

The National Association of State Park Directors advocates for more than 6,000 state park units and 730 million annual visitors to America's State Parks. We recognize that state parks play a significant role in providing outdoor recreation facilities and are part of a healthy lifestyle. Combined with the 276 million annual visitors to our National Parks more than 1 billion visitors a year use this great national system of parks.

In addition to the role state parks play in outdoor recreation, they conserve natural and cultural treasures important to American citizens. Collectively, America's State Parks have a \$20 billion economic impact on local and state economies and when combined with the impact of our National Parks the total rises to \$32 billion.

NASPD has adopted the following formal position on LWCF: *NASPD supports the Outdoor Resources Review Groups recommendation for full funding of the Land and Water Conservation Fund and the re-benchmarking of the fund from the historic \$900 million annually adjusted for inflation to \$3.2 billion annually. NASPD further believes that state and local parks play a pivotal role in outdoor recreation and that at least 50% of the funding should support the stateside program.*

While there are not good estimates for the number of annual visitors to local parks across the country, it is widely thought to be in the billions of visitors annually. The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) has also adopted a formal position on LWCF: *NRPA supports the Outdoor Resources Review Group recommendation for the maximum and full funding of the Land and Water Conservation Fund. NRPA further believes that state and local parks play a vital role in outdoor recreation, the conservation of natural resources, and healthy lifestyles; and that at least 50% of the funding should support the stateside program.*