DELAWARE RIVER PROGRAM 2025 METRICS GUIDANCE

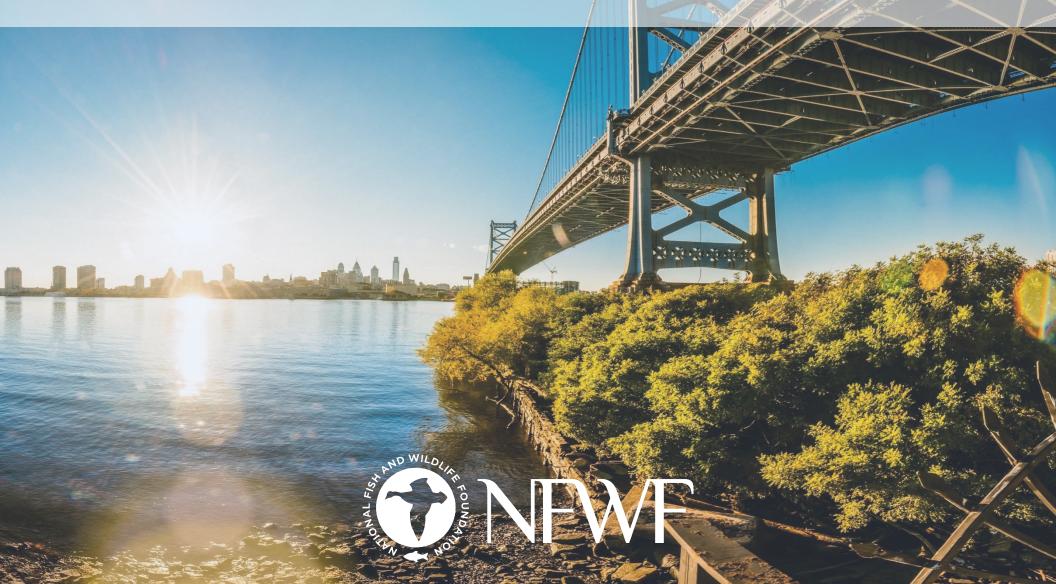


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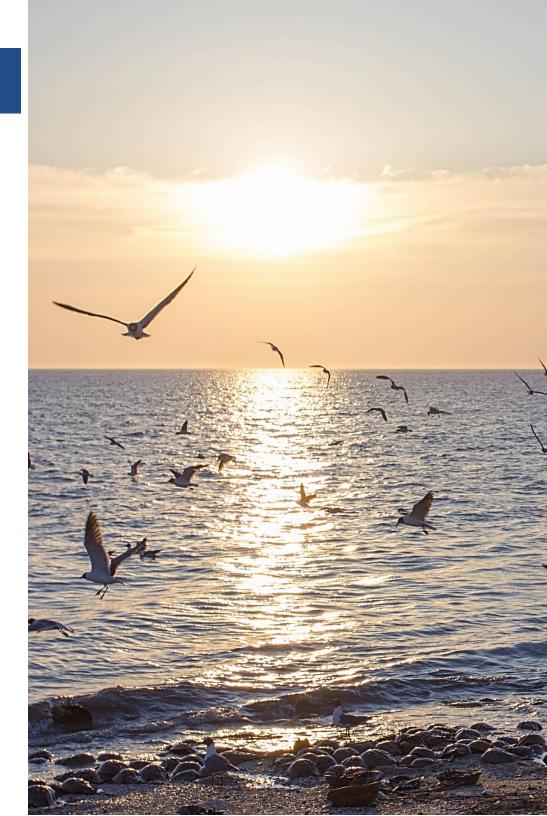
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DELAWARE WATERSHED CONSERVATION FUND

The Delaware Watershed Conservation Fund (DWCF) addresses near-term and long-range issues identified by the Delaware River Basin Restoration Partnership and Program <u>Framework</u>, for measurable gains for fish and wildlife conservation, clean water, access to outdoor recreation, and other values and natural and economic benefits for people living in the basin. Major funding for the DWCF is provided by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The fund was launched in 2018 as a first step toward delivering the Delaware River Basin Conservation Act, bringing together various stakeholders invested in restoration and conservation efforts throughout the Delaware River Watershed to address different strategic program areas and cross-program activities, build networks, and improve efficiency and focus on a basin-wide scale. DWCF projects are implemented entirely within the Delaware River watershed. The fund's investments target areas of regional significance for restoration and conservation in order to support ongoing efforts, increase capacity, and facilitate maximum adaptive potential in changing watershed conditions.

