

NGA Outdoor Recreation
Learning Network

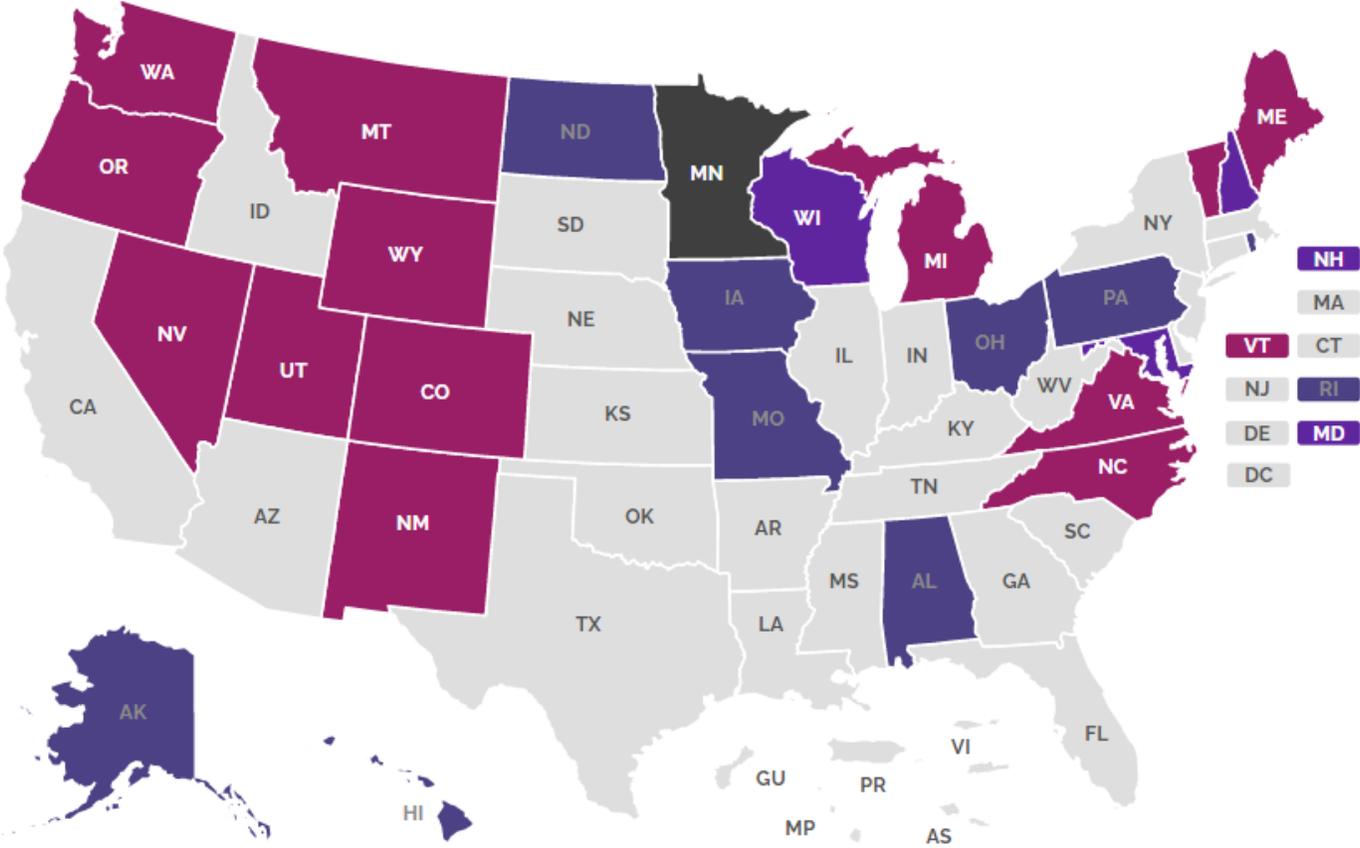
Annual Meeting
January 7-8th, 2021

Welcome and Introductions

12:00-12:10 PM EST

**Bevin Buchheister, Senior Policy Analyst
NGA Center for Best Practices**

State Outdoor Recreation Learning Network



Participating States

- States in the Learning Network
- States in the Learning Network with an Office
- States in the Learning Network with an Office and Confluence Signatory
- Governor Appointed Outdoor Recreation Task Force

* Maryland has a governor-established task force



Guided By Confluence Accords:

- Economic development
- Education, workforce training, infrastructure
- Conservation & stewardship
- Equity, inclusion and diversity
- Public health and wellness

Outdoor Recreation Learning Network **KEY ISSUE AREAS**

Agenda (Day 1)

12:00 - 12:10 pm (EDT)	Welcome and Introductions
12:10 - 1:00 pm (EDT)	State Coordination of Support for Outdoor Businesses During COVID-19
1:00 – 2:15 pm (EDT)	Land and Water Conservation Fund Background, Opportunities and Challenges
2:15 – 2:30 pm (EDT)	Break
2:30 – 3:30 pm (EDT)	Developing Partnerships to Access Land and Water Conservation Fund Grants
3:30 – 4:00 pm (EDT)	Spotlight: Outdoor Recreation Roundtable Toolkit
4:00 pm (EDT)	Day 1 Adjourn

Agenda (Day 2)

12:00 - 12:10 pm (EDT)	Meeting Welcome
12:10 - 1:00 pm (EDT)	USDA Opportunities and Financing to Support Rural Tourism and Recreation
1:00 – 1:45 pm (EDT)	Equity, Access, and Inclusion in the Outdoors
1:45 – 2:00 pm (EDT)	Break
2:00 – 3:00 pm (EDT)	Equity Programs Showcase
3:00 – 4:00 pm (EDT)	Using Economic Data to Highlight Local Needs
4:00 pm (EDT)	Meeting Adjourn

Other Items

- ▶ Please be ready for discussion, time is built into each session for Q&A
- ▶ Slides will be distributed to all participants
- ▶ **This meeting is being recorded**
- ▶ Please chat April Mellion amellion@nga.org if you have any technical questions (see chat box)

Thank you to our sponsors:

**OUTDOOR
INDUSTRY[®]
ASSOCIATION**

ORR OUTDOOR
RECREATION
ROUNDTABLE

**REI[™]
CO-OP**



State Coordination of Support for Outdoor Businesses During COVID-19

12:10-1:00PM

Speakers:

Jeff Kraft, Director of Business Funding and Incentives, CLIMBER Loan Fund
Jason Bertolacci, Founder and Principal, Berbur, LLC. COO, Colorado Gap Fund

Moderator:

Nathan Fey, Director, Colorado Outdoor Recreation Industry Office



LIMBER Loan Fund

NGA: Outdoor Recreation Learning Network Annual Meeting

January 7, 2021

Jeff Kraft,

Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade



Colorado Loans to Improvement Mainstreet Business Economic Recovery (CLIMBER)

Need For Funds

- 44k+SBs employ 700K+ Coloradans (40% of jobs)
- COVID-19 created a small business economic crisis
- Banks, Credit Unions, CDFIs do great work but small business lending is difficult. Government funds and subsidies provide more credit at favorable terms
- State funds hedge against lack of federal action or supplement federal programs
- During the first round of PPP we calculated small businesses in CO need billions of additional dollars to stay viable
- Equity and Geographic Diversity Concerns
- The economic need will be long term (beyond 2021)

Structural Insights/Considerations for Fund

- Fiscal friendly program design
- State funds can fill in gaps in federal programs
- Public Private Partnerships
- Leverage Existing Lenders/Technical Assistance
- Timing of Launch/Legislative Sessions
- Need for flexibility
- Trusted experienced fund manager
- Up to \$250m fund rolled out in \$50M tranches
- Multi-Agency Collaboration and coordination **Treasury Led /Governor's Office Partner**



Business Loan Terms

- Qualifying businesses have:
 - Between 5-99 employees
 - Two-year positive EBITDA pre-COVID
 - Debt service coverage ratio of at least 1:1 and positive cash flow pre-COVID
- Key business-loan terms include
 - below market interest rate (between 2%-3% depending on term)
 - payment deferrals for up to one year
 - maturities of up to 5 years
 - loan sizes between \$30,000 to-\$500,000
 - Used for operating expenses including debt service (broadly defined)



Fiscal Impact for the State of Colorado

\$50M state first loss money + \$200M private money = \$250M fund

Rolled out in 5 tranches of \$50M each

The CLIMBER program will impact businesses, families and communities across the state. Estimates include:

- Support the ongoing operations of over **2,000 Colorado small businesses**
- Preserve **70,000 jobs** across Colorado
- Generate more **\$200M in gross revenue** for the General Fund through increased state sales and income taxes paid by the employees whose jobs were saved (**net state budget positive**)
- Generate over **\$100M in local sales taxes**
- Save hundreds of millions in unemployment benefits
- Net positive fiscal impact

Jobs Multiplier

Keeping businesses going and/or helping them reopen not only has a direct effect on the owners and employees but has a 1.5x multiplier effect in the state's economy.

Tax Credit Sales.

\$50m in state capital generated by selling tax credits today that are redeemable in 6 years, when the state economy will be stronger



Land and Water Conservation Fund Background, Opportunities and Challenges

1:00-2:15PM

Speakers:

Doug Eiken, Executive Director, National Association of State Outdoor Recreation Liaison Officers

Lauren Imgrund, Deputy Secretary, Conservation and Technical Services, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

Joel Lynch, Chief of State and Local Assistance Program Division, National Park Service

Moderator:

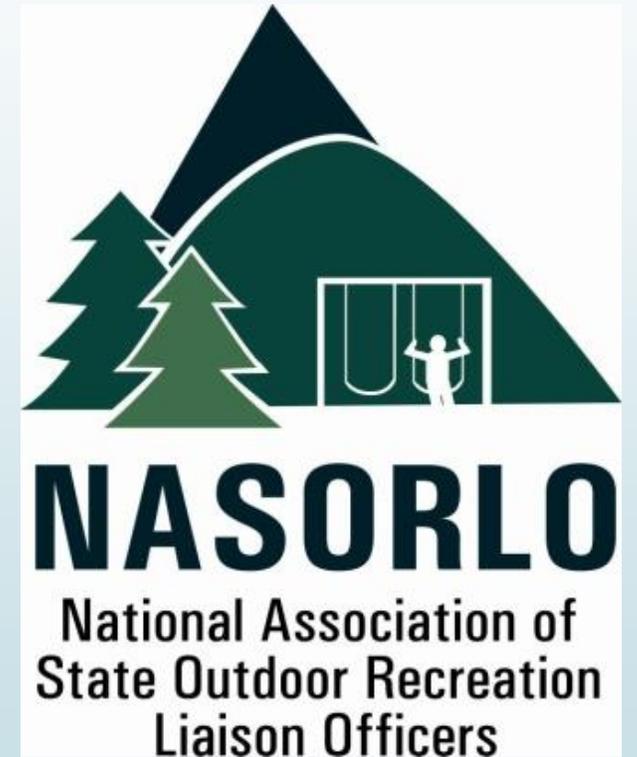
Bevin Buchheister, Senior Policy Analyst, National Governors Association

The Land & Water Conservation Fund: State & Local Assistance Program

► Lauren S. Imgrund, State Liaison Officer,
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Past-President, NASORLO

► Doug Eiken, Executive Director, NASORLO



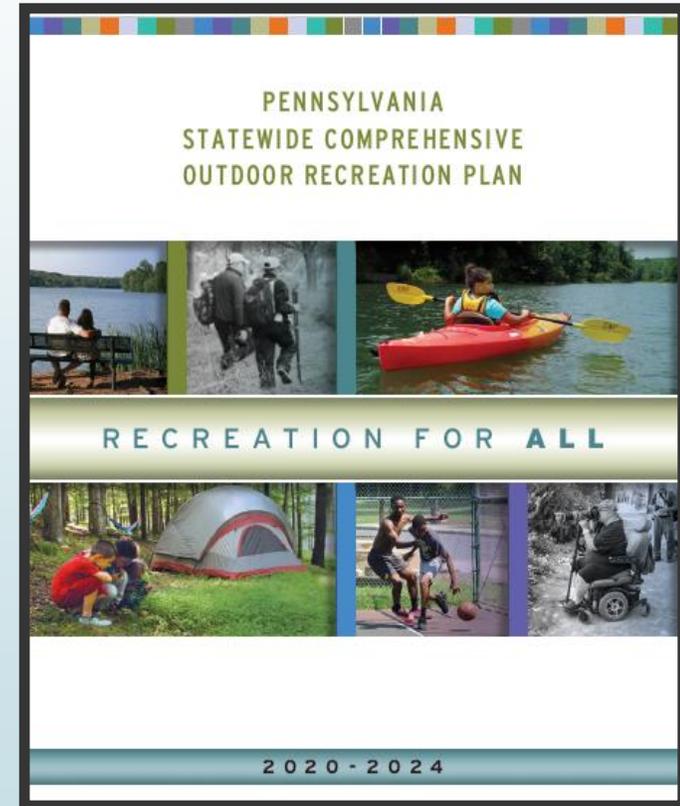
LWCF Overview

- ▶ Became Effective January 1, 1965
- ▶ Primarily Funded with Offshore drilling royalties
- ▶ Authorized at \$900 million/year
 - ▶ Mandatory funding under GAOA
 - ▶ As enacted law required 60% for states, 1970's that guarantee was removed
 - ▶ Dingell Act – 40% required for states
 - ▶ Congress/Administration determine program allocations
- ▶ Historically funding for states has been very low – Dingell and GAOA will change this!
 - ▶ **Only 25% since 1965; and less than 19% over last ten years**
- ▶ *Note: there is also a “federal side” to LWCF for acquisition of federal lands – this is managed at the federal level*



