



# North Carolina

## Great American Outdoors Act National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund

Photo Credit: NPS

**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 North Carolina

In North Carolina, the total deferred maintenance and repair (DM&R) backlog for the four Interior GAOA LRF bureaus is \$677,879,000\*\*.

Bureau	DM&R**
Bureau of Indian Education (BIE)	\$0
Bureau of Land Management (BLM)	\$0
National Park Service (NPS)	\$601,695,000
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)	\$76,184,000

### GAOA LRF in North Carolina

With the full five years of funding, GAOA LRF will invest over **\$204.2 million** towards improving approximately **90** assets across **5** projects in North Carolina.

As of September 2023, Maintenance Action Teams have completed work at **2** FWS locations in North Carolina.



GAOA LRF Projects



Completed Maintenance Action Team Activities

### Assets improved in North Carolina:



Transportation Assets



Water Infrastructure and Other Utilities



Recreational and Visitor Experience Assets

\*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 North Carolina

Bureau	Unit Name	Project Title	Funding <sup>†</sup> as of Mar. 2024
NPS	Blue Ridge Parkway	BLRI Reconstruction (NC)	\$123,500,000
NPS	Blue Ridge Parkway	Rehabilitate Sections of Blue Ridge Parkway in North Carolina	\$26,789,000
NPS	Blue Ridge Parkway	Replace Laurel Fork Bridge	\$35,314,000
NPS	Cape Hatteras National Seashore and Fort Raleigh National Historic Site	Replace Fort Raleigh and Frisco Water Systems	\$7,000,000*
NPS	Great Smoky Mountains National Park	Rehabilitate Park Roads and Road Structures**	\$35,204,000

\*total project funding includes proposed FY25 funding

\*\*project spans multiple states; funding represents the estimated total amount of funding for this project across states

<sup>†</sup>rounded to thousands

## Replace Laurel Fork Bridge

### *Blue Ridge Parkway*



Blue Ridge Parkway's Laurel Fork Bridge under construction. Photo Credit: NPS

North Carolina's Blue Ridge Parkway, spanning almost 500 miles across the crest of the Blue Ridge Mountains through the state and Virginia, is the most visited NPS site in the country with more than 16.7 million visitors in 2023. This project replaces the failing Laurel Fork Bridge in Ashe County, NC, originally built in 1939. The bridge was near the end of its lifespan and was often closed during major wind events due to safety concerns. The replacement bridge will provide safe, accessible, and continuous visitor access.

## Rehabilitate Park Roads and Road Structures

### *Great Smoky Mountain National Park*



Roadway in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Photo Credit: Warren Bielenberg

Great Smoky Mountains National Park encompasses over 800 square miles in the Southern Appalachian Mountains and is the most visited national park in the country. The roadway pavement has potholes, cracks, dips, and poor drainage. This project repairs pavement, replaces guardrails, adds new road signs, and improves drainage. These repairs help ensure that the park's roads are safe and accessible to all.