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GENERAL METRICS INFORMATION

METRICS OVERVIEW

To assess project progress and ensure greater consistency of data provided by multiple grants, the Delaware River Program provides a list of metrics in Easygrants. In addition to metrics in Easygrants, grantees can gather more detailed site and practice-level data via FieldDoc.org (see tip sheet for additional details). Please note in 2025 all applicants are required to enter project data into FieldDoc along with submission of their application through Easygrants.

The metrics section of the Full Proposal allows you to select the activity and outcome metrics you will use to measure your project's progress and success. Follow the directions provided in Easygrants to complete this section. A couple of general pointers:

- Hover your mouse cursor over the "?" next to a metric to read its description and specific guidance.
- Please "Add" and complete at least one metric relevant to reporting your project's progress.
- For each metric you will need to provide values for "Starting Value" and "Target Value." In most cases the starting value will be zero (0). Please reach out to NFWF staff if you are including metrics with non-zero starting values.
- In your project narrative, you will have the opportunity to describe additional activities and outcomes associated with your project.
- Please only select metrics associated with the project elements for which you are requesting funding in this grant.
- Click the small notepad icon to the right of a selected metric to add notes. Adding notes to metrics assists reviewers in understanding how values were determined.

To increase consistency in the usage and calculations of metrics, the NFWF Delaware team has created this "2025 Metrics Guidance" document to provide additional details and instructions about each metric. Please ensure that, upon choosing a metric to include in your proposal, the calculation of the target value accounts for the details listed for the metric in this guide.

COMMON MISTAKES

- 1. Double Counting. One practice/implementation technique should not be counted under two different metrics (with the same measurement, eg. acres). For example, if implementing a wetland restoration and selecting "Wetland restoration Acres restored," do not also select "BMP implementation for nutrient or sediment reduction Acres with BMPs" for the same spatial area. Complementary metrics (with different measurements, eg. miles opened and # barriers or acres and complementary miles of riparian restoration) can be selected for one practices/implementation technique.
- 2. Not Including Metric Notes. Metrics notes are an opportunity to expand on and explain calculations, practice details, and target values. If notes are necessary to understanding a practice, the instructions will specify what should be included, at a minimum, in the notes. Insufficient metric notes will be sent back for revisions.
- 3. Counting Planning as Implementation. If the project includes planning, research, engineering/design, or technical assistance, the *future* implementation resulting from that work should not be counted under any habitat management or habitat restoration metrics. Please use the "Planning, Research, Monitoring" metrics.
- 4. Target Value Lower Than Starting Value. If the starting value is not zero, the target value should be the value to be achieved by the NFWF project within the period of performance *plus* the starting value. The only instance when the starting value will not be zero is when you are applying for a second or third phase of a project previously funded by NFWF.
- 5. Using "People with Changed Behavior" Instead of "People Reached" Metric. Changed behavior must be a MEASURABLE behavior with a baseline value upon which grant outcomes can be compared. Social media campaigns, signage, etc. (passive engagement) should not be counted under behavior change.

LIST OF AVAILABLE METRICS – DELAWARE WATERSHED CONSERVATION FUND

Metrics available to pick in Easygrants. Additional details and instructions for each metric are included in the next section. Note that while metrics are labeled for the DRRF they are available and selectable for DWCF applicants.

HABITAT RESTORATION

- DRRF Beach habitat quality improvements Miles restored
- DRRF Beach habitat quality improvements Acres restored
- DRRF Erosion control Acres restored
- DRRF Fish passage improvements # of barriers assessed and/or with design plans
- DRRF Fish passage improvements # passage barriers rectified
- DRRF Fish passage improvements Miles of stream opened
- DRRF Floodplain restoration Acres restored
- DRRF Instream restoration Miles restored
- DRRF Land, wetland restoration # of trees planted
- DRRF Living shorelines Linear feet restored
- DRRF Riparian restoration Acres restored
- DRRF Riparian restoration Miles restored
- DRRF Tidal marsh restoration Acres restored
- DRRF Wetland restoration Acres restored

