



Lower MS Alluvial Valley Restoration Fund: 2021 Request for Proposals – Guidance for Applicants

November 19, 2021

Credit: Bruce Reid

WEBINAR GUIDELINES

- All attendees will be muted for the duration of the webinar.
- Please type your questions into the “questions” box in the webinar controls on the right side of your screen. NFWF staff will answer these questions during several breaks in the presentation, but you can type them in any time. Everyone will be able to hear the answers.
- Don’t be shy. If you have a question, someone else is thinking it, too.
- If you experience a technical glitch, please type it into the chat/question box.
- **The Webinar is being recorded. We will post a copy of these slides and the recording on the NFWF website at <http://www.nfwf.org/lowermsvalley>.**

WEBINAR AGENDA

- **Program Overview**
- **Program Priorities**
- **Application Guidance and Navigating Easygrants**
- **Submitting a Competitive Proposal**
- **Tips and Timeline**
- **Resource Links**



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The **Lower Mississippi Alluvial Valley Restoration Fund** invests in on-the-ground projects to restore, enhance and conserve bottomland hardwood forests and wetlands and promote aquatic connectivity on private and public lands to improve wildlife habitat and water quality.

Public-Private Partnership



2021 FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

- **Request for Proposals:** www.nfwf.org/lowermsvalley
- **Proposal due date:** January 14
- **Eligible Applicants*:**
 - ✓ Non-profit 501(c)
 - ✓ State, tribal and local governments
 - ✓ Academic institutions
- **Anticipated Funding:** \$1.6 million
- **Grant size:** \$100,000 - \$500,000



LOWER MISSISSIPPI ALLUVIAL VALLEY BUSINESS PLAN



National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

Business Plan for Lower Mississippi Alluvial Valley

November 2019

- Blueprint for grant investments
- Habitat and indicator species goals
- 10-year horizon



<https://www.nfwf.org/lowermsvalley/Documents/lmav-business-plan.pdf>

LOWER MISSISSIPPI ALLUVIAL VALLEY BUSINESS PLAN

10-Year Habitat Goals

Goal	Target
Enhance and Maintain Existing Bottomland Hardwood Forests	25,000 acres
Restore (Establish) New Bottomland Hardwood Forests	25,000 acres
Restore and enhance hydrologic function to wetland and floodplain habitats	15,000 acres
Protect Bottomland Hardwood Forests and Wetlands with Conservation Easements	30,000 acres
Improve Connectivity of Stream and River Habitats	35 miles
Improve connectivity and hydrologic function to oxbows, scar lakes and other surface water features	500 acres
Install best management practices to improve water quality	10,000 acres
Engage private landowners through outreach and technical assistance	5,000 landowners
Move landowners to conservation action	500 landowners

GEOGRAPHY

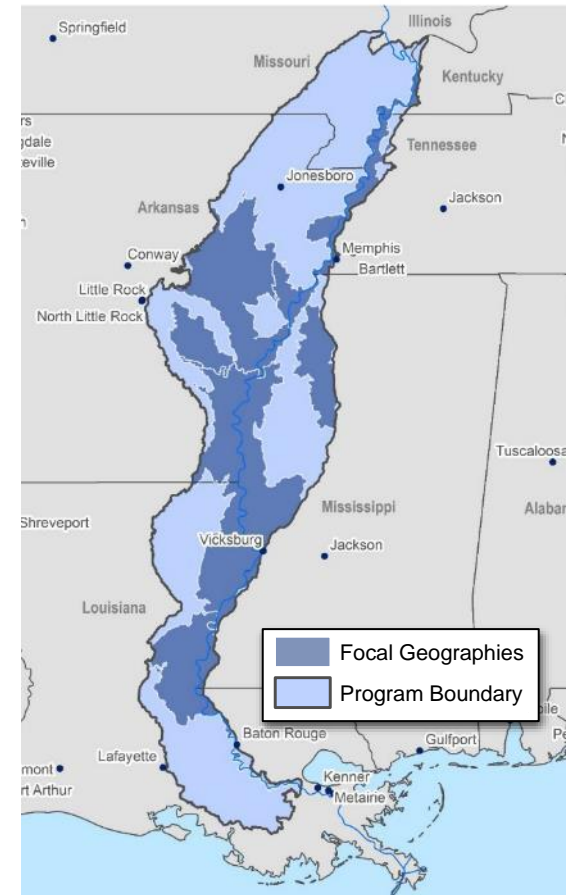
Projects must occur within the Lower Mississippi Alluvial Valley in the following states...

Arkansas	Illinois	Kentucky	Louisiana
Mississippi	Missouri	Tennessee	

***Preference given to projects within focal geographies**

Lands eligible for funding include:

- Privately-owned lands
- State and local government lands
- Federal lands (encouraged to be part of projects where state, local and/or private lands are also included)



Lower MS Alluvial Valley Landscape

**Any
Questions?**



PROGRAM PRIORITIES

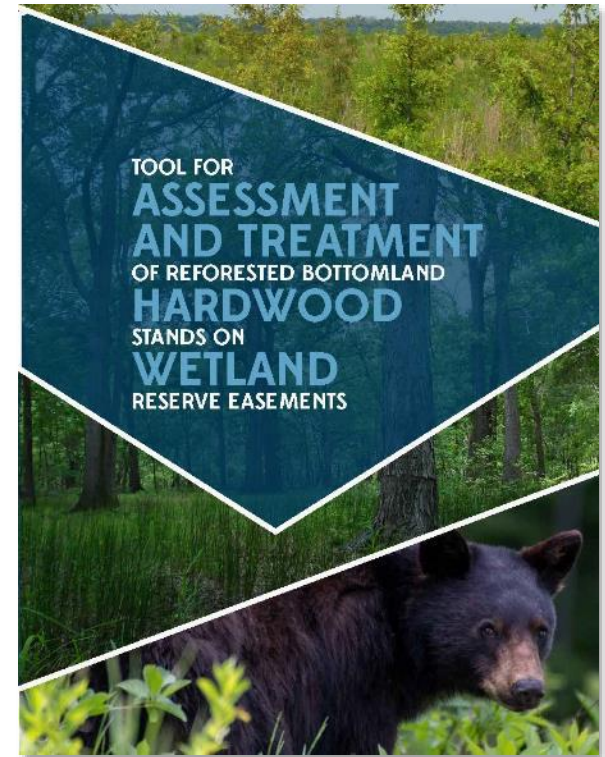
1. **Bottomland Hardwood Forest Enhancement and Maintenance**
2. **Wetland and Floodplain Hydrologic Restoration and Enhancement and Implementing Conservation Practices to Improve Water Quality**
3. **Bottomland Hardwood Forest Restoration**
4. **Targeted Outreach, Education, and Technical Assistance**
5. **Bottomland Forest and Wetland Habitat Conservation**
6. **Improve Aquatic Connectivity**
7. **Restoration Response Monitoring**

PROGRAM PRIORITIES

1. Bottomland Hardwood Forest Enhancement and Maintenance

- Pre-commercial thinning and thinning
- Crop tree release
- Invasive species control
- Residual stocking
- WRP/WRE forest inventory and assessment and management plan development
- Identify and address specific barriers to bottomland hardwood management and habitat enhancement (i.e., lack of markets, community issues, etc.)

