

FY 2024 President’s Budget – Request Project Data Sheets

**LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND**  
**Project Data Sheet**

**Agency:** National Park Service

**Fiscal Year:** 2024

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**Project / Unit:** Grand Teton National Park

**Priority:** 1

**State(s):** WY

**Congressional District(s):** WY- At Large

**Location:** Teton County, Wyoming

**Limitation Amount:** There are no limitations.

**Project Estimates**

<b>Land/Cost</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Cost</b>
<b>Estimate for FY2024</b>	35	\$7,875,000
<b>Acquired to Date</b>	8,625	\$89,224,080
<b>Remaining to be Acquired</b>	1,421	\$140,525,000

**Project Description:**

Grand Teton National Park was established in February 1929, to showcase the awe-inspiring Teton mountain range, pristine glacial lakes, the expansive sage-covered valley of Jackson Hole, and the wild and scenic Snake River. Grand Teton National Park is in the heart of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, one of Earth’s largest intact temperate ecosystems. The park is home to some of the greatest populations of wildlife in the world: elk, moose, bison, pronghorn, mule deer, grizzly and black bears, gray wolves, coyotes, otters, wolverines, and about 300 bird species. The central feature of the park is the Teton Range, an active, fault-block mountain front that is 40 miles long and includes 12 peaks over 12,000 feet. The park protects seven morainal lakes along the base of the Teton Range and more than 100 alpine and backcountry lakes. The Snake River bisects the valley of Jackson Hole and is the headwaters of the Columbia River system.

**Purpose / Need:**

This request would provide funding to acquire one of the two remaining 35-acre parcels of the Snake River Ranch (SRR), just inside the park's southwest boundary. This is a highly visible and scenic area that provides the foreground for the Teton Range. Working with The Conservation Fund (TCF), the NPS has already acquired four SRR parcels. The tracts provide critical moose and elk winter range and are within a significant elk migration corridor.

The NPS has already acquired four of the six tracts known as the Snake River Ranch. These tracts were acquired in FY 2001, 2003, 2020 and 2022, with the support of TCF. The total acquisition will protect the unparalleled scenic and wildlife values of Grand Teton National Park. The option to acquire this parcel, held by TCF, expires on December 31, 2023. With the expiration of this option, and no acquisition of the parcel, the sixth and final parcel is also likely to be lost.

**Cooperator(s):**

The Conservation Fund

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**Operations & Maintenance**

<b>Savings/Cost</b>	<b>Start-up</b>	<b>Annual</b>
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Savings:</b>	\$0	\$0
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Costs:</b>	\$0	\$0

**Describe O&M:**

There are neither costs nor savings associated with this acquisition.

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**Project / Unit:** Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve

**Priority:** 2

**State(s):** AK

**Congressional District(s):** AK - At Large

**Location:** Along the Canadian border in eastern Alaska, within the Southeast Fairbanks Census Area

**Limitation Amount:** There are no limitations.

**Project Estimates**

Land/Cost	Acres	Cost
Estimate for FY2024	1,458	\$2,050,000
Acquired to Date	10,388	\$69,877
Remaining to be Acquired	284,796	\$400,000,000

**Project Description:**

The Preserve was formed, in part, to "protect and interpret historical sites and events associated with the gold rush on the Yukon River." The owner has been in conversation with NPS to sell this property, which is a historical area where the mining infrastructure and cultural landscape is closely linked. The mining history dates back to the earliest days of the 1890s gold rush. Visitors will be able to explore significant areas of the national preserve, learn about the region's cultural legacy, and view wildlife throughout these lands. In addition, Eagle Village tribal elders will be able to return to places of significance from their youth, sharing these lands with new generations and passing on the traditions and stories of their culture.

**Purpose / Need:**

This is the last parcel needed to unite two historic mining camps and complete the story of the gold rush history on the Yukon River. There is no substitute for this parcel. Acquisition by a private party is likely to result in removal of the historic landscape and natural resource degradation.

**Cooperator(s):**

The Conservation Fund is an active partner for protection of resources in this area. Alaska Native elders from nearby Eagle Village have repeatedly expressed the desire to tour the mining camp where they lived and worked in the 1940s and 1950s. This acquisition would increase their chances of visiting the site (which is now only viewable by small, fixed-wing aircraft) and helping to document its history.

**Operations & Maintenance**

Savings/Cost	Start-up	Annual
Estimated O&M Savings:	\$0	\$0
Estimated O&M Costs:	\$150,000	\$0

**Describe O&M:**

The figure above is an estimate of the cost for research and a cultural landscape inventory, as well as possible signage or interpretive material to be prepared following the initial research. The area is extremely remote with access limited to air transportation only.

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**Agency:** National Park Service

**Fiscal Year:** 2024

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**Project / Unit:** Petrified Forest National Park

**Priority:** 3

**State(s):** AZ

**Congressional District(s):** AZ-2

**Location:** Northeast Arizona, Apache and Navajo Counties

**Limitation Amount:** There are no limitations.

**Project Estimates**

<b>Land/Cost</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Cost</b>
<b>Estimate for FY2024</b>	35,901	\$7,500,000
<b>Acquired to Date</b>	38,452	\$15,577,748
<b>Remaining to be Acquired</b>	74,246	\$24,000,000

**Project Description:**

Petrified Forest National Park contains globally significant fossils from the Late Triassic Period. The park is a virtual laboratory offering opportunities for paleontological research and visitor appreciation that are unparalleled. These globally and nationally significant resources located on State lands complement those already protected in the park and connect landscapes for visitor access and enjoyment.

**Purpose / Need:**

These State parcels are interspersed with NPS properties in a checkerboard pattern that creates significant access and management issues. Currently, these parklands cannot be opened to the public and the park pays thousands of dollars a year to the State for staff to access the NPS parcels blocked by State-owned sections. Acquisition of these State lands would open almost twice the acreage to visitor use and scientific study and research and will ensure that the important scientific data they provide is disseminated to the scientific community and general public. These parcels also provide unparalleled open space opportunities to hikers, explorers, wildlife enthusiasts and photographers. Indigenous communities have used these resources for centuries and access to the lands allows their story to continue.

**Cooperator(s):**

The Trust for Public Land

**Operations & Maintenance**

<b>Savings/Cost</b>	<b>Start-up</b>	<b>Annual</b>
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Savings:</b>	\$700,000	\$700,000
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Costs:</b>	\$2,000	\$2,000

**Describe O&M:**

The park is currently paying to hold an annual grazing lease on these State parcels that allows access to the checkerboarded NPS parcels. The NPS also holds a special use permit that allows small-scale guided tours for visitors. The park is currently charged the full Animal Unit Months (AUM) for the grazing leases despite having no livestock on the land. The State would prefer the park to hold a commercial lease

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instead of a grazing lease, which was estimated in 2007 to cost \$700,000 annually. Elimination of the need for these annual permits would provide savings to the government.

Increased operating costs will be borne by the Park's existing base operating budget and/or completed with Park staff.

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**Agency:** National Park Service

**Fiscal Year:** 2024

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**Project / Unit:** Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail

**Priority:** 4

**State(s):** HI

**Congressional District(s):** HI-2

**Location:** Hawaii County on the Island of Hawaii

**Limitation Amount:** There are no limitations.

**Project Estimates**

<b>Land/Cost</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Cost</b>
<b>Estimate for FY2024</b>	36	\$3,800,000
<b>Acquired to Date</b>	91	\$9,500,000
<b>Remaining to be Acquired</b>	TBD	TBD

**Project Description:**

Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail (Trail) was designated as a component of the National Trails System in 2000, to be administered by the National Park Service. The Trail passes through four National Park System units: Pu'ukohola Heiau National Historic Site, Kaloko-Honokohau National Historical Park, Pu'uuhonua o Honaunau National Historical Park, and Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Since its designation, the Trail has been collaborating with several community-based non-profit organizations, including The Trust for Public Land and the Hawaiian Islands Land Trust, and State, county and Federal agencies on land protection, community-based trail access efforts and conservation acquisitions. The parcel is bordered to the north by Lapakahi State Historical Park and to the south by a Hawaii County parcel recently acquired as a result of the local land protection effort. Acquisition of the parcel will result in completing protection of 15 miles of contiguous coastline within the trail corridor and will be entirely publicly owned. This segment of the trail corridor contains numerous archeological features which constitutes an intact cultural landscape of significance to the entire Hawaiian Islands.

Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail is a 175-mile coastal trail corridor that traverses all of Hawai'i Island's western half and most of its southern coast. The Ka'u Coast is nesting grounds for eighty to ninety percent of the Hawksbill Sea Turtle. The Hawaiian Honu (Green Sea Turtle) are found in the water all along the Ka'u Coast. The population of the most critically endangered marine mammal in the United States today, the Hawaiian Monk Seal, is slowly rising along the Ka'u Coast. Various sea, shore, and migratory birds have been observed along or above Kaunamano's shoreline. The vegetation in the grazed upland areas of the property is largely nonnative with stands of Polynesian-introduced Noni trees protected within lava tube openings, but the coastal landscape is dominated by native plants.

