The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) digital map website is available to the public and includes two web-based/interactive maps. The Past Projects map allows users to view locations of LWCF investments over the program’s 55-plus year history, and the Future Projects map shows proposed projects currently in need of LWCF funding. This user guide will walk you through how you can use the tools within the Past Projects map (shown below). Note: The “Future Projects” map is simpler and does not have the more in-depth tools that the Past Projects map has.
Past Projects map background

History of the Past Projects map: https://lwcf.tplgis.org/about/history/

Learn about LWCF programs: https://lwcf.tplgis.org/about/lwcf-programs/

About the data: https://lwcf.tplgis.org/about/data/

Open and get to know the Past Projects map

Accessing the Past Projects Map
The LWCF Past Projects map can be accessed from https://lwcf.tplgis.org/, either from the bottom of the homepage or from the menu/navigation bar near the top of the homepage (Maps>Past projects).

The default view of the map shows two types of summary information only:

- Summary points for **LWCF grants to states** (the bigger points at the center of each state; these large points have the **state grant** project totals in the center of them [these totals exclude projects funded through federal LWCF programs])

- Summary points of many federal units that have received funding through LWCF

Navigating the map

Zooming
You can zoom in or out by using the +/- buttons in the upper left corner of the map, by using the scroll wheel on your mouse, or by pressing the shift key while drawing a box on the map around the desired area with your mouse. Zoom in to see an area
where you already know about an LWCF-funded area or site, or any area of interest. The contents of the map will change (to show more detail) the more you zoom in.

Click the “home” button to quickly zoom out to the default/national/lower 48 view of the map.

Search for a place or project

Use the search bar in the upper right corner of the map to search for general geographies or places (e.g. states, cities, etc.), federal unit name (ex. Zion National Park), or project name.

As you type in a search term options will appear - scroll down to see all the results from the ArcGIS World Geocoding Service (those results show first in the list), and
further down to see any results from the LWCF-funded federal units and projects databases. **If you want to only search one of the LWCF funding location databases** you can select one of those from the arrow dropdown:

The searches of the LWCF unit/area names and LWCF project names are only as accurate as the unit/area/project names in the database. If you find or suspect that a unit/area/project isn’t named or spelled correctly in the database please use our [Contact Us form](#) to let us know.

**Using the map to explore unit, area, or project-specific information**

Clicking a point or area on the map will open a pop-up with basic information on that project or unit/area. **Many locations on the map have many overlapping projects or units**; you can toggle between the pop-up information for those overlapping sites by using the left and right arrows on the right side of the pop-up, when applicable.

**“More Information” about LWCF-funded places (stories and photos)**

The lowercase “i” on some points indicates that there is a written description and
photograph for that project; by clicking on points that have this “i” that written
description and photograph will appear at the bottom of the page (under the “Unit
or project descriptions and photos” section). Federal boundaries/areas might also
contain descriptions and photos. There are currently approximately 550 projects or
unit summaries with this level of information.

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**Use the Past Projects map filter and reporting tools**

**Filtering to change the map and/or create project reports**

The content shown on the map can be changed, and project reports (PDF maps and Excel
files) can be generated, from the “Project filters and reports” section located immediately
below the map. Clicking the bar expands or contracts that section. You can filter by state,
county, congressional district, or LWCF program, or any combination of these, although
**selecting a state from the Select state dropdown is required while filtering.** You can also
export a PDF map or an Excel file with information on the subset of filtered projects.

![Project filters and reports](image)

After clicking the “Generate reports” button the reports will take a minute to generate, after
which you can choose to download (by clicking on) the PDF and/or the Excel file:
NOTE: The Excel exports include all individual records in the database for six out of the ten programs. For the other four programs (BLM, NPS, USFWS, and USFS), the Excel exports include summary information by federal unit (for example, a whole national forest or national park).

The data (including funding estimates) shown in the PDF maps and Excel exports represent the best currently available information and in some cases may be incomplete or inaccurate. See more in our Caveats/Known Issues section of the website.

How can the map and its tools be useful?

One way is to show them to congressional offices – every district has received LWCF funding! Feedback so far is that this helps members in a variety of ways – identifying places to host an event, seeing the history, more places to highlight in statements and publications, etc.

Show to your funders. Highlight your projects! Send us suggested stories to tell.

Use the Future Projects map to find funding opportunities in your geography.

How to contact us

Give general feedback, ask questions, help us identify errors, and share your stories about how the LWCF has impacted you. https://lwcf.tplgis.org/contact/.