HABITAT MANAGEMENT

- DRRF BMP implementation Miles of stream with reduced and/or protected water temperature
- DRRF BMP implementation for fencing improvements Miles of fencing improved or installed
- DRRF BMP implementation for nutrient or sediment reduction Acres with BMPs
- DRRF BMP implementation for nutrient or sediment reduction Acres with conservation tillage
- DRRF BMP implementation for nutrient or sediment reduction Acres with cover crops
- DRRF BMP implementation for nutrient or sediment reduction Acres with enhanced nutrient mgt
- DRRF BMP implementation for nutrient or sediment reduction Lbs N avoided (annually)
- DRRF BMP implementation for nutrient or sediment reduction Lbs P avoided (annually)
- DRRF BMP implementation for nutrient or sediment reduction Lbs sediment avoided (annually)
- DRRF BMP implementation for stormwater runoff Acres with BMPs
- DRRF BMP implementation for stormwater runoff Volume stormwater prevented
- DRRF BMP implementation to mitigate recreational disturbance Miles with BMPs
- DRRF Early successional forest Improved management practices Acres under improved management
- DRRF Nature-based Infrastructure access pts developed/improved
- DRRF Nature-based Infrastructure miles trails developed/improved
- DRRF Improved management practices Acres managed to treat annual invasive plants
- DRRF Improved management practices Acres under improved management
- DRRF Improved management practices Acres with managed grazing
- DRRF Late successional forest Improved management practices Acres under improved management
- DRRF Mature forest Improved management practices Acres under improved management

HABITAT CONSERVATION

DRRF - Conservation easements - Acres protected under easement DRRF - Land acquisitions - Acres acquired in fee

CAPACITY, OUTREACH, INCENTIVES

DRRF - Economic benefits - # jobs created

DRRF - Outreach/ Technical Assistance - # internships/fellowships

DRRF - Outreach/ Technical Assistance - # people reached

DRRF - Outreach/ Technical Assistance - # people with changed behavior

DRRF - Outreach/ Technical Assistance - # of public events

DRRF - Outreach/ Technical Assistance - # people targeted through email and newsletters

DRRF - Outreach/ Technical Assistance - # social media posts

DRRF - Public Access - # acres with public access

DRRF - Public Access - # miles with public access

DRRF - Volunteer participation - # volunteers participating

PLANNING, RESEARCH, MONITORING

DRRF - Forest Management Planning - # of acres covered by dynamic forest plans

DRRF - Monitoring - Acres being monitored

DRRF - Monitoring - Miles being monitored

DRRF - Monitoring - # monitoring programs

DRRF - Monitoring - # sites being monitored

DRRF - Project Management - Acres with transaction costs and project mgmt activities addressed

