



# Winkelman Natural Resource Conservation District

## RESOLUTION

August 16, 2017

Resolved, we urge Congress to appropriate all funds from the Land And Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), which receives its monies from off-shore oil royalties, and to divert those funds to individual state Foresters for their use in fire suppression, fire management, and conservation efforts instead of using those funds for buying private property.

### BACKGROUND

In fiscal year 2017 various federal agencies received funding from LWCF amounting to over 900 million dollars. Of that, 506.5 million was appropriated to buy private land to add to the federal estate.

State Foresters receive much of their operating expenses through the U.S. Forest Service, preventing the state foresters from making locally relevant management decisions. If the states were to receive funding from LWCF, they would be less dependent. Also, the Forest Service budget would be considerably less as there would be a major infusion from off-budget monies to use to fight fires.

Currently, there is an effort to make the land acquisition portion of the LWCF permanent. It almost passed last Congressional session. We may not have another opportunity to change this.

This Resolution by the Winkelman NRCD was accepted and approved on this 16th day of August, 2017.

Approval of Resolution: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_