State & Local Assistance

- Managed in each state by Governor appointed State Liaison Officers
- Funding allocated to each state by formula
- States required to do planning every 5 years (LWCF grant supports)
- Open, competitive selection process required
- Over 46,000 projects, totaling \$8 billion have been completed
- National network of federally protected park lands
- Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Program also (ORLP)



Eligibility: Outdoor Recreation

Project Types

- ▶ Land Acquisition
- ▶ Development
- ▶ Major Rehabilitation and/or Renovation
- ▶ Acquisition & Development

Applicants

- ✓ State Government
- ✓ County and local governments
- ✓ School Districts



Program Requirements

- Minimum of a one-to-one match
- Permanently open to the public without discrimination
- On-going maintenance, operation and assurance of public access is responsibility of state and local partners.
- 5 year inspections
- **Reimbursement**



23. LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ACT OF 1965 (AND RELATED LAWS)

A. Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965¹

AN ACT To establish a land and water conservation fund to assist the States and Federal agencies in meeting present and future outdoor recreation demands and needs of the American people, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

TITLE I—LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION PROVISIONS

SHORT TITLE AND STATEMENT OF PURPOSES

SECTION 1. [16 U.S.C. 4601-4] (a) CITATION; EFFECTIVE DATE.—This Act may be cited as the “Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965” and shall become effective on January 1, 1965.

(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are to assist in preserving, developing, and assuring accessibility to all citizens of the United States of America of present and future generations and visitors who are lawfully present within the boundaries of the United States of America such quality and quantity of outdoor recreation resources as may be available and are necessary and desirable for individual active participation in such recreation and to strengthen the health and vitality of the citizens of the United States by (1) providing funds for and authorizing Federal assistance to the States in planning, acquisition, and development of needed land and water areas and facilities and (2) providing funds for the Federal acquisition and development of certain lands and other areas.

CERTAIN REVENUES PLACED IN SEPARATE FUND

SEC. 2. [16 U.S.C. 4601-5] SEPARATE FUND.—During the period ending September 30, 2015, there shall be covered into the land and water conservation fund in the Treasury of the United States, which fund is hereby established and is hereinafter referred to as the “fund”, the following revenues and collections:

(a) SURPLUS PROPERTY SALES.—All proceeds (except so much thereof as may be otherwise obligated, credited, or paid under au-

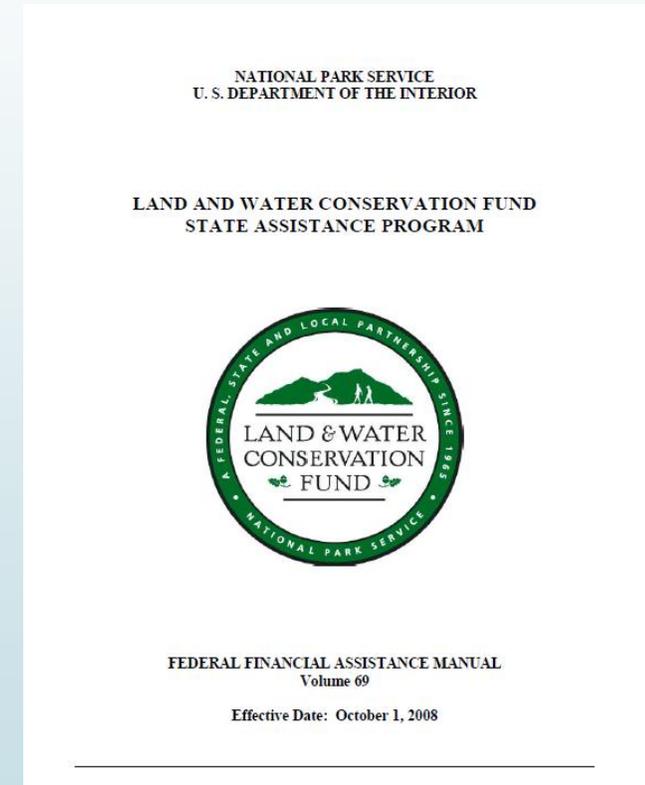
¹The Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 (16 U.S.C. 4601-4—4601-11), as set forth herein, consists of Public Law 88-578 (Sept. 3, 1964) and amendments thereto. Pursuant to section 2(b) of the Act of August 8, 1953 (16 U.S.C. 1c(b)), the provisions of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 apply to all areas of the National Park System to the extent the provisions are not in conflict with specific provisions applicable to a particular unit of the National Park System.

Controlling Documents

- ▶ Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, Public Law 88-578
 - ▶ 54 U.S. Code §200305 - Financial assistance to States
- ▶ Regulations for post-project compliance at: Title 36, Chapter 1, Part 59

Controlling Documents

- ▶ Grant Manuals
 - ▶ Federal & State
- ▶ Grant Agreements
 - ▶ Federal & State
 - ▶ Strings attached
 - ▶ Federal Assurances
 - ▶ Grant App Package
 - ▶ LWCF Project Agreement



Permanent Protection!

- ▶ 6(f) Boundary Map
 - ▶ Defines property of federal interest/funding assistance
 - ▶ Strictly restricts conversion of use from outdoor recreation
 - ▶ Requires coordination of “activities/uses” w/ State Liaison Officer(s)



Sample **TIMELINE** for Awards

JANUARY 19th, 2021

DCNR Grant Round Opens

SPRING/SUMMER 2021

DCNR Reviews & Ranks All Applications

JANUARY 2022

Typical DCNR Grant Agreements Begin



NOVEMBER 2020

DCNR Grant Workshops

**APRIL 14th, 2021
4:00PM**

DCNR Grant Round Closes

FALL 2021

DCNR Grant Announcement

SPRING/SUMMER 2022

Earliest Your Project Will Begin



Sample GRANT CRITERIA QUESTIONS

15 POINTS

READY-TO-GO REQUIREMENTS

25 POINTS

1

NEEDS, BENEFITS & URGENCIES

10 POINTS

2

CLIMATE RESILIENCY, GREEN & SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES

5 POINTS

3

ACCESS FOR ALL & ADA ACCESSIBILITY

5 POINTS

4

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

15 POINTS

5

OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN

5 POINTS

6

OPERATION, MAINTENANCE & STEWARDSHIP

10 POINTS

LOCAL, COUNTY, & REGIONAL PLANS

10 POINTS

PARTNERS



Sample project completion timeline

- 1. Review and Approval by NPS** **2-3 months**
 - 2. Contracting** **3-4 Months**
 - a. Grant Award Notification (Letter to Chief Elected Official)
 - b. Pre-Contracting Telephone Call (with Local Project Coordinator)
 - c. Process Grant Agreement
 - 2. Project Start-up** **4-5 Months**
 - a. Application Review/DCNR Comment Letter (to Local Project Coordinator)
 - b. Initial Conference Call (with Local Project Coordinator and Design Consultant)
 - c. Design Submission (Drawings and Specifications from Design Consultant)
 - 3. DCNR Design Submission Review and Approval/ Grantee Advertises for Bids** **5-7 Months**
 - a. Advertisement and Bid Process
 - b. Award of Construction/Materials Contracts
 - 4. DCNR Approval of Costs/Project Construction** **8-12 Months**
 - 5. Construction Completed/DCNR Final Site Inspection** **2 Months**

(with DCNR Regional Advisor)
 - 6. Project Close-Out and Process Final Payment** **4-6 Months**
- Range: 26-36 Months**

How can Outdoor Recreation Offices get involved?

- ▶ Participate in the SCORP Planning process
- ▶ Work directly with local governments:
 - ▶ Help with local planning processes
 - ▶ Help with raising matching funds
 - ▶ Help bring partners to the table for capacity building





Changes proposed by the States for the LWCF.

► **Efficiency changes**

SCORP to 10 yr cycle

Delegate more decisions to the Regions or State

Speed up the apportionment process

Address smaller 6 f conversion processes

Allow more time for temp non conforming uses of areas

► **Stimulus Changes**

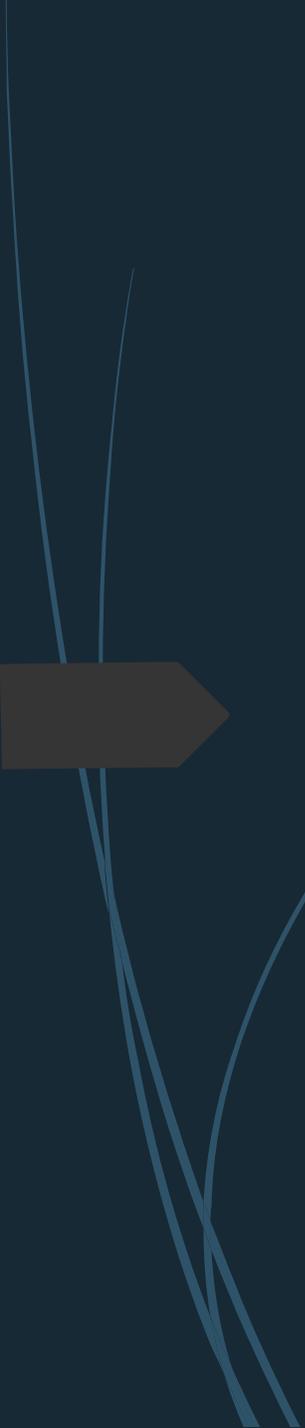
► Temp 5 year changes

► Reduce match to 20%

► Extend obligation from 3-5 years

► **Administrative Assistance**

► Allow states to use up to 10% of each annual appropriation for stewardship of program and administration.



National Association of Outdoor Recreation Liaison Officers

- Your voice on LWCF administration and management!
- **Our Mission:** We are the primary advocate for the State Assistance program of the Land and Water Conservation Fund. We do this through providing information, training, collecting data and preparing reports for use by the Department of Interior, Congress, our members, partners and communities who benefit from this program.
- Doug Eiken, Executive Director
nasorlo@gmail.com
573.353.2701

Break

2:15-2:30PM

Video:

Colorado Outdoor Rec Office

Developing Partnerships to Access Land and Water Conservation Fund Grants

2:30-3:30PM

Speakers:

Andy Cutko, Director, Bureau of Parks and Lands, Maine Department of Agriculture Conservation and Forestry

Douglas Beck, Outdoor Recreation Supervisor, Maine Department of Agriculture Conservation and Forestry

Carl Davis, Vice President, Three Rivers Land Trust

Moderator:

Bevin Buchheister, Senior Policy Analyst, National Governors Association



Land and Water Conservation Fund & NGO Partners

Matchmaking in Maine

for conservation and outdoor recreation

Andy Cutko, Director
Maine Bureau of Parks & Lands

Doug Beck, State Liaison Officer
Maine Bureau of Parks & Lands

Carl Davis
Three Rivers Land Trust

LWCF Background

- Created by Congress in 1964 to assist federal, state and local governments in the acquisition and/or development of public outdoor recreation facilities.
- Funded by royalties paid by energy companies drilling for oil and gas on the Outer Continental Shelf (not tax dollars)
- Will fund up to 50% of eligible project costs.
- Maine just received project #891
- There is at least one project in every Maine county
- Most of Maine's most popular parks have benefited from LWCF

Basics of Eligibility

- Only government units are eligible.
- Can fund acquisition and development of outdoor recreation facilities.
- Every project must have a recreation component.
- Every project must exist as a stand alone recreation area.

LWCF investments are **Forever**

Forever is a very long time!

The Fund's most important tool for ensuring long-term stewardship is its "conversion protection" requirement. Administered by the National Park Service in cooperation with states, this requirement, Section 6(f)(3) of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act, strongly discourages casual discards and conversions of state and local park and recreation facilities to other uses.

Getting Projects Done in Maine

- In recent years several NGO's have partnered or are proposing to partner with a local municipality or the state on a LWCF project. Here are two examples:
 - Three Rivers Land Trust & Town of Acton
 - Seven Lakes Alliance & State of Maine

Three Rivers Land Trust

- Project – Acquisition and Development of Goat Hill (ongoing)
 - \$237,750 project / \$118,875 LWCF share
 - Funds to purchase the land, build parking and an accessible trail to the summit
- Land trust led the effort from the beginning and worked with the town every step.
- Trust worked with the town on community engagement and public support.
- Town committed to owning the property as long as TRLT did all the work and managed the site.
- Trust raised all funds. Transferred funds to town, town paid bills, town received reimbursements, town returns funds to trust.

