

Tennessee

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

Photo Credit: FHWA

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 Tennessee

In Tennessee, the total deferred maintenance and repair (DM&R) backlog for the four Interior GAOA LRF bureaus is \$464,675,000**.

Bureau	DM&R**	
Bureau of Indian Education (BIE)	\$0	
Bureau of Land Management (BLM)		
National Park Service (NPS)	\$411,840,000	
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)	\$52,835,000	

GAOA LRF in Tennessee

With the full five years of funding, GAOA LRF will invest nearly \$57.8 million towards improving over 10 assets across 3 projects in Tennessee.

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



Assets improved in Tennessee:



Transportation
Assets



Water Infrastructure and Other Utilities

- 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.





Bureau	Unit Name	Project Title	Funding [†] as of Mar. 2025
NPS	Great Smoky Mountains National Park	Foothills Parkway Rehabilitation	\$33,660,000
NPS	Great Smoky Mountains National Park	Rehabilitate Park Roads and Road Structures*	\$35,204,000
NPS	Natchez Trace Parkway	Rehabilitate Water and Wastewater Systems*	\$10,000,000

^{*} Project spans multiple states; funding represents the estimated total amount of funding for this project across states.

Foothills Parkway Rehabilitation

Great Smoky Mountains National Park



Construction work at Foothills Parkway in Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Photo Credit: NPS

The Foothills Parkway in Great Smoky Mountains National Park provides recreation opportunities and offers a beautiful panoramic perspective of the Great Smoky Mountains. The paved surface of the parkway was experiencing wear, with areas of moderate to severe rutting and potholes, which contributed to unsafe driving conditions for visitors and employees. This project rehabilitated the parkway by repairing pullouts, parking areas, guardrails, drainage structures, shoulders, signage, and other road safety components. The project improves safety for park visitors and employees and increases accessibility.

Rehabilitate Park Roads and Road Structures

Great Smoky Mountains National Park



Flooded road at Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Photo Credit: NPS

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. However, roadway pavement at the park has potholes, cracks, dips, and poor drainage. This project is repairing pavement, replacing guardrails, adding new road signs, and improving drainage. These repairs help ensure that the park's roads are safe and accessible to all.

[†] Rounded to thousands.