

Delaware

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

Photo Credit: FWS

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 nearly \$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



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



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

Deferred Maintenance and Repair in Delaware

In Delaware, the total deferred maintenance and repair (DM&R) backlog for the four Interior GAOA LRF bureaus is \$7,104,000**.

| Bureau | DM&R** | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|--|
| Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) | \$0 | |
| Bureau of Land Management (BLM) | \$0 | |
| National Park Service (NPS) | \$3,649,000 | |
| U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) | \$3,455,000 | |

GAOA LRF in Delaware

With the full five years of funding, GAOA LRF will invest nearly \$8.5 million towards improving over 10 assets across 2 projects in Delaware.

As of March 2025, Maintenance Action Teams have completed work at 1 NPS location in Delaware.



Assets improved in Delaware:



Recreational and Visitor Experience Assets



Housing Assets



Operational Buildings

- GAOA LRF Projects
- Completed Maintenance Action Team Activities

^{*} These numbers are estimates and include FY21 - FY25 GAOA LRF-funded projects.

^{**}DM&R estimates represent a point in time, reported as of 9/30/2024, 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 Delaware



| Bureau | Unit Name | Project Title | Funding [†] as of Mar. 2025 |
|--------|--|---|---|
| FWS | Coastal Delaware National Wildlife Refuge Complex | Eliminate DM Backlog at Prime Hook NWR and Bombay Hook NWR | \$5,480,000 |
| NPS | First State National Historical Park | Rehabilitate Ramsey House | \$3,000,000 |

[†] Rounded to thousands

Eliminate Deferred Maintenance Backlog at Prime Hook and Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuges

Coastal Delaware National Wildlife Refuge Complex



Coastal Delaware National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center. Photo Credit: Oscar Reed/USFWS

The Coastal Delaware National Wildlife Refuge Complex, which includes Prime Hook and Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuges (NWR), protects one of the largest remaining expanses of tidal salt marsh habitats in the mid-Atlantic region and is home to migratory birds, horseshoe crabs, and terrapins. Buildings at these locations had serious maintenance issues, including foundation issues, substantial energy inefficiencies, and poor conditions that required full replacement of all utility infrastructure. This project replaced the geographically dispersed deteriorating facilities at Bombay Hook NWR with a new Headquarters and Visitor Center facility. At Prime Hook NWR, this project replaced the visitor contact station and a multi-purpose building which includes office space, visitor orientation, exhibition space, and classrooms. These new facilities are safer, more efficient, and promote public engagement and natural resource education.

Rehabilitate Ramsey House

First State National Historical Park



Ramsey House at First State National Historical Park. Photo Credit: NPS

First State National Historical Park is made up of sites spread throughout Delaware and Pennsylvania that preserve and protect early Dutch, Swedish, and English settlements and commemorates the role Delaware played in the birth of the United States as the first State to ratify the Constitution. The historic 1830s Ramsey House and the Ramsey Barn in Brandywine Valley have deteriorated and are currently closed to the public. This project will restore the Ramsey House and the Ramsey Barn foundation ruins while rehabilitating the site's entrance drive and parking area. When the restored house and barn foundation ruins are open to the public, they will enable park staff to convey stories of the Brandywine Valley. Site rehabilitation efforts associated with the entrance drive and parking lot will protect and improve wildlife habitat.