



# The Mountain Pact

## U.S. House Passes Great American Outdoors Act

*Ensuring critical investments in jobs, the economy,  
and our federal public lands*

	YEA	NAY	PRES	NV
DEMOCRATIC	229	2		1
REPUBLICAN	81	104		13
INDEPENDENT		1		
TOTALS	310	107		14

TIME REMAINING 0:00

Today, by a vote of 310-107, the House of Representatives passed the [Great American Outdoors Act](#). This historic legislation, which President Trump has said he supports, now heads to his desk for his signature.

This is a big conservation triumph and one to celebrate after years of hard work. The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), one of our country's most important conservation and recreation funding sources was included in this bill and will now be permanently and fully funded at \$900 million annually. For over 50 years the LWCF has contributed more than \$16 billion to conservation and recreation projects in 98 percent of all counties in the United States and in all 50 states.



**Thank you to the countless organizations, individuals, and elected officials in our mountain communities and across the country for their tireless advocacy for this bill over many, many years!** Amidst these turbulent times, let's celebrate this bipartisan legislative victory, which will positively impact so many lives of those who live in our mountain communities.

Anna Peterson, Executive Director of The Mountain Pact, responded to the historic vote but saying, "In the West, we know firsthand how important our public lands and the great outdoors are to our communities, small businesses, and visitors. We're so thankful to the House leadership for bringing home one of the biggest conservation laws in recent history for the

American people. The passage of the Great American Outdoors Act is a huge win for our communities as they work to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and serves as a powerful public lands legacy for future generations."

**[Please see here for the full Mountain Pact Statement from 20 Western Mountain Community Mayors, County Commissioners, and Council Members!](#)**

Mayor Emily Niehaus, from the City of Moab, Utah, said, "I am grateful for the passing of the Great American Outdoors Act, which will help to maintain our shared public lands and create stronger and more resilient communities. Our nation's public lands and waters are our future, and this Act is an investment that brings us all together under the common goal of public land stewardship."

Mayor Chris Mehl of Bozeman, Montana, said, "We're so thrilled Congress has passed the Great American Outdoors Act and fully funded the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). Since 1964, almost \$500 million in LWCF funding has been invested in public spaces, access and outdoor recreation in Montana. In Bozeman alone, LWCF made some of our beloved outdoor recreational places possible like Bogert, Cooper, Lindley, Burke, and Sundance Springs Parks; our municipal swimming pool; and more. Today's passage is a historic victory, which will continue this invaluable legacy in our community and across the country."



County Commission Chair Kathy Chandler-Henry, Eagle County, Colorado, said, "Since 1967, Eagle County has received more than \$1.7 million in LWCF funding for more than 15 local projects including the new Eagle River Park, boat ramps on the Colorado River, and the Rio Grande Trail, which connects the City of Glenwood Springs to the City of Aspen through the

Roaring Fork Valley. It's likely we could never have done these fantastic projects without LWCF funding. We thank Congress for including full and permanent funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund in the Great American Outdoors Act."

Commissioner Mark Newcomb, Teton County Commission, Wyoming, said, "Huge thanks to Congress and especially those visionaries who crafted this legislation. The Great American Outdoors Act will fully fund the Land and Water Conservation Fund, ensuring that we have a



*Asking Congress to Fund LWCF in DC during our 2019 Fly-in*

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secure source of funds to protect important outdoor resources that build community, strengthen economies and, during the pandemic, have proven to be important than ever."

*[See all 20 statements here](#) and please feel free help spread the word and [retweet](#) or [repost](#) The Mountain Pact Statements.*

**Please be sure to thank your Representatives if he/she/they voted for the bill by calling the House Switchboard: 202-224-3121.** Check [here](#) to see how your Representative voted (note it may take a bit for the tally to be updated) - the vote just concluded.

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