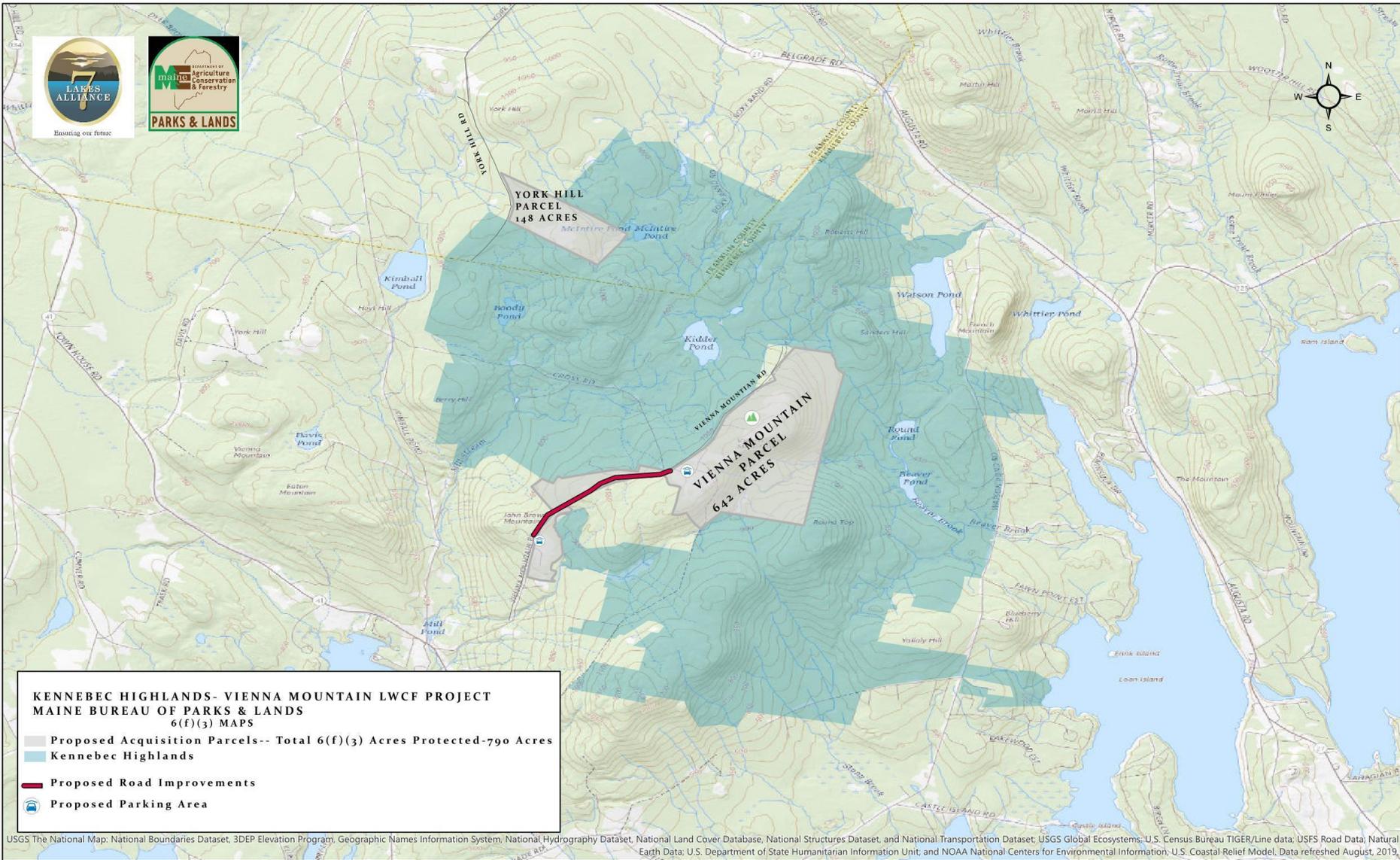


ESRI - CAI Axis GIS - Map by C. Brunault on 1.6.20

0 300 600ft

7 Lakes Alliance & State of Maine

- Still in the works
- Land trust taking a lead role in close coordination with BPL.
- Acquire / develop 790 acres of blueberry barrens and associated woodlands.
- \$974,000 project - \$487,000 Federal share
- Match a combination of state and local funds.



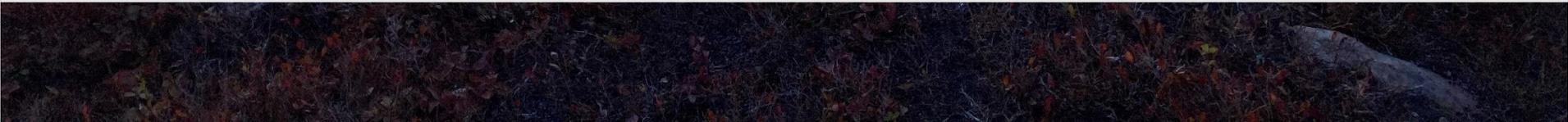
KENNEBEC HIGHLANDS- VIENNA MOUNTAIN LWCF PROJECT
MAINE BUREAU OF PARKS & LANDS
6(f)(3) MAPS

- Proposed Acquisition Parcels-- Total 6(f)(3) Acres Protected-790 Acres
- Kennebec Highlands
- Proposed Road Improvements
- Proposed Parking Area

USGS The National Map: National Boundaries Dataset, 3DEP Elevation Program, Geographic Names Information System, National Hydrography Dataset, National Land Cover Database, National Structures Dataset, and National Transportation Dataset; USGS Global Ecosystems; U.S. Census Bureau TIGER/Line data; USFS Road Data; Natural Earth Data; U.S. Department of State Humanitarian Information Unit; and NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information; U.S. Coastal Relief Model. Data refreshed August, 2019.



How Does It All Work?



Partnerships & Relationships

- Land Trusts taking the lead for an eligible government applicant will have to do a lot of work to bring the municipality along to the point where they feel ready and willing to be an applicant on a project.
- Municipalities will need to trust the NGO partner that they are truly in it together, even though the municipality, as the applicant, is the one obligated for perpetual stewardship of the site.

First – What Is Your Project

- What do you want to do & why?
- Does it qualify for funding?
- How much is it going to cost?
- Do you have the match?
 - LWCF is max 50% federal share
 - Match can be “in-kind”



Second – Who Wants It?

- A. Is this your idea?
- B. Is this an idea coming from community demand & input?
- C. If “A” – go to “B”
 - A. Grant reviewers and NPS like to see projects that have had significant public input and are responding to an identified public need / want.

Third – Understand Local Project History & Process Needs

- Have they had previous grants?
 - If so are they well maintained?
 - Are required signs posted?
 - Are there compliance issues?
- Non-compliant existing projects will DQ you from an award.
- Local governments need explicit local legislative approval to apply for & accept LWCF assistance.

Fourth– Request a Site Visit

- Site visit is mandatory
- Site visit often shapes the project moving forward.
- Strongly consider hiring a landscape architect or other qualified professional to help with project planning design and engineering.

Fifth - Dive Into The Application

- Read through it & guidance once or twice.
- Develop a plan of attack.
- Documentation of Public Process
- Development or Acquisition
 - If Acquisition contract with an appraiser for a UASFLA - “Yellow Book” appraisal
 - Coordinate with BPL/GCR office for appraisal review

6(f)(3) Map

- Take the time to make a good map
 - This map defines the area that has to be protected and managed for public outdoor recreation “in perpetuity” – which is a long time.
 - Map should identify boundary and acreage protected
- Map should be signed by local project sponsor and State Liaison Officer
- State & local sponsor will negotiate final map



Swan's Island Mill Pond Park

6(f)(3) Map
10 +/- acres

Existing LWCF Project #: 23-00772
Total 6(f)(3) Acres Protected: 10 +/-

SLO / ASLO Signature: *Douglas S. Boek*

Printed Name: Douglas S. Boek

Title: Alternate State Liaison Officer

Date: July 20, 2015

Project Sponsor Signature: *Myron A. Spragus, Jr.*

Printed Name: Myron (Sonny) A. Spragus, Jr.

Title: Chairman

Date: 1/22/2015





Questions?



Spotlight: Outdoor Recreation Roundtable Toolkit

3:30-4:00PM

Speakers:

Lindsey Davis, Vice President, Outdoor Recreation Roundtable

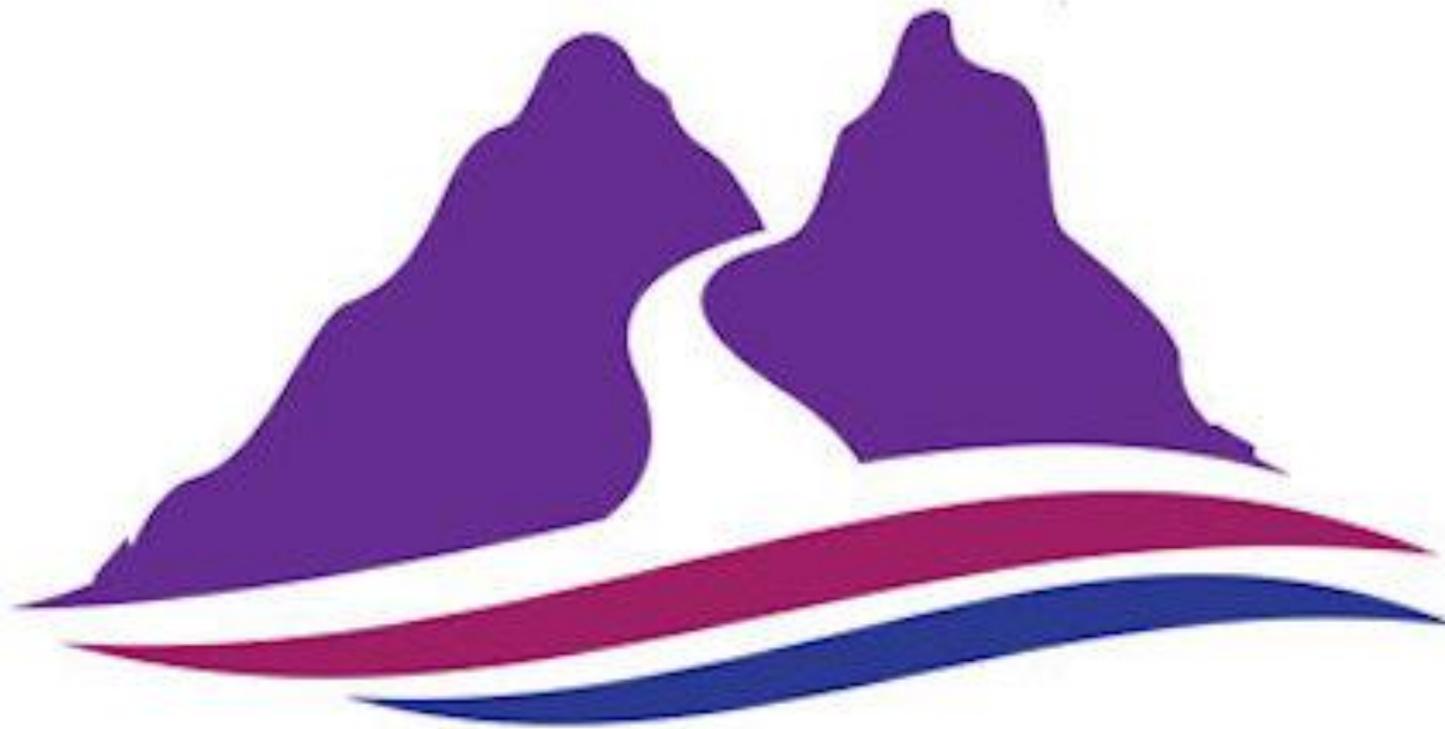
Chris Perkins, Fellow, Outdoor Recreation Roundtable

Moderator:

Matt Rogotzke, Policy Analyst, National Governors Association

Thank You for Your Participation

We look forward to seeing you
tomorrow!