Note: Projects that include work on lands enrolled in WRP/WRE should coordinate with the appropriate NRCS state office



PROGRAM PRIORITIES

2. Restore Wetland and Floodplain Hydrology and Improve Water Quality

- Improve hydrological connectivity, including connecting water features between adjacent tracts enrolled in WRP and/or ACEP-WRE
- Improve wetland habitat and function on WRP and/or ACEP-WRE tracts and other private or public lands through:
 - vegetation management
 - managing for moist soil plants
 - restoring wetland infrastructure for water management capability
- Implement agricultural best management practices to reduce sediment run-off and improve soil health and water quality



PROGRAM PRIORITIES

3. Bottomland Hardwood Forest Restoration

- Reforestation and/or afforestation of cropland
- Site preparation and planting of bottomland hardwoods
- Practices to promote natural regeneration of bottomland hardwood forest
- Preference to projects that contribute to landscape-scale habitat connectivity to benefit wildlife

Projects should:

- Summarize plans to promote long-term management for wildlife habitat



PROGRAM PRIORITIES

4. Target Outreach, Education and Technical Assistance

- Outreach and technical assistance capacity, i.e. “boots on the ground”
 - Dedicated funding from NRCS Arkansas, NRCS Louisiana, and NRCS Mississippi to support capacity to deliver technical assistance and Farm Bill conservation programs within their respective states
- Education and training opportunities for landowners and/or conservation practitioners
 - Includes efforts to minimize human-bear conflict
- Demonstration sites
- Advance new market-based solutions or incentives
- Increase participation in third-party certification

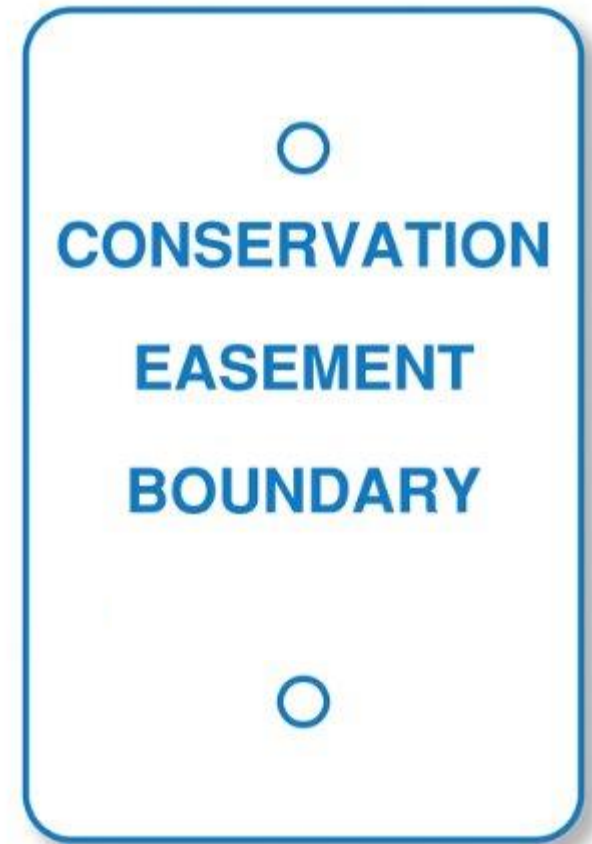


**Encourage projects that include beginning farmers, socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers, limited resource farmers or ranchers, Tribes and veteran farmers and ranchers*

PROGRAM PRIORITIES

5. Bottomland Hardwood Forest Habitat Conservation

- Capacity and transaction costs (boundary surveys, appraisals, legal fees, etc.) to facilitate targeted conservation easement projects
- Should be part of larger bottomland forest/wetland restoration proposal
- Requests for conservation easement funding should not exceed 10% of the total proposal request



PROGRAM PRIORITIES

6. Improve Aquatic Connectivity

- Restore or retrofit barriers, such as dikes and levees, to improve flows between rivers and side channels to increase habitat connectivity for fish and other aquatic species.
- Proof-of-concept approaches to increase the frequency and duration of oxbow connection to the Mississippi River main stem will also be considered.