**Purpose / Need:**

Protecting this parcel is about preserving the cultural and environmental context and landscape of the 15-mile coastline. In addition to the physical resources, Ala Kahakai NHT's foundation documents call for the enhancement and perpetuation or continuance of ancestral/generational connections that many families have to the western coast of the North Kohala District. Connection to place perpetuates traditional ecological knowledge and the application of this knowledge to stewardship, ceremonies, and sustainable gathering practices.

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**Cooperator(s):**

Kohala Lihikai and Malama Kohala Kahakai, both community nonprofit organizations (consortium of conservation organizations for preserving Kohala Coast and public access) are working with NPS to protect and preserve the Trail corridor.

**Operations & Maintenance**

<b>Savings/Cost</b>	<b>Start-up</b>	<b>Annual</b>
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Savings:</b>	\$0	\$0
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Costs:</b>	\$0	\$5,000

**Describe O&M:**

Annual trail maintenance will cost approximately \$5,000.

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**Project / Unit:** Valles Caldera National Preserve

**Priority:** 5

**State(s):** NM

**Congressional District(s):** NM-3

**Location:** North of Albuquerque in Sandoval County

**Limitation Amount:** There are no limitations.

**Project Estimates**

Land/Cost	Acres	Cost
Estimate for FY2024	8	\$2,500,000
Acquired to Date	89,806	\$4,331,000
Remaining to be Acquired	0	\$0

**Project Description:**

NPS is establishing a Science and Education Center (SEC) in Jemez Springs. The landowner has offered the NPS the right of first refusal for this property. Acquisition will allow NPS to fully operationalize the SEC. Housing for science and education program participants is critical; regional school districts serving rural Hispanic and American Indian communities cannot afford field programs without low-cost housing. With the ability to provide overnight housing to visiting school groups, scientists, and seasonal staff, the park can significantly expand science and education programming to diverse, underserved rural Hispanic and indigenous communities. The parcel will also connect to Forest Service land and numerous trails and will expand public access to the river corridor for habitat restoration and species recovery in this area.

**Purpose / Need:**

Acquisition of the property will provide important continuity of the science, management and recreation/public use activities at the park by providing consolidated logistics of centralized operational activities and on-site housing facilities for staff and visitors in Jemez Springs. There are multiple buildings currently designed for housing that will be used for participants in the educational component of the Science and Education Center. There is also a storage facility for use in protecting field and recreational equipment for the school groups and researchers the Center will serve. Acquisition also would enhance geographic continuity of public access to National Forest Service lands for recreation, as well as public access to both banks of the Jemez River.

**Cooperator(s):**

USDA Forest Service, Santa Fe National Forest

**Operations & Maintenance**

Savings/Cost	Start-up	Annual
Estimated O&M Savings:	\$0	\$53,000
Estimated O&M Costs:	\$620,000	\$45,000



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**Describe O&M:**

Start-up costs estimated to bring the facility on-line of \$620,000, including select renovation and demolition.

A conservative analysis of annual housing rental income each year (\$53,000/yr.) is estimated to exceed Operations and Maintenance costs (\$45,000). This assumes 45% occupancy on an annual basis; most of the occupancy will be in the summer field season period.

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Project / Unit: Zion National Park

Priority: 6

State(s): UT

Congressional District(s): UT-2

Location: Washington, Iron, and Kane Counties, Utah

Limitation Amount: There are no limitations.

**Project Estimates**

Land/Cost	Acres	Cost
Estimate for FY2024	675	\$2,600,000
Acquired to Date	143,793	\$3,015,752
Remaining to be Acquired	3,449	\$45,500,000

**Project Description:**

July 31, 1909, President William H. Taft issued a proclamation setting aside 15,200 acres to establish Zion National Park. Over the years, the park has been enlarged by a variety of presidential proclamations and legislation, with Congress establishing it as a National Park in 1919 by P.L. 66-83. Located in southwestern Utah, Zion National Park encompasses some of the most scenic canyon country in the United States. The park is characterized by high plateaus, a maze of narrow, deep, sandstone canyons, and striking rock towers and mesas. The North Fork of the Virgin River has carved a spectacular gorge through Zion Canyon, where sandstone walls rise 2,000 to 3,000 feet above the canyon floor. Zion's spectacular scenery attracts visitors from all over the world, with 4.5 million visitors in 2019.

**Purpose / Need:**

The parcels are located in the Kolob Terrace area of the park. This area has high development potential as well as significant natural resources. Along the Kolob Terrace Road, several glamping and resort developments are either in place, under construction, or approved by the County Commission. This activity has increased the interest in the park inholdings for development and second home opportunities. Development in this area, known as Cave Valley, would greatly diminish the scenic values along a principal park road. Also, the Cave Valley is renowned for its archeological site density, including several archeological site locations that require protection. Additionally, the parcels contain the riparian zone of perennial Hop Valley Creek (and associated springs) classified as Wild and Scenic Rivers. While recreation, wilderness and scenic views are outstanding, these water resources and riparian areas are compromised by active, intense grazing. In this desert environment, cattle tend to congregate along water courses for forage and water availability. Trampling by livestock impacts the riparian vegetation and reduces wildlife habitat value including potential habitat for the Federally threatened southwest willow flycatcher. The Hop Valley Trail crosses these inholdings and connects to other trails. It is the most heavily used wilderness/backcountry trail in the park and the terrain doesn't allow for re-routing the trail to bypass these private lands.

**Cooperator(s):**

Support from local entities and partners is strong. Acquisition of the tract is supported by the Trust for Public Land, Zion Forever Project, the National Parks Conservation Association, the Nature

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Conservancy, Virgin River Land Preservation Association (local group helping landowners preserve open space), and Washington County.

**Operations & Maintenance**

<b>Savings/Cost</b>	<b>Start-up</b>	<b>Annual</b>
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Savings:</b>	\$0	\$0
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Costs:</b>	\$93,000	\$0

**Describe O&M:**

A small amount of fencing will be removed, and targeted sites restored; the park has the labor, demolition equipment, skilled staff, and native plant nursery resources to accomplish restoration.

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Agency: National Park Service

Fiscal Year: 2024

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**Project / Unit:** Battlefield Protection

**Priority:** 7

**State(s):** GA, MD, MS, NC, NM, NY, PA, SC, TN, VA, WV

**Congressional District(s):** Various throughout the states

**Location:** Various throughout the states

**Limitation Amount:** Various depending on the unit

**Project Estimates**

Land/Cost	Acres	Cost
Estimate for FY2024	TBD	\$2,680,000
Acquired to Date	TBD	TBD
Remaining to be Acquired	TBD	TBD

**Project Description:**

Funds provided will be used for the Federal acquisition of lands or interests in lands needed to preserve and protect battlefield sites within the National Park System. Historic fields of battle that shaped the country are being developed into suburban landscapes as populations continue to grow.

NPS partners have acquired and continue to hold, in anticipation of Federal acquisition, lands within the core areas of Civil War battlefields within the National Park System. This funding request will provide the flexibility necessary to acquire such land as the need arises. Priority needs exist at Cedar Creek and Belle Grove National Historical Park, Guilford Courthouse National Military Park, Fort Donelson National Battlefield, Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania County Battlefields Memorial National Military Park, Gettysburg National Military Park, Moore’s Creek National Battlefield, Petersburg National Battlefield, Richmond National Battlefield Park, Saratoga National Historical Park, Shiloh National Military Park, and Vicksburg National Military Park, among others.

**Purpose / Need:**

The funds will be used to acquire high-priority battlefield land that is privately held within the National Park System. These Battlefield units are experiencing significant threats to the resources they were authorized to protect, including relic hunting, development, and vandalism of historic landscapes and structures. These lands are often temporarily protected by partner organizations able to nimbly navigate real estate acquisitions and then wait for the Federal Government to bring land into the individual park units. These funds will be directed to the highest priority “shovel ready” acquisitions, which will be dynamic as landowners consider options once funding is available for NPS. Units that tell the story of the American Revolution, including Guilford Courthouse National Military Park and Moore’s Creek National Battlefield have active land acquisition programs that will benefit from this line item.

**Cooperator(s):**

American Battlefield Trust, Friends of Stones River National Battlefield, Piedmont Land Trust, Guilford Battleground Co., and Trust for Public Land are all working to assist NPS in preserving the resources at various units.