NGA Outdoor Recreation
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USDA Opportunities and Financing to Support Rural Tourism and Recreation

12:10-1:00PM

Speakers:

Timothy W. O'Connell, West Region Coordinator, Rural Development Innovation Center, United States Department of Agriculture

Toby Bloom, National Program Manager of Travel, Tourism and Interpretation, United States Forest Service

Moderator:

Timothy Schoonhoven, Policy Analyst, National Governors Association



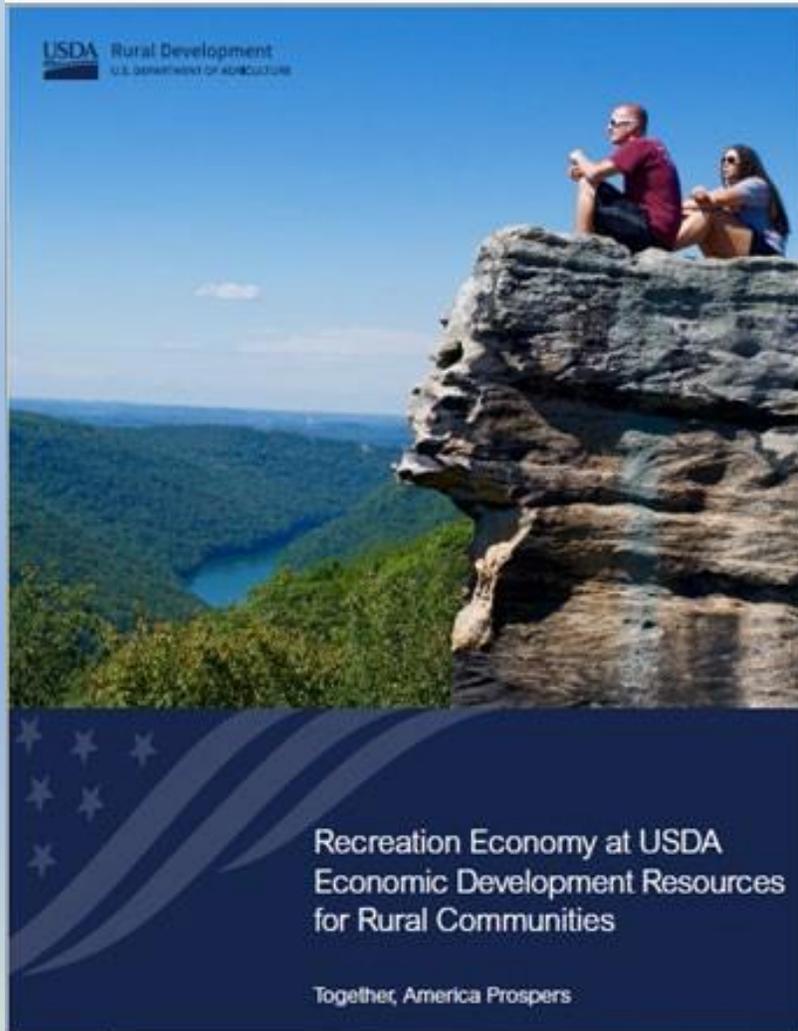
Opportunities to Enhance Your Local Recreation Economy



Toby Bloom
National Program Manager
Travel, Tourism, and Interpretation
USDA Forest Service
toby.bloom@usda.gov



Joint FS/RD Initiative: Strengthening Recreation Economies in Gateway Communities



Version 2 of the Recreation Economies Resource Guide is **HERE!**

- What is the recreation economy?
- Factors to Consider in Building the Recreation Economy
- Descriptions and who to work with at FS, Rural Development, NIFA
- Resources and Success Stories

https://www.rd.usda.gov/sites/default/files/RD_Recreation_Economy_USDA.pdf

Strength of the Forest Service- An Engaged Public



- The 2012 Planning Rule
 - Address social and economic sustainability, ecosystem services, and multiple uses
 - Provide people and communities with a range of social and economic benefits for present and future generations.
 - Engage the public “using collaborative processes where feasible and appropriate.”
 - public meetings and workshops
 - public comment periods
 - targeted outreach efforts to federally recognized Tribes, youth, new audiences, permittees, and neighboring landowners
 - Coordination with State governments and other entities





Some of Our Success Stories



Mon Forest Towns Partnership
12 Communities around the
Monongahela National Forest
West Virginia



Ely Recreation
Meetings
Humboldt-Toiyabe
National Forest
Ely, NV



Bitterroot National
Forest Valley-wide
Strategic Recreation
Plan
Montana & Idaho

Eastern Sierra
Sustainable
Recreation
Partnership
Inyo National
Forest
Mammoth Lakes,
CA



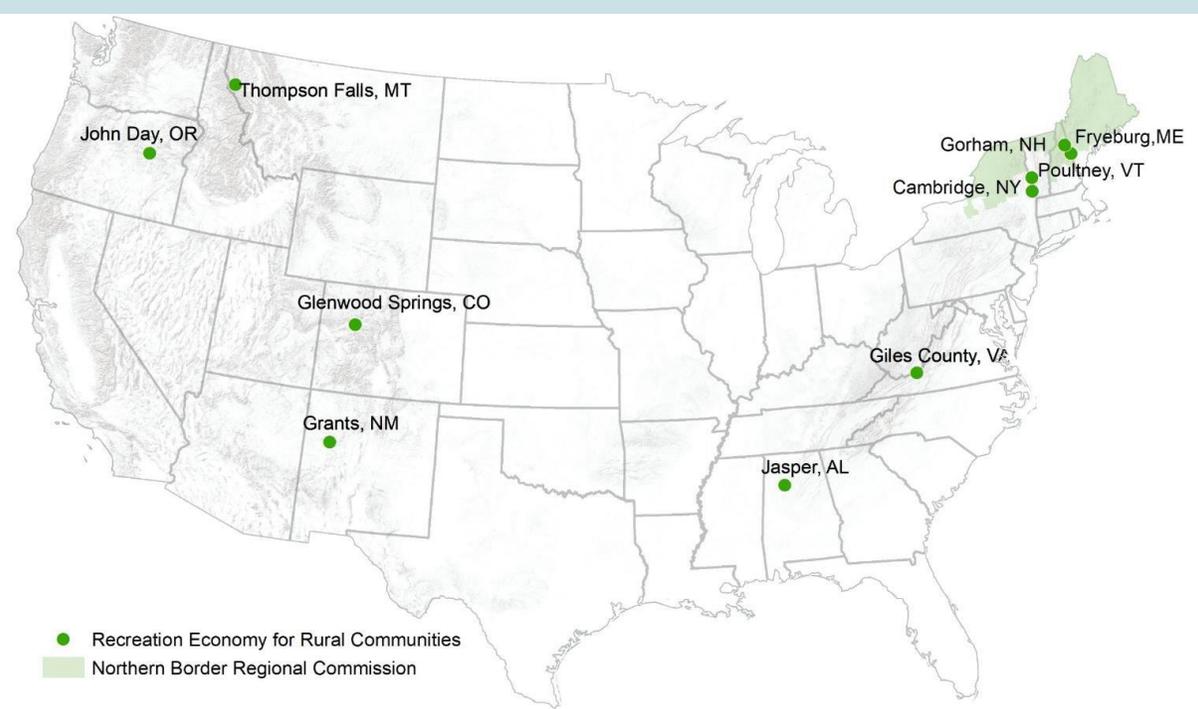
City of Caliente
Recreation
Workshops
Humboldt-
Toiyabe National
Forest
Caliente, NV



Recreation Economy for Rural Communities



Northern Border
Regional Commission



- Planning assistance program to help rural communities leverage **outdoor recreation to revitalize their main streets**
- Partnered with 10 pilot communities in 2020 to create action plans around outdoor recreation (1 in-person and 9 virtual workshops)
- Brought federal and state partners to the table to listen and help with implementation (State Offices of Outdoor Recreation have been great partners, and Outdoor Rec Roundtable has provided grants to a few of our community partners to help implement their action plans)
- Future round of the program is in the works – stay tuned!

<https://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/recreation-economy-rural-communities>

Contact: Stephanie Bertaina, US EPA (bertaina.stephanie@epa.gov)

The Great American Outdoors Act



- \$450 million/yr in perpetuity
- Funded entirely through Gas and Oil royalties
- Every county in the country has benefited from LWCF
- <https://www.lwcfcoalition.com/>



- \$9.5 Billion across Federal Land Management agencies for deferred maintenance projects
- FS portion: \$285 million/yr for 5 years
- Focus on public benefits, partnerships, sustainability

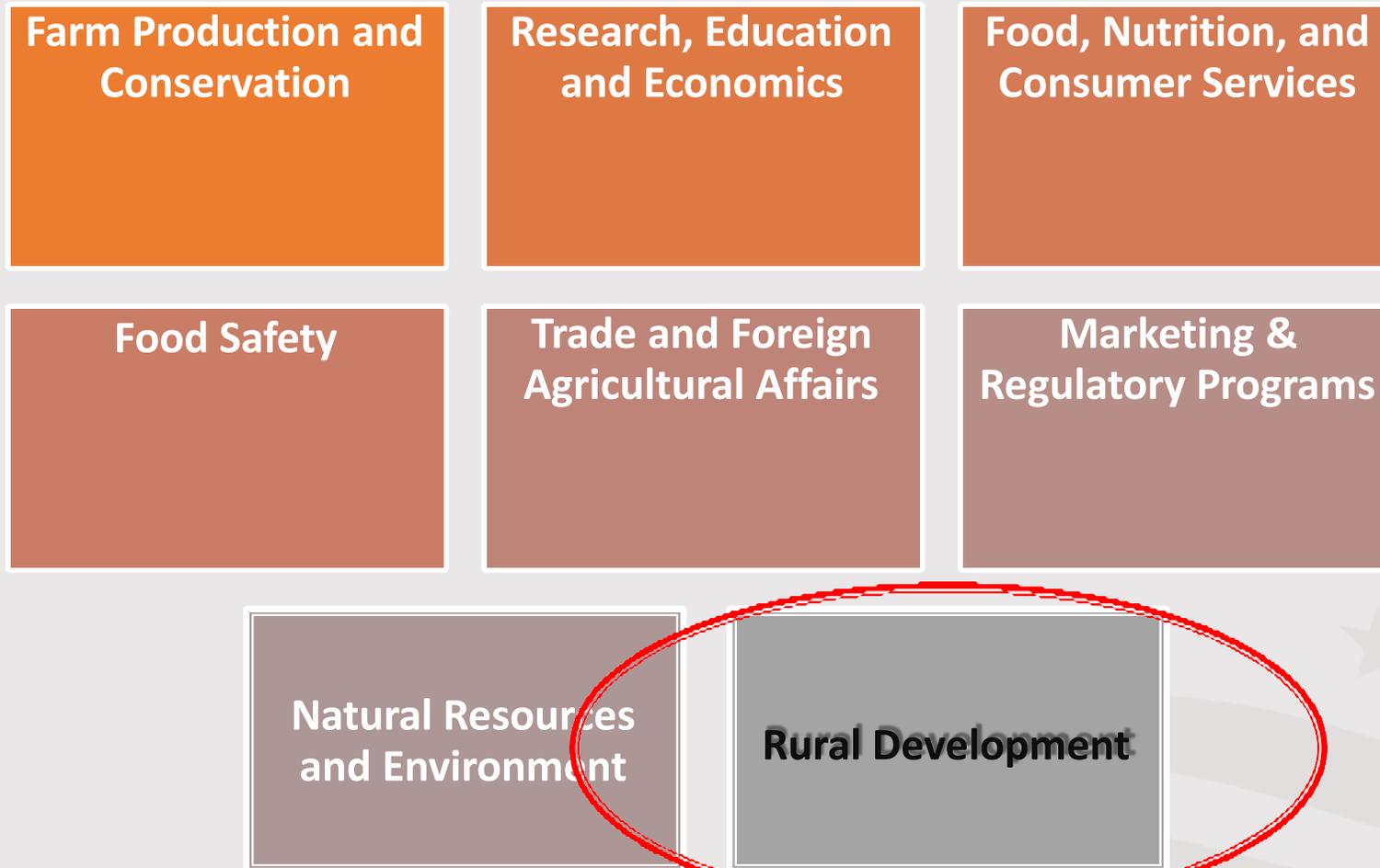




USDA – Rural Development Opportunities and Financing to Support Tourism and Recreation

