



# Newsletter

Midwest Region and  
Intermountain Region  
June 2012



Fountain Park - Fountain Hills, Arizona

## Salazar Announces LWCF Apportionment

Department of Interior Secretary Ken Salazar announced the signing of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 Certificate of Apportionment for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) State and Local Assistance Grant (State-side) program that distributes funds to the 50 States, American Samoa, District of Columbia, Guam,

Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands for State-identified outdoor recreation projects.

The apportionment for FY 2012 is based on \$42,138,470 being provided for financial assistance to States from the total amount appropriated to LWCF by the Congress of the United States pursuant to P.L. 112-74, Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2012. This appropriation is supplemented by \$101,527 from qualified Outer Continental Shelf revenues pursuant to the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act (GOMESA).

Great Outdoors: Fifty-State Report to the extent that the projects meet LWCF program requirements and are in concert with your State's Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan and LWCF Open Project Selection Process.

We have an opportunity to develop a more vibrant State-side program that will help meet the needs of the 21st. century. As long-time partners that share common goals and objectives, Secretary Salazar believes that together we can energize the program and make a good program even better.

### In This Issue

o **Apportionment Letters Signed**

- The FY 2012 "certificate of apportionment" has been signed and the Governors' letters have been mailed. Please see column one of the excel spread sheet on page 2 for individual state apportionment totals.

o **State Program Reviews** – The

Midwest Region LWCF Staff are conducting program reviews this spring and summer - see page 3

o **Transitions** – highlighting changes,

retirements, new hires, promotions, etc...Please see the back page for more information.

Secretary Salazar would again like to encourage you to consider the America's Great Outdoors priorities as you select proposals for State-side assistance, giving particular attention to projects that advance urban parks and community green spaces; river recreation; and rural landscape conservation. If appropriate, this could include the two projects that were identified by your State last year that were included in the report America's



Secretary of Interior Salazar

# State Financial Status and Processing Updates

State totals	2012 Apportionment	Unobligated Balance \$30,899,554.30	Unliquidated \$21,773,128.47	Active Grants 205	Grant Due to Expire 12/31/12	FY 2010 * Monies \$2,758,112.90
Arizona	\$840,738	\$2,314,216.00	\$353,201.03	1	0	\$555,438.00
Arkansas	\$527,176	\$1,273,401.00	\$357,865.17	7	0	\$22,067.00
Colorado	\$736,226	\$1,741,031.37	\$1,138,394.01	4	1	\$197,796.37
Illinois	\$1,455,215	\$4,574,664.00	\$750,000.00	1	0	\$1,221,481.00
Indiana	\$832,300	\$1,231,850.00	\$2,131,476.53	12	4	\$0.00
Iowa	\$553,685	\$897,569.79	\$625,499.59	11	0	\$0.00
Kansas	\$553,236	\$1,103,371.50	\$988,106.82	6	2	\$0.00
Michigan	\$1,142,556	\$2,177,270.28	\$1,355,742.18	27	4	\$0.00
Minnesota	\$739,427	\$960,099.20	\$282,500.00	8	0	\$0.00
Missouri	\$788,962	\$1,099,170.01	\$1,928,878.68	32	0	\$83,333.50
Montana	\$398,392	1,031,926.56	\$331,393.00	4	0	\$263,497.94
Nebraska	\$471,385	\$1,074,369.37	\$535,717.33	11	2	\$12,348.41
New Mexico	\$490,219	\$1,170,106.19	\$1,098,990.00	2	0	\$150,599.04
North Dakota	\$378,419	604,031.64	\$335,056.75	9	0	\$0.00
Ohio	\$1,284,987	\$2,543,743.73	\$1,812,031.20	17	4	\$0.00
Oklahoma	\$608,113	\$914,672.99	\$1,232,070.40	11	0	\$0.00
South Dakota	\$385,952	567,065.12	\$567,502.15	5	0	\$7,309.64
Texas	\$2,302,679	\$2,421,174.55	\$3,562,939.60	12	0	\$0.00
Utah	\$552,373	\$822,729.00	\$811,225.06	7	0	\$0.00
Wisconsin	\$764,558	\$1,864,350.00	\$1,098,927.82	6	0	\$244,242.00
Wyoming	\$371,921	\$512,742.00	\$475,620.15	12	0	\$0.00

## 2012 State Apportionment

The state apportionment numbers above represent the total of both your regular apportionment and the monies apportioned from the GOMESA account. The Certificate of Apportionment that is attached to the Governor's letter will show how the accounts are split up.

## High Unobligated Balances

Unobligated balances send a message that you do not need grant funding. While we understand the complexities of pending grants, obligated funds and scheduled OPSPs, this message is often lost on those responsible for funding. Please make an effort to obligate grant funding in the year it was apportioned.