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**Operations & Maintenance**

<b>Savings/Cost</b>	<b>Start-up</b>	<b>Annual</b>
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Savings:</b>	TBD	TBD
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Costs:</b>	TBD	TBD

**Describe O&M:**

Annual maintenance costs for each individual acquisition would be negligible due to the small size of each tract, and savings are likely to result because of management efficiencies with more contiguous lands.

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**Agency:** National Park Service  
**Fiscal Year:** 2024

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**Project / Unit:** Voyageurs National Park  
**Priority:** 8  
**State(s):** MN  
**Congressional District(s):** MN-8  
**Location:** Northern Minnesota near International Falls in Koochiching and St. Louis Counties  
**Limitation Amount:** There is a statutory ceiling of \$38,315,000.

**Project Estimates**

Land/Cost	Acres	Cost
<b>Estimate for FY2024</b>	33	\$1,500,000
<b>Acquired to Date</b>	107,782	\$12,238,595
<b>Remaining to be Acquired</b>	1,038	\$47,000,000

**Project Description:**

Voyageurs National Park is a waterway of four large lakes connected by narrows and was once the route of the French-Canadian voyageurs. With over 500 islands, the lakes surround a peninsula of boreal forest. The park was established to preserve and protect the outstanding scenery, geological conditions, and waterway systems that constituted part of the historic route of the voyageurs who contributed to the opening of the United States. It was authorized January 1, 1971, and the land acquisition program has been underway since fiscal year 1972. Of the 218,222 acres comprising the park, only 1,038 acres remain in private ownership.

**Purpose / Need:**

Four high-priority tracts have been identified for acquisition:

Two tracts are on Namakan Lake. The friends' group, Voyageurs Conservancy, has been contacted by both owners to assist in facilitating these acquisitions. One property has several buildings, as well as an encroachment issue. Purchase of vacant land and the possibility of a small land exchange would preserve a large section of undeveloped land while solving the encroachment problem. The other property is a straightforward acquisition of vacant land.

Two other tracts, one on Gruner Island in Rainy Lake and one on the shore of Sand Point Lake, have motivated sellers. The first is located in a prime visitor use area, with two excellent beaches, and has an historic structure on the tract. The second is the last piece of private property on Staeger Bay, with no other development around it. It is a remote bay and is popular with fishermen, paddlers, birders, and photographers.

**Cooperator(s):**

Voyageurs Conservancy and Voyageurs National Park Association

**Operations & Maintenance**

Savings/Cost	Start-up	Annual
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Savings:</b>	\$0	\$0
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Costs:</b>	\$24,100	\$0

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**Describe O&M:**

Only the Gruner Island tract would incur costs to remove structures at a later date at an estimated cost of \$24,100. Any day-to-day costs would be absorbed by the current operating budget, as they are considered negligible.

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Agency: National Park Service

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**Project / Unit:** Gauley River National Recreation Area

**Priority:** 9

**State(s):** WV

**Congressional District(s):** WV-1

**Location:** Fayette County, WV

**Limitation Amount:** There are no limitations.

**Project Estimates**

Land/Cost	Acres	Cost
Estimate for FY2024	227	\$920,000
Acquired to Date	5,055	\$11,323,212
Remaining to be Acquired	5,083	\$7,500,000

**Project Description:**

The 11,566-acre Gauley River National Recreation Area was established in 1988 to provide the public with outdoor recreation opportunities, including whitewater boating, picnicking, camping, hiking, fishing and hunting, while protecting a large natural area. The mostly wooded National Recreation Area encompasses a 25-mile section of the Gauley River and a 5.5-mile section of the Meadow River in Nicholas and Fayette Counties, West Virginia. Both of these rivers have formed narrow gorges in the rugged Allegheny Plateau, part of the Appalachian physiographic region. Recreational and residential development along the river threatens to diminish public access to the river and its resources.

**Purpose / Need:**

These lands contain significant resources for recreation in the park. One tract includes 1.1 miles of rail grade, which runs the entire length of the Meadow and Gauley Rivers. The surrounding counties and the NPS envision converting the tract to a biking trail. The counties of Fayette & Greenbriar have acquired a long section of the rail grade up-river from the park boundary and have begun improvements. Acquisition of this property would fill in a large missing piece of NPS ownership of the rail grade within the park's boundary. Another property located at the confluence of the Meadow and Gauley Rivers contains an unmaintained State road, which could be abandoned by the State to the NPS, cuts through the property and provides access to the two rivers and rail trail. Currently, there is no public access to the Meadow River and private boaters trespass through private land to launch and take-out from river trips. Outfitters bring boats down an extremely dangerous road while their clients hike down a trail on the other side of the river. Outfitters then ferry the boats over to the clients. This property would provide a safe and public access to the Meadow River, the confluence of the Meadow and Gauley Rivers, and the rail trail from Fayette & Greenbriar counties.

Additionally, the riparian zone of the Gauley contains the majority of the rare plants found within the park. There are 59 subpopulations of the Federally Threatened Virginia Spiraea located in the riparian zone of the park. Federal protection following acquisition will help the species of flora and fauna unique to this area to flourish as law enforcement will be able to more effectively restrict motorized access to the land in this area. This property would allow the NPS to expand public recreation along the Gauley River to a variety of user groups other than river rafters. Day use for hiking along the banks of the rivers,



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birding, picnicking, fishing and hunting will become accessible with a protected, accessible land base for the National Recreation Area.

**Cooperator(s):**

West Virginia Land Trust and The Conservation Fund

**Operations & Maintenance**

<b>Savings/Cost</b>	<b>Start-up</b>	<b>Annual</b>
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Savings:</b>	\$0	\$0
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Costs:</b>	\$0	\$15,000

**Describe O&M:**

Future annual costs include additional law enforcement patrol hours. Existing park staff will perform these duties.

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**Project / Unit:** Ozark National Scenic Riverways

**Priority:** 10

**State(s):** MO

**Congressional District(s):** MO-8

**Location:** Southeastern Missouri counties of Carter, Dent, Shannon and Texas

**Limitation Amount:** There is a statutory ceiling of \$10,804,000; an annual overceiling authority of ten percent or \$1 million, whichever is greater, permits this request (54 USC 200306).

**Project Estimates**

Land/Cost	Acres	Cost
Estimate for FY2024	368	\$975,000
Acquired to Date	61,557	\$11,485,862
Remaining to be Acquired	5,255	\$5,000,000

**Project Description:**

Ozark National Scenic Riverways was the first designated National Scenic Riverway, predating the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act by four years. It protects and preserves the Current and Jacks Fork River corridors that provide many recreational opportunities for visitors, including water sports, hunting, and cave exploration. The southeast Missouri Ozarks are typified by narrow, steep-sided hollows, numerous streams, and bluffs. The area is underlain by soluble dolomite, giving rise to sinkholes, caves and springs of classical Karst topography. Several caves have been identified as having critical habitat for the endangered Indiana and Gray bats. There are 112 species of fish, 197 species of birds, and 58 species of mammals found in the park. There are also 26 species of amphibians and 46 species of reptiles found in the park area, including four venomous snakes. The park is home to approximately 1,000 plant species.

**Purpose / Need:**

Acquisition of these tracts will directly benefit the water quality of the rivers and streams within the Scenic Riverway, the integrity of the riverbank, and visitor access to these lands. The acquisition includes a tract that fronts the Lower Current River just upstream from the nationally significant Big Spring. It includes riverfront shrub-forest communities and will assist the park in maintaining a minimum 300-foot riparian buffer along the main river channel. Federal ownership ensures protection of the area in perpetuity and preserves the scenic viewshed along the river.

**Cooperator(s):**

The Nature Conservancy

**Operations & Maintenance**

Savings/Cost	Start-up	Annual
Estimated O&M Savings:	\$0	\$0
Estimated O&M Costs:	\$1,000	\$1,000

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**Describe O&M:**

The costs associated with ownership are minimal but may include additional staff time and fuel costs for mowing vacant lands and/or law enforcement patrols.

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**Project / Unit:** New River Gorge National Park and Preserve

**Priority:** 11

**State(s):** WV

**Congressional District(s):** WV-1

**Location:** In the vicinity of Oak Hill, in Fayette, Raleigh and Summers Counties, West Virginia

**Limitation Amount:** There are no limitations.

**Project Estimates**

<b>Land/Cost</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Cost</b>
<b>Estimate for FY2024</b>	310	\$655,000
<b>Acquired to Date</b>	57,508	\$52,330,637
<b>Remaining to be Acquired</b>	13,571	\$13,500,000

**Project Description:**

New River Gorge National Park and Preserve was created to protect and preserve the New River Gorge in the Appalachian Mountains of southern West Virginia. It was originally established as a national river to protect one of the oldest rivers on the North American continent and was redesignated in 2020 to recognize the many facets of recreational activities and cultural significance located within the boundaries of the park unit. It stretches for over 50 miles and is rich in cultural and natural history, home to some of the country's best whitewater rafting as well as one of the most popular climbing areas on the East Coast.

