

## **Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) State Grant Program** **Proposed LWCF National and Performance Goals/Measures** **and Implementation Strategy**

In FY2003, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) evaluated the performance of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) State Grant Program through the Program Assessment Rating Tool (PART). In its assessment of the Program's purpose, national relevance and delivery, the review was generally positive. However, OMB found room for improvement in the areas of strategic planning and measuring performance. Accordingly, OMB recommended that program managers coordinate with state partners to establish meaningful performance measures and develop a comprehensive process to capture and report program accomplishments.

In March 2004 the Program managers assembled a LWCF Performance Implementation Team, consisting of National Park Service (NPS) staff, state partners, and members from constituent organizations to respond to these recommendations. After more than fifteen sessions, a sub-workgroup has made its recommendations for LWCF program performance goals and measures as well as an implementation strategy. The performance assessment framework includes three national strategic program goals and seven performance goals.

### **Implementation Strategy**

Performance of the LWCF program will be assessed through thirteen proposed performance measures. Select performance measures will be used in the Federal budget process while all thirteen will be reported in an annual program performance report. Implementation of the LWCF performance assessment framework will commence October 1, 2004 with willing State partners. Full implementation with all States and Territories will begin on October 1, 2005.

Implementation of the performance framework involves three basic tasks. The first is defining the appropriate targets for the performance measures that will be incorporated into the Federal budget process. The second is systematically tracking our progress achieving these targets and reporting on the performance goals included in the annual program performance report. The final task would be submitting State and Territory program accomplishment summaries that will be published in the annual program performance report.

### **Project Status**

These proposed goals and measures as well as the implementation strategy are under current review by NPS program leaders. Formal approval from the Office of Management and Budget and Department of Interior representatives is scheduled for September.

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<b>Proposed National Goal One (NG1): Meet state and locally identified public outdoor recreation resources needs to strengthen the health and vitality of the American People.</b>		
<b>Proposed Performance Goals</b>	<b>Associated Performance Measures</b>	<b>Report</b>
(PG1) Increase quantity of outdoor recreation resources for public use and enjoyment.	(PG1.1) Number of new parks made available for public outdoor recreation use and enjoyment.	Federal Budget Process
	(PG1.2) Number of new acres of land and water made available for public outdoor recreation use and enjoyment.	Annual Program Report
	(PG1.3) Number of parks where new outdoor recreation facilities were developed.	Annual Program Report
	(PG1.4) Number and types of new outdoor recreation facilities.	Annual Program Report
(PG2) Enhance the quality of outdoor recreation resources for public use and enjoyment.	(PG2.1) Number of parks enhanced through new development or rehabilitation of outdoor recreation and support facilities.	Federal Budget Process
(PG3) Ensure close-to-home public outdoor recreation resources are available to encourage daily active individual participation.	(PG3.1) Number of local jurisdictions where LWCF grant projects are located.	Annual Program Report
<b>Proposed National Goal (NG2): Increase the number of protected state and local outdoor recreation resources and ensure their availability for public use in perpetuity.</b>		
<b>Proposed Performance Goals</b>	<b>Associated Performance Measures</b>	<b>Report</b>
(PG4) Increase the number of acres of protected outdoor recreation resources for public use and enjoyment.	(PG4.1) Number of new acres protected.	Federal Budget Process
	(PG 4.2) Number of new sites protected under the LWCF Program.	Annual Program Report
(PG5) Ensure that outdoor recreation resources funded through the LWCF Program are retained and used for public outdoor recreation in perpetuity.	(PG 5.1) Number of LWCF projects inspected and determined to be open for public outdoor recreation use.	Annual Program Report
	(PG 5.2) Percentage of inspected acres funded by the LWCF determined to be open for public outdoor recreation use.	Annual Program Report

**Proposed National Goal (NG3): Encourage sound planning and long-term partnerships to expand the quantity and ensure the quality of needed state and local outdoor recreation resources.**

<b>Proposed Performance Goals</b>	<b>Associated Performance Measures</b>	<b>Report</b>
(PG6) Stimulate planning initiatives to help states identify outdoor recreation needs and establish the implementation strategies to meet those needs.	(PG6.1) Total number approved SCORP plans.	Annual Program Report
	(PG6.2) Number of SCORP plans that were updated.	Annual Program Report
(PG7) Leverage local and state matching investments that support outdoor recreation projects.	(PG 7.1) Number of projects that exceed the 50% local match.	Annual Program Report