DRRF - Research - Miles assessed

DRRF - Restoration planning/design/permitting - Acres restored

DRRF - Tool development for decision-making - # tools used by decision-makers

METRICS DESCRIPTION AND TIPS

| PRACTICE | METRIC | INSTRUCTIONS | IMPLEMENTATION EXAMPLES | ADDITIONAL TIPS |
|--|---|---|--|--|
| Beach habitat quality improvements | Miles restored | Enter the number of miles of restored or protected beach/shoreline habitat; do not double count with erosion acres restored. In the NOTES, indicate whether vegetation is being planted. If selecting this metric, please select BOTH beach acres restored and beach miles restored. | Dune restoration, beach plantings, beach protection practices | Projects selecting beach and dune restoration as their metric should select BOTH beach habitat acres and miles restored. |
| Beach habitat quality improvements | Acres restored | Enter the number of acres of restored or protected beach/shoreline habitat; do not double count with erosion acres restored. In the NOTES, indicate whether vegetation is being planted. If selecting this metric, please select BOTH beach acres restored and beach miles restored. | Dune restoration, beach plantings, beach protection practices | Projects selecting beach and dune restoration as their metric should select BOTH beach habitat acres and miles restored. |
| Erosion control | Acres restored | Enter the number of acres restored; enter specific type of coastal/shoreline habitat and restoration in NOTES section. | Living shoreline, natural revetments/breakwater systems | Buffers should be "Riparian Restoration;" bank stabilization should be "Instream Restoration" – do not double count |
| Fish passage improvements | # of barriers assessed and/or with design plans | Enter the # of in-stream barriers with assessments or engineering/design plans completed in this grant. In the notes, provide the barrier's SARP ID (aquaticbarriers.org). If the barrier(s) is not in SARP, provide its lat/long or its name and source. | | |
| Fish passage improvements | # barriers rectified | Enter the # of in-stream barriers removed/rectified through dam removals, culvert replacements, or other fish passage improvements in THIS grant. In the notes, provide the species benefitting and the barrier's SARP IDsee SARP Natl. Aq. Barrier Inventory (aquaticbarriers.org). If the barrier(s) is not in SARP, provide its lat/long or its name and source. | Dam removal, culvert replacement | Only include grant funded implementation. Do not include results of future removals or replacements due to grant-funded design or planning activities |
| Fish passage improvements | Miles of stream opened | Enter total # of miles opened to improve aquatic organism passage. Only include the miles of main stem & smaller tributaries connected until the next barrier upstream (or headwaters), but NOT lakes, ponds, or distance downstream from the barrier removed. If improving or increasing eastern brook trout patch sizes, specify in NOTES section. | Dam removal, culvert replacement, fish passage enhancements | Only include grant funded implementation. Do not include results of future removals or replacements due to grant-funded design or planning activities |

| Floodplain | Acres restored | Enter the number of floodplain acres restored. In the | Re-establishment of function of | Must be active restoration/ |
|-------------|----------------|---|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| restoration | | NOTES, indicate the % of vegetation on the pre-project site | floodplains natural conditions | reconnection (not just land |
| | | (0-20%, 21-40%, 41-60%, 61-80%, 81-100%) and the | (leveling degraded streambanks, | taken out of production); |
| | | dominant vegetation being restored (Broadleaf, Conifer, | planting native species) | note if restoration |
| | | Shrub, Grass, Marsh, Swamp). | | enhances stream resilience |
| Instream | Miles restored | Enter the number of miles restored; briefly indicate the | Channel modification, bank | Do not double count with |
| restoration | | type of restoration in the NOTES section. | stabilization, bed stabilizations, | "Riparian Restoration," |
| | | | stream diversions, habitat | note if restoration |
| | | | enhancements like woody debris and | enhances stream resilience |
| | | | other hydrological improvements | |

| PRACTICE | METRIC | INSTRUCTIONS | IMPLEMENTATION EXAMPLES | ADDITIONAL TIPS |
|----------------------|----------------------|--|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Land, wetland | # trees planted | Enter the number of trees planted and sustained (tree | Urban forestry, buffer plantings, | |
| restoration | | plantings that are urban/green infrastructure can also be | habitat restoration | |
| | | included). In the NOTES section, specify the specify the | | |
| | | landcover type prior to planting (barren, cropland, | | |
| | | grassland, shrubland), # of acres, forest type planted | | |
| | | (broadleaf, conifer, redwood, swampeither broadleaf or | | |
| | | conifer), density per acre, and mortality rate. Do not | | |
| | | include any additional trees planted to replace mortality in | | |
| | | the numerical metric value. | | |
| Living shorelines | Linear feet restored | Enter the # of linear feet of living shorelines restored. | | |
| Riparian restoration | Acres restored | Enter the number of riparian acres restored, including | Forested buffers, vegetated buffers, | Projects selecting riparian |
| | | riparian buffers. In the NOTES section, specify the | grass buffers | restoration as their metric |
| | | landcover type prior to planting (barren, cropland, | | should select BOTH |
| | | grassland), the dominant vegetation being planted | | riparian acres and ripariar |
| | | (Broadleaf, Conifer, Shrub, Grass, Marsh, Wet meadow, | | miles restored |
| | | Swamp), and the average width of the riparian buffer. DO | | |
| | | NOT include instream restoration miles in this | | |
| | | measurement. If selecting this metric, please select BOTH | | |
| | | riparian acres restored and riparian miles restored. Only | | |
| | | choose this metric if the project is in a NFWF Business Plan | | |
| | | identified focal area or patch. Please include the patch ID. | | |
| Riparian restoration | Miles restored | Enter the number of riparian miles restored, including | Forested buffers, vegetated buffers, | Buffers are typically 35- |
| | | riparian buffers. In the NOTES section, specify the | grass buffers | 100ft in width, please not |
| | | landcover type prior to planting (barren, cropland, | | the average width in your |
| | | grassland), the dominant vegetation being planted | | metric note. Projects |
| | | (Broadleaf, Conifer, Shrub, Grass, Marsh, Wet meadow, | | selecting riparian |
| | | Swamp), and the average width of the riparian buffer. DO | | restoration as their metric |
| | | NOT include instream restoration miles in this | | should select BOTH |