**Purpose / Need:**

This is the last remaining unacquired tract on the river between Stonecliff and Terry, located in one of the most biologically diverse parts of the park. This area does not have a railroad or other feature disrupting the continuity from rim to river--a fact that makes the tract important for some of the park's rarer birds. It contains documented populations of at least five rare plants, and contributes to the habitat for rare species, including two species of Federally endangered bats. It contributes to the nationally significant unfragmented eastern forest. It provides a key 1.5 mile link in the proposed through-park trail, the last remaining unacquired segment between the northern boundary of the park and the town of Terry.

**Cooperator(s):**

West Virginia Land Trust and The Conservation Fund

**Operations & Maintenance**

<b>Savings/Cost</b>	<b>Start-up</b>	<b>Annual</b>
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Savings:</b>	\$0	\$0
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Costs:</b>	\$0	\$15,000

**Describe O&M:**

Out year costs will be minimal - additional patrol time for law enforcement with current park staff.

**LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND  
Project Data Sheet**

**Agency:** National Park Service

**Fiscal Year:** 2024

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**Project / Unit:** Minute Man National Historical Park

**Priority:** 12

**State(s):** MA

**Congressional District(s):** MA-5

**Location:** Vicinity of Concord, Middlesex Count, in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**Limitation Amount:** For lands added through P.L. 111-11, 123 Stat. there is no acquisition funding ceiling. The current request is for a portion of the lands added through this law.

**Project Estimates**

<b>Land/Cost</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Cost</b>
<b>Estimate for FY2024</b>	2	\$1,860,000
<b>Acquired to Date</b>	795	\$13,390,410
<b>Remaining to be Acquired</b>	48	\$6,750,000

**Project Description:**

Minute Man National Historical Park was established by P.L. 86-321 in 1959, and after completion of the 1991 general management plan, P.L. 102-488 (1992) broadened the park's strategic mission and expanded the park boundary, especially along the Battle Road. The park preserves historic sites, structures, properties, and landscapes associated with the opening battles of the American Revolution, which occurred on April 19, 1775. It also preserves resources related to America's literary tradition. The park is located approximately 16 miles northwest of Boston, Massachusetts. The region surrounding the park has developed from a semi-rural area to mature suburbs and experiences continual growth pressures. Growth from residential, commercial, and industrial development has increased impacts from traffic, noise, and density in and around the park. The park attracts more than one million visitors each year.

**Purpose / Need:**

The property is within the authorized park boundary of Barrett's Farm Unit and directly adjacent to Col. Barrett's home and barn. The land is currently listed in the "Barrett Farm Historic District" as it was formerly part of the historic core of the Barrett farm, which in 1775 was the storage site for the Town of Concord's militia gunpowder and cannons. Restoration of the parcel to its historical field setting will greatly enhance visitor understanding and experience at Barrett's Farm Unit. The parcel is 450 ft west of the regional Bay Circuit Trail, a 200-mile corridor of linked open spaces for passive recreation, and the Town of Concord conserves land to the north and south. Acquisition will provide access to the Trail and the Town's open spaces.

Acquisition of the parcel will allow visitor access and create the opportunity to place orientation and wayside signs in an appropriate setting. This has been identified as the best location for visitor access, ADA accessible arrival and orientation to the site. The parcel is 900 feet from the Assabet National Wild and Scenic River corridor and includes wetland area that seeps into the corridor. The site abuts both NPS land and Town of Concord conservation land, including a 1792 smallpox grave site/cemetery. At this time, visitors cut across private land to view the small cemetery.

**Cooperator(s):**

Save Our Heritage, American Battlefield Trust, Town of Concord, Battle Road Scenic Byway

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**Operations & Maintenance**

<b>Savings/Cost</b>	<b>Start-up</b>	<b>Annual</b>
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Savings:</b>	\$0	\$0
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Costs:</b>	\$135,000	\$1,000

**Describe O&M:**

Annual costs will increase by approximately \$1,000 for mowing and wayside signage. Initial costs are for demolition of non-historic structures that may be funded by a non-profit partner. However, if an agreement is not reached, funds will be sought from the NPS Demolition account.

FY 2024 President's Budget – Request Project Data Sheets

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND  
Project Data Sheet

Agency: National Park Service

Fiscal Year: 2024

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**Project / Unit:** San Juan National Historical Park

**Priority:** 13

**State(s):** WA

**Congressional District(s):** WA-2

**Location:** San Juan County, Washington

**Limitation Amount:** There is a dollar ceiling of \$5,575,000; an annual overceiling authority of ten percent or \$1 million, whichever is greater, permits this request (54 USC 200306).

**Project Estimates**

Land/Cost	Acres	Cost
Estimate for FY2024	26	\$905,000
Acquired to Date	2,115	\$9,510,671
Remaining to be Acquired	31	\$1,200,000

**Project Description:**

With over six miles of shoreline, trails, prairies, and military camps, this park commemorates the peaceful settlement of the San Juan Boundary Dispute between Great Britain and the United States from 1853 to 1872, including the Pig War crisis of 1854. Within the park's boundary lies one of the last remaining native prairies in the Puget Sound/Northern Straits region. Visitors can also view Orca whales from the park's pristine beaches. The park was authorized on September 9, 1966.

**Purpose / Need:**

The park was created to commemorate historic events that led to the Pig War of 1859 - namely, the shooting of a pig by an American Settler. The location of the shooting of said pig was in Lyman Cutlar's potato patch, which is immediately adjacent to federal land within the unit boundary. The parcels in the request are owned by the San Juan County Land Bank and part of the historic potato patch. A public hiking trail of slightly over a mile connects these lands to the NPS visitor center. It offers views across the farmland to old homesteads, distant islands, and Mount Baker, preserving the landscape much as it was at the time of the incident. Additionally, this open space provides habitat for the recently listed endangered island marble butterfly.

**Cooperator(s):**

San Juan County Land Bank

**Operations & Maintenance**

Savings/Cost	Start-up	Annual
Estimated O&M Savings:	\$0	\$0
Estimated O&M Costs:	\$20,000	\$20,000

**Describe O&M:**

The proposed acquisition contains Island Marble Butterfly sites, which the NPS monitors due to its status as proposed for listing under the Endangered Species Act. Additionally, a section of American Camp

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Trail runs through the property. \$20,000 is expected to cover butterfly monitoring activities and possible wayside signage and other maintenance activities for the trail.



**LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND  
Project Data Sheet**

**Agency:** National Park Service  
**Fiscal Year:** 2024

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**Project / Unit:** Hot Springs National Park  
**Priority:** 14  
**State(s):** AR  
**Congressional District(s):** AR-4  
**Location:** Hot Springs city in Garland County, Arkansas  
**Limitation Amount:** There are no limitations.

**Project Estimates**

Land/Cost	Acres	Cost
<b>Estimate for FY2024</b>	17	\$785,000
<b>Acquired to Date</b>	4,101	\$14,751,377
<b>Remaining to be Acquired</b>	114	\$2,300,000

**Project Description:**

The park was established to preserve and protect the 47 thermal springs that fluctuate in flow from 750,000 to 950,000 gallons a day and has grown to include 26 miles of hiking trails and scenic drives in the forested Ouachita Mountains of south-central Arkansas. This unit was first designated for preservation in 1832 before the concept of a national park existed. It was known as Hot Springs Reservation and set aside for recreation and preservation of the hot waters that were of important to several Native American tribes. The Bathhouse Row is a National Historic Landmark District and contains eight architecturally significant structures that represent Gilded Age architecture.

**Purpose / Need:**

This is one of the last privately-owned parcels in an area that has essentially been returned to a natural vegetative state. The acquisition of this land would allow the park to complete the return of this area to a wooded environment while also preserving the historic Samuel W. Fordyce house, which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The Park will be able to more effectively interpret the history of Bathhouse Row, the Fordyce Bathhouse Visitor Center and the early development of the thermal waters used for therapeutic medicine.

**Cooperator(s):**

The NPS is working directly with the landowner to protect this property.

**Operations & Maintenance**

Savings/Cost	Start-up	Annual
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Savings:</b>	\$0	\$0
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Costs:</b>	\$20,000	\$1,500

**Describe O&M:**

Initial re-vegetation of the land, as well as connecting sections of the trail network directly one to the other through this property would require a small investment once this becomes federal land. Annual costs will be minimal for mowing and possible additional trail maintenance to supplement what is already in the operating budget.

**LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND  
Project Data Sheet**

**Agency:** National Park Service  
**Fiscal Year:** 2024

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**Project / Unit:** Ste. Genevieve National Historical Park  
**Priority:** 15  
**State(s):** MO  
**Congressional District(s):** MO-8  
**Location:** Ste. Genevieve County, Missouri  
**Limitation Amount:** There are no limitations.

**Project Estimates**

Land/Cost	Acres	Cost
<b>Estimate for FY2024</b>	1	\$430,000
<b>Acquired to Date</b>	12	\$738,000
<b>Remaining to be Acquired</b>	3	\$1,000,000

**Project Description:**

Ste. Genevieve National Historical Park was established on March 23, 2018, to preserve, protect, and interpret themes of French settlement, vernacular architecture, and community form and farming on the frontier associated with Ste. Genevieve. In 1739, French Canadian settlers established Ste. Genevieve, the first permanent European settlement west of the Mississippi. The settlers were drawn to the area by its rich agricultural lands, known as Le Grand Champ or “The Big Field.” Ste. Genevieve National Historic Park shares the stories and histories of the communities that have called this area home. The park also preserves the largest grouping of still-standing buildings of the iconic French Colonial architectural style, including the Bauvais-Amoureux House.

**Purpose / Need:**

The purchase of this land will protect property directly across from the Bauvais-Amoureux House, a critical cultural and historical part of the unit. For restoration and preservation of the cultural landscape of the trading village, this is a vital acquisition for the long-term historic integrity of the National Historic Landmark District, as well as for the park unit. The acquisition will increase visitor access and enhance the visitors’ experience of the original landscape.

The owner of the property recently passed away. The owner had originally wanted the National Park Service to acquire and preserve the landscape. Public Law 115-141 specifically provided acquisition authority for this property. This property is one of few for sale that is connected to Le Grand Champ, which is a highly important, related resource that has the potential to contain previously unexamined archaeological resources.

**Cooperator(s):**

The NPS is working directly with the estate to complete the Federal acquisition of this property.

**Operations & Maintenance**

Savings/Cost	Start-up	Annual
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Savings:</b>	\$0	\$0
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Costs:</b>	\$0	\$2,500

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**Describe O&M:**

At present, this property contains a gravel drive and parking lot with a large steel building. It will require minor grounds maintenance and will have use as maintenance storage and overflow/oversized parking for the adjacent historic property, the Bauvais-Amoureux House.

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LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND  
Project Data Sheet

Agency: National Park Service

Fiscal Year: 2024

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**Project / Unit:** Obed Wild and Scenic River

**Priority:** 16

**State(s):** TN

**Congressional District(s):** TN-3

**Location:** Morgan and Cumberland Counties, Tennessee

**Limitation Amount:** There is a statutory limit of up to \$2 million for land acquisition; an annual overceiling authority of ten percent or \$1 million, whichever is greater, permits this request (54 USC 200306).

**Project Estimates**

Land/Cost	Acres	Cost
Estimate for FY2024	58	\$320,000
Acquired to Date	4,231	\$6,631,052
Remaining to be Acquired	1,368	\$3,000,000

**Project Description:**

Obed Wild and Scenic River was established October 12, 1976, to preserve segments of the Obed River in free-flowing condition as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. The dramatic and rugged gorges of the Obed Wild and Scenic River are nationally significant resources and are unique as they stand among the wildest and most primitive areas remaining east of the Rocky Mountains. Visitors come from all over the world to climb its overhanging cliff faces and navigate its highly challenging whitewater. These sections of Clear Creek support an extremely rich array of plant and animal life, including 28 State and/or Federally listed species.

**Purpose / Need:**

Acquisition is critical for the protection of the resources, viewshed, and recreational opportunities along the most scenic and popular stream sections in the park. These tracts include property both on the rim of the gorge and river frontage. The Park's General Management Plan proposes a 20.5-mile loop-trail that will be the centerpiece of the park's trail system. Acquisition is essential to the completion of that long-distance trail as well as securing primary access for the park's most popular and heavily used rock-climbing area.

**Cooperator(s):**

Tennessee Citizens for Wilderness Planning

**Operations & Maintenance**

Savings/Cost	Start-up	Annual
Estimated O&M Savings:	\$10,000	\$0
Estimated O&M Costs:	\$10,000	\$2,000

**Describe O&M:**

Acquiring these tracts will significantly reduce the need for law enforcement on nearby park property. These areas have experienced crime since the park's creation. Also, the park will be able to close

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unpermitted dirt access roads. These closures will initially require a cost to block access and restore the lands that have been damaged through erosion (the start-up cost of approximately \$5,000-\$10,000), but in the long run will protect park resources by directing access to appropriate areas and preventing further damage. The park will restore the land along these roads/tracks and will bear some out-year costs to maintain the vegetation and appropriate paths (~\$2,000/year).

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LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND  
Project Data Sheet

Agency: National Park Service

Fiscal Year: 2024

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**Project / Unit:** San Antonio Missions National Historical Park

**Priority:** 17

**State(s):** TX

**Congressional District(s):** TX-15, TX-20, and TX-28

**Location:** Bexar County, Texas

**Limitation Amount:** The park unit's enabling legislation authorizes appropriations not to exceed \$10,000,000 for acquisition. This request results in that total.

**Project Estimates**

Land/Cost	Acres	Cost
Estimate for FY2024	26	\$1,221,000
Acquired to Date	572	\$8,779,000
Remaining to be Acquired	89	\$10,900,000

**Project Description:**

The park was authorized November 10, 1978, to restore, preserve, and interpret the Spanish Missions. Four Spanish frontier missions, part of a colonization system that stretched across the Spanish Southwest in the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries are preserved here. The San Antonio Missions are historically and architecturally significant remnants of the Spanish quest for lands and converts in the New World. The Missions exist amidst a backdrop of urban development and are the only UNESCO World Heritage Site in Texas.

**Purpose / Need:**

Protection of the Espada Acequia (an actively used irrigation ditch) through the purchase of scenic easements has long been a priority for the San Antonio Missions NHP. This funding will allow NPS to work with various landowners to clearly define a zone of protection for the Espada Acequia. The boundary lines run through backyards with no protection or compensation. Purchasing and legitimizing these easements will help to clearly define this "zone of protection" adjacent to the acequia. This will protect one of the few working acequia systems dating to the Spanish Colonial period in US history.

**Cooperator(s):**

Espada Ditch Company (non-profit) and other private landowners are working directly with the NPS.

**Operations & Maintenance**

Savings/Cost	Start-up	Annual
Estimated O&M Savings:	\$0	\$0
Estimated O&M Costs:	\$0	\$0

**Describe O&M:**

There are no O&M savings/ costs associated with this acquisition of scenic easements.

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LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND  
Project Data Sheet

Agency: National Park Service

Fiscal Year: 2024

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**Project / Unit:** Rocky Mountain National Park

**Priority:** 18

**State(s):** CO

**Congressional District(s):** CO-2

**Location:** In the vicinity of Estes Park, Colorado, in Boulder, Grand, and Larimer Counties.

**Limitation Amount:** There are no limitations.

**Project Estimates**

Land/Cost	Acres	Cost
Estimate for FY2024	31	\$6,230,000
Acquired to Date	10,476	\$20,169,933
Remaining to be Acquired	194	\$35,000,000

**Project Description:**

The park's rich scenery, typifying the massive grandeur of the Rocky Mountains, is accessible by Trail Ridge Road, which crosses the Continental Divide. Numerous peaks towering over 13,000 feet shadow wildlife and wildflowers in these 415 square miles of the Rockies. From meadows found in the montane zone to glistening alpine lakes to the towering mountain peaks, there is something for everyone to discover. The park is the third busiest national park in the country, serving more than 4.6 million visitors annually and includes over 300 miles of hiking trails and incredible wildlife viewing opportunities.

**Purpose / Need:**

This request is for the acquisition of two parcels that lie along the eastern approach to the park and are adjacent to the park headquarters. One parcel is currently used as a full-service campground and will continue to be used in this way. The other parcel will provide access to the North Inlet Trail. It is the last remaining private tract in the former Summerland Park subdivision of Grand County. The East Troublesome Fire burned the cabin on this parcel in October 2020. The cabin was rustic, occupied in summer only, and the area has been cleared of what remained of the cabin. Acquisition of the parcels will protect the viewshed, complete protection of this area and allow unfettered visitor use of the North Inlet Trail.

**Cooperator(s):**

Rocky Mountain Conservancy is working with NPS to assist with these acquisitions.

**Operations & Maintenance**

Savings/Cost	Start-up	Annual
Estimated O&M Savings:	\$5,000	\$15,000
Estimated O&M Costs:	\$20,000	\$13,000

**Describe O&M:**

Management of the existing campground will be converted to NPS standards, and continued use of the facility, along with revenue, will be realized over time.

**LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND  
Project Data Sheet**

**Agency:** National Park Service

**Fiscal Year:** 2024

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**Project / Unit:** Big South Fork National River & Recreation Area

**Priority:** 19

**State(s):** KY, TN

**Congressional District(s):** KY-5, TN-3, TN-6

**Location:** McCreary County, KY and Fentress, Morgan, Pickett, and Scott Counties, TN

**Limitation Amount:** There is a statutory ceiling of \$13,000,000.

**Project Estimates**

<b>Land/Cost</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Cost</b>
<b>Estimate for FY2024</b>	600	\$950,000
<b>Acquired to Date</b>	10,402	\$8,814,893
<b>Remaining to be Acquired</b>	6,029	\$19,300,000

**Project Description:**

The Water Resources Act of 1974 authorized Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area (NRRA). In 1990, the law was amended to transfer administrative jurisdiction to the Secretary of the Interior. The unit was established to protect the free-flowing Big South Fork of the Cumberland River. This was the first National Park System unit designated as both a National River and a National Recreation Area, reflecting the decision to preserve the area and offer recreational opportunities.

**Purpose / Need:**

This property protects the headwaters of the Laurel Fork drainage and includes one of the most remote gorge areas in the park where roads have never been constructed. It contains remote, steep, and pristine areas that have a high backcountry recreational value for solitude and exploration, and the land is important biologically because the streams inside the property link to the North White Oak Creek and ultimately to the Big South Fork. This land is a natural migration pathway for aquatic and terrestrial organisms, especially fish moving upstream to spawn. This tract also links to larger existing protected areas and provides a refuge for species avoiding the adjoining developed areas and associated threats. Protection of the water quality of this stream is critically important to the preservation of downstream resources.

**Cooperator(s):**

NPS is working directly with the owners of the properties to complete this acquisition.

**Operations & Maintenance**

<b>Savings/Cost</b>	<b>Start-up</b>	<b>Annual</b>
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Savings:</b>	\$100,000	\$0
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Costs:</b>	\$25,000	\$15,000

**Describe O&M:**

Savings will result from not having to repair damage to the resource following timely Federal acquisition. Costs are associated with surveying the threatened and endangered plants and wildlife, and a small annual increase in salary costs for patrols along the river.



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LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND  
Project Data Sheet

Agency: National Park Service

Fiscal Year: 2024

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Project / Unit: Congaree National Park

Priority: 20

State(s): SC

Congressional District(s): SC-6

Location: Richland County, South Carolina

Limitation Amount: There are no limitations.

**Project Estimates**

Land/Cost	Acres	Cost
Estimate for FY2024	46	\$250,000
Acquired to Date	26,601	\$95,392,642
Remaining to be Acquired	255	\$3,500,000

**Project Description:**

Congaree National Park is located in the Longleaf Pine Landscape. Originally established as a National Monument in 1973, Congress redesignated it as a National Park in 2003. Situated along the meandering Congaree River in central South Carolina, Congaree National Park is home to champion trees, primeval forest landscapes, and diverse plant and animal life. This 26,640-acre park protects the largest contiguous tract of old-growth bottomland hardwood forest remaining in the United States. Known for its giant hardwoods and towering pines, the park's floodplain forest includes one of the highest canopies in the world and some of the tallest trees in the eastern United States. The park provides a sanctuary for plants and animals, a research site for scientists, and a place for visitors to walk and relax in a tranquil wilderness setting.

**Purpose / Need:**

The parcels comprise acreage on the northern shoreline and bluff of Cedar Creek, adjacent to the creek's floodplain. Acquisition will protect upland habitat, fragile slope communities, and provide floodplain resources with a buffer from adjacent land use activities. These tracts are identified as proposed wilderness areas and are adjacent to Congaree's designated wilderness. They are near the most-used canoe launch in the park and will benefit visitors with an unparalleled experience of wilderness values along Cedar Creek Canoe Trail. Acquisition of these tracts will provide for added protection for visitor wilderness experience, help ensure visitor safety, enhance continuity and connectivity between park lands preserved for their wilderness character, and protect forest resources and associated viewsheds in the broader landscape surrounding Cedar Creek.

**Cooperator(s):**

Friends of Congaree Swamp is working with the Park to protect these lands.

**Operations & Maintenance**

Savings/Cost	Start-up	Annual
Estimated O&M Savings:	\$0	\$0
Estimated O&M Costs:	\$25,000	\$5,000

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**Describe O&M:**

The initial costs are estimated for removing hunting stands that have been placed on some of the land, and for reforesting areas that have recently been clearcut. Annual out-year costs, while minimal, will be directed toward replanting and ensuring that intended native species, including trees, are restored to the landscape.

**LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND  
Project Data Sheet**

**Agency:** National Park Service

**Fiscal Year:** 2024

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**Project / Unit:** Death Valley National Park

**Priority:** 21

**State(s):** CA, NV

**Congressional District(s):** CA-3, CA-23, and NV-4

**Location:** Inyo County, California and Nye County, Nevada

**Limitation Amount:** Act of October 31, 1994, there are authorized appropriations for land acquisition by NPS and BLM not to exceed a total of \$300 million.

**Project Estimates**

<b>Land/Cost</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Cost</b>
<b>Estimate for FY2024</b>	1,387	\$500,000
<b>Acquired to Date</b>	15,854	\$12,703,101
<b>Remaining to be Acquired</b>	9,716	\$30,000,000

**Project Description:**

Death Valley National Park was established on October 31, 1994, with the passage of the California Desert Protection Act. It’s predecessor, Death Valley National Monument, was enlarged to a total of about 3.4 million acres and designated a National Park with the passage of the Act. Death Valley National Park is the largest national park unit in the contiguous 48 states. This desert park contains mountain ranges, sand dunes, dry lake playas, and many desert springs. It is the lowest point in North America at 282 feet below sea level, and one of the hottest places on Earth. The Nevada section of the park is home to the critically endangered Devils Hole pupfish, a tiny desert fish endemic to the underground habitat. The park’s water rights are critical to the survival and continued flow of springs and seeps in the park.

**Purpose / Need:**

This land is surrounded by park wilderness and would become wilderness after acquisition. There are also wells on the land with associated water rights. The large amount of water these wells can produce would make it attractive to local commercial and agricultural interests. The wells are within 12 miles of Devils Hole and pumping here has the potential for adverse impacts to the endangered Devils Hole pupfish, which the park actively protects. The subject parcels are close to the eastern park boundary and the community of Amargosa Valley. The Amargosa River flows through this area; downstream, the Amargosa River has been designated wild and scenic to protect surface flows and endemic biological species, including the endangered Amargosa pupfish and Amargosa vole. Groundwater extraction in the over drafted Amargosa Desert basin is one of the most significant threats the park faces. In addition to protecting Devils Hole and the wild and scenic Amargosa River, it is likely that sub-surface water that could be extracted is flowing deeper into the park, and being expressed at various surfaces, forming biologically important water sources. These springs in Death Valley support rare plant species and wildlife such as endemic macroinvertebrates, bighorn sheep, bobcats, and mountain lions. Additionally, acquisition of some of the subject tracts would ensure that the entire corridor of the Surprise Canyon Wild and Scenic River are within Federal ownership, enhancing protection of the outstanding and remarkable values for which the wild and scenic river was designated.

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**Cooperator(s):**

Mojave Desert Land Trust

**Operations & Maintenance**

<b>Savings/Cost</b>	<b>Start-up</b>	<b>Annual</b>
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Savings:</b>	\$0	\$2,500
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Costs:</b>	\$0	\$0

**Describe O&M:**

The reduced ground-water extraction will lead to some cost savings relative to species protection at Devils Hole, including of the endangered Devils hole pupfish.

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LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND  
Project Data Sheet

Agency: National Park Service

Fiscal Year: 2024

Project / Unit: Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve

Priority: 22

State(s): LA

Congressional District(s): LA-1, LA-2, and LA-3

Location: Southwest of New Orleans

Limitation Amount: There is a statutory ceiling of \$50,000,000 for land acquisition with approximately \$25,000,000 remaining.

**Project Estimates**

Land/Cost	Acres	Cost
Estimate for FY2024	85	\$390,000
Acquired to Date	17,965	\$24,844,406
Remaining to be Acquired	6,309	\$6,500,000

**Project Description:**

Jean Lafitte NHP was established by Congress in 1978 "for the education, inspiration, and benefit of present and future generations, significant examples of natural and historical resources of the Mississippi Delta region, and to provide for their interpretation in such manner as to portray the development of cultural diversity in the region."