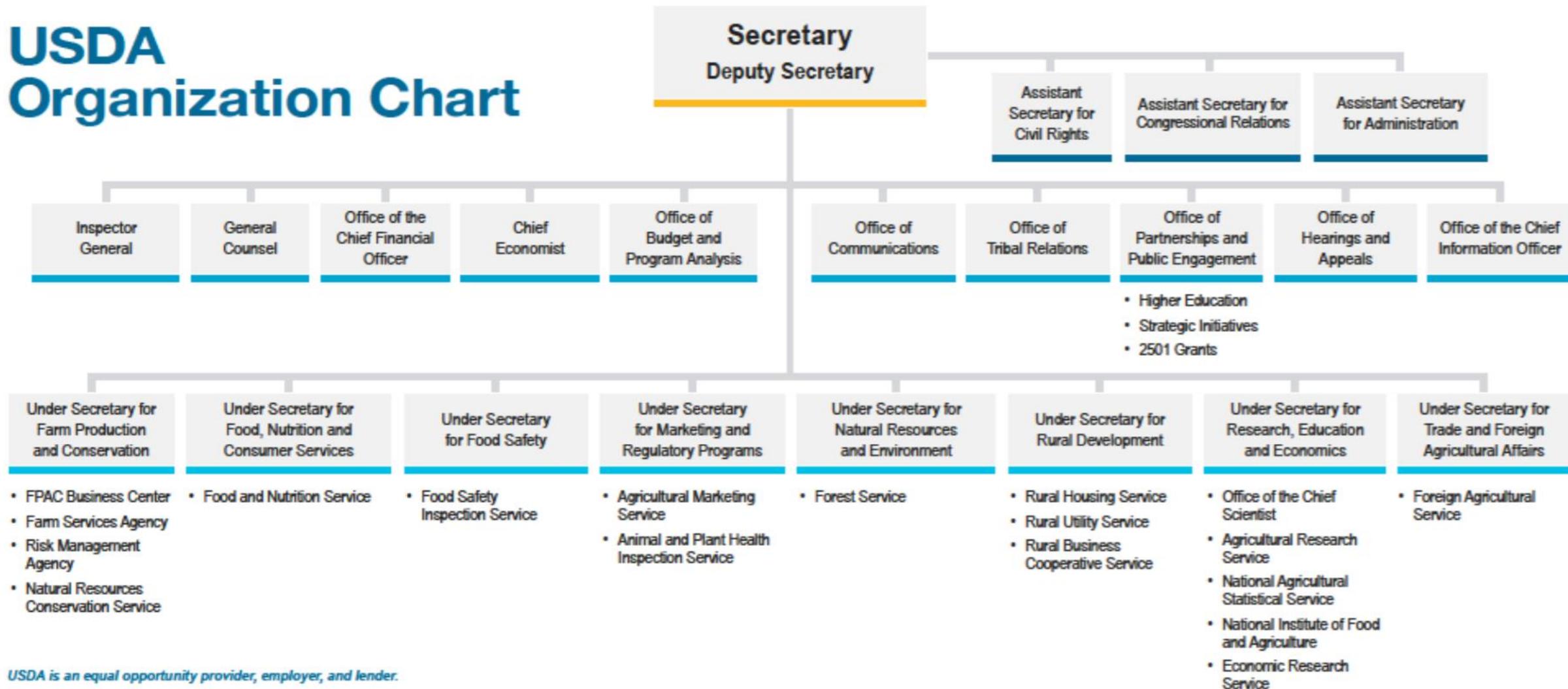
January 8, 2021

One USDA, Eight Mission Areas





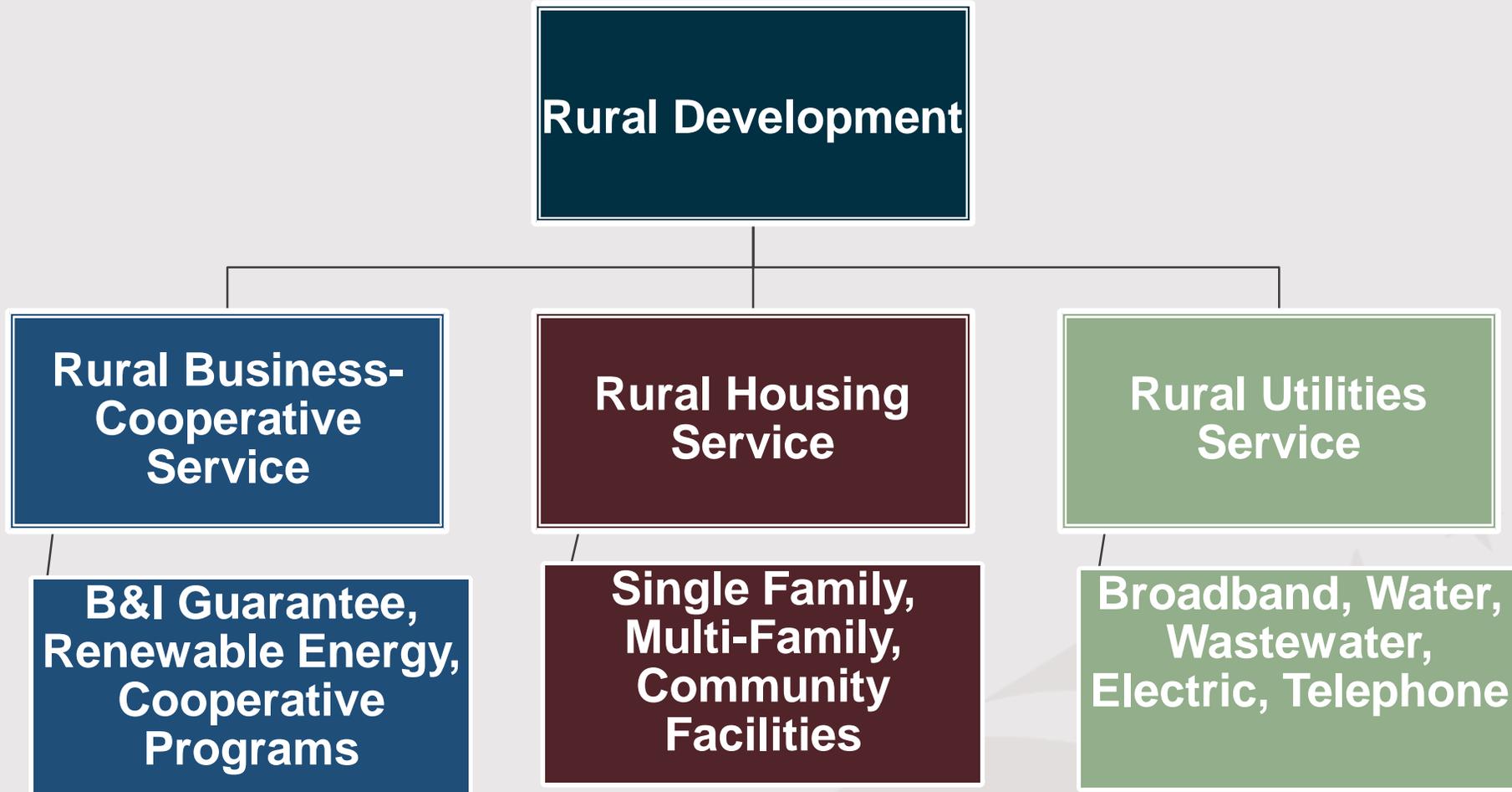
USDA Organization Chart



USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

UPDATED 08/31/20 This organization chart displays the names of USDA offices, agencies, and mission areas. Each office, agency, and mission area is placed within a cell connected by lines to show the structure and hierarchy (Under Secretary, Deputy Secretary, or Secretary) for which they fall under. An HTML version that lists [USDA Agencies and Offices](#) and [USDA Mission Areas](#) is also available on usda.gov. The [Secretary's Memorandum 1076-031](#) was signed August 12, 2019 effectuating a change to Rural Development.

Rural Development

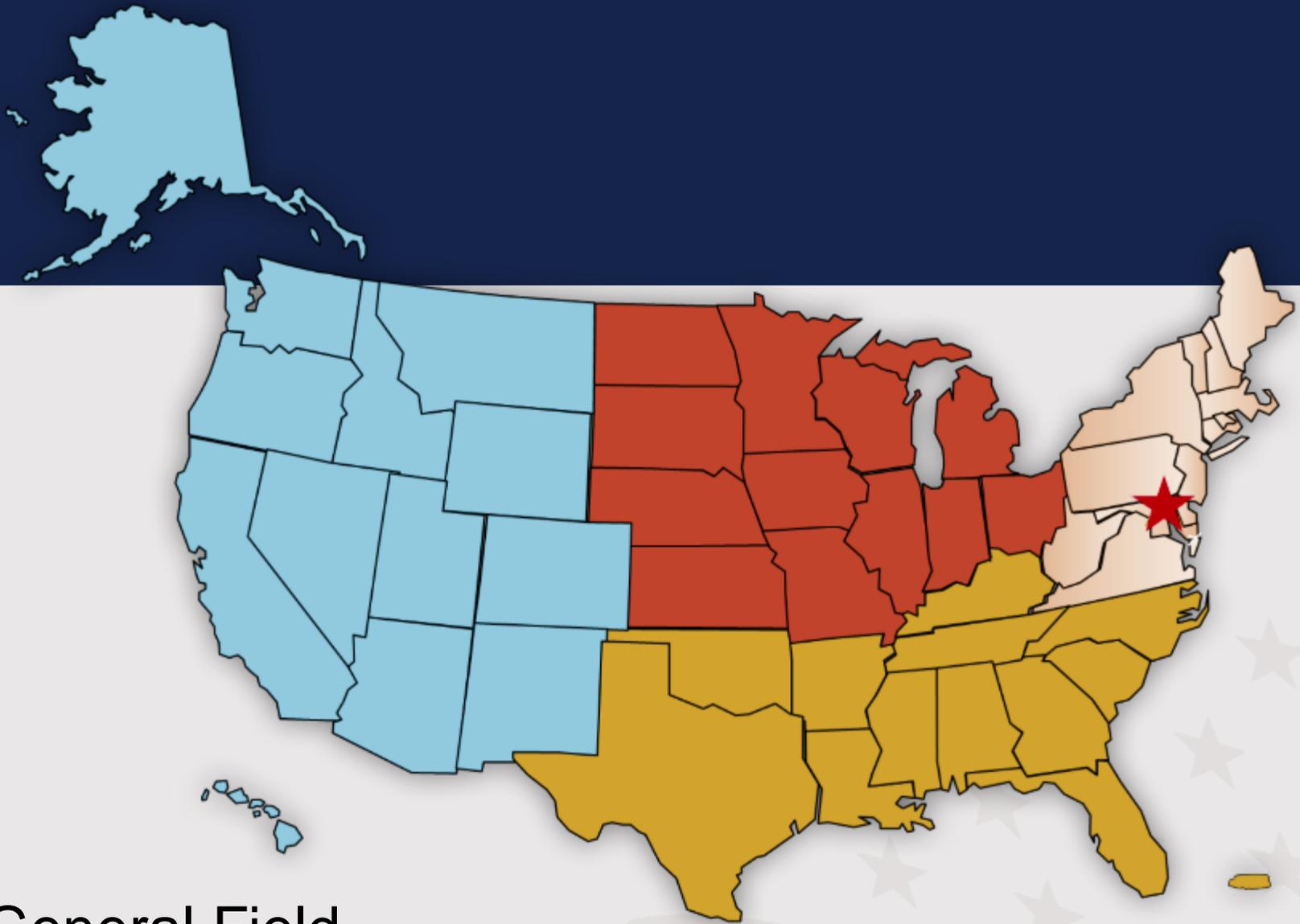


Rural Development

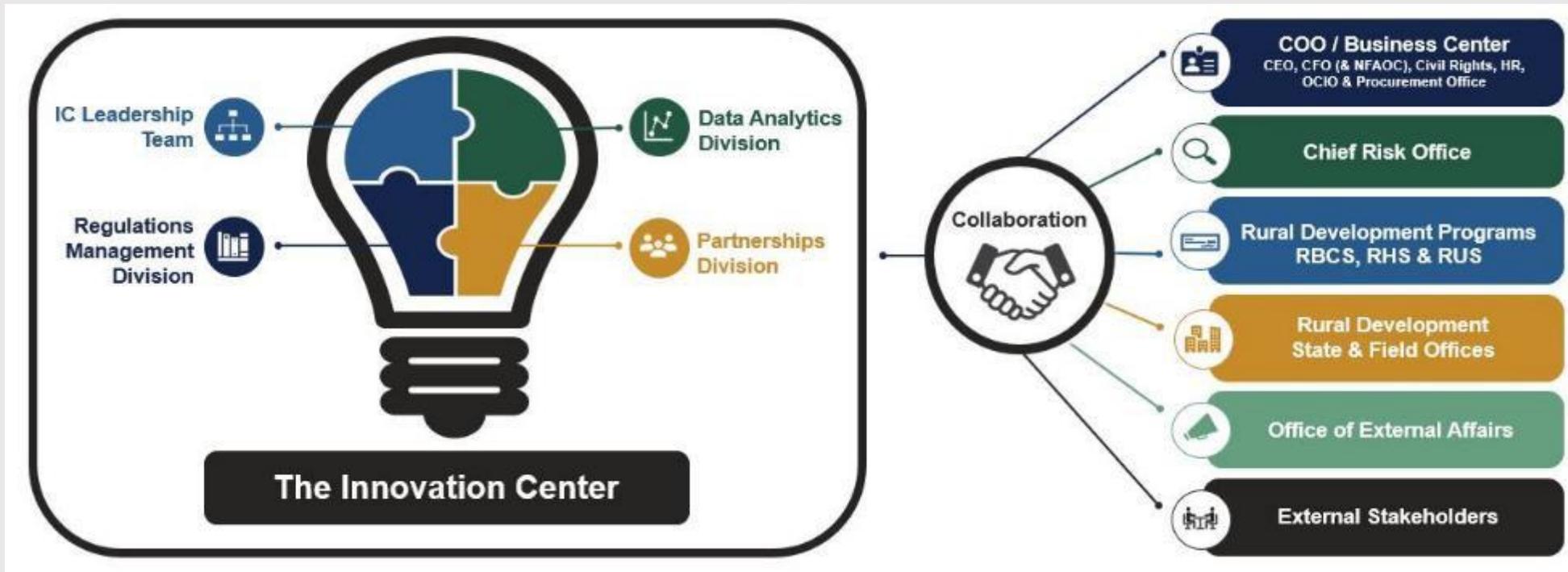
- 4 Regions
- 47 State Offices
- 400 Area Offices
- 1 National Office in DC

State Staff

- State Director—
Schedule C
- Program Directors
- State Loan Staff
- Area Directors
- Program Staff
- General Field
Representatives
- Innovation Center staff



Innovation Center



Working together to develop fresh, creative solutions – Innovate!

