



What is a SCORP, and Why is it Important?

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) was established by Congress in 1965 to safeguard our natural areas, water resources, and cultural heritage, and to provide recreation opportunities to all Americans. The LWCF program is divided into the “State Side,” which provides grants to State and local governments to support state park development, and the “Federal Side,” which is used to acquire lands, waters, and interests necessary to achieve the natural, cultural, wildlife, and recreation management objectives of federal land management agencies.

A Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) is required for states to receive federal grant funding from the LWCF program and must be routinely prepared and updated to maintain eligibility. SCORPs are used to evaluate the supply and demand of recreation resources in a state, identify needs and opportunities for improvements, and advance an implementation plan to meet the priorities identified by residents and various stakeholder groups.