



Illinois

Great American Outdoors Act

National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund

Photo Credit: USFWS

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 allocated 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 GAOA LRF funding, Interior bureaus are:

- Funding 396 projects across 50 states, the District of Columbia, and multiple territories
- Addressing nearly \$6 billion in deferred maintenance and repair
- Improving the condition of over 3,800 Interior assets

GAOA LRF Impacts Across America*



Repairing over **1,000** recreational and visitor experience assets



Improving ADA accessibility in nearly **50%** of GAOA LRF projects



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 facilities used by nearly **2,300** students and faculty at BIE-funded schools each year

Deferred Maintenance and Repair in Illinois

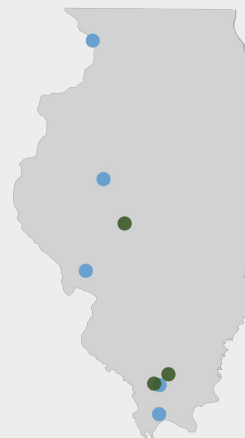
In Illinois, the total deferred maintenance and repair (DM&R) backlog for the four Interior GAOA LRF bureaus is \$82,877,000**.

Bureau	DM&R**
Bureau of Indian Education (BIE)	\$0
Bureau of Land Management (BLM)	\$0
National Park Service (NPS)	\$4,559,000
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)	\$78,318,000

GAOA LRF in Illinois

With the full five years of funding, GAOA LRF will invest over **\$75.9 million** towards improving **over 10** assets across **3** projects in Illinois.

As of December 2025, Maintenance Action Teams have completed work at **5** FWS locations in Illinois.



● GAOA LRF Projects ● Completed Maintenance Action Team Activities

Assets improved in Illinois:



Water Infrastructure and Other Utilities



Transportation Assets



Recreational and Visitor Experience Assets

* These numbers are estimates and include FY21 - FY25 GAOA LRF-funded projects.

** DM&R estimates represent a point in time, reported as of 9/30/2025, 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.



GAOA LRF Projects, Locations, and Funding in Illinois

Bureau	Unit Name	Project Title	Funding [†] as of Dec. 2025
FWS	Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge	Modernize Public Use Facilities, Repair Seismic Issues and Improve Recreational Access – Phase I	\$26,310,000
FWS	Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge	Modernize Public Use Facilities, Repair Seismic Issues and Improve Recreational Access—Phase II	\$40,700,000
NPS	Lincoln Home National Historic Site	Replace Exterior Pavement Surfaces on Walkways, Streets, and Parking Areas	\$8,900,000

[†]Rounded to thousands

Modernize Public Use Facilities, Repair Seismic Issues, and Improve Recreational Access

Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge



Newly constructed Crab Orchard Visitor Center.
Photo Credit: Kristin Murphy

Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge spans 44,000 acres of diverse habitats and offers recreation including hiking, canoeing, hunting, camping, picnicking, photography, and birdwatching. The refuge had leaking water and sewer lines, a visitor center that was beyond its useful lifecycle, and outdated campground facilities. This project is repairing or replacing waterlines and sewer lines, has replaced the visitor center with a modern facility, and is modernizing campground facilities and related outdoor recreation facilities including shower buildings, water lines, campgrounds, and campground roads. This will make the refuge safer and more attractive to visitors, while saving the facility thousands of dollars in lost revenue from leaks.

Replace Exterior Pavement Surfaces on Walkways, Streets, and Parking Areas

Lincoln Home National Historic Site



Wooden boardwalk sidewalk outside the Arnold House. Photo Credit: NPS

Lincoln Home National Historic Site, located in Springfield, IL, preserves and protects the only home ever owned by President Abraham Lincoln and its surrounding neighborhood. The existing pavement surfaces, which are comprised of brick, wooden boardwalk, and asphalt, have deteriorated and are prone to frequent shifting and buckling. This project will replace deteriorating pavement along streets, parking areas, and walkway surfaces in order to provide accessible pedestrian routes. Following completion of this work, wheelchairs and other mobility assistance devices will be able to traverse smooth, firm, and properly graded pavement surfaces. This project will provide for a more enjoyable and safe pedestrian experience for all visitors and staff.