

Supporting US tourism and Outdoor Recreation

It is well known that oil and natural gas are the dominant forms of energy used in the United States. Oil and gas are an important part of our economy and provide us with fuel to heat our homes and to drive our cars as well as the petroleum-based products we use to make our everyday lives easier and improve our overall quality of life.

But, you may not be aware of the important role the oil and gas industry also plays in helping to sustain the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), one of America's most important preservation funding mechanisms. Started in 1964, the LWCF was established by a bipartisan group in Congress to ensure funding for outdoor recreation resources across the nation to be enjoyed by all Americans.



Every year, \$900 million in royalties paid by energy companies are put into the Land and Water Conservation Fund. According to the U.S. Department of the Interior, recreation activities in areas supported by the LWCF contributed approximately \$51 billion and supported 880,000 jobs in the United States economy in 2012. By being the largest contributor to the LWCF, the oil and gas industry indirectly supports these jobs and contributions to the national economy.



Like many others who enjoy this nation's majestic mountains, prolific prairies and grasslands, vast seas and oceans and waterways abundant with a diversity of wildlife and plants and vegetation, those who work in the oil and gas industry are also lovers of the outdoors and appreciate the immense diversity of our nation's terrain and marine and land wildlife.

The Benefits

Every state and nearly every county in the country has benefitted from the LWCF and thus has been impacted by the oil and gas industry from access to hunting and fishing to working lands and national and urban parks.

The geophysical industry is very proud of the contributions we make to this nation in discovering and delivering the energy resources that power our vehicles and heat our homes, the thousands of petroleum-based products that improve our quality of life and our support of cultural and outdoor recreational and tourism resources.

Learn more about the geophysical industry and International Association of Geophysical Contractors (IAGC) and the contributions we make to your everyday life at <http://www.iagc.org/importance-of-fossil-fuels.html> and <http://www.iagc.org/geowire-blog>.



Resources

1. Land and Water Conservation Fund: www.doi.gov/lwcf/about/overview
2. Sound and Marine Life Joint Industry Programme: www.soundandmarinelife.org
3. Careers in Geophysics: www.geophysicsrocks.org

Environmental Stewardship

Whether on land or at sea, the geophysical industry takes a great deal of care and consideration of potential impacts to the land and marine environment. In its efforts to operate in an environmentally responsible manner, the industry implements measures to ensure that wildlife and the environment are protected from direct or indirect harm from its operations. For more than 50 years, the industry has demonstrated its ability to operate seismic exploration activities in a manner that protects land and marine life.