| | | measurement. If selecting this metric, please select BOTH riparian miles restored and riparian acres restored. | | riparian acres and riparian miles restored if the project falls within NFWF Eastern Brook Trout Focal Areas. Applicants can check using this <u>mapping</u> <u>tool.</u> |
|-------------|----------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| Tidal marsh | Acres restored | Enter # acres of salt marsh habitat restored. Do not double | Elevation enhancements through | |
| restoration | | count with acres of wetland restored. | thin layer deposition, ditch | |
| | | | remediation, runneling | |
| Wetland | Acres restored | Enter # acres of WETLAND (not riparian or instream) | Re-establishment (rebuilding former | |
| restoration | | habitat restored. In the NOTES, specify landcover prior to | wetland) or rehabilitation (repairing | |
| | | restoration (Marsh, Tidal marsh, Wet meadow, Swamp) | degraded wetland) | |
| | | and indicate % of vegetation on pre-project site (0-20%, | | |
| | | 21-40%, 41-60%, 61-80%, 81-100%). | | |

Note: Projects with a strong resilience component may be asked by NFWF to provide additional metrics. Major resilience activities may include marsh restoration, beach, and dune restoration, living shorelines, or floodplain restoration.

| HABITAT CONSERVATI | HABITAT CONSERVATION | | | | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|--|--|
| PRACTICE | METRIC | INSTRUCTIONS | IMPLEMENTATION EXAMPLES | ADDITIONAL TIPS | | |
| Conservation easements | Acres protected under long-term | Enter the number of acres | | | | |
| | easement | protected under long-term | | | | |
| | | easement (permanent or >30- | | | | |
| | | yr). Assuming the specific | | | | |
| | | parcel(s) has been identified, in | | | | |
| | | the NOTES indicate what % of | | | | |
| | | natural land cover would have | | | | |
| | | been cleared in the absence of | | | | |
| | | the easement(s). | | | | |
| Land acquisitions | Acres acquired in fee | Enter the number of acres | | | | |
| | | acquired in fee. Assuming the | | | | |
| | | specific parcel(s) has been | | | | |
| | | identified, in the NOTES indicate | | | | |
| | | whether there was a competing | | | | |
| | | offer (Yes/No) or potential | | | | |
| | | zoning change (Yes/No), and | | | | |
| | | what % of natural land cover | | | | |
| | | would be cleared in the absence | | | | |
| | | of the acquisition(s). | | | | |

| PRACTICE | METRIC | INSTRUCTIONS | IMPLEMENTATION EXAMPLES | ADDITIONAL TIPS |
|---|---|--|---|---|
| BMP implementation | Miles of stream with reduced and/or protected water temperature | Enter the number of stream miles with BMPS to reduce and/or protect water temperature. Use the NOTES section to describe the actual degree decrease (or maintenance) of temperature. | Tree planting or riparian buffers that reduce stream temperature | Can be counted with riparian acres and miles of riparian restoration for streamside forest buffer |
| BMP implementation for fencing improvements | Miles of livestock fencing improved or installed | Enter miles of livestock fencing and indicate type of improvements or if the fencing is new construction in the NOTES section. | Improving existing fence AND/OR construction of <i>new</i> fence to keep livestock out of stream | Can be counted with miles of riparian restoration for streamside forest buffer with exclusion fencing |
| BMP implementation for nutrient or sediment reduction | Acres with BMPs | Enter number of acres; indicate the type of BMP(s) (e.g. manure storage, barnyard practices) and indicate method of calculating reduction in NOTES section. Please see the DWCF toolbox on the website for calculation resources. DO NOT include cover crops, conservation tillage, enhanced cropland nutrient management, or managed grazing. | Barnyard runoff controls, roof runoff management, manure storage | Do not double count with "BMP implementation for stormwater runoff – Acres with BMPs." |
| BMP implementation for nutrient or sediment reduction | Acres with cover crops | Enter the number of cropland acres with cover crops practices. Please describe the cover crop practices in the NOTES section. | Cover crops | |
| BMP implementation for nutrient or sediment reduction | Acres with conservation tillage | Enter the number of cropland acres with conservation tillage practices. Please describe conservation tillage practices in the NOTES section. | No-till | |
| BMP implementation for nutrient or sediment reduction | Acres with enhanced nutrient management | Enter the number of cropland acres with enhanced nutrient management practices other than or in addition to conservation tillage or cover crops. Please describe the nutrient management practices in the NOTES section. | Nutrient management | |
| BMP implementation for nutrient or sediment reduction | Acres with managed grazing | Enter the number of acres with managed grazing (i.e., promoting plant growth above and below ground, improving wildlife habitat, and maximizing soil carbon through a variety of grazing approaches). Please describe the grazing practices in the NOTES section. | Prescribed grazing | |