- Centralization of key **Reg Management** functions to better support RD programs
- Building and leveraging **Partnerships** to increase impact
- Using **Data Analytics** to enhance evidence-based decision making

Rural Development Funding

\$232 Billion portfolio

Fiscal Year 2019 obligations-\$28 billion

\$25.9 billion loans

\$2.3 billion grants

Fiscal year 2019 obligations by program

SFH \$15.7 billion

MFH \$1.7 billion

Business Programs \$2 billion

Community Facilities \$922 million

Waste and Environmental \$1.7 billion

Electric \$5.7 billion

Telecommunications \$278 million

Business Development Programs

Business & Industry Loan Guarantees

- Convert, enlarge, repair, modernize, or develop business
- Purchase and develop land, easements, rights-of-way, buildings, or facilities
- Purchase equipment, machinery, supplies, or inventory
- Working Capital



Rural Infrastructure Programs—Rural Utilities Service

Telecommunications Programs

Loans and grants to build, maintain, upgrade and modernize high-speed Internet broadband and telephone service in rural areas.

Rural Infrastructure Programs—Rural Utilities Service

Water and Environmental Programs

Loans and grants for:

- Safe drinking water,
- Sanitary waste disposal systems.



Rural Infrastructure Programs—Housing Service



Community Facilities Programs

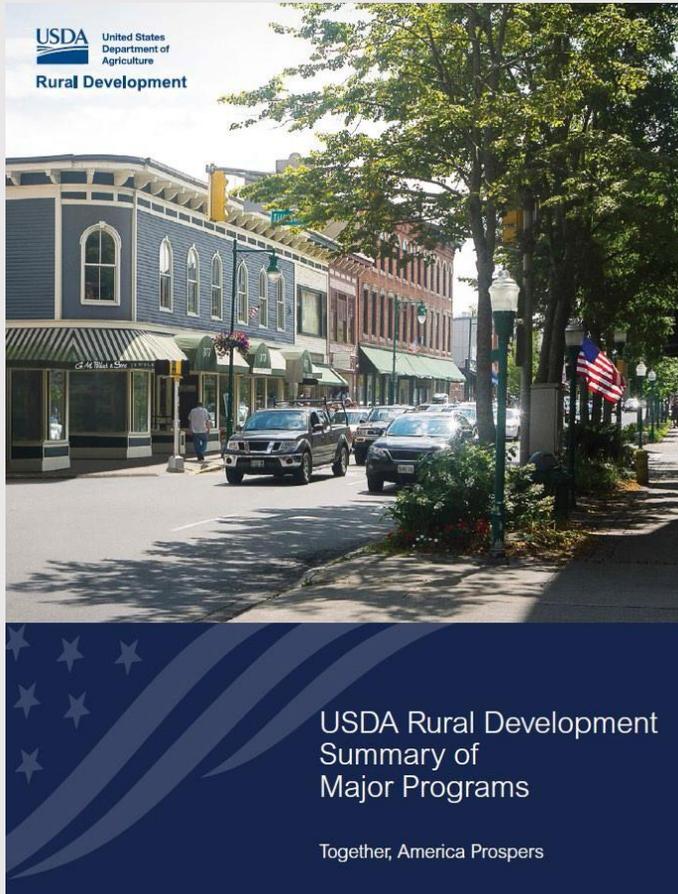
Loans and grants for essential community infrastructure.

Rural Infrastructure Programs—Housing Service

- Single Family Direct and Guaranteed
- Multi-Family Direct and Guaranteed
- Low-income repair loans and grants
- Housing Preservation grants



Full List of Programs



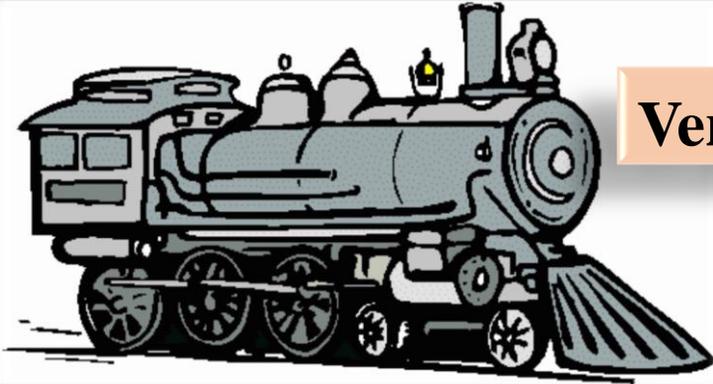
- <https://www.rd.usda.gov/page/all-programs>

How does RD Programs help Rural Recreation Economies?

RECREATION ECONOMY=ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



Success Stories



Vermont Community Facilities \$175,512 Grant

North Carolina Community Facilities Loan \$5,919,000



Success Stories

Washington REAP \$1,750,000 loan



Nevada Guaranteed Business Program loan \$2,400.000

Success Stories

Vermont Community Facilities \$164,500 Grant

Michigan Community Facilities Loan \$1,400,000

Ohio Rural Business Development Grant \$79,000



Outside the Box?

Rural housing on Federal lands?

Business funding for concessionaire's?

Community “owned”/operated visitor and/or camping facilities?

Coordinated and integrated community/Federal land manager planning?

EDA CEDS and USFS National Forest System Land Management Planning

Broadband deployment?

Other?

Let's Connect!

Tim O'Connell

tim.oconnell@usda.gov

202-768-0587



RD.Innovation.Data@usda.gov

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Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- 1) Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- 2) Fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- 3) Email: program.intake@usda.gov.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

Equity, Access, and Inclusion in the Outdoors

1:00-1:45PM

Speakers:

Jenny Rowland, Senior Policy Analyst, Center for American Progress

Shanna Edberg, Director of Conservation Programs, Hispanic Access Foundation

Moderator:

Cailin O'Brien Feeney, Director, Oregon Office of Outdoor Recreation



CLOSING THE NATURE GAP: EQUITY, ACCESS, & INCLUSION IN THE OUTDOORS

Center for American Progress

MISSION

The Center for American Progress is an independent nonpartisan policy institute that is dedicated to improving the lives of all Americans, through bold, progressive ideas, as well as strong leadership and concerted action. Our aim is not just to change the conversation, but to change the country.



Jenny Rowland-Shea

Senior Policy Analyst,
Public Lands

Center for American Progress



HISPANIC ACCESS FOUNDATION

MISSION

Connect Latinos with partners and opportunities to improve lives and create an equitable society.

VISION

One day every Hispanic individual in America will enjoy good physical health and a healthy natural environment, a quality education, economic success, and civic engagement in their communities with the sum of improving the future of America.



Shanna Edberg

Conservation Director



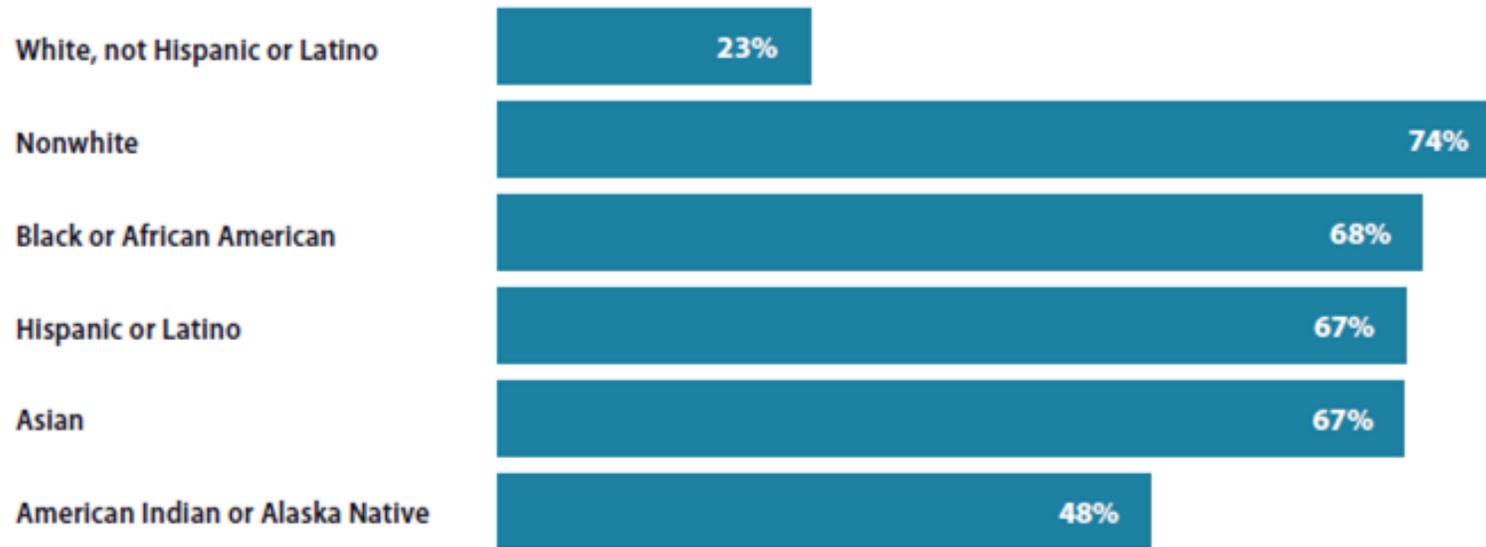


WHAT IS THE NATURE GAP?

RACIAL DISPARITIES IN NATURE ACCESS

People of color 3x more likely to be nature deprived than white people

Percent of people living in a nature-deprived area by census tract demographics in the United States, 2017



Note: Communities are considered nature deprived if their census tract has a higher proportion of natural area lost to human activities than the state-level median.

Source: Vincent A. Landau, Meredith L. McClure, and Brett G. Dickson, "Analysis of the Disparities in Nature Loss and Access to Nature. Technical Report." (Truckee, CA: Conservation Science Partners, 2020), available at https://www.csp-inc.org/public/CSP-CAP_Disparities_in_Nature_Loss_FINAL_Report_060120.pdf.



INCOME DISPARITIES IN NATURE ACCESS

Low-income communities more likely to be nature deprived

Percent of people living in a nature-deprived area by census tract demographics in the United States, 2017



Note: Communities are considered nature deprived if their census tract has a higher proportion of natural area lost to human activities than the state-level median. Low income is defined as a median household income less than or equal to the 10th percentile of median income at the census tract level across the state. High income is greater than or equal to the 90th percentile. Moderate income falls between the 10th and 90th percentile.

Source: Vincent A. Landau, Meredith L. McClure, and Brett G. Dickson, "Analysis of the Disparities in Nature Loss and Access to Nature. Technical Report." (Truckee, CA: Conservation Science Partners, 2020), available at https://www.csp-inc.org/public/CSP-CAP_Disparities_in_Nature_Loss_FINAL_Report_060120.pdf.



FAMILY DISPARITIES IN NATURE ACCESS

Families with children 2x more likely to be nature deprived

Percent of people living in a nature-deprived area by census tract demographics in the United States, 2017



Note: Communities are considered nature deprived if their census tract has a higher proportion of natural area lost to human activities than the state-level median. Low income is defined as a median household income less than or equal to the 10th percentile of median income at the census tract level across the state. High income is greater than or equal to the 90th percentile. Moderate income falls between the 10th and 90th percentile.