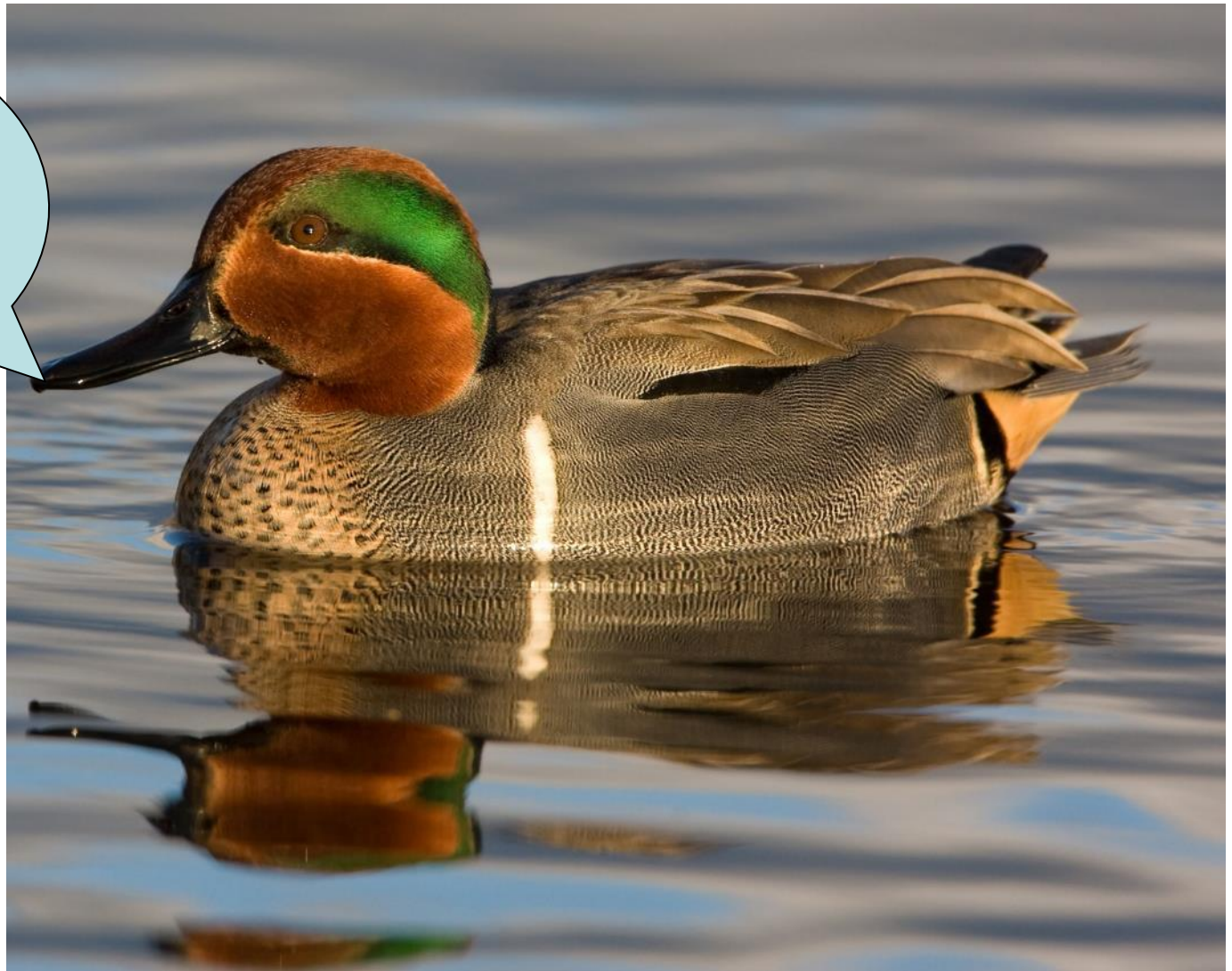
PROGRAM PRIORITIES

7. Restoration Response Monitoring

- Develop monitoring protocols to measure Louisiana black bear, waterfowl, forest birds and/or swamp rabbit, response to habitat restoration and enhancement projects funded through the grant program.
- Aquatic connectivity and/or aquatic habitat improvement proposals should detail the pre- and post-intervention freshwater fish monitoring at the site to be conducted either by the applicant or a named partner/subcontractor.
 - This monitoring should include a sampling design and detection/capture methods for, abundance, and, if applicable, life-stages for the species being targeted.
 - Both single- and multi-species approaches will be considered.



**Any
Questions?**



Application Guidance and Navigating Easygrants



easygrants.nfwf.org

Easygrants Helpdesk:

Email: easygrants@nfwf.org

Voicemail: 202-595-2497

Enter your login ID and password and click **Log In** below. If you have forgotten your password, click **Forgot your password?** below. If you are a first time visitor to this system, click **Register here** below.

[? Frequently Asked Questions](#)

Log In

[New User?](#)

Login ID / Email

Password

☒ Remember Me

[Forgot Password?](#)

Log In

For the optimal Easygrants experience, please:

- [🏠 Use a Supported Browser](#)
- [📄 Enable Pop-ups](#)
- [🍪 Allow Cookies](#)
- [📁 Only Use One Tab](#)
- [📖 Get Adobe Reader](#)
- [🔒 Log Out and Close Browser for Security](#)

Easygrants – Creating Username or Organization

Register

First Name *

Middle Name

Last Name *

Login ID / Email *

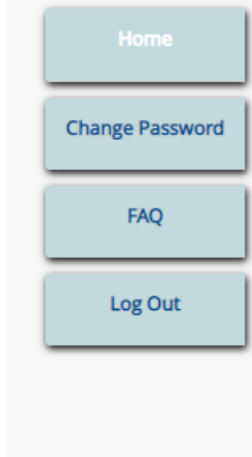
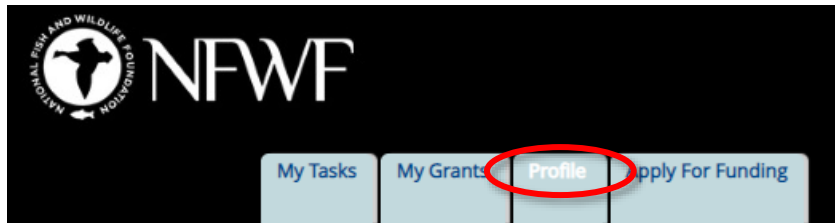
Confirm Login ID / Email *

Password *

[Password Requirements](#)

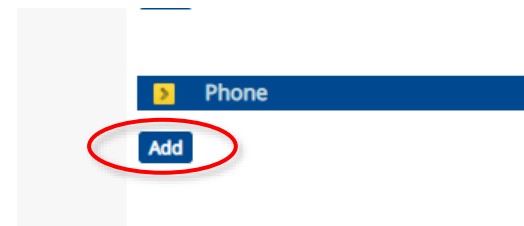
Confirm Password *

- Do not create duplicate accounts.
- Use your professional email address and full legal organization name.
- Unsure if you already have a user account or if organization is registered in Easygrants? Contact helpdesk at easygrants@nfwf.org or 202-595-2497.



[View My Contact Details](#) ← *Click here*
[Manage My Communication and Interests](#)
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Scroll down



Please visit review your contact details and make sure that you
provide a phone number

BEGINNING THE PROPOSAL

- Easygrants.nfwf.org
- Apply for Funding
- Applicant Questionnaire
- My Tasks> Full Proposal

Home

Change Password

FAQ

Log Out

My Tasks

My Grants

Profile

Apply For Funding

To access a task below, click the task name link in the Task column. Please note that a task will not be considered submitted until you open the task longer display on this page but you may view a PDF copy (if applicable) by clicking the View All My Tasks button.


Peer Reviewers: To view the proposal you are reviewing please click the "Third Party Review" link. Please do not click View PDF, as it will open a copy.

[Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\) during COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

Apply for Funding

View All My Tasks

Easygrants ID	Primary Contact/PI	Task	Program Name	Funding Cycle Name
70771	Bernstein, Zack	Full Proposal	Grants	Sea Turtles 2021
71160	Bernstein, Zack	Full Proposal	Grants	Lower MS Alluvial Valley Restoration Fund 2



NFWF

Lower Mississippi Alluvial Valley Restoration Fund
Full Proposal Tip Sheet

STARTING AN APPLICATION

When you are ready to begin the application process, go to [easygrants.nfwf.org](#)

- New users to the system will be prompted to register before starting their application.
- Existing users should log in using their email address and password. If you have forgotten your password, please click the "forgot your password" link on the Easygrants login page and a new link will be sent to you. This link expires within 24 hours of being sent.
- Once you are logged in, click the "Apply for Funding" button, and select "Lower Mississippi Alluvial Valley Restoration Fund" from the list of "Available Funding Opportunities".
- Complete the eligibility Quiz and Save and Submit your response.
- If you pass the Eligibility Quiz, Easygrants will return you to your personal Easygrants Home Page. From there, click on the Full Proposal for the Lower Mississippi Alluvial Valley Restoration Fund. Now you are ready to get started! If you do not pass the Eligibility Quiz, please contact the NFWF Program Contact identified in the RFP.

Take Note!

- Pop-ups:** Easygrants uses pop-up windows to display some files. Please make sure your web browser allows for pop-ups. The Internet browser pop-up blocker must be disabled prior to beginning the application process. You can also try holding the Shift or Command (Ctrl) key when clicking the links.
- Cookies:** Easygrants uses cookies to maintain login session information. Please make sure that your browser and computer can accept cookies.
- PDFs:** Easygrants uses PDFs extensively. Make sure you are able to use Adobe Reader.
- SAVING AND SUBMITTING:** Once an application has been initiated, it may be saved and then modified and submitted at a later time, up to the application deadline of January 14, 2021 11:59 PM Eastern Standard Time. Please note: Once you click the "Submit" button, you are actually ready to submit. Once you have submitted the application, it is not possible to make any changes.

The instructions below follow sequentially through each section and field in boldface type for the program. You may, however, complete these sections and fields in any order. You are encouraged to use the Help feature in Easygrants for additional guidance and examples. Additional resources for applicants, including the Internet Chat Policy, can be accessed on the NFWF website by clicking [Help](#). Use the Quick Launch box on the left-hand side of the screen to access your desired information.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Enter the contact information for the primary person responsible for completing the Easygrants application. This person is logged as the Applicant. Additional personnel may be added to your Easygrants account by clicking the "Add" button and entering their information (page 2 Collaboration).

ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

Use the "Search Organization" button to search for your organization; you can search by Name, EIN number, or DUNS number. When searching by Name, it is recommended that you enter as few words as possible to ensure your return list is comprehensive. Select your organization from the list that is the most complete (has DUNS number, EIN number, etc.). If Easygrants informs you of your organization's EIN or DUNS number, verify these but you do not have to find your organization; please contact [Easygrants@nfwf.org](#) for support (include your organization's name, EIN, DUNS). If your organization is new to Easygrants, click the "Add New" button at bottom of list and fill out your organization's information.

PROJECT INFORMATION

APPLICATION GUIDANCE

Application Components

- Contact Information
- Organization Information
- Project Information
- Project Location
- Map
- Uploads
- Metrics
- Budget
- Matching Contributions
- Permits and Approvals



[Home](#)[Main](#)[Contact Information](#)[Organization Information](#)[Project Information](#)[Project Location](#)[Map](#)[Uploads](#)[Metrics](#)[Budget](#)[Matching Contributions](#)[Permits and Approvals](#)[Review and Submit](#)[FAQ](#)

Project Information

Due: 1/14/2021 11:59 PM ET

Easygrants ID: 71160

Bernstein, Zack |

Grants | Lower MS Alluvial Valley Fund | Lower MS Alluvial Valley Restoration Fund 2021



Instructions

Click the page links on the left navigation bar, or in the summary below to view the pages where you will enter the information required for this page. You may save and return to edit your information as many times as needed until you submit. Once you submit, you will no longer be able to edit. Other useful links that will appear in the navigation bar at left include:

- **Home** brings you back to your Home page and out of this submission task.
- **FAQ** provides answers to common questions about the Foundation's proposal elements.
- **Help** provides guidance on both content and technical aspects related to completing many of the pages in the system.
- **Log Out** logs you out of the system.



Validation Summary

Page Name

[Contact Information](#)[Organization Information](#)[Project Information](#)[Project Location](#)[Map](#)[Uploads](#)[Metrics](#)[Budget](#)[Matching Contributions](#)[Permits and Approvals](#)

Status

Complete

Incomplete

Incomplete

Incomplete

Incomplete

Incomplete

Incomplete

Incomplete

Complete

Complete

PROJECT INFORMATION

- **Title:** (~100 characters)
 - short, descriptive name indicating project purpose
- **Description:** (~500 characters)
 - Main activities and methods
 - Specific habitat, location or species benefitted
- **Abstract:** (~1,500 characters)
 - Location, activities, outcome/metrics, and partners
 - Context and background information
 - Explain how outcomes will address a conservation issue

PROJECT INFORMATION - EXAMPLE

Project Description

Protect 375 acres of bottomland hardwoods with working forest conservation easements and enhance an additional 1,000 acres of existing bottomland hardwood forests to improve wildlife habitat and serve as demonstration sites for landowners and foresters. Project will provide an inventory of more than 30,000 acres of bottomland hardwood forest established through the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS') Wetland Reserve Program in Mississippi, providing landowners, land managers and NRCS with information needed to guide management treatments that enhance wildlife habitat at a landscape scale.

Project Abstract

Forest management on Wetland Reserve Easement (WRE) tracts requires initial inventories to assess habitat and stand growth. The results of these inventories are needed to inform the design of effective forest management treatment on WRE lands.

This project will provide an inventory of more than 30,000 acres of bottomland hardwood forest established through the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS') Wetland Reserve Program in Mississippi, providing landowners, land managers and NRCS with information needed to guide management treatments that enhance wildlife habitat at a landscape scale. In addition, the project will protect 375 acres of bottomland hardwoods with working forest conservation easements and enhance an additional 1,000 acres of existing bottomland hardwood forests to improve wildlife habitat and serve as demonstration sites for landowners and foresters.

The project will increase habitat for multiple species including prothonotary warbler, Swainson's warbler, swallow-tailed kite and Louisiana black bear."

Map

https://easygrants.nfwf.org/NFWF/Implementation/Modules/Application/ModuleContent.aspx?Config=FullProposalNewMetrics500041Config&Page=Map&ID=500324

NFWF

Map - Ashleyann Perez - Full Proposal

Home

Main

Contact Information

Organization Information

Project Information

Project Location

Map

Uploads

Metrics

Budget

Matching Contributions

Permits and Approvals

Review and Submit

FAQ

Help

Log Out

Instructions

Leaving this Map page before completing all of the steps below will result in a loss of your unsaved map data. If you take longer than one hour to complete the steps below, Easygrants will time out and you will lose your unsaved map data. You may click Save before you are done to reset the Easygrants clock, but you must first Submit your locations so that they appear GREEN (submitted). Clicking Save when there are ORANGE (pending) locations will result in loss of those orange polygons. You may return to this Map page at any time to add to (or delete) the mapping work that you save.

Overview of Steps to Create and Submit Your Project Location Map

Click Help (on the left) to see detailed instructions for all of the steps below as well as a glossary of mapping terms used in this mapping tool. If using this tool for the first time, please read through the Help guide and familiarize yourself with the mapping tool features and terminology before entering your mapping data.

1. Begin by clicking Save at the bottom of this Map page to set the Easygrants one hour clock ticking. If you skip this step, the system may timeout sooner than expected and you may lose unsaved map data.
Important: Once you start creating a map, to avoid losing map data, complete all the steps below, in succession, before clicking Save or Save and Continue (Step 5).

2. Next, map your Project Location(s) using one of the three options provided in the mapping tool below. Detailed instructions for each are contained in the Help document.

a. Upload an existing shapefile (see Shapefile requirements below) by clicking on the Upload Shapefile feature bar (this option is open by default when you start using the mapping tool); or

b. Select one or more geographic features (e.g. county, lake, national park) for your project by clicking the Select by Geography feature bar; or

c. Create a custom area to depict your project location(s) by clicking on the Draw a Custom Area feature bar.

3. Finalize the creation of your map by clicking Submit Project Location.
All spatial locations MUST appear in GREEN to indicate that those project locations have been submitted.

4. To confirm your map, click the Confirmation Check Box at the bottom of the page.

5. Finally, click Save to save your map and stay on this page, or Save & Continue to save your map and move to the next page in this task.
All GREEN locations will be saved and any ORANGE locations will be discarded.

Map your project at the finest scale by any of the three options:

Upload Shapefile

Select a Zip file (.zip) containing a shapefile(.shp,.dbf,.prj) from your local file system.

The shapefile must be of POLYGON geometry type.

The shapefile must not exceed 1 MB.