Coastal Louisiana is among the most highly threatened landscapes in the United States, characterized by rapid land loss from coastal erosion, marsh die-off, and subsidence. Marsh die-off and subsequently increased rates of land loss are driven significantly by saltwater introduced through derelict canal networks, and changes in freshwater/sediment/nutrient inflow from the leveeing of the Mississippi River, including the cessation of seasonal overbank flooding. The most threatened estuary in North America, wetlands in the Barataria Basin are becoming increasingly scarce.

**Purpose / Need:**

These upland tracts are surrounded by wetlands of national significance within one of twelve EPA-designated Clean Water Act Section 404(c) areas. The wetlands are located within the Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary, and they buffer the levee system that protects a large population in a portion of Greater New Orleans. The acquisition would help sustain ecosystem restoration of the Barataria Estuary under the authority of the Louisiana Coastal Area Plan authorized by Congress and the State of Louisiana's 2017 Comprehensive Master Plan for a Sustainable Coast. The NPS is one of many Federal, State, and local agencies that have partnered to preserve the Louisiana Coast in many different contexts. The proximity of the parcels to New Orleans makes the five tracts ideal for resource-based recreation, fishing, boating, canoeing, hiking, birding, and wildlife photography.

**Cooperator(s):**

NPS is working directly with the owner of the property to complete this acquisition.

**Operations & Maintenance**

Savings/Cost	Start-up	Annual
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FY 2024 President's Budget – Request Project Data Sheets

<b>Estimated O&amp;M Savings:</b>	\$0	\$0
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Costs:</b>	\$25,000	\$15,000

**Describe O&M:**

Initial costs include a survey and study, working with other groups in the region (EPA, Corps of Engineers, Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, and Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority (Orleans Levee Board)), to identify appropriate actions to provide protection to delta communities, as well as ecosystem restoration and archeological discovery. Outyear costs include the maintenance of visitor access points such as watercraft put-in/take-out areas; as well as law enforcement patrols and continued restoration of the landscape and estuarian ecosystem.

FY 2024 President's Budget – Request Project Data Sheets

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND  
Project Data Sheet

Agency: National Park Service

Fiscal Year: 2024

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**Project / Unit:** Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore

**Priority:** 23

**State(s):** MI

**Congressional District(s):** MI-1

**Location:** Benzie and Leelanau Counties in Northwest Michigan along Lake Michigan shoreline

**Limitation Amount:** There is a Statutory limit of \$84,149,558; an annual overceiling authority of ten percent or \$1 million, whichever is greater, permits this request (54 USC 200306).

**Project Estimates**

Land/Cost	Acres	Cost
<b>Estimate for FY2024</b>	70	\$1,365,000
<b>Acquired to Date</b>	71,611	\$111,032,724
<b>Remaining to be Acquired</b>	1,099	\$8,330,000

**Project Description:**

The Act of October 21, 1970, authorized establishment of Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore to protect and preserve outstanding natural resources along the mainland shore of Lake Michigan and on certain nearby islands in Benzie and Leelanau Counties, Michigan. The national lakeshore is a diverse landscape with massive sand dunes, quiet rivers, sand beaches, beech-maple forests, clear lakes, and rugged bluffs towering as high as 460 feet above Lake Michigan. Two offshore wilderness islands offer tranquility and seclusion.

**Purpose / Need:**

Some of the tracts are surrounded by NPS property and have structures potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. These acquisitions are critical to the protection of all the natural and cultural resources within the lakeshore and will enhance recreational opportunities for 1.3 million annual visitors. Access to the lakeshore, the nature trails, and day use areas will be increased. Some tracts are along the scenic roadway with lakeshore overlooks, and are wooded, creating a buffer between visitors and wildlife, and other tracts lie on the lakeshore or on the shore of small inland lakes, offering access to recreational waters.

**Cooperator(s):**

Individual, private owners have engaged with NPS from the outset, including "right of first refusal" clauses in property deeds. NPS continues to work with owners as they indicate a desire to sell their land interests, and local community groups.

**Operations & Maintenance**

Savings/Cost	Start-up	Annual
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Savings:</b>	\$0	\$500
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Costs:</b>	\$0	\$5,500

## FY 2024 President's Budget – Request Project Data Sheets

### **Describe O&M:**

There are negligible operational costs and savings associated with this acquisition. The lands will be operated in their natural state. There is one small cottage that will be maintained in its current condition for the foreseeable future. Funds are estimated for small additional mileage and minimal staff time on law enforcement patrols from neighboring lands, and reduced impact of trespass activities on lands adjacent to these that are already in Federal ownership, as well as some maintenance to ensure any structures are stabilized and maintained.



FY 2024 President's Budget – Request Project Data Sheets

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND  
Project Data Sheet

Agency: National Park Service

Fiscal Year: 2024

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**Project / Unit:** Missouri National Recreational River

**Priority:** 24

**State(s):** NE, SD

**Congressional District(s):** NE-3, SD (at large),

**Location:** Dixon County, Nebraska; Yankton County, South Dakota

**Limitation Amount:** There is a dollar ceiling of \$21,000,000 and an acreage limitation of 40,320.

**Project Estimates**

Land/Cost	Acres	Cost
Estimate for FY2024	500	\$1,855,000
Acquired to Date	872	\$3,287,894
Remaining to be Acquired	2,482	\$6,000,000

**Project Description:**

Two reaches of the Missouri River are protected as a National Recreational River. The portion originally set aside, from Gavins Point Dam near Yankton, South Dakota, to Ponca, Nebraska, still exhibits the river's dynamic character in its islands, bars, chutes, and snags. An upper reach between Lewis and Clark Lake and Fort Randall Dam has native floodplain forest, tallgrass and mixed-grass prairies, and habitats for several endangered species. The river was designated for remarkable fish, and scenic, recreational, cultural, and ecological values, and was authorized in 1978 at a length of 59 miles, though the authorization was later expanded in 1991 to a length of 67 miles.

**Purpose / Need:**

The tract consists of roughly 310 acres of bottomland riparian forest and 250 acres of prime row-crop farmland that is threatened by the prospect of development. The property has extensive, ecologically significant old growth cottonwood forests that provide high quality habitat for wildlife, including bald eagles and other birds of prey. The unstable shoreline and connected backwaters and chutes (formed by geologically significant paleo-channels) provide habitat for numerous fish species, including the Federally endangered pallid sturgeon. The property's natural character helps maintain the scenic viewshed from the Yankton Sioux Tribe reservation on the opposite shore, where the culturally significant 1858 Treaty Monument was placed. Nearby, the geologic anomaly Old Baldy was visited by early explorers, including Lewis and Clark. The fish and wildlife and scenic beauty of this property and the surrounding area bring many visitors to fish, bird watch, or simply float down the river and its associated Water Trail.

**Cooperator(s):**

NPS is working directly with the owner of the property to complete this acquisition.

**Operations & Maintenance**

Savings/Cost	Start-up	Annual
Estimated O&M Savings:	\$0	\$0
Estimated O&M Costs:	\$10,000	\$10,000

FY 2024 President's Budget – Request Project Data Sheets

**Describe O&M:**

The acquisition of this property will not create significant direct costs or savings for the park. The land will remain unaltered, but a small outlay of funds will be necessary to monitor the land for visitor safety purposes.

**LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND  
Project Data Sheet**

**Agency:** National Park Service  
**Fiscal Year:** 2024

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**Project / Unit:** Big Cypress National Preserve

**Priority:** 25

**State(s):** FL

**Congressional District(s):** FL-26

**Location:** Collier, Miami-Dade, and Monroe Counties, Florida

**Limitation Amount:** There is a statutory ceiling of \$49,500,000 that applies to only the “Addition” defined by P.L. 100-301. This tract is not in the Addition area.

**Project Estimates**

<b>Land/Cost</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Cost</b>
<b>Estimate for FY2024</b>	3	\$270,000
<b>Acquired to Date</b>	677,345	\$184,370,581
<b>Remaining to be Acquired</b>	1,864	\$8,500,000

**Project Description:**

The Big Cypress National Preserve was set aside in 1974 to ensure the preservation, conservation, and protection of the natural scenic, flora and fauna, and recreational values of the Big Cypress Watershed. The importance of this watershed to Everglades National Park was a major consideration for its establishment. In 1988, Big Cypress National Preserve was expanded by about 146,000 acres with the passage of the Big Cypress National Preserve Addition Act (P.L. 100-301).

**Purpose / Need:**

The tract is within the original Big Cypress National Preserve boundaries and is currently listed for sale. The property is attractive as it fronts a county road for easy access but is otherwise surrounded by Federally owned and managed lands. Opportunities to purchase tracts such as this only arise when an owner becomes a willing seller. Once NPS acquires this parcel, it will remove fill dirt and restore natural vegetation to protect the wetland habitat and water flow patterns the Preserve is intended to provide. This acquisition will improve visual aesthetics, expand recreational opportunities, and increase environmental function.