HABITAT MANAGEMENT CONTINUED

| PRACTICE | METRIC | INSTRUCTIONS | IMPLEMENTATION EXAMPLES | ADDITIONAL TIPS |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|--|---|
| BMP implementation for nutrient or sediment reduction | Lbs N avoided (annually) | Enter the amount of nitrogen prevented from entering system annually. In the notes, indicate the model or method used to calculate this metric. | N, P and S reduced by implementation of BMPs (agriculture or stormwater) | Values can be calculated using the FieldDoc.org platform. Please include which calculator was used in the notes section of the metric. |
| BMP implementation for nutrient or sediment reduction | Lbs P avoided (annually) | Enter the amount of phosphorous prevented from entering system annually. In the notes, indicate the model or method used to calculate this metric. | - | |
| BMP implementation for nutrient or sediment reduction | Lbs sediment avoided (annually) | Enter the amount of sediment prevented from entering system annually. In the notes, indicate the model or method used to calculate this metric. | - | |
| BMP implementation for stormwater runoff | Acres with BMPs | Enter number of acres treated with stormwater BMP(s); indicate the type of BMP(s) (e.g., rain gardens, constructed wetlands, green roofs, rain barrels, etc.) and inches of rainfall that will be stored, infiltrated and/or filtered within a 48-hour rain event in NOTES section. Include method of calculation; please see the DWCF toolbox on the website for calculation resources. | Bioretention, green roofs, permeable pavement, bioswales, rain gardens, etc. | Do not double count with "BMP implementation for nutrient or sediment reduction – Acres with BMPs" as that is primarily for acres treated with agriculture BMPs Make sure that the acreage is the total TREATED acres (the practice drainage area), not just the practice footprint. |
| BMP implementation for stormwater runoff | Volume stormwater prevented | Enter the volume (in gallons) of stormwater prevented from entering the system per year; indicate type of BMP(s) in the NOTES section; include method of calculation. Please see the DWCF toolbox on the website for calculation resources. | Bioretention, green roofs, permeable pavement, bioswales, rain gardens, etc. | Value is annual, value can be calculated using the FieldDoc.org platform. This metric is measured in GALLONS. |