Choose File No file chosen

Select By Geography

Draw a Custom Area

My project area:

+

Home

-

Full Screen

Print

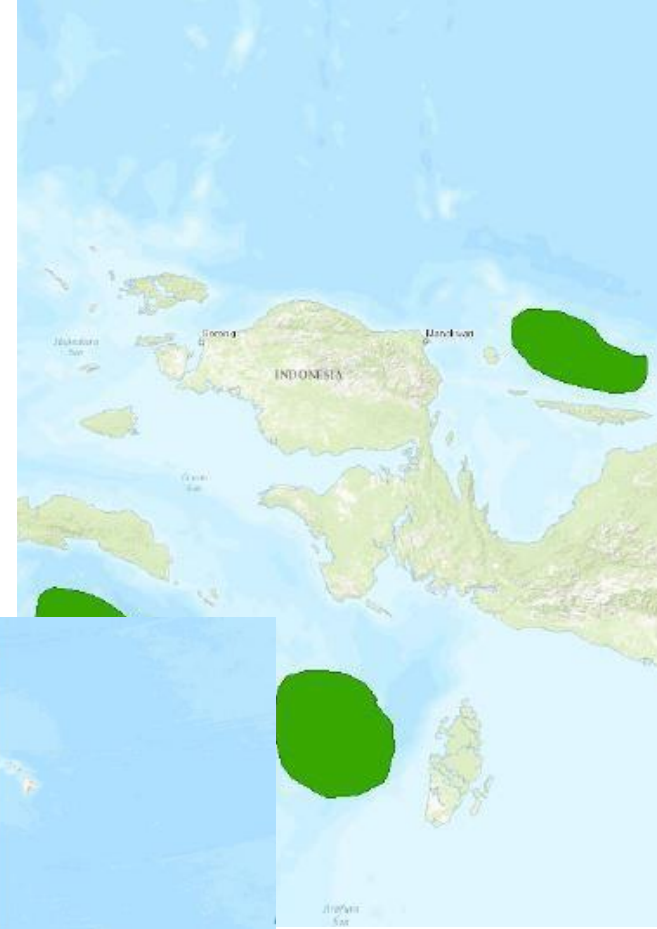
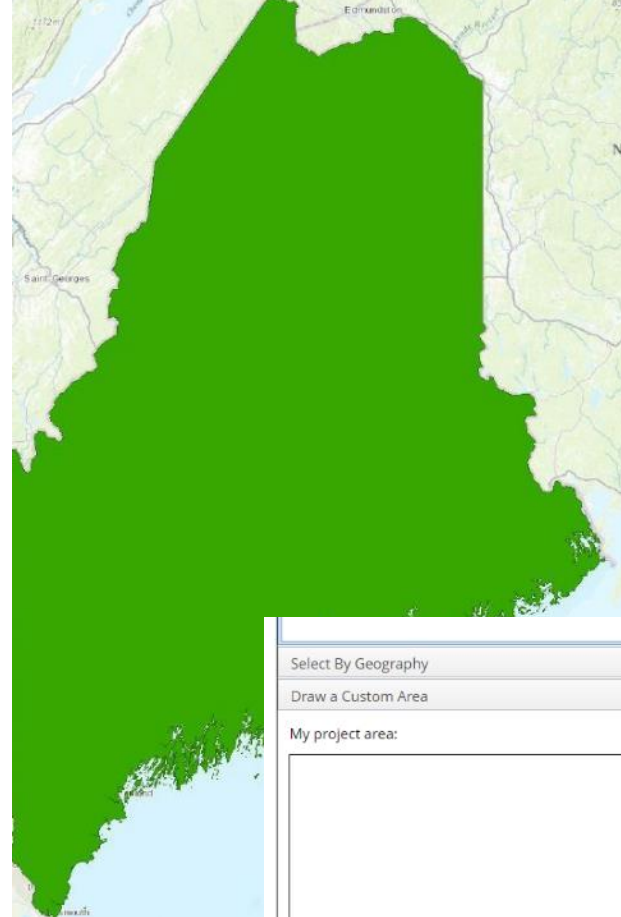
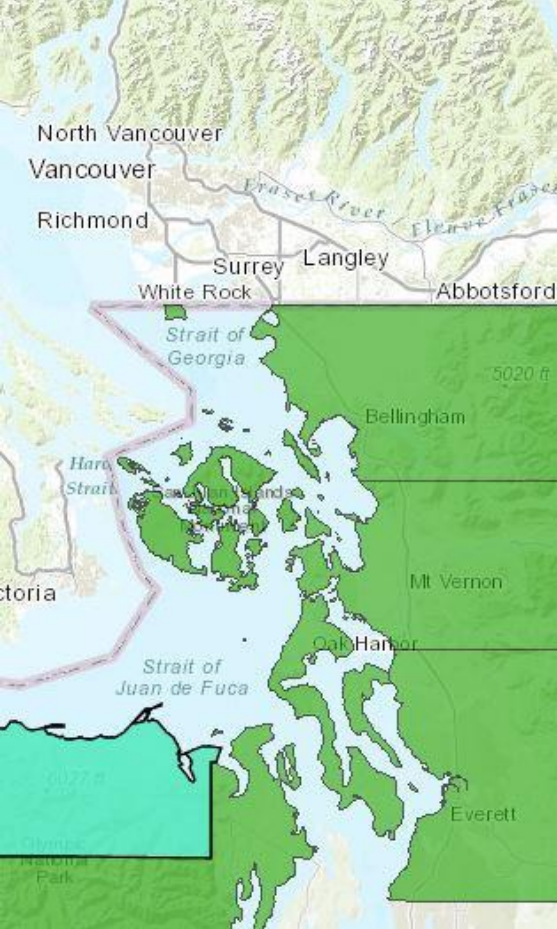
Search for a location

A map of North America, including parts of Canada and the United States. Major cities like Vancouver, Seattle, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Dallas, Houston, Chicago, Detroit, Toronto, Montreal, New York, Philadelphia, and Washington are marked. Geographic features like the Rocky Mountains, Great Plains, and Appalachian Mountains are labeled. The map is used for selecting project locations.

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NFWF



Select By Geography

Draw a Custom Area

My project area:

Submit Project Location

Submitted Project Locations

Pending Project Locations

☐ I confirm that this project has been mapped as accurately as possible

Save and Continue

1. Upload Shapefile
2. Select by Geography
3. Draw a Custom Area

MAPPING YOUR PROJECT LOCATION

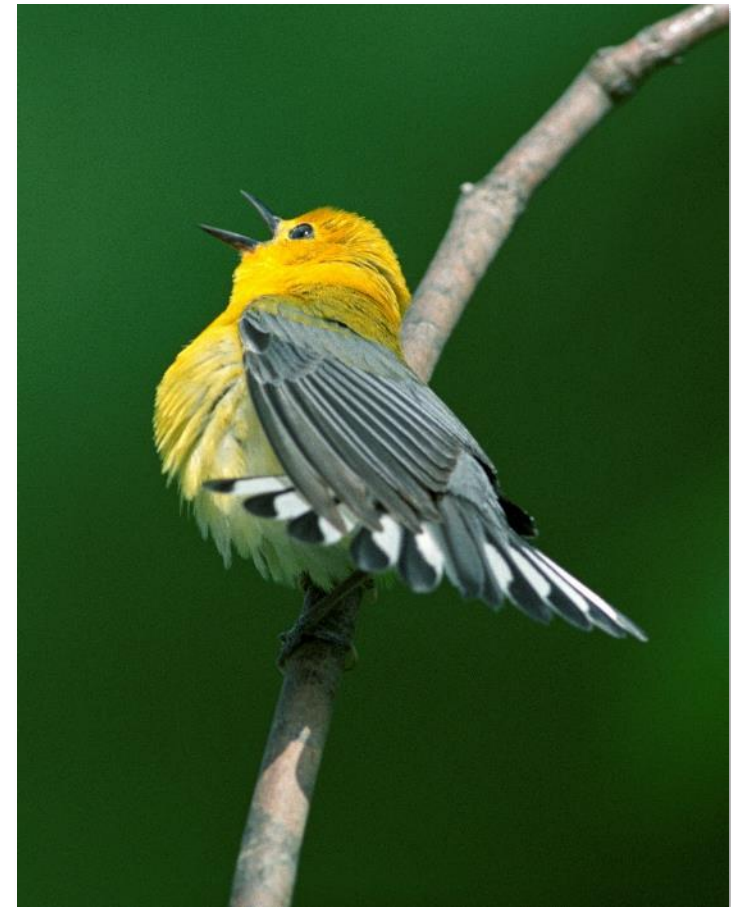
- Map the location(s) where on-the-ground project work will occur
- Be as specific as possible!
- You should not select an entire state or county as your project location unless your project spans the entire region

