



The Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA) established the National Parks and Public Lands Legacy Restoration Fund (LRF) to address deferred maintenance across the Department of the Interior’s asset portfolio. The NPS receives up to \$1.33 billion per year for five years (through FY 2025), totaling \$6.65 billion. LRF funding provides an opportunity to address the maintenance backlog in national parks, estimated at \$23.3 billion in October 2023.

GAOA LRF at a Glance: Colorado

Number of Park Units	Deferred Maintenance and Repairs Estimate ¹	Number of LRF Projects (FY21 – FY25) ²	Total Estimated GAOA LRF Funding ³	Estimated Economic Impact ⁴
13	\$558 M	8	\$91.7 M	\$263.8 M

Deferred Maintenance & Repairs by Park and Asset Category

The tables below show NPS Deferred Maintenance and Repairs by park and asset category, respectively.

Park ⁵	DM&R
Rocky Mountain National Park (ROMO)	\$203 M
Mesa Verde National Park (MEVE)	\$143 M
Dinosaur National Monument (DINO)	\$84 M
Curecanti National Recreation Area (CURE)	\$62 M
Colorado National Monument (COLM)	\$30 M
Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park (BLCA)	\$15 M
Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve (GRSA)	\$12 M
Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site (BEOL)	\$6 M
Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument (FLFO)	\$2 M
Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site (SAND)	\$357 K
Hovenweep National Monument (HOVE)	\$336 K
Yucca House National Monument (YUHO)	\$69 K
Total	\$558 M


Asset Category	DM&R
Buildings	\$91 M
Housing ⁶	\$17 M
Campgrounds	\$4 M
Trails	\$76 M
Waste Water Systems	\$14 M
Water Systems	\$41 M
Unpaved Roads ⁷	\$25 M
Paved Roads ⁸	\$232 M
All Other ⁹	\$60 M
Total	\$558 M

Note: DM&R values in the tables above may not sum exactly due to rounding.

Great American Outdoors Act Legacy Restoration Fund Project Spotlights

The projects presented below are approved FY21-FY25 LRF projects for the state of Colorado.

Colorado's 2nd Congressional District

Project Title	<i>Rehabilitate Headquarters East Water System and Moraine Park Campground Electrical Distribution</i>
Park	Rocky Mountain National Park
LRF Funding	\$ 31,976,000 (FY 2021)
Project Description	
<p>This project aims to rehabilitate the HQ East water system, including the Moraine Park Campground water distribution and wastewater systems. Improvements include addressing sewer pipes, manholes, the water treatment system, and water tanks. It will also add amenities, improve accessibility, and relocate campsites from wetlands.</p> <p>The existing water distribution system and storage tanks, installed in 1965, are in poor condition due to age and deferred maintenance, resulting in leaks during seasonal start-up. The primary power supply, also from 1965, requires underground relocation for safety. The project aims to restore high-visitation facilities, improve ADA accessibility, expand recreation opportunities, remediate poor facilities, reduce deferred maintenance, and address safety concerns. Inaction could compromise water treatment and supply, affecting public safety, revenue from campground fees, and fire flow storage.</p>	

Project Title	Rehabilitate Kawuneeche Visitor Center and Administration Building
Park	Rocky Mountain National Park
LRF Funding	\$10,700,000 (FY 2025)

Project Description

This project rehabilitates the Kawuneeche Visitor Center and Administrative Headquarters complex. Rehabilitation includes heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system replacement; information technology improvements, lighting and signage replacement and upgrades; repairs to the electrical and plumbing systems; and installation of fire suppression, alarm, and security systems. Work also includes utility and site improvements for the buildings, parking pedestrian areas, and surrounding landscape. Other work includes structural and roof repairs; window and door replacement; interior and exterior finishes; hazardous material abatement; electrical and plumbing replacement and rehabilitation; and installation of lightning protection. Temporary facilities for staff and visitors will be provided during rehabilitation, as well as moving and storage of building contents.



Replacing the HVAC system in this historic facility will reduce the cost and frequency of emergency repairs to the existing failing system. This project will address an estimated \$9.4 million of deferred maintenance and repair needs. The systems addressed by this project should not require major recapitalization or modernization for the next 25 years.

Colorado's 3rd Congressional District


Project Title	Replace Morefield and Wetherill Water Lines
Park	Mesa Verde National Park
LRF Funding	\$22,969,000 (FY 2022)


Project Description



This project at Mesa Verde National Park is set to replace aging water infrastructure in Morefield and Wetherill Mesa, addressing leaks and improving operational efficiency. The initiative involves installing new lines, valves, and a precast box culvert using advanced methods to minimize ground impact. The benefits extend to campers, residents, and concessions in Morefield, while Wetherill Mesa's water system is vital for visitor use and fire protection.

The investment strategy focuses on proactively replacing deteriorating water supply pipes, ensuring sustainability for the next 30-40 years. Failure to act would lead to continued deterioration, impacting visitors and staff, straining maintenance resources, and compromising fire protection capabilities. This project is crucial for securing water infrastructure, ensuring long-term stability, and maintaining the park's functionality.

