



Photo Credit: NPS

# West Virginia

## Great American Outdoors Act

## National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund

The Great American Outdoors Act National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund (GAOA LRF) is a commitment to protecting and sustaining our public lands.

Established on August 4, 2020, GAOA LRF allocates over \$1.6 billion annually from fiscal years (FY) 2021 through 2025 to the Department of the Interior (Interior) to address priority deferred maintenance and repair needs on public lands and Bureau of Indian Education-funded schools. With all five years of GAOA LRF funding, Interior bureaus will:

- Fund 396 projects across 50 states, the District of Columbia, and multiple territories
- Address over \$5.9 billion in deferred maintenance and repair
- Improve the condition of over 3,800 Interior assets

### GAOA LRF Impacts Across America\*



Repairing over **1,000** recreational and visitor experience assets



Improving ADA accessibility in nearly **50%** of GAOA LRF projects



Each year of GAOA LRF funding is estimated to support an average of **17,000** jobs and contribute **\$1.9 billion** to the U.S. economy



Improving facilities used by nearly **2,300** students and faculty at BIE-funded schools each year

### Deferred Maintenance and Repair in West Virginia

In West Virginia, the total deferred maintenance and repair (DM&R) backlog for the four Interior GAOA LRF bureaus is \$266,870,000\*\*.

| Bureau                               | DM&R**        |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| Bureau of Indian Education (BIE)     | \$0           |
| Bureau of Land Management (BLM)      | \$0           |
| National Park Service (NPS)          | \$262,735,000 |
| U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) | \$4,135,000   |

### GAOA LRF in West Virginia

With the full five years of funding, GAOA LRF will invest nearly **\$57.6 million** towards improving over **90** assets across **4** projects in West Virginia.

As of September 2023, Maintenance Action Teams have completed work at **1** FWS location and **1** NPS location in West Virginia.



### Assets improved in West Virginia:



Operational Buildings



Recreational and Visitor Experience Assets



Water Infrastructure and Other Utilities

\*these numbers are estimates and include FY21 - FY25 GAOA LRF-funded projects.

\*\*DM&R estimates represent a point in time, reported as of 9/30/2023, rounded to the nearest thousand. DM&R is calculated based on asset repair needs in FRPP, which does not include assets with a status indicator of Report of Excess Submitted, Report of Excess Accepted, Determination to Dispose, Disposed, Cannot Currently be Disposed, or Surplus.



# FY21-25 Projects, Locations, and Funding in West Virginia

| Bureau | Unit Name                                  | Project Title   | Funding <sup>†</sup> as of Mar. 2024 |
|--------|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| FWS    | Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge     | Rehabilitation of the Schaeffer Building  | \$150,000                            |
| NPS    | New River Gorge National Park and Preserve | Remove Excess Structures and Abandoned Buildings Parkwide and Address Utility Needs—Phase I   | \$1,237,000                          |
| NPS    | New River Gorge National Park and Preserve | Remove Excess Structures and Abandoned Buildings—Phase II, and Address Deficient Utilities, Historic Structures, and Visitor Facilities | \$36,169,000                         |
| NPS    | New River Gorge National Park and Preserve | Repair Rend Trail and Bridges   | \$20,000,000*                        |

\*total project funding includes proposed FY25 funding

† rounded to thousands

## Rehabilitation of the Schaeffer Building

*Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge*



The Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge is a high-elevation wetland habitat for many threatened and endangered species and provides visitor access to hunting, fishing, cross-country skiing, hiking, and boating. This project will renovate the interior and exterior of the Schaeffer Building, which is used for equipment and maintenance supply storage. Work includes including replacing the roof and siding and improving vehicular and pedestrian access around the structure.

The Schaeffer Building prior to replacement.  
Photo Credit: Matt Boarman/FWS

## Remove Excess Structures and Abandoned Buildings Parkwide and Address Utility Needs—Phase I

*New River Gorge National Park and Preserve*



New River Gorge National Park and Preserve features the rugged, whitewater New River amidst biodiverse terrain, and offers outdoor recreation including climbing, biking, camping, birdwatching, and whitewater rafting. Throughout the years, the park has acquired numerous properties that include abandoned buildings in various stages of disrepair and pose safety hazards. This project demolishes these buildings and unnecessary roads associated with these sites and restores sites to their natural condition by reintroducing native plants. The restored sites have potential for expanded visitor recreation and enjoyment.

Building slated for demolition at New River Gorge National Park. Photo Credit: NPS