

National Trails System

Great American Outdoors Act Legacy Restoration Fund



The National Trails System¹, consisting of thousands of miles of National Historic Trails, National Scenic Trails, and National Recreation Trails, provides endless opportunities for recreation and inspiration. The Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA) National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund (LRF) was established in 2020 to address deferred maintenance projects on federally administered lands. The National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the U.S. Forest Service, an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, have all utilized GAOA LRF funds to improve and maintain National Trails. These trails highlight scenic landscapes, cultural routes, and historic pathways, connecting people to the stories of the land and its people.

Summary of Legacy Restoration Fund Investments on National Trails Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-2025²

National Trail Designation	Investment ⁵
National Scenic Trails	\$16,878,000
National Historic Trails	\$15,316,000
National Recreation Trails	\$25,546,000
Total³	\$57,509,000

Pacific Crest Trail Deferred Maintenance

Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail, California / Oregon / Washington



The U.S. Forest Service is the lead administering agency for the 2,650-mile Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail along the crest of the Pacific mountain ranges between Mexico and Canada.

Fires, natural disasters, and dense vegetation growth have significantly degraded trail condition and access. The trail-wide GAOA LRF project is working with the Pacific Crest Trail Association, Washington Conservation Corps, and American Conservation Experience to address deferred maintenance along the trail through all 17 national forests to sustain continuous public access for future generations. This project will address \$4.6 million in deferred maintenance. Work is expected to be complete in late 2026.

Photo Caption: Washington Conservation Corps and Forest Service staff conducting trail maintenance on the PCT.

Photo Credit: U.S. Forest Service

Legacy Restoration Funded Investments on National Scenic Trails, FY 2021-2025²

National Scenic Trails	State ⁴	# of Projects	Investment ⁵
Appalachian National Scenic Trail	CT, GA, MA, MD, ME, NC, NH, NJ, NY, PA, TN, VA, VT	7	\$3,655,000
Arizona National Scenic Trail	AZ	8	\$2,211,000
Continental Divide National Scenic Trail	CO, MT, NM	15	\$4,067,000
Ice Age National Scenic Trail	WI	1	\$201,000
Natchez Trace National Scenic Trail	AL, MS, TN	1	\$282,000
North Country National Scenic Trail	MI, MN, ND, WI	7	\$657,000
Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail	CA, OR, WA	9	\$5,146,000
Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail	MT, WA	5	\$313,000
Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail	DC, VA	3	\$346,000
Total	-	56	\$16,878,000

¹ Established by the National Trails System Act of 1968, as amended: (P.L. 90-543) 16 USC §§ 1241-1251.

² Values include scoping activities and work on physical trail corridors or assets whose primary purpose/use is directly tied to the trail.

³ Some trails hold multiple national trails designations. Investment on each trail is only counted once in the total.

⁴ Location of project work.

⁵ Rounded to the nearest thousand.

*The U.S. Departments of the Interior and Agriculture are equal opportunity providers, employers, and lenders.

Learn more at: www.doi.gov/gaoa/national-trails

National Trails System

Great American Outdoors Act Legacy Restoration Fund



National Scenic and Historic trails connect people to the land and highlight our nation's natural and cultural heritage. Each trail protects the natural features and purposes designated by Congress, ensuring that history is preserved for future generations while providing recreational opportunities and maintaining landscape connectivity. National Scenic Trails showcase outstanding natural resources, areas of exceptional beauty, and recreational opportunities. They are typically nonmotorized trails that extend for 100 or more miles. National Historic Trails memorialize significant national historic routes and migrations. The trails follow original historical travel routes as closely as possible.

Legacy Restoration Funded Investments on National Historic Trails FY 2021-2025¹

National Historic Trails	State ²	# of Projects	Investment ³
Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail	HI	2	\$629,000
California National Historic Trail	ID, NV	2	\$2,961,000
Chilkoot National Historic Trail	AK	2	\$353,000
Iditarod National Historic Trail	AK	7	\$2,907,000
Juan Bautista de Anza National Historical Trail	CA	1	\$156,000
Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail	ID, MT, ND, SD	5	\$2,034,000
Nez Perce National Historic Trail	ID, MT, WY	3	\$675,000
Oregon, Mormon Pioneer, California, and Pony Express National Historic Trails ⁴	NE	1	\$53,000
Oregon National Historic Trail	ID, OR, WA	3	\$4,993,000
Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail	SC	1	\$240,000
Santa Fe National Historic Trail	NM	1	\$166,000
Selma to Montgomery National Historic Trail	AL	1	\$13,000
Trail of Tears National Historic Trail	AR	2	\$136,000
Total	-	31	\$15,316,000

Repair Major Trail Sections at Ka'awaloa and Kiholo-Puako

Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail, Hawai'i



The historic Alanui Aupuni and Ka'awaloa Road dates to the mid-1800s and represent fine examples of trails built by the Kingdom of Hawai'i. The Ala Loa is an ancient trail, dating back at least 500 years. Three of the four sections of these trails are contributing elements to the Kealahou State Park Historic District, and the trails are on both the State and National Registers of Historic Places. This project restored and corrected deferred maintenance (vegetation removal, dry set masonry stabilization and resetting curbing damage) along the seven-mile section of trail. It also helped in the perpetuation of traditional Hawaiian dry-stack masonry techniques and provides future education and interpretation programs related to cultural and natural resources.

