

From: Van Genderen, Chas

All,

Attached is a monthly report from the President of the National Association of State Park Directors. I share this with you for two reasons: 1) to help you understand what is going on with LWCF and the unique conflict we are being put into because our conservation partners and federal agencies will not agree to support equity in the LWCF program, 2) underscore the importance of your involvement on this issue.

As of July 1, NRPA and NASPD have been asked to no longer be part of national conference calls on trying to get LWCF passed because those organizations want a commitment to fund the state side of LWCF at a specific, predictable and credible level and not the 12% we have been seeing for so long. Organizations like TNC, TPL and others are not willing to make that commitment.

While Senator Baucus' S2747 never set aside a specific amount for the state side of LWCF, Representative Rahall's HR 3534 (CLEAR act) did originally have a 50/50 split. Now that bill has been amended to remove the equity. That change was no coincidence. Both bills are getting attention of late and we need to get prepared.

I am working to get a meeting with the League of Cities and MACO but I need cities to begin arguing that the League has to take a position on LWCF for an equitable position. Cities like Missoula, Kalispell, Billings, Bozeman, Helena and Great Falls can really help reinforce with our Congressional delegation that LWCF is best when there is equity.

See additional info below and in the attachment. Chas

Begin forwarded message:

President Joe's Monthly Report is attached. There is a lot going on and Joe has captured the essence of the LWCF struggle in his report.

Please read it carefully and understand what we are up against as we try to get equal funding for the stateside of LWCF. The America's State Parks campaign is making progress as demonstrated in other parts of Joe's comments, but we are dealing with an establishment in DC that is entrenched in its position to keep LWCF as a federal land acquisition program. We are in this position because we "left" Washington after the CARA effort.

Well, we're back but If we don't get active and vocal now, the Stateside of LWCF can expect to continue receiving the same 7% of the funds it's received over the past decade. Please read President Joe's report and the other messages you have been receiving over the past several days and get involved through your state's Congressional delegation now!