| PRACTICE | METRIC | INSTRUCTIONS | IMPLEMENTATION EXAMPLES | ADDITIONAL TIPS |
|--|---|--|--|---|
| BMP implementation to mitigate recreational disturbance | Miles with BMPs | Enter the number of miles where community-based social marketing or other disturbance reduction BMPs are implemented. | Increase stewardship protection programs, beach closures, beach fencing or signage | Can be complementary to capacity/outreach/incentives metrics such as volunteers participating |
| Early successional forest - Improved mgmt. practices | Acres under improved management | Enter the number of acres under improved management; please only include acres on which active management will occur. You may use the NOTES section to indicate full parcel size benefitting from acres under management. | Comprehensive forest management plans, active forest restoration, edge improvement, canopy openings, invasives | |
| Late successional forest - Improved mgmt. practices | Acres under improved management | Enter the number of acres under improved management; please only include acres on which active management will occur. You may use the NOTES section to indicate full parcel size benefitting from acres under management. | management, etc. for habitat improvement | |
| Mature successional forest - Improved mgmt. practices | Acres under improved management | Enter the number of acres under improved management; please only include acres on which active management will occur. You may use the NOTES section to indicate full parcel size benefitting from acres under management. | _ | |
| Nature-based Infrastructure | Access pts developed/improved | Enter the number of public access points developed/improved. In the NOTES section enter the specific practices implemented. | | |
| Nature-based Infrastructure | Miles trails developed/improved | Enter the number of miles of trails developed or improved. In the NOTES section enter the specific practices implemented. | | Please indicate in the metric notes section if trails are being developed or improved. |
| Improved management practices | Acres managed to treat annual invasive plants | Enter the number of acres managed to treat annual invasive plants. In the NOTES section enter the specific practices implemented. | | |
| Improved management practices | Acres under improved management | Enter the number of acres under improved management, enter type of land (i.e. public or private), and enter specific practice(s) in NOTES section; DO NOT double count with acres of BMPs and please reference the 2025 Metrics Guidance for more specific metric options for working lands projects (e.g. agriculture such as salt marsh hay farming and forestry). | Management plans completed (including ag Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans), invasive management, water control structure management, pollinator habitat management | Please also denote the type of habitat that is being managed (ag, wetland, forest, etc.); do not doubl count with successional forest practices or ag/stormwater BMPs |

| PRACTICE | METRIC | INSTRUCTIONS | IMPLEMENTATION EXAMPLES | ADDITIONAL TIPS |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|---|---|
| Economic benefits | # jobs created | Enter the number of new full-time jobs created; indicate workforce targeted in NOTES section (e.g. youth, veterans, etc.). Do not include hired contractor positions as new jobs created, part- time/seasonal jobs, or interns/fellows. | Construction, forestry, technical assistance, landscaping, recreation, etc. jobs created by restoration work | This metric should only include FTE's being created through this funding. This metric should NOT include part-time or contractor positions. |
| Economic benefits | # jobs sustained | Enter the # of paid jobs that are partially or fully sustained through this grant. Jobs should have existed prior to the grant, be funded by the grant, and be directly engaged in project activities. The starting value for this metric should be zero. | | |
| Outreach/ Technical Assistance | # internships/fellowships | Enter the number of people employed as interns or fellows. This may include paid and unpaid internships/fellowships. | Interns or fellows conducting research or working on project activities | This metric may include paid or unpaid positions. |
| Outreach/ Technical Assistance | # of public events | Enter the number of public events completed. In the NOTES section please describe the audience targeted by each public event (farmers, community members, municipalities). | | |
| Outreach/ Technical Assistance | # people reached | Enter the number of people who responded to an offer and inquiry delivered by outreach, training, or technical assistance activities; specify the percentage of individuals reached; indicate type of audience (farmers, community members, municipalities) and how individuals are reached in the NOTES section. | People attending workshops/speaker series, people attending nature walks, people present at site visits | Who is being reached? How are they being reached? Please do not include targeting through social media unless you intend to track engagement. |
| Outreach/ Technical Assistance | # people with changed behavior | Enter the number of individuals demonstrating a minimum level of behavior change; briefly describe methods of measurement and tracking in NOTES section. Characterize the audience (farmers, community members, municipalities) in the NOTES section. | Measured community-based social marketing campaign, landowner training that results in documented implementation | Do not double count with volunteers or people reached. Changed behavior must be a MEASURABLE behavior with a baseline value upon which grant outcomes can be compared. What is the behavior being changed? How is it measured? |
| Public Access | # acres with public access | Enter the number of acres now open to public access as a result of the project; include any associated river or stream miles also opened to public access as a result of project through the '# miles with public access' metric. | Rehabilitation or construction of boat access facilities, increase access to protected lands with public benefits, development of a new trail | Should be <i>new</i> public access, not just projects on land that is accessible to the public. Use NOTES section to indicate what kind of access: general public use, trails, |

