



Minnesota

Great American Outdoors Act

National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund

Photo Credit: NPS

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 Minnesota

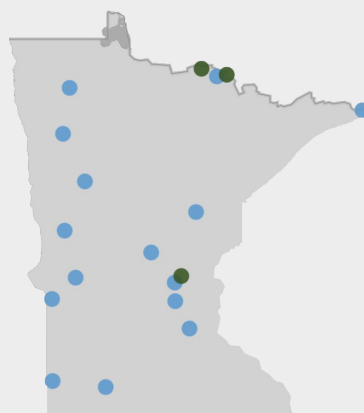
In Minnesota, the total deferred maintenance and repair (DM&R) backlog for the four Interior GAOA LRF bureaus is nearly \$118,893,000**.

Bureau	DM&R**
Bureau of Indian Education (BIE)	\$27,423,000
Bureau of Land Management (BLM)	\$0
National Park Service (NPS)	\$37,735,000
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)	\$53,735,000

GAOA LRF in Minnesota

With the full five years of funding, GAOA LRF will invest nearly **\$26.7 million** towards improving over **40** assets at **3** projects in Minnesota.

As of December 2025, Maintenance Action Teams have completed work at **12** FWS locations and **3** NPS locations in Minnesota.



● GAOA LRF Projects

● Completed Maintenance Action Team Activities

Assets improved in Minnesota:



Transportation Assets



Water Infrastructure and Other Utilities



Operational Buildings

* 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 Minnesota

Bureau	Unit Name	Project Title	Funding [†] as of Dec. 2025
FWS	Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge	Replacement of the Headquarters & Visitor Center Building	\$3,720,000
NPS	Voyageurs National Park	Rehabilitate Rainy Lake and Ash River Roads	\$6,100,000
NPS	Voyageurs National Park	Replace Power Distribution Line Connecting Kettle Falls Hotel	\$16,861,000

[†] Rounded to thousands.

Replacement of the Headquarters & Visitor Center Building

Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge



Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge visitor center before renovations. Photo Credit: Courtney/USFWS

Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge is an urban refuge located in one of the fastest growing counties in Minnesota that offers more than 30,000 acres of prairie land, forest, wetland, and riverine habitats for visitors to explore. The refuge currently houses visitor services at a deteriorating facility that is not meeting current visitor needs because it is inaccessible, lacks drinking water, has pest infestations, and can only hold small groups due to the inadequate septic systems. This project will construct a new visitor center and office building and complete repairs to other refuge infrastructure including levees, water control structures, and storage buildings. The new visitor center will be more energy efficient, reduce operations and maintenance costs, and improve visitor service programming.

Replace Power Distribution Line Connecting Kettle Falls Hotel

Voyageurs National Park



Kettle Falls Hotel at Voyageurs National Park. Photo Credit: NPS

With over 200,000 acres, Voyageurs National Park in Minnesota is full of exposed rock ridges, cliffs, wetlands, forests, and lakes that offer year-round recreation opportunities. The historic Kettle Falls Hotel offers the only lodging at the parks and is only accessible by water. The electrical system that services the remote, historic hotel and surrounding areas was beyond its service life and frequently failed, resulting in lengthy power outages. This project is replacing the main underwater high voltage cable and multiple transformer boxes running from the mainland to the Kettle Falls district, replacing other components as needed, and installing additional emergency backup generation. Project work is providing electricity for the site with increased safety, efficiency, and reliability for guests and visitors.