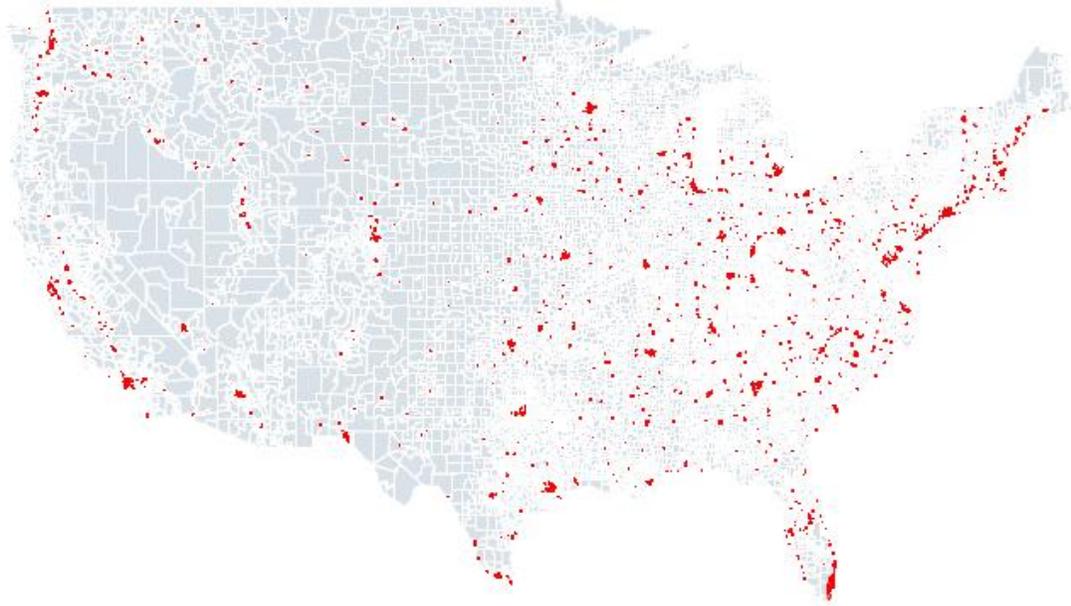
Source: Vincent A. Landau, Meredith L. McClure, and Brett G. Dickson, "Analysis of the Disparities in Nature Loss and Access to Nature. Technical Report." (Truckee, CA: Conservation Science Partners, 2020), available at https://www.csp-inc.org/public/CSP-CAP_Disparities_in_Nature_Loss_FINAL_Report_060120.pdf.



STATE-LEVEL DISPARITIES IN NATURE ACCESS

How does it look in your state?

● Hotspots



Note: Hot spot tracts are census tracts with both the highest proportion of people of color or low-income households and the highest proportion of nature deprivation.

Source: Vincent A. Landau, Meredith L. McClure, and Brett G. Dickson, "Analysis of the Disparities in Nature Loss and Access to Nature. Technical Report." (Truckee, CA: Conservation Science Partners, 2020), available at https://www.csp-inc.org/public/CSP-CAP_Disparities_in_Nature_Loss_FINAL_Report_060120.pdf.

Percent of people living in a nature-deprived area by census tract demographics in the United States, 2017



Notes: This analysis covers the contiguous United States. Data for Alaska and Hawaii are not available. Communities are considered nature deprived if their census tract has a higher proportion of natural area lost to human activities than the state-level median. Nature deprivation percentages function best for making comparisons within a state, rather than in comparing nature deprivation between states.

Source: Vincent A. Landau, Meredith L. McClure, and Brett G. Dickson, "Analysis of the Disparities in Nature Loss and Access to Nature. Technical Report." (Truckee, CA: Conservation Science Partners, 2020), available at https://www.csp-inc.org/public/CSP-CAP_Disparities_in_Nature_Loss_FINAL_Report_060120.pdf.

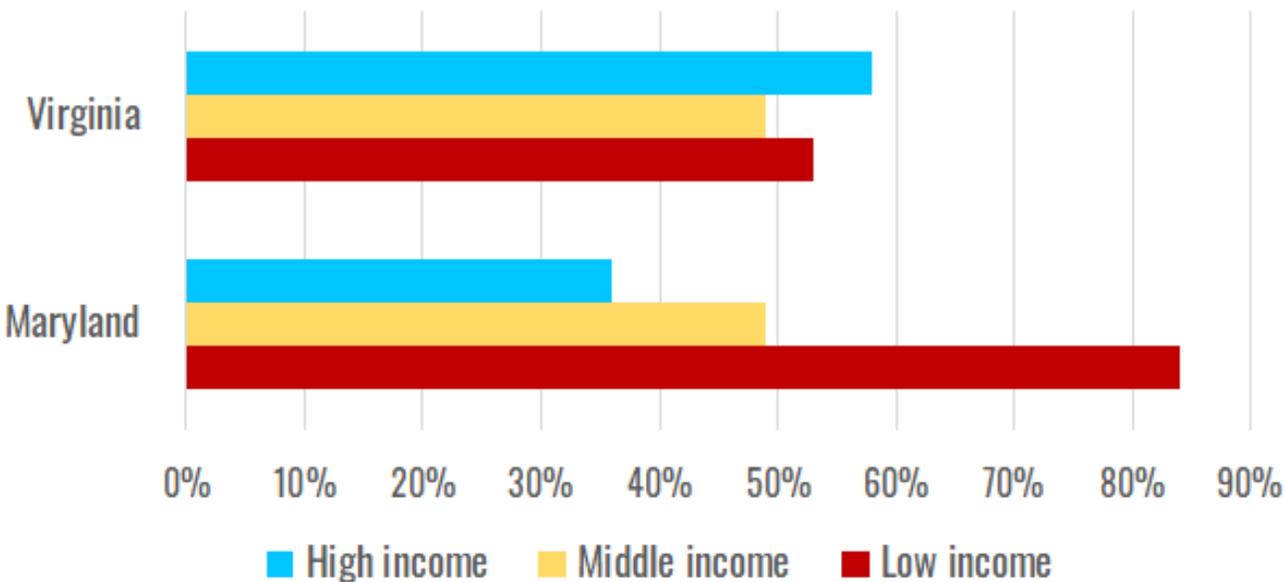
STATE-LEVEL DISPARITIES IN NATURE ACCESS



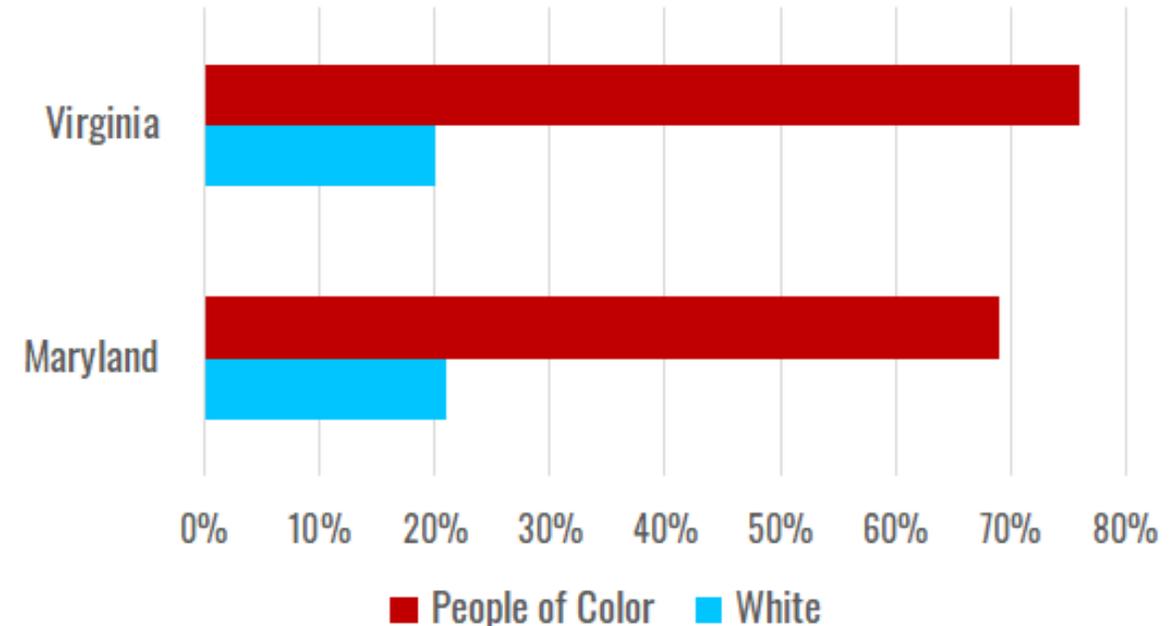
How does it look in your state?

Percent of people living in a nature-deprived area by census tract demographics, 2017

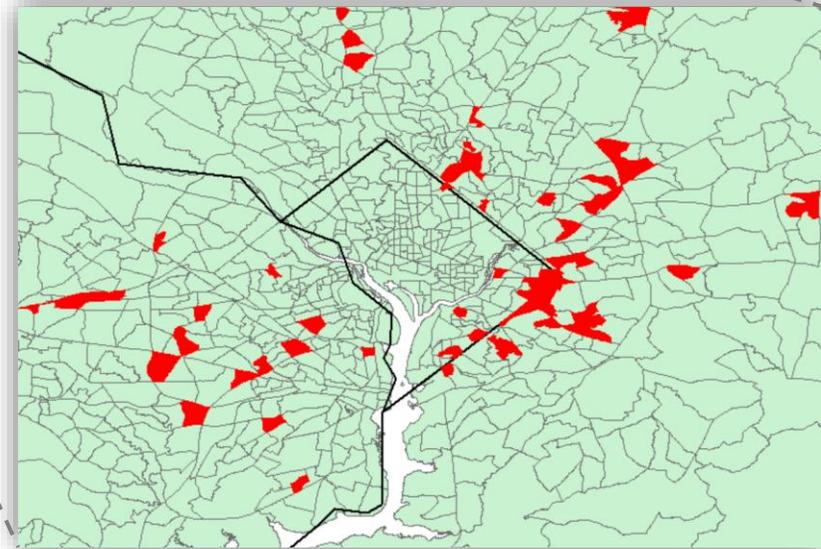
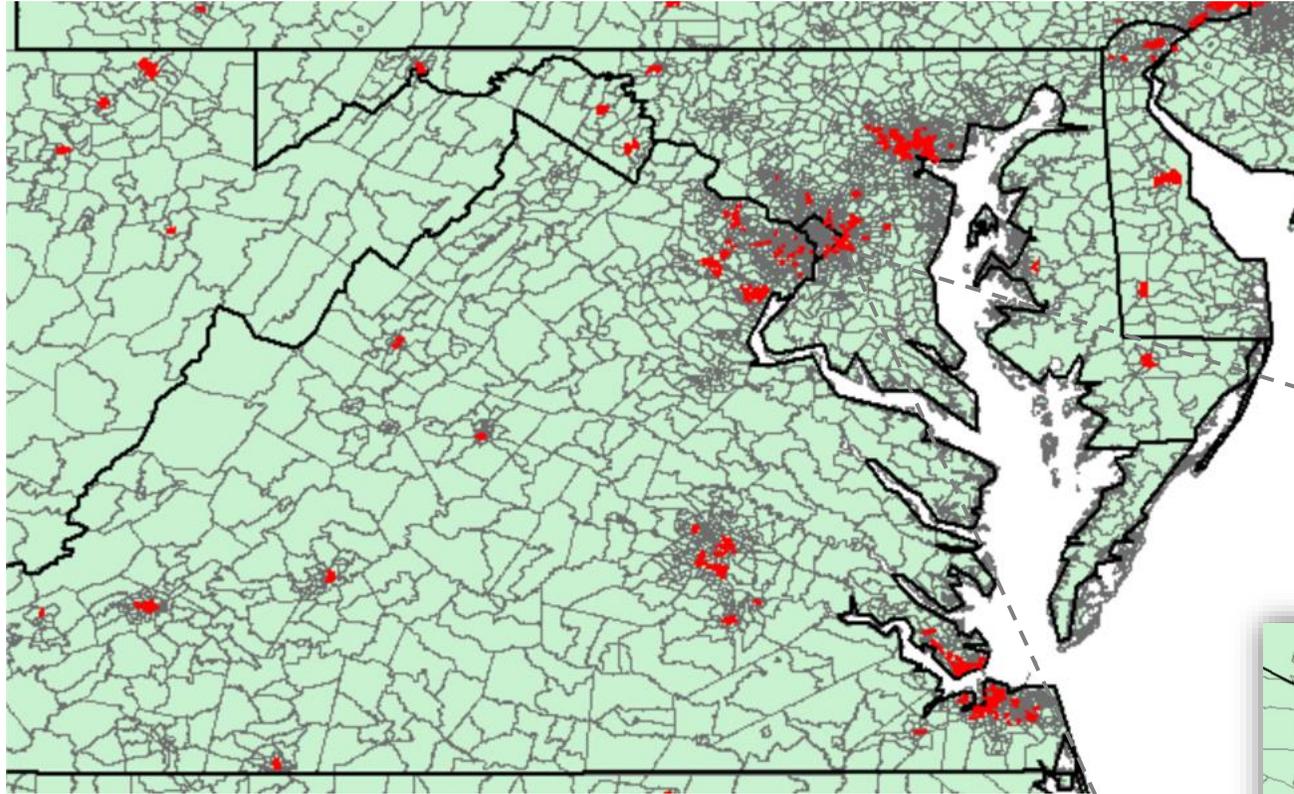
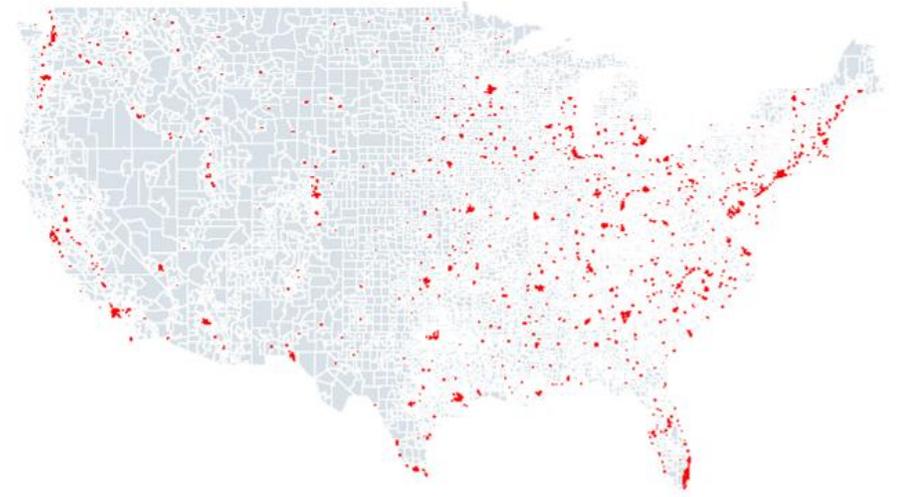
Income