| | | | | etc.; do best to translate stream miles into acres and note the calculation used in NOTES section |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| Public Access | # miles with public access | Enter the number of miles of stream or river opened to public access as a result of an acquisition/easement or boat/kayak launch. Briefly describe the activities resulting in increased public access in the NOTES section. DO NOT double count with # acres with public access. | | This metric can be used for public access points created through a kayak or boat launch – how many river miles are now accessible? |
| Volunteer participation | # volunteers participating | Enter the number of volunteers participating in project implementation, outreach, and education activities. DO NOT double count with # people reached. | Volunteer tree planting, volunteers monitoring beaches for recreational disturbance | Unpaid volunteer time can be used as in-kind match. Use the NOTES section to describe: Who are the volunteers? What are they doing? |
| Outreach/ Technical Assistance | # people targeted through email and newsletters | Enter the total number of people targeted through email and newsletters | Emails and newsletters about project engagement and activities or best conservation practices | Please do not double count with 'people reached'. |
| Outreach/ Technical Assistance | # social media posts | Enter the number of social media posts. Include in the notes platforms and size of target audience. | Posts on Facebook, Instagram, X, Threads, etc. | |



| PRACTICE | METRIC | INSTRUCTIONS | IMPLEMENTATION EXAMPLES | ADDITIONAL TIPS |
|---|--|---|---|---|
| Forest Management | # of acres covered | Enter the total acres for each dynamic forest plan | | |
| Planning | by dynamic forest plans | (sum if several plans are created during a single planning exercise) | | |
| Monitoring | # monitoring programs | Enter the number of monitoring programs established, underway or improved; briefly describe what is being monitored in the NOTES section. | Stewardship/volunteer monitoring program, academic monitoring of ongoing work | Since the metric includes programs underway, if the project continues monitoring efforts, the starting value should be zero. |
| Monitoring | # sites being monitored | Enter the number of streams/sites being monitored; briefly describe what is being monitored in NOTES section; include miles/acres/area covered by monitoring. | Integrated water quality monitoring sites, citizen monitoring sites, bird count/survey sites, run count sites | |
| Monitoring | Acres being monitored | Enter the number of acres being monitored; briefly describe what is being monitored in the NOTES section. | | |
| Monitoring | Miles being monitored | Enter the number of miles being monitored; briefly describe what is being monitored in the NOTES section. | | May be used for aquatic monitoring activities |
| Project Management | Acres with transaction costs and project mgmt activities addressed | Enter the number of acres for which conservation easements and acquisitions will be facilitated; for land protection project management activities, e.g. surveys, appraisal, environmental report. | Land put in easement/acquisition (with match or non-NFWF funding) for which project funds assisted in facilitation (legal fees, surveys, appraisals, reports) | Okay to double count with acres of new access if protected land will also be open to the public (made possible by NFWF funds) |
| Research | Miles assessed | Enter the number of stream, river, beach or shoreline miles assessed; briefly describe the assessment aim in the NOTES section. | Culvert assessments, stream connectivity assessments, shoreline erosion assessments, prioritization efforts | |
| Restoration planning/design/permitting | Acres restored | Enter the number of acres for which planning, design, or permitting activities are being conducted under this project. | | |
| Tool development for decision-making | # tools used by decision-makers | Enter the number of tools developed that are used by decision-makers; briefly describe the tool in the NOTES section. | Site prioritization analysis, engagement toolkit | Should be <i>new</i> tools, not existing ones used for the project |

METRICS RESOURCES

To assist applicants in generating credible metric estimates, NFWF has partnered with the Chesapeake Commons and the Academy of Natural Sciences to functionalize FieldDoc, a user-friendly tool that allows consistent planning, tracking, and reporting of water quality improvement activities and associated nutrient and sediment load reductions from proposed grant projects.

NFWF encourages all projects proposing to implement on-the-ground water quality improvements to utilize FieldDoc to calculate estimated load reductions included in their application. When setting up proposed projects in FieldDoc, please be sure to list your application's 5-digit Easygrants number in the FieldDoc project title.

For technical support on FieldDoc utilization during the proposal development process, please contact Erin Hofmann with the Chesapeake Commons at hofmann@chesapeakecommons.org. Additional guidance is available at help.fielddoc.org.

2025 Request for Proposals:

Delaware Watershed Conservation Fund: https://www.nfwf.org/delaware-watershed-conservation-fund-2025-request-proposals

NFWF Website Resources Delaware River Program Page Applicant Information

