

**Bureau of Land Management
Land and Water Conservation Fund
FY 2016 Recreational Access Submission Process**

The FY 2016 appropriations bill included Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Recreational Access funding in the amount of \$8,000,000. The Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) national goal is to disburse these funds to multiple states and engage multiple third-party partners in these acquisitions.

Unlike LWCF Core requirements, Recreational Access proposals do not need to be within and/or contiguous to an Area of Critical Environmental Concern, Special Recreation Management Area, or National Conservation Lands designations; however, they must be consistent with applicable land use plans in accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLMPA). Funding requests may include fee purchase, access easement, or conservation easement purchase, as long as the easement purchase provides for a perpetual right of public access. Public access may or may not be motorized.

To be eligible for Sportsmen/Recreation Access funding, they must:

- 1) Comply with Section 205 (b) of the FLPMA (consistent with an approved land use plan), and
- 2) Be available for purchase from a willing seller owner.

Project proposals will be more competitive and receive greater consideration if they:

- 1) Are not normally eligible under LWCF Core Submission requirements,
- 2) Provide substantially added access to the public than at present,
- 3) Provide substantially added opportunity for visitor use than at present,
- 4) Provide a variety of recreational access for the public to enjoy,
- 5) Are under contract or option or have been pre-purchased by a third-party partner, and
- 6) Include a non-BLM funding leverage or are offered as a bargain sale.

Each submission will include a completed Recreational Access Request and Justification, and a GIS map of the parcel(s) and surrounding area, depicting the public access route, and how it connects to legal public access. Digital color images may be submitted to support the proposal. All documents are provided and have been emailed to respective State Office LWCF Program Leads. These documents will be electronically submitted to the Division of Lands, Realty and Cadastral Survey (WO-350) via state-specific FY 2016 Sportsmen/Recreational Access folders accessible at the following link:

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Headquarters Selection Process:

- The LWCF Shared Services Team will collect and process State Director's priority submissions.
- The LWCF Shared Services Team and WO-350 Division will review and prioritize recommendations nationally.
- WO-350 will conduct Washington Office briefings and secure concurrence from the Director.
- WO-350 will finalize submission for transmittal to the Department of the Interior Budget Office.