

8. **Why can't Red Bank just pay back the \$73,675.92 and be done with the NPS?**

There are two main reasons Red Bank cannot simply pay back the grant and get out of trouble.

First:

<b>Inflation adjustment:</b> \$73,675.92 in 1970 is equivalent to <b>\$518,395.55</b> in summer 2021
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Second, payback of the grant is not authorized under federal law, which *requires permanent* protection of the funded park, or substitution with an approximately equivalent park:

**Land and Water Conservation Fund Act** (Public Law 88-578)  
54 U.S.C. § 200301 – 200310

§ 200305. Financial assistance to States  
Paragraph (f)(3) (in part):

CONVERSION TO OTHER THAN PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION USE. – “*No property acquired or developed with assistance under this section shall, without the approval of the Secretary, be converted to other than public outdoor recreation use. The Secretary shall approve a conversion only if the Secretary finds it to be in accordance with the then-existing comprehensive statewide outdoor recreation plan and only on such conditions as the Secretary considers necessary to ensure the substitution of other recreation properties of at least equal fair market value and of reasonably equivalent usefulness and location.*”