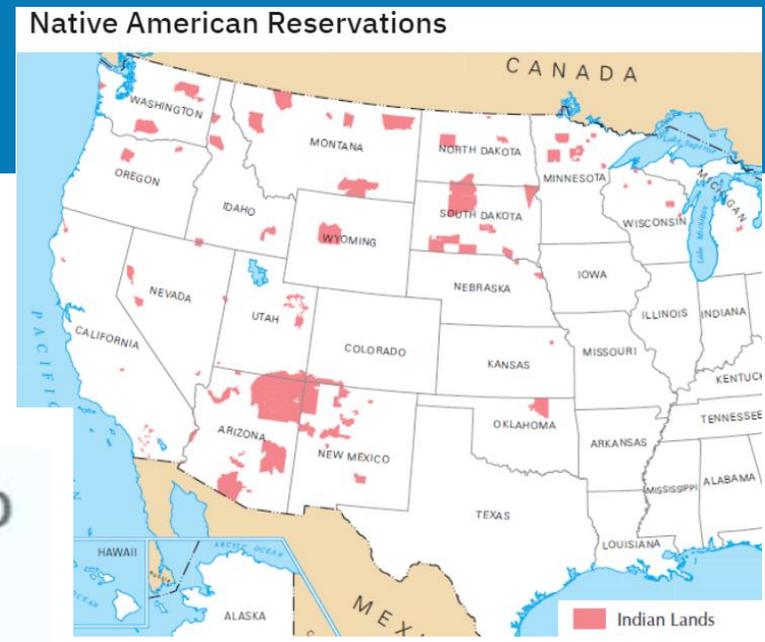
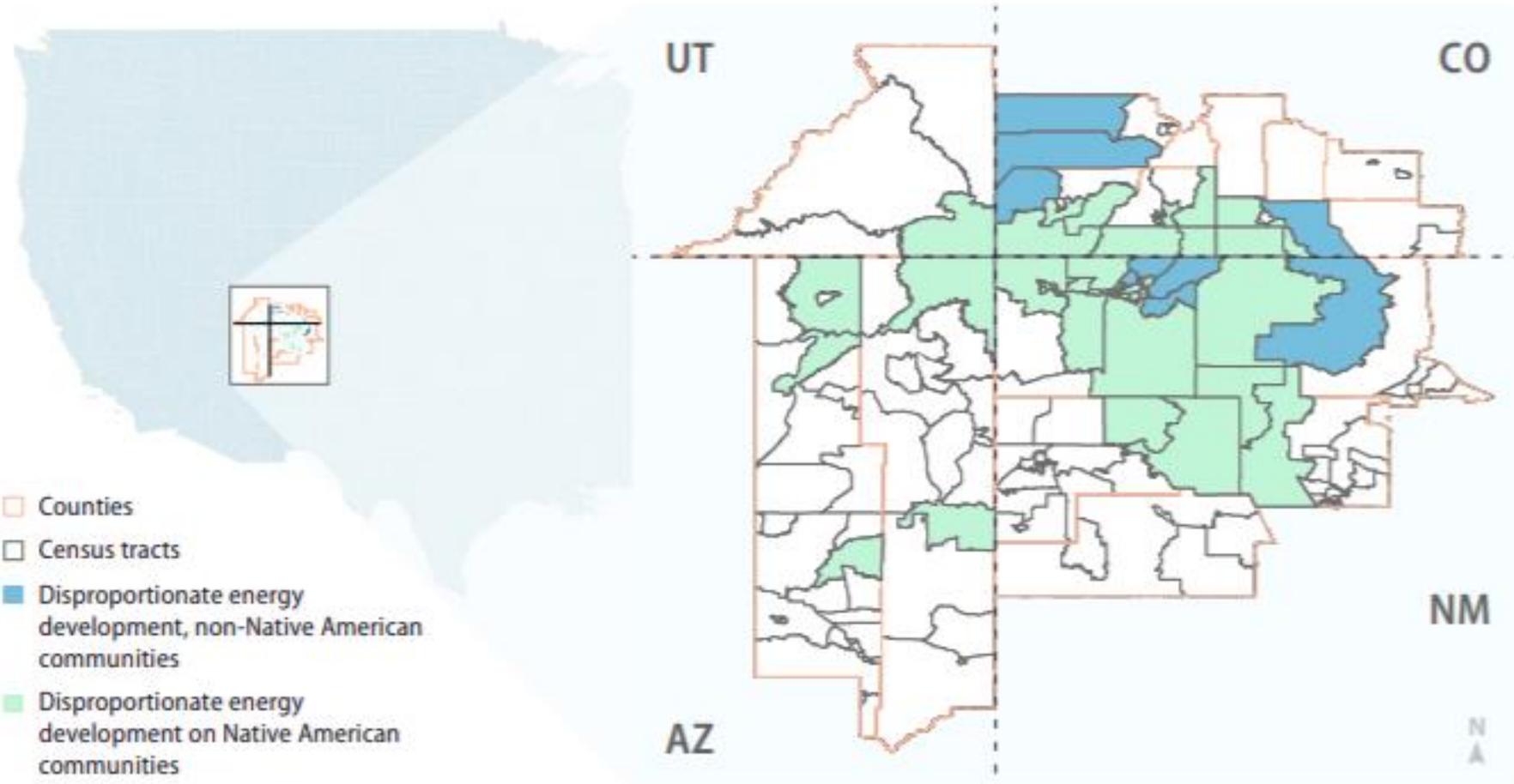
Race



NATURE GAP HOTSPOTS



NATURE GAP HOTSPOTS





WHY IS THERE A NATURE GAP?

HISTORY OF DISPOSSESSION AND RACISM

- Land theft and forced migration of Native tribes
- Redlining, (dis)investment and economic segregation
- Energy, waste, and infrastructure development
- Black people barred from parks and beaches in Jim Crow, exclusionary policies continue today

NATURE LOSS WAS A CHOICE.

AND CHOICES CAN BE UNMADE.





WHY DOES IT MATTER?

MISSING OUT ON NATURE'S BENEFITS



- Active lifestyles
- Pollution reduction
- Mental health and lower stress
- Children's performance at school
- Protection from heat, floods, and more

THE NATURE GAP IS ALL THE MORE ACUTE IN THE PANDEMIC AGE.



STATE OFFICES OF OUTDOOR RECREATION

OUTDOOR RECREATION
RELIES ON PROTECTING
LANDS AND ENABLING
EQUITABLE ACCESS



HOW CAN STATES HELP?



NEW FEDERAL CONTEXT

- A FOCUS ON EQUITY AND JOBS
 - 40% COMMITMENT
 - 30x30
- LWCF AND ORLP FUNDING



POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

WHAT WE NEED:

MORE NATURE, CLOSER TO HOME,
MANAGED INCLUSIVELY AND
LOCALLY, ACCESSIBLE AND
WELCOMING TO ALL.

ESPECIALLY NEAR CITIES,
COMMUNITIES OF COLOR, AND
LOW-INCOME COMMUNITIES



POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS



HIRING AND WORKPLACE PRACTICES: STAFF AND LEADERSHIP SHOULD REFLECT THE COMMUNITIES THEY SERVE; HELP BREAK DOWN ALIENATION AND CULTURAL BARRIERS



POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION &
ENGAGEMENT:
ELEVATE THE VOICES OF THOSE
THAT ARE MOST IMPACTED



POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS



IMPROVED CONSULTATION WITH
TRIBAL NATIONS AND MORE
OPPORTUNITIES FOR TRIBAL CO-
MANAGEMENT



POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

BOLSTERING EDUCATION & OUTREACH PROGRAMS



POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOGNIZE THAT NATURE IS A
CROSS-CUTTING ISSUE

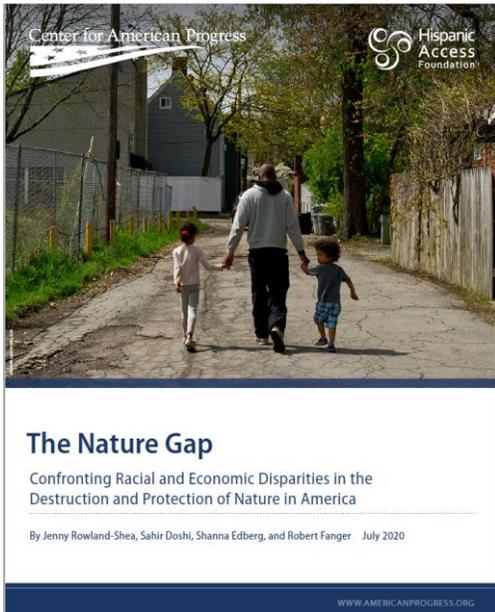


STATE SUCCESSES

- EXPANSION OF EVERY KID IN A PARK
- GRANTS TO GET KIDS OUTSIDE
- OUTDOOR CURRICULUM
- CONSERVATION CORPS
- INTERNSHIP AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT
- SMALL BUSINESS PLANNING SUPPORT



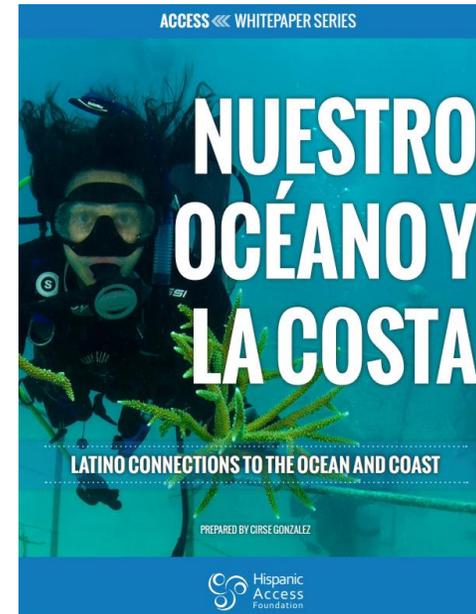
LEARN MORE ABOUT NATURE ACCESS



The Nature Gap: Inequities in Nature Access



Annual Congressional Conservation Toolkit - 2021 coming soon!



Latino Connections To The Ocean And Coast



Policies to Boost State Outdoor Recreation Economies

FOR FOLLOWUP, QUESTIONS, AND MORE...



Email us at
shanna@hispanicaccess.org
jrowland@americanprogress.org

Follow us at
[@hispanicaccess](https://www.instagram.com/hispanicaccess)
[@CAPenergypolicy](https://www.instagram.com/CAPenergypolicy)

Visit us at
Hispanicaccess.org
americanprogress.org

Latino Advocacy Week is coming up in mid-March!

Break

1:45-2:00PM

[Virginia Outdoor Recreation Office](#)

Equity Programs Showcase

2:00-3:00PM

Speakers:

The Honorable Angelica Rubio, District 35 State Legislator, New Mexico House of Representatives

Kaleen Cottingham, Director, Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office

Amira Streeter, Natural Resources Policy Advisor, Office of Oregon Governor Kate Brown

Moderator:

Matt Rogotzke, Policy Analyst, National Governors Association

Washington State
Recreation and Conservation Office



Equity in Outdoor Recreation

Kaleen Cottingham, Director

Benefits of Outdoor Recreation

- Overview
- Benefits of
Outdoor Recreation
 - Health
 - Economy



Washington Wildlife and Recreation Grant Program

- **History**
- **Program Today**

<https://www.tpl.org/coalition-grand-and-practical-compromise>



Equity Issues

- **Challenges**
- **Match Reduction**
- **Building Parks
May Not Be
Enough**



Photograph courtesy of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

What's Next

- **Equity Reviews**
- **Inventory of Underused Sports Fields**



Using Economic Data to Highlight Local Needs

3:00-4:00 PM

Speakers:

Simon Caballero, Tourism Data Sales, Uber Media

Zeek Coleman, Director of Data Intelligence, Visit Savannah

Ktimene Axtell, Vice President of Insights, Arrivalist

Moderator:

Matt Rogotzke, Policy Analyst, NGA Center

**Thank You for Your
Participation**