**Cooperator(s):**

NPS is working directly with the owner of the property to complete this acquisition.

**Operations & Maintenance**

<b>Savings/Cost</b>	<b>Start-up</b>	<b>Annual</b>
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Savings:</b>	\$1,000	\$2,000
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Costs:</b>	\$10,000	\$2,000

**Describe O&M:**

Out-year funding impacts will be small and represent savings of regular time and resources restoring degradation of lands adjacent to this tract, which are damaged by activities private individuals undertake that flow over onto public lands. There will be an equally small outlay of funds to ensure that the land and its resources are protected once it becomes federal land.

**LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND  
Project Data Sheet**

**Agency:** National Park Service

**Fiscal Year:** 2024

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**Project / Unit:** Biscayne National Park

**Priority:** 26

**State(s):** FL

**Congressional District(s):** FL- 27, FL-28

**Location:** Dade County, Florida near the city of Homestead

**Limitation Amount:** An Act of June 28, 1980, increased the ceiling to \$36,850,000 for acquisition.

**Project Estimates**

<b>Land/Cost</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Cost</b>
<b>Estimate for FY 2024</b>	231	\$2,200,00
<b>Acquired to Date</b>	171,395	\$32,004,716
<b>Remaining to be Acquired</b>	360	\$6,100,000

**Project Description:**

The Ragged Keys are located in the northern central part of Biscayne National Park. This acquisition encompasses Ragged Key 2 (RK2) and Ragged Key 3 (RK3), two of the last three privately owned inholdings in the park. RK3 has been developed for most of the twentieth century and may have been developed since the middle eighteenth century, when it might have been used by local prehistoric Indians such as the Tequesta. The keys contain important cultural and natural resources, including the house that was used by the CIA as a listening post during the Cold War. RK2 is a protected resting area for migrating shorebirds, including listed species, and contains grasses and mangroves with an extensive amount of submerged land as part of the property. RK2 would be ideal for private development of a stilt house, even though it is over-washed during most hurricanes. The islands are important keys in the chain of islands that comprise the northernmost Florida Keys, which originate with Key Biscayne. These keys are formed on coral rock outcropping of the Key Largo limestone formation.

**Purpose / Need:**

The Ragged Keys are an important feature of Biscayne National Park and contain resources the Park was created to protect. These barrier islands are located on the northern end of the islands of the park and separate the eastern coral reef areas in the Atlantic Ocean from Biscayne Bay and the developed areas of Miami-Dade County to the west of the park boundary. They are important as geophysical features separating the bay and the reef and thereby providing protection for the developed areas of Miami-Dade County during hurricanes and extreme storm events. They are important ecological habitats for coastal wading birds, shore birds, and sea birds. These islands represent a rare habitat type along the east coast of highly developed south Florida and are biologically important to protect.

**Cooperator(s):**

NPS is working directly with the owner of the property to complete this acquisition.

**Operations & Maintenance**

<b>Savings/Cost</b>	<b>Start-up</b>	<b>Annual</b>
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Savings:</b>	n/a	n/a
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Costs:</b>	\$10,000	\$15,000

FY 2024 President's Budget – Request Project Data Sheets

**Describe O&M:**

There may be considerable savings in the form of events not occurring, such as removal of historic resources or sewage discharge or fuel spilling from improper storage. Some costs will be incurred once these Keys become the responsibility of the park, including increased coverage by water patrols and treatment of exotic invasive plants. Treatment will be administered for about five years to ensure eradication.

FY 2024 President’s Budget – Request Project Data Sheets

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND  
Project Data Sheet

Agency: National Park Service

Fiscal Year: 2024

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**Project / Unit:** Big Cypress National Preserve

**Priority:** 27

**State(s):** FL

**Congressional District(s):** FL-26

**Location:** Collier, Miami-Dade, and Monroe Counties, Florida

**Limitation Amount:** Statutory ceiling of \$49,500,000 applies to only the “Addition” defined by P.L. 100-301. The lands requested for acquisition are in both the original Preserve and the Addition. There is \$24 million still to be appropriated under the ceiling.

**Project Estimates**

Land/Cost	Acres	Cost
Estimate for FY2024	6,795	\$1,195,000
Acquired to Date	677,345	\$184,370,581
Remaining to be Acquired	1,864	\$8,500,000

**Project Description:**

The Big Cypress National Preserve was set aside in 1974 to ensure the preservation, conservation, and protection of the natural scenic, flora and fauna, and recreational values of the Big Cypress Watershed. The importance of this watershed to Everglades National Park was a major consideration for its establishment. In 1988, Big Cypress National Preserve was expanded by about 146,000 acres with the passage of the Big Cypress National Preserve Addition Act.

The law provides for the Federal government to fund 80 percent of the land acquisition costs and the State to fund 20 percent of the land acquisition costs. The Federal government has agreed to reimburse the State of Florida any acquisition costs paid by the State over 20 percent.

**Purpose / Need:**

The tracts collectively referred to as the "school lands" are owned by the State of Florida, Board of Education. They represent the one of the largest single acquisition opportunities in the Big Cypress National Preserve containing 6,795 acres widely distributed across the Preserve constituting approximately 16 percent of the remaining unacquired lands within the Preserve. Unlike other unacquired tracts, the school lands are large blocks of land, each 640 acres (1 square mile) or larger.

This acquisition will significantly improve freshwater sheet flow and enhance habitat that the Preserve was created to provide. Acquisition of the parcels provides land continuity and enhances recreational opportunities. Acquisition prevents environmental degradation and reduces the risk of wildfire arising from unlawful occupancy and unauthorized uses.

**Cooperator(s):**

NPS and the State of Florida work collaboratively to transfer these lands and meet the objectives of both parties.

**Operations & Maintenance**

Savings/Cost	Start-up	Annual
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FY 2024 President's Budget – Request Project Data Sheets

<b>Estimated O&amp;M Savings:</b>	\$0	\$0
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Costs:</b>	\$0	\$2,500

**Describe O&M:**

The tracts are remote and not regularly monitored by the State. They will require monitoring by NPS Law Enforcement once they become federal property.

**LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND  
Project Data Sheet**

**Agency:** National Park Service

**Fiscal Year:** 2024

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**Project / Unit:** Lake Clark National Park and Preserve

**Priority:** 28

**State(s):** AK

**Congressional District(s):** AK- At Large

**Location:** Lake Clark National Park and Preserve is located on the Kenai Peninsula, Lake-and-Peninsula, and in Unorganized Boroughs

**Limitation Amount:** There are no limitations.

**Project Estimates**

<b>Land/Cost</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Cost</b>
<b>Estimate for FY2024</b>	20,226	\$8,044,000
<b>Acquired to Date</b>	3,740,755	\$9,393,245
<b>Remaining to be Acquired</b>	80,926	\$40,315,000

**Project Description:**

These lands lie along the shoreline of Lake Clark, along the Chulitna River and along the lower reach of the Tazimina River. Funding would allow due diligence to begin for negotiations with the Kijik Corporation (KC) (surface estate) and Bristol Bay Native Corporation (BBNC) (subsurface estate). KC subdivided a large portion of their lands on Keyes Point and Portage Bay and only has about 20 lots remaining. The primary value of the subject lands is their wild, undeveloped nature and their contribution to the protection of natural and cultural resources. The area around the Chulitna River is also one of the highest priority subsistence areas for the Dena'ina people of Lake Clark's resident zone communities. The Conservation Easement would prohibit commercial development, provide essential public access, and protect critical salmon spawning habitat and large mammal migration corridors - resource qualities that would be put at risk if these properties were developed. It will improve protection of one of the key watersheds supporting the largest remaining sockeye salmon fishery in the world and advance the Secretary's commitment to the Southwest Alaska Salmon Habitat Partnership.

**Purpose / Need:**

The natural and cultural resources at the southeast end of Lake Clark are of national significance. The parcels provide valuable habitat for important terrestrial and aquatic species; moose and black bear inhabit portions of the parcels year-round, brown bears are seasonal inhabitants, and bald eagles nest there. The positioning of these parcels between the mountains to the southeast and Lake Clark make this area an important travel corridor for brown bears and gray wolves that use the salmon resources in the adjacent lake and riverine habitat. Based on cultural resources documentation and the presence of late prehistoric and historic Dena'ina sites adjacent to these lands, there is high potential for significant prehistoric and historic sites to be present here.

**Cooperator(s):**

NPS is working with several Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act village corporations.

**Operations & Maintenance**



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<b>Savings/Cost</b>	<b>Start-up</b>	<b>Annual</b>
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Savings:</b>	\$0	\$0
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Costs:</b>	\$0	\$2,500

**Describe O&M:**

Approximately \$2,500 will be needed annually to monitor the easement and provide general safety for visitors to the lands along the lakeshore.