Photo Caption: Repaired section of Alanui Aupuni, Kingdom Era Trail

Photo Credit: National Park Service

¹ Values include scoping activities and work on physical trail corridors or assets whose primary purpose/use is directly tied to the trail. ² Location of project work. ³ Rounded to the nearest thousand. ⁴ These 4 National Historic Trails overlap at this location.

National Trails System

Great American Outdoors Act Legacy Restoration Fund



National Recreation Trails (NRTs) are designated by either the Secretary of the Interior or Secretary of Agriculture. NRTs are existing land- or water-based trails that provide close to home recreational opportunities on Federal, State, and local lands. The NRT designation is recognized by the federal government to promote some of our country's highest-caliber trails with the intention of providing recreation access to rural and urban communities, economic development through tourism, and healthy recreation opportunities. Upon designation, management and administration responsibilities continue to remain with the existing Federal, State, Tribal, local, nonprofit, or private land management entity. There are over 1,300 national recreation trails throughout the country. They are located in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

Legacy Restoration Funded Investments on National Recreation Trails FY 2021-2025¹

State or Territory ²	# of Projects	Investment ³
Alabama	1	\$11,000
Alaska	6	\$1,393,000
Arizona	4	\$325,000
California	6	\$1,372,000
Colorado	4	\$1,402,000
Idaho	6	\$372,000
Kentucky	1	\$37,000
Maine	1	\$1,000
Maryland	1	\$85,000
Michigan	3	\$51,000
Mississippi	1	\$15,000
Missouri	1	\$1,003,000
Montana	9	\$305,000
Nebraska	1	\$80,000
North Carolina	2	\$54,000
North Dakota	2	\$33,000
Ohio	1	\$16,603,000
Oregon	10	\$385,000
Pennsylvania	1	\$265,000
South Dakota	1	\$197,000
Utah	6	\$152,000
Virginia	2	\$791,000
Washington	4	\$509,000
Wyoming	2	\$107,000
Total	76	\$25,546,000

¹ Values include scoping activities and work on physical trail corridors or assets whose primary purpose/use is directly tied to the trail.

² Location of project work.

³ Rounded to the nearest thousand.

National Trails System

Great American Outdoors Act Legacy Restoration Fund



Replace Bridge over Alkali Creek on the Centennial Trail

Centennial Trail, South Dakota

The Centennial Trail was created in 1989 to celebrate the 100th year of South Dakota statehood, and passes through State Park, National Park, National Forest, and Bureau of Land Management lands. Trail users experience a full range of natural environments, including open high plains, forests, meadows, riparian areas, and rock outcrops. This project replaced an unsafe creek crossing at the site that provides access to picnic areas and the Centennial Trail.



Photo Caption: View from the trail over the newly replaced creek crossing at the Alkali Creek Campground

Photo Credit: Ryan Larson, Bureau of Land Management



Photo Caption: Newly replaced creek crossing at the Alkali Creek Campground

Photo Credit: Ryan Larson, Bureau of Land Management

Clear Overhanging Vegetation from Trails and Maintained Grounds

Catoctin Trail (Blue Trail), Maryland



Photo Caption: YCC member painting boardwalk on Catoctin Trail

Photo Credit: National Park Service

Catoctin Mountain Park provides quality recreational opportunities in the Catoctin Mountains while protecting and conserving the park's natural and cultural environments in the spirit of New Deal conservation programs. Portions of the Catoctin Trail were originally designed and constructed by the Works Progress Administration and the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930s.

This project completed a multi-phase plan to maintain the trail. A Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) crew of 15- to 18-year-olds removed encroaching brush from trails, repaired water bars to control trail erosion, painted structures, maintained deer enclosure fences, and removed invasive plants.

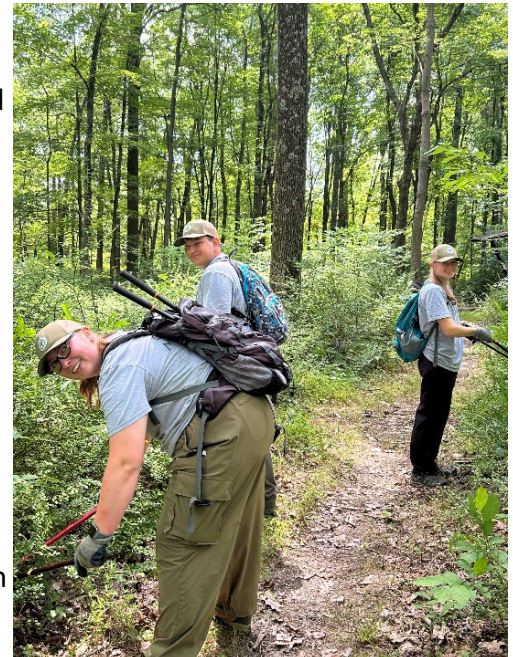


Photo Caption: YCC members removing encroaching brush from Catoctin Trail

Photo Credit: National Park Service