



Photo courtesy TPWD.



Photo courtesy TPWD.

## MISSION

The mission of WSLCA is to create value for our beneficiaries through leadership, education, and sound land management.

# WATERWAYS

**W**estern state land managers administer lands that lie below the ordinary high water mark of navigable lakes and rivers. These lands account for almost one million miles of waterways in the Western States Land Commissioners Association (WSLCA) region.

## DATA

- ◆ **NAVIGATION** – Our members work with federal partners to ensure that the nation’s waterways are being utilized in the most effective and efficient manner.
- ◆ **COMMERCE**—The economic impact of the waterways within the WSLCA region is in excess of \$6.4 billion. These revenues not only stem from shipping products, oil and gas rights, easements and leases, but from the number of people employed in these duties and the number of industries in the surrounding areas that use the waterways in some fashion.
- ◆ **FISH & WILDLIFE HABITAT**—WSLCA members communicate and work with multiple agencies in ongoing efforts to protect the ecological diversity of the nation’s waterways.
- ◆ **AQUATIC BEAUTY** – Our nation’s rivers are a natural treasure and are worthy of protection for future generations. Member states understand this importance and monitor the use and appearance of waterways.
- ◆ **PUBLIC RECREATION** – Billions of dollars are spent on tourism

on the nation’s waterways. Member states work hand-in-hand with federal and state partners to help promote recreation on waterways.

- ◆ **WATER QUALITY** – We ensure that water protection is a priority of those who access and use sovereign lands. Agencies closely monitor water quality and take immediate action if needed.

## WSLCA MEMBERS ...

- ◆ Provide assistance to the Army Corps of Engineers and Coast Guard in their mission critical objectives.
- ◆ Represent constituent and stakeholder concerns to federal agencies and elected officials.
- ◆ Encourage responsible stewardship while encouraging economic growth by advancing policy and concerns to the Department of Interior and the Environmental Protection Agency.
- ◆ Provide a gateway to state resources.
- ◆ Provide a central point of information for the various state officials who manage and lease state sovereign lands.
- ◆ Encourage dialog between the various states and stakeholders.

### Navigable waterways (rivers and lakes):

896,658 miles + 53,467 square miles

**Types of management by land offices:** mineral rights/submerged lands leasing, dock/marina leasing, easements, islands/accretions

### Interstate Compacts

29 + 2 international

## ECONOMIC IMPACT

**\$6.4 BILLION** in revenues from products, taxes, oil/gas, employment, easements and leases. *\*\*Several states do not track employment numbers.*

### Survey results based on information from the following 15 member states:

AZ, AK, AR, CO, HI, ID, LA, MT, NE, NV, ND, OK, OR, SD, TX, UT and WY

Of the states responding, six either have no navigable waterways or the land commissioners have no management rights in them.

### Not represented:

CA, MS, MN, NM, WA and WI

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