

From: Van Genderen, Chas
Sent: Friday, July 16, 2010 9:30 AM
Subject: Fw: Things are happening in DC!!! Update on CLEAR Act

From: Doug Eiken nasorlo@hotmail.com
Sent: Fri Jul 16 07:44:36 2010
Subject: Fw: Things are happening in DC!!! Update on CLEAR Act

I received this from NRPA yesterday. (Tom is the NASPD rep., Beth is Beth Strobbridge from NGA working for all of us for equity)We have lots of work to do to provide for equity between the state and federal sides of the program. See the attached to understand what is at stake here. Fully funding the stateside with equity would equal \$450 million a year ! (see numbers in attachment to see what that means to your state and compare it to the 12 % we received this year with reduced appropriations- to see what the 40% stateside means, just adjust the attachment by deducting 1/4th from your state allocation).

NASORLO can only advise you on what to do... ***And that is to contact your congressional representatives (all of them if you can) and point out the benefits to your state from the L&WCF stateside program.*** Point out successes, needs and request they support the reauthorization contained in HR 3435 and S 2747, but with a provision for equity between the state and federal sides of the program. (Currently, one option being considered behind the scenes is a 40% (federal and currently authorized in the L&WCF), 40% state (a guarantee of equitable funding that existed at one time, but had been removed by Congress) and 20% as discretionary (for the Sec. and Congress to determine).

I think NRPA's suggestions are sound.. and I have attached something you can use to find points in crafting your message to your delegation.

Two things you can do right now.. support this effort by becoming involved as best you can, RIGHT NOW! And support your organization and become involved by coming to our annual meeting or sending someone to represent your state.. so you can become fully informed and engaged in this critical effort.

Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this matter..

Doug Eiken
Exec. Dir.
573-353-2702

From: [Stacey Pine](#)
Sent: Thursday, July 15, 2010 7:29 PM
Subject: Update on CLEAR Act

All- Tom, Beth and I were on the Hill again today. It appears CLEAR may move to a vote by the full House of Representatives as early as next week.

After the completion of the votes, we had the opportunity to talk to staff for several members on the Committee. We spoke to Rep. Kind's staff and asked "now that full funding is in will your boss support equal fund for ss?" We got the disturbing answer of "will have to see what his priorities are for LWCF". Clear indication there is much effort to not provide equal funding for ss even w/ full and dedicated.

We also met with Rep. Hinchey's staff who indicated that Hinchey may be interested. It was clear, though, that we are going to need to get Rahall on board with this in order for Hinchey to step out as the Democratic

champion. We were also cautioned that Hinchey's interest would depend on the context in which the amendment was offered, meaning if there was any sort of bashing of the bill as a whole through this amendment then he could not get on board. We must stress that this is not a partisan issue. Hinchey's staff indicated he will talk with Lummis' staff. Without a doubt, all of our organizations need to focus on educating as many Member of Congress as possible about this issue and also getting them to go to Rahall in support of a State Assistance provision.

We are in the process of setting up meetings on the Senate and House sides for next week and will keep everyone posted. Just as we need to get Rahall on board in the House, we need to get Bingaman on board in the Senate.

The advocacy messages NRPA is asking our members to convey to Congress are:

- Adding a provision to the bill that specifies a minimum funding amount for the Stateside program will not increase the cost of the bill.
- This is not a partisan issue – stateside projects and funding benefit all districts in every community nationwide.
- Providing full and dedicated funding will not necessarily ensure increased funding for the State Assistance program. Without a minimum requirement for State Assistance (like the Federal program), it is at risk of being zeroed out by future Administrations as it has been in the past.
- This is not a Federal LWCF program vs. State Assistance LWCF program. The State Assistance program helps NPS achieve its goals and objectives for a “seamless system of national parks” meaning a concept of local, regional, state and national parks working cooperatively together.
- 2002 report of the NPS Advisory Board states, “Despite the diversity of conservation assistance and land management activities it conducts, the National Park Service does not and cannot protect parks and conserve special places alone. Park protection and conservation is a shared responsibility.”
- The State Assistance program needs to be equitably funded in line with the original Act, which was originally authorized specifying 60% of LWCF funding would go to State Assistance and 40% to Federal.
- Current statute only specifies that a “minimum of 40% must go to the Federal program.” State and local communities must be afforded the same protection for their projects through the State Assistance program.

Stacey L. Pine
 Chief Government Affairs Officer
 National Recreation and Park Association
 202-997-8223

ESTIMATED APPORTIONMENT AT THE \$450,000,000 LEVEL

Alabama	\$7,137,913	New Hampshire	\$4,195,558
Alaska	\$3,631,785	New Jersey	\$12,684,424
Arizona	\$8,515,639	New Mexico	\$4,801,279
Arkansas	\$5,328,967	New York	\$23,858,442
		North Carolina	\$10,444,008
California	\$41,303,298	North Dakota	\$3,628,951
Colorado	\$7,570,494	Ohio	\$14,820,102
Connecticut	\$6,861,153	Oklahoma	\$6,268,211
Delaware	\$3,895,703		