Project Title	<i>Replace Water and Wastewater Systems at Elk Creek and Lake Fork</i>	
Park	Curecanti National Recreation Area	
LRF Funding	\$13,055,000 (FY 2024)	
Project Description		
<p>The project aims to enhance the water and sewer systems in two highly visited areas of the park. It involves the replacement and upgrade of primary and secondary water distribution systems, wastewater collection systems, and critical components like septic tanks and lift stations. By improving operational efficiency and reliability, the project seeks to reduce facility closures due to system failures and enhance overall visitor experiences.</p> <p>Through electrical and mechanical upgrades, as well as meticulous asphalt and concrete work, the project ensures seamless integration with existing roadways and parking lots. It also emphasizes compliance with state regulations by replacing or rehabilitating sewage lagoon liners, pumps, and generators. The estimated \$15.0 million investment will address deferred maintenance and repair needs, establishing a lasting solution for the next 30 to 50 years. This comprehensive upgrade will positively impact the park’s management and numerous visitors, providing them with a more reliable and enjoyable experience within these high-priority areas.</p>		

Project Title	<i>Rehabilitate Park Housing</i>	
Park	Great Sand Dunes National Park & Preserve	
LRF Funding	\$ 12,027,000 (FY 2024)	
Project Description		
	<p>This rehabilitation project aims to improve 13 housing units at Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve, built in the 1960s, by replacing, upgrading, or modifying major components to address obsolete conditions. Deficiencies unique to each unit will be addressed, including architectural barriers, fire protection systems, and outdated wastewater systems. Site improvements will enhance resiliency, and temporary leases will be provided during construction. These enhancements will directly benefit 25-35 park employees and their families, offering energy-efficient, accessible, safe, reliable, and comfortable living accommodations, which will contribute to recruiting and retaining a capable workforce while reducing emergency response times and unscheduled repairs.</p> <p>Upon project completion, the housing units and systems will require minimal recapitalization or modernizations for 25 to 40 years, addressing \$11.2 million of deferred maintenance and repair needs. This approach will also cut costs and mitigate unscheduled maintenance and repairs. Funding sources like quarters rental income, base funds, and other facility project funds will be utilized to maintain the park housing units on a predictable and regular schedule.</p>	

Maintenance Action Team Program¹⁰

Park	# of Projects	Estimated LRF MAT Funding
Colorado National Monument	2	\$645,010 (FY 2021)
Dinosaur National Monument	1	\$317,414 (FY 2023)
Totals	3	\$962,424

Notes

¹ *Deferred Maintenance and Repairs (DM&R) includes only correction of existing deficiencies. It does not include, for example, alterations for improved accessibility, upgrades to meet current building codes, installation of new fire suppression systems, expansion of capacity, or annual recurring maintenance needs. The inventory associated with the fact sheet above includes only real property locations that are reported to the Federal Real Property Profile (FRPP).*

² *The number of LRF Projects (FY21-FY25) reflects (5) LRF projects for FY 2021-FY 2025 and (3) MAT projects for FY 2021-FY2024. MAT projects for FY 2025 are currently being identified.*

³ *Total Estimated GAOA LRF Funding reflects current approved funding which includes project funding increases through the use of construction contingency funding. Data as of April 4, 2024.*

⁴ *Total Economic Impact is the measure measures the total estimated value of production of goods and services supported in the US economy by NPS LRF related expenditures. Economic output is the sum of all intermediate sales (business to business) and final demand (sales to consumers and exports). This figure does not reflect economic output generated through MAT projects nor does it reflect economic output generated through construction contingency funding increases.*

⁵ **Dinosaur National Monument (DINO) and Hovenweep National Monument (HOVE)** span multiple states. Only the inventory and associated DM&R needs located in the state of Colorado are included.

⁶ *Housing is defined as residential structures associated with the NPS Employee Housing Program whereby rent is collected and associated support buildings (e.g., detached garages). Excluded from this category are multiuse buildings (e.g., visitor centers) that include quarters unit(s).*

⁷ *Unpaved Roads includes unpaved parking areas and unpaved roadways.*

⁸ *Paved Roads includes bridges, tunnels, paved parking areas, and paved roadways.*

⁹ *All Other assets may include trail bridges, trail tunnels, maintained landscapes, boundaries, utility systems, dams, constructed waterways, marinas, aviation systems, railroad systems, ships, monuments, maintained archeological sites, fortifications, interpretive media, and amphitheaters.*

¹⁰ *Maintenance Action Team projects reflect FY21, FY23, and FY24 projects. Additional MAT projects will be identified for the FY25 MAT program. All 3 MAT projects in Colorado are substantially complete; two in Colorado National Monument- Repair Canyon Rim Trail and Rim Rock Drive Historic Ditch maintenance and one in Dinosaur National Monument- Rehabilitate Historic Wade & Curtis Cabin for Use as a Visitor Facility.*