## Projects Without Regular Billings

Regular billings demonstrate to auditors that progress is being made on active projects and that the remaining obligated balances are still wanted by grant recipients. You can help us by making sure your projects bill at least once a year.

## Project Close

Remember that federal regulation requires a project be final billed within 90 days of project completion or expiration, *whichever comes FIRST*. Please don't wait until the last minute to submit your final paperwork.

## Reminder\*

Any remaining unobligated FY 2010 apportionment monies and/or any approved FY 2011 SRA monies need to be obligated by August or they will be lost.

# State Program Reviews

While the primary purpose of Program Reviews is to evaluate the State's performance and administration of the LWCF program, it also represents an opportunity to meet new staff and renew relationships. The face to face meetings and social interactions can build new, meaningful, professional relationships and strengthen the ones we have.

The Midwest Region will be conducting State Program Reviews this spring and summer. Wyoming, Arizona and Michigan have been completed. Colorado and Indiana are scheduled to be completed yet this summer.

In accordance with the LWCF Act (Public Law 88-578, as amended), the NPS is responsible for continually monitoring each State's effectiveness in administering the LWCF program.

While the review of a State's program is an on-going process, it is measured over a three year period with an NPS visit during that time to the state offices. The state visit represents not only a fact-finding mission, but an opportunity to address those problems, concerns, and issues involving the State's program.

The primary purpose of the review is to evaluate the State's performance and administration of the LWCF program and to determine how NPS can assist the State in any needed program performance improvements. This review also establishes a performance baseline to compare future reviews. The review is intended to be a mutually beneficial process and learning experience for both NPS and State personnel. NPS and the State should be responsive to any needs or suggestions for improving the LWCF program based on the review results.

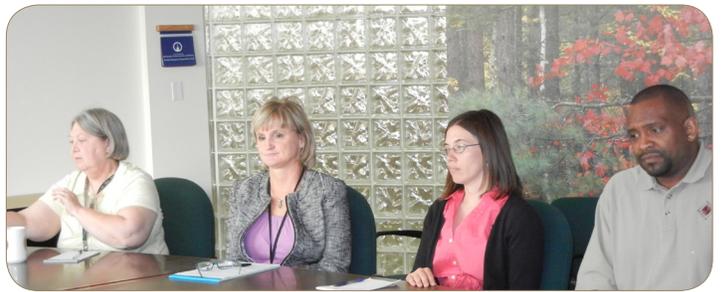
The Program Review consists of two major components: a qualitative evaluation of the State's internal operating procedures and an evaluation of project compliance.

The qualitative evaluation is determined largely through discussions and interviews with staff from the Grants Office, Planning (SCORP), Finance (Accounting & Budgeting), Appraisers and the State Historic Preservation Office.

Project compliance will also be accomplished through the review of a sample of project files and site visits to check for documentation completeness and compliance with required laws and regulations.



Jim Krejci, NPS - Michigan Grants - Shamika Askew-Storay, Jule Stafford, Kelly Parker, Christie Bayus



Linda Harlow, Janet Liesman, Tamara Jorkasky, Sam Duncan - Michigan Grants



Jim - NPS & Jon Mayes - Michigan Grants



Arizona - Doris Pulsifer, Pat Dutrack, Arizona Grants - Kelly Pearce, NPS



Pat, Kelly & Doris - Site Inspection, Tonto Natural Bridge State Park, Arizona



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

**Midwest Region**

The stateside LWCF program brings the mission of the National Park Service home to communities throughout the Nation.

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The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

# Transitions

Retirements, New Faces, Promotions, Awards...

**Wayne Strum Retires after 44 years with the NPS**

Wayne Strum has been a leader for the LWCF and UPARR programs since their inception, when they were managed by the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation. He followed them from BOR to the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service in the 1970s, and finally to the NPS in 1981. On December 31, 2011, Wayne retired from the NPS.

**Wayne Strum receives NASORLO President's Award**

At the recent NASORLO Board meeting, Wayne Strum NPS received recognition from the organization for his long years of service in working with the organization to effectively administer the State Assistance Program of the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund. The award was presented to him by President Domenic Bravo, who cited Strum for his leadership and strong professional focus and effort on behalf of the state grants program.



**Wayne Strum receives the NASORLO Presidents Award from Domenic Bravo**



**Joseph Schafer, Project Officer/SCORP Writer, Outdoor Recreation Grants, Arkansas State Parks, NEW**



**John Beneke, Director, Outdoor Recreation Grants, Arkansas State Parks, NEW**



**Bryan Keller, Director, Outdoor Recreation Grants, Arkansas State Parks, RETIRED**