Florida	\$20,467,866	Oregon	\$6,488,799
Georgia	\$10,913,307	Pennsylvania	\$15,891,965
Hawaii	\$4,370,004	Rhode Island	\$4,250,371
		South	
Idaho	\$4,191,080	Carolina	\$6,800,714
Illinois	\$16,393,921	South Dakota	\$3,688,161
Indiana	\$9,022,999	Tennessee	\$8,404,426
Iowa	\$5,608,453	Texas	\$24,841,568
Kansas	\$5,583,882	Utah	\$5,405,331
Kentucky	\$6,534,323	Vermont	\$3,532,426
Louisiana	\$7,539,931	Virginia	\$10,154,871
Maine	\$4,060,218	Washington	\$9,235,300
Maryland	\$8,873,474	West Virginia	\$4,545,508
Massachusetts	\$10,208,781	Wisconsin	\$8,214,408
Michigan	\$13,259,407	Wyoming	\$3,498,190
		District of	
Minnesota	\$7,848,205	Col.	\$862,122
Mississippi	\$5,331,266	Puerto Rico	\$6,479,508
Missouri	\$8,456,587	Virgin Islands	\$137,149
Montana	\$3,785,548	Guam	\$172,738
		American	
Nebraska	\$5,182,331	Samoa	\$84,324
Nevada	\$4,647,789	Northern Marianas	\$86,821
		TOTAL	
		\$450,000,000	

Listening Sessions – Talking Points for Testimony and Input. Here are some points you can make when preparing testimony for Listening sessions concerning the America’s Great Outdoors initiative. In no particular priority, you select the strongest points for your testimony and prioritize based upon your particular viewpoint.

1. The stateside of the LWCF is a proven program and has provided multiple benefits to our nation, states and local communities.
2. As early as the initial formation of the National Park system, Stephen Mather recognized the need for local and state parks forming a partnership with the federal government, to place parks and their benefits close to all the people and to protect the National Park from accepting smaller and less significant sites. The L&WCF has been an excellent program to continue that legacy.
3. The Land and Water Conservation program is, in reality and design, a national REINVESTMENT program. That is it takes national assets from non renewable natural resources(oil and gas revenues) and reinvests them in national assets that grow in value and in other ways stimulate the economic viability of the nation and make it a better place.
4. Given the ongoing environmental impacts of off shore oil development, part of the proceeds from these assets is invested in improving the environmental estate throughout the nation, therefore lessening the potential for unrecoverable environmental losses from drilling impacts.
5. The L&WCF was originally designed primarily to provide the majority of it’s funds for state use, because of the finding the states played the “ pivotal role “ in providing outdoor recreation for the nation. Pivotal because these projects provided for healthy outdoor recreation in parks and recreation areas close to home. This was a high national need in 1963 and continues to be a need today.

6. Remind everyone that there is, and will always be, a L&WCF program and without a strong leadership and advocacy for the state and local governments it will be primarily, or entirely, focused on federal land acquisition issues.
7. One of the major advantages of using these funds on the state level, besides the obvious and visible economic and quality of life improvements for the nation, is that use of stateside of the program requires a local or state match, therefore doubling the federal investment, and requires the local and state governments to maintain the properties without further federal funding.
8. A requirement of the state grants is that the property where the funds are invested in outdoor recreation projects, is added to the federal outdoor estate in perpetuity. Current uses of the program obtaining conservation easements without access to the property for outdoor recreation does not guarantee perpetual protection of these properties for future uses.
9. The stateside provides outdoor opportunities to all and can be used to promote active life styles, thereby contributing to the improved health of our citizens.
10. The investments made by the LWCF continue to increase and appreciate in value, both economic values in terms of the property benefits, but also in value to our communities to enhance the quality of life.
11. With a stable and consistent state grants program as promoted in ORRG, we can improve the type of projects funded and make better long term investments in our outdoor recreation infrastructure, to implement the America's Great Outdoors effort.
12. The stateside program of LWCF has distributed funds to almost every county in America for over 41,000 projects including sports fields, swimming pools, playgrounds, and trails.
13. Local parks and playgrounds can connect children to nature and foster a lifetime of active and healthful outdoor activity.
14. Try to find examples to tie the stateside to improved health promoted in the First Lady's "Let's Move" initiative.
15. The freedom to explore and improvise play has been reduced dramatically. The area in which children are free to roam has shrunk by 89% in 20 years. The outdoor industry foundation estimates that outdoor recreation contributes:
 - i. \$730 billion annually to the US economy
 - ii. Supports nearly 6.5 million jobs across the US
 - iii. Generates \$88 billion in annual state and national tax revenue
 - iv. Provides sustainable growth in rural communities
16. A 2008 summary of local and statewide polls conducted nationwide in all geographic areas, ranked clean water the top land conservation concern for approximately 88% of citizens polled

You all have many more arguments that you can make to "sell" the need for this program in our states. Each state is different, so your approach will vary. I have only provided some of those items for you to consider. We ask that you do these things.. 1. Send me a copy of any communications you have with your congressional delegation or Governor on this issue. Please take note and send me a copy of what actions are contemplated by your state and whether your Governor or delegation is supportive. If you cannot get a meeting, or have some other problem supporting the resolution and report, I need to know that, too.