program **FY2025 Request:** **\$4,200,000**
Reference No: **AMD 32552**

State of Alaska: Division of Parks	Rabbit Valley Trailhd Imps	1,048,406	Develop additional parking, install a new vaulted toilet, orientation kiosk, signage, parking bumpers, and barrier rocks for access management.
State of Alaska: Division of Parks	Prospect Heights Trailhd Imps	335,490	Pave roadway and parking, replace and add orientation signage, interpretive signage, parking bumpers and barrier rocks, for access management.
State of Alaska: Division of Parks	Deep Creek SRA Facility Rehab	438,933	Improve the tractor pull boat launch area. Pave existing gravel road, install signage, rip rap, parking bumpers and barrier rocks for access management.

Line Item	Amount
1000 – Personal Services	\$350,000
2000 – Travel	
3000 – Services	
4000 – Commodities	
5000 – Capital Outlay	\$2,650,000
7000 – Grants	\$1,200,000
Total Request	\$4,200,000