Learn more: <http://www.nfwf.org/whatwedo/grants/applicants/Pages/mapping-tool.aspx>

UPLOADS

Upload Checklist

Upload Type	Required	Template
LMAV Full Proposal Narrative	Yes	LMAV Full Proposal Narrative Template
Project Map	Yes	
Letters of Support	No	
Conceptual Plans	No	
Engineered Plans	No	
Photos - Jpeg	No	
Statement of Litigation	Yes	Statement of Litigation
Board of Trustees, Directors, or equivalent	Yes	
Applicant Controls Questionnaire	Yes	Applicant Controls Questionnaire Template
GAAP audited financial statements	Yes	
IRS Form 990	Yes	
A-133 Audit	Yes	
Indirect Rate Agreement	No	
Other Documents	No	



UPLOADS – FINANCIAL AND OTHER DOCUMENTS

All financial documentation must:

- Represent the same fiscal year period
- Must be the most recent financial information available
- Must be *less than* two years old

If you do not have a required financial document, then please upload an explanation on your company letterhead in place of the document.



The following financial documentation must be submitted with NFWF full proposals. Applicants are encouraged to provide this information at the time of application in order to prevent review, approval and/or contracting delays (if applicable). Below, you will find a list of Frequently Asked Questions to assist you with compiling the required information. If you have additional questions regarding documentation requirements or unanswered questions, please contact the NFWF staff representative listed in the RFP or your Grants Administrator.

All documentation must represent the same fiscal year period, must be the most recent financial information available, and must be less than two years old.

The following table breaks out the required documents by type of entity:

Organization Type	Required Financial Documentation						
	¹ I-990 or Electronic Notice	EIN or FEIN	DUNS Number	Single Audit ²	GAAP Audit	³ Balance Sheet AND Income Statement	⁴ NICRA or CAP

For details on what documents you need to submit and for FAQs regarding financial documents, go here: <https://www.nfwf.org/apply-grant/application-information/required-financial-documents>



UPLOAD TIPS

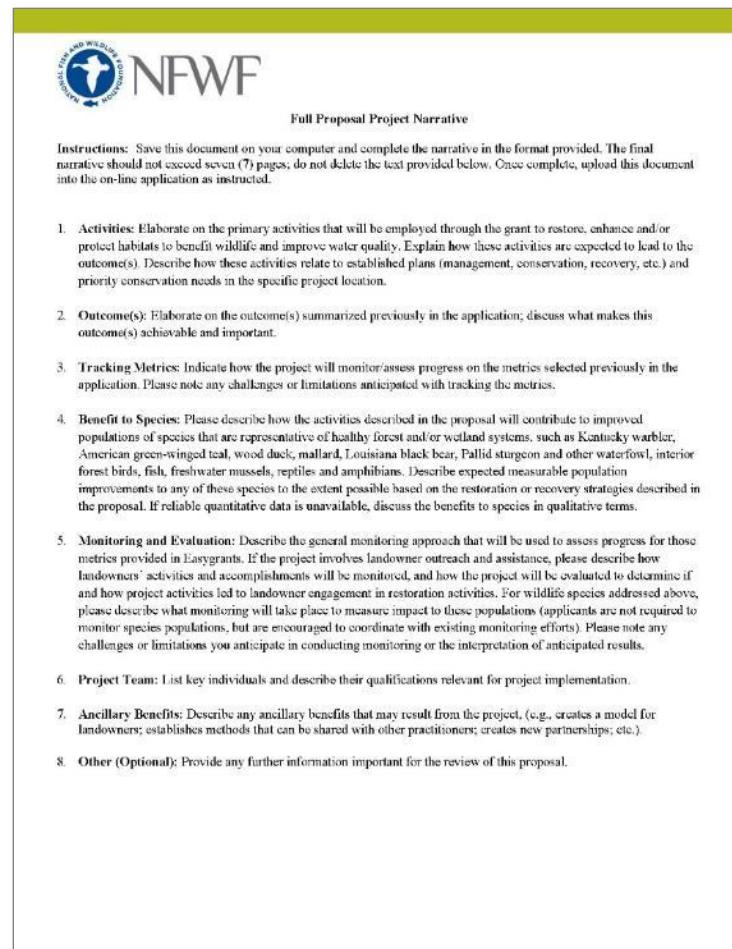
- Select the appropriate upload type from the dropdown menu when uploading financial documents.
- If an upload type for a specific financial document is not available, it means NFWF already has the document on file. Do not use the “Other Document” upload type. If unsure, contact NFWF staff directly to assist with securely uploading the financial document.
- To re-upload a document, you will need to first delete the original document and then upload the new/revised document


The screenshot shows a web interface for uploading documents. At the top is a blue header bar with a yellow arrow icon and the text "Uploads". Below this is a dropdown menu labeled "Choose Upload Type" which is open, showing a list of options: "Choose Upload Type", "Full Proposal Narrative", "Project Map", "Letters of Support", "Statement of Litigation", "Board of Trustees, Directors, or equivalent", "GAAP audited financial statements", "IRS Form 990", "A-133 Audit", "Indirect Rate Agreement", and "Other Documents". To the right of the dropdown are three buttons: "Add files..." (with a plus icon), "Start upload" (with a circular arrow icon), and "Cancel upload" (with a circular arrow icon). Below these buttons is a large, light gray rectangular area. On the right side of this area, the text "For Techn" is visible.

UPLOADS

✓ Proposal Narrative Template

- Download the Word template from Easygrants
- Proposals should be no more than 7 pages
- Keep the formatting – same font, font size and margins
- Do not delete the text provided in the narrative
- Be concise and focus on project need, scope of work and deliverables. No need to include basic background information, such as: “The LMAV is a 24 million acre floodplain...”
- Upload into Easygrants either as a Word doc or PDF



 **NFWF**

Full Proposal Project Narrative

Instructions: Save this document on your computer and complete the narrative in the format provided. The final narrative should not exceed seven (7) pages; do not delete the text provided below. Once complete, upload this document into the on-line application as instructed.

1. **Activities:** Elaborate on the primary activities that will be employed through the grant to restore, enhance and/or protect habitats to benefit wildlife and improve water quality. Explain how these activities are expected to lead to the outcome(s). Describe how these activities relate to established plans (management, conservation, recovery, etc.) and priority conservation needs in the specific project location.
2. **Outcome(s):** Elaborate on the outcome(s) summarized previously in the application; discuss what makes this outcome(s) achievable and important.
3. **Tracking Metrics:** Indicate how the project will monitor/assess progress on the metrics selected previously in the application. Please note any challenges or limitations anticipated with tracking the metrics.
4. **Benefit to Species:** Please describe how the activities described in the proposal will contribute to improved populations of species that are representative of healthy forest and/or wetland systems, such as Kentucky warbler, American green-winged teal, wood duck, mallard, Louisiana black bear, Pallid sturgeon and other waterfowl, interior forest birds, fish, freshwater mussels, reptiles and amphibians. Describe expected measurable population improvements to any of these species to the extent possible based on the restoration or recovery strategies described in the proposal. If reliable quantitative data is unavailable, discuss the benefits to species in qualitative terms.
5. **Monitoring and Evaluation:** Describe the general monitoring approach that will be used to assess progress for those metrics provided in Easygrants. If the project involves landowner outreach and assistance, please describe how landowners' activities and accomplishments will be monitored, and how the project will be evaluated to determine if and how project activities led to landowner engagement in restoration activities. For wildlife species addressed above, please describe what monitoring will take place to measure impact to these populations (applicants are not required to monitor species populations, but are encouraged to coordinate with existing monitoring efforts). Please note any challenges or limitations you anticipate in conducting monitoring or the interpretation of anticipated results.
6. **Project Team:** List key individuals and describe their qualifications relevant for project implementation.
7. **Ancillary Benefits:** Describe any ancillary benefits that may result from the project, (e.g., creates a model for landowners; establishes methods that can be shared with other practitioners; creates new partnerships; etc.).
8. **Other (Optional):** Provide any further information important for the review of this proposal.

METRICS

Select Metric

Show:
Show All Templates
Show All Strategies
Search:

Add	Metric	Strategies	Required
<input type="checkbox"/>	LMAV - Restoring hydrology - Acres with restored hydrology (private lands)	Habitat Restoration	Recommended
<input type="checkbox"/>	LMAV - BMP implementation for nutrient or sediment reduction - Acres with BMPs (public lands)		
<input type="checkbox"/>	LMAV - BMP implementation for nutrient or sediment reduction - Acres with BMPs (private lands)		
<input type="checkbox"/>	LMAV - Conservation easements - Acres protected under easement		
<input type="checkbox"/>	LMAV - Outreach/ Education/ Technical Assistance - # people with changed behavior		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	LMAV - Land, wetland restoration - Acres restored on private land	Habitat Restoration	Recommended
<input type="checkbox"/>	LMAV - Land, wetland restoration - Acres restored on public land	Habitat Restoration	Recommended
<input type="checkbox"/>	LMAV - Improved management practices - Acres under imp mgt (public)	Habitat Management	Recommended
<input type="checkbox"/>	LMAV - Restoring hydrology - Acres with restored hydrology (public lands)	Habitat Restoration	Recommended

☐ Select All

Add Selected
Close

Metric instruction: Enter the total acres of bottomland hardwood forest that will be established on private lands during the grant period of performance, or that will be established after the grant period of performance, as part of restoration associated with a WRE/WREP easement.

* If none of the available metrics apply to your project, please contact NFWF to discuss



METRICS

- Add starting and target values for the metric (in most cases starting should be zero)
- Use “Note” section to provide additional detail on the “Target Value”



Notes



Metric : LMAV - Land, wetland restoration - Acres restored on private land

Note

Save And Close

Close

* If none of the available metrics apply to your project, please contact NFWF to discuss

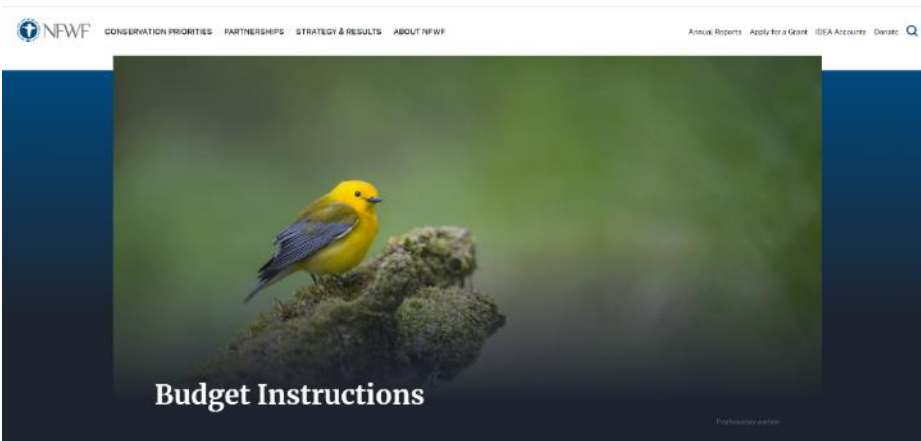
**Any
Questions?**



BUDGET

- Only the grant amount requested from NFWF
- Itemize all costs in appropriate budget categories.
- No lumping costs i.e., 'All Salaries: \$10,000'
- **'Total Amount Requested'** in Project Information section must equal the **'Budget Grand Total'** in Budget section

▼ <u>Materials and Supplies</u>	\$0.00
Materials and Supplies + 📄	\$0.00
▼ <u>Contractual Services</u>	\$0.00
Subcontract/Contract - Per Agreement + 📄	\$0.00
Subgrant - Per Agreement + 📄	\$0.00
▼ <u>Other Direct Costs</u>	\$0.00
Other Direct Costs + 📄	\$0.00
▼ <u>Indirect Costs</u>	\$0.00
Indirect Costs + 📄	\$0.00
<u>Total Direct Costs</u>	\$0.00
<u>Total Indirect Costs</u>	\$0.00
<u>Total Costs</u>	\$0.00



<https://www.nfwf.org/whatwedo/grants/applicants/Pages/budget-instructions.aspx>



BUDGET

- Use the green plus sign  to add line items to the budget

[Matching Contributions](#)

[Permits and Approvals](#)

[Review and Submit](#)

[FAQ](#)

[Help](#)

[Log Out](#)


[Return to Staff Module](#)

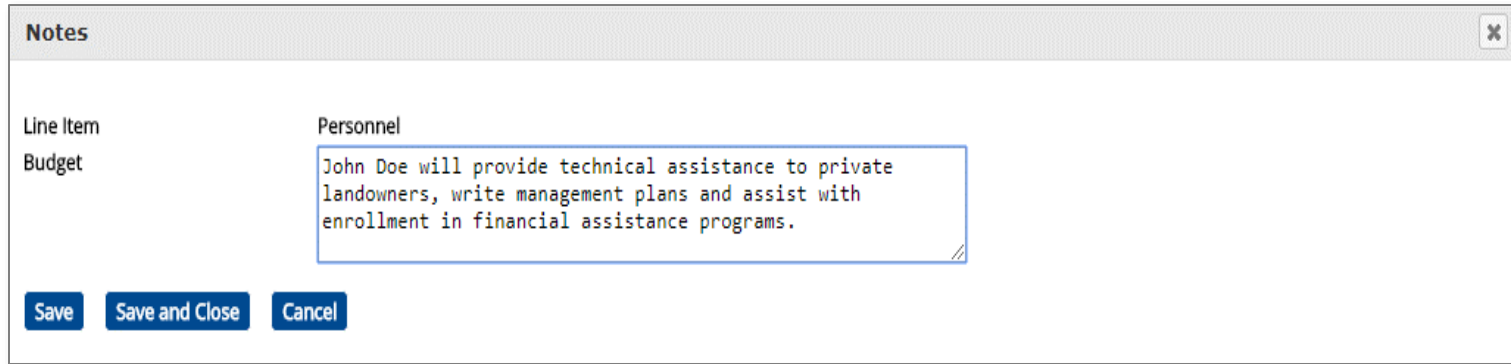
Budget

[Expand all](#)

	Budget
▼ Personnel	\$66,000.00
▼ Personnel	\$66,000.00
John Doe Forester	\$66,000.00
▼ Travel	\$0.00
Domestic Airfare - Per Flight	\$0.00
International Airfare - Per Flight	\$0.00
Train - Per Ticket	\$0.00
Rental Car - Per Day	\$0.00
Taxis - Per Trip	\$0.00
Mileage - Per Mile	\$0.00
Gasoline - Per Gallon	\$0.00
Per Diem (M&IE) - Per Day	\$0.00
Lodging - Per Night	\$0.00
Meals (No M&IE) - Per Meal	\$0.00
▼ Equipment	\$0.00
Equipment	\$0.00
▼ Materials and Supplies	\$0.00
Materials and Supplies	\$0.00
▼ Contractual Services	\$0.00
Subcontract/Contract - Per Agreement	\$0.00

BUDGET

- Use the 'notes' feature  to add a narrative description for each section of the budget
- Each line item must include a corresponding narrative entry



Notes

Line Item

Budget

Personnel

John Doe will provide technical assistance to private landowners, write management plans and assist with enrollment in financial assistance programs.

Save Save and Close Cancel

Learn more: <http://www.nfwf.org/whatwedo/grants/applicants/Pages/budget-instructions.aspx>

MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS

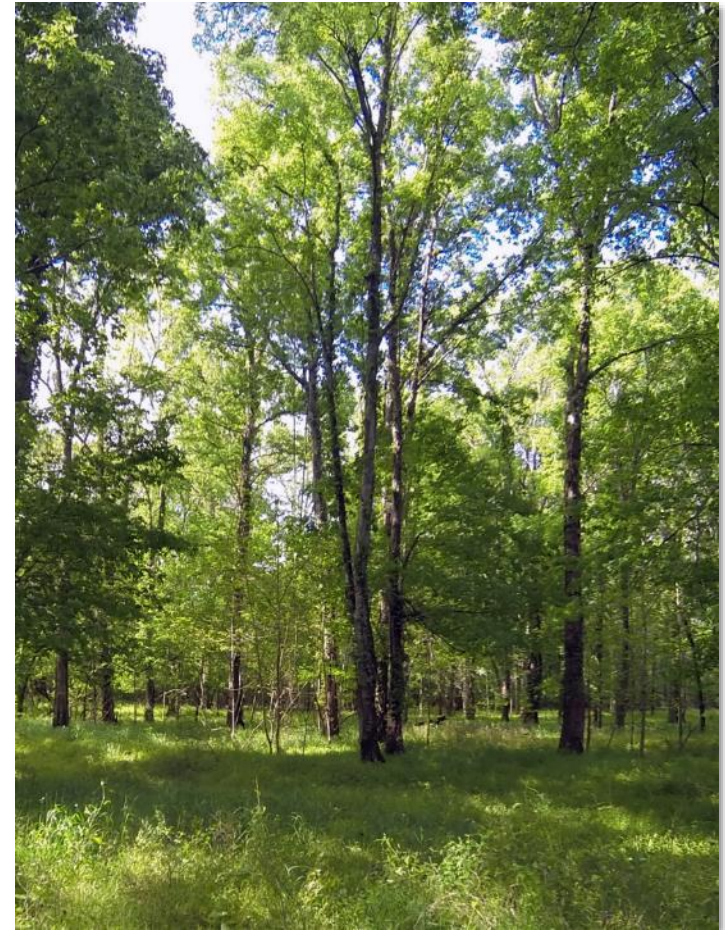
- Projects with **at least 1:1** non-federal match ratio will be most competitive
- Projects unable to provide a 1:1 non-federal match are eligible, but applicants must contact NFWF to discuss match waiver options prior to submitting a proposal.
- Federally appropriated or managed funds are **ineligible**; e.g., Pittman-Robertson, Dingell-Johnson, Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act

Match must be:

- Raised and dedicated specifically for the project
- Spent between the project start and end dates designated in the grant application
- Voluntary in nature (mitigation, restitution, or other permit or court-ordered settlements are ineligible); and
- Applied only to the NFWF grant and not to any other federal matching programs

MATCHING SOURCES

- ✓ Cash
- ✓ In-kind contributions of staff
- ✓ Materials and services donated
- ✓ Volunteer time
- ✓ Cost of land acquisition/easement
- ✓ Allowable indirect costs not covered by grant funding may be eligible
- ✓ Other tangible contributions to project goals



Click **Add** to enter the required matching contribution information below. Click **Help** for examples and instructions. Each source of matching contributions must be added separately, and you can add a new contribution below, you will be able to **Edit** or **Delete** it, as needed. Click **Save and Continue** to save your work and move to the next page.

Matching Contribution Editor

Instructions

Enter the required matching contribution details below. Click **Save** regularly to save your work and you will lose unsaved work if you do not save at least once every hour. Click **Save and Close** to save and return to the Matching Contributions list page. Fields marked with a red asterisk (*) are required for final submission for most programs. Click **Help** for instructions.

Status *

Source *
Enter the name of the person or Organization providing the Matching Contribution

Source Type *

Type *

Description *
Limit: 250 characters Remaining: 250

Amount *

Save and Close**Close**

ADDITIONAL APPLICATION DETAILS

- Federal funding may be subject to requirements under the following acts. Applicants should budget time and resources to obtain the needed approvals.
 - National Environmental Policy Act
 - Endangered Species Act
 - National Historic Preservation Act
- Award payments are primarily reimbursable. Projects may request funds for reimbursement at any time after completing a signed agreement with NFWF.

**Any
Questions?**



SUBMITTING A COMPETITIVE PROPOSAL

1. **Program Goals and Priorities:** All projects must include specific quantitative metrics that will be tracked and measured to evaluate project success.
2. **Technical Merit:** Project will engage technical expertise throughout project planning, design and implementation.
3. **Funding Need:** Explain how funding is **essential** for activities to move forward.
4. **Conservation Plan and Context:** Does project support priorities and goals of the [Lower MS Alluvial Valley Business Plan](#)? Relevance to other existing conservation plans or strategies benefitting bottomland hardwood forest and wetland habitats, such as the [North American Waterfowl Management Plan](#), [Partners in Flight Landbird Conservation Plan](#), State Wildlife Action Plans.
5. **Cost-Effectiveness:** Project includes a cost-effective budget that balances performance risk and efficient use of funds. Cost-effectiveness evaluation may include, but is not limited to, an assessment of either or both direct and indirect costs in the proposed budget. The federal government has determined that a de minimis 10% indirect rate is an acceptable minimum for organizations without a NICRA, as such NFWF reserves the right to scrutinize ALL proposals with indirect rates above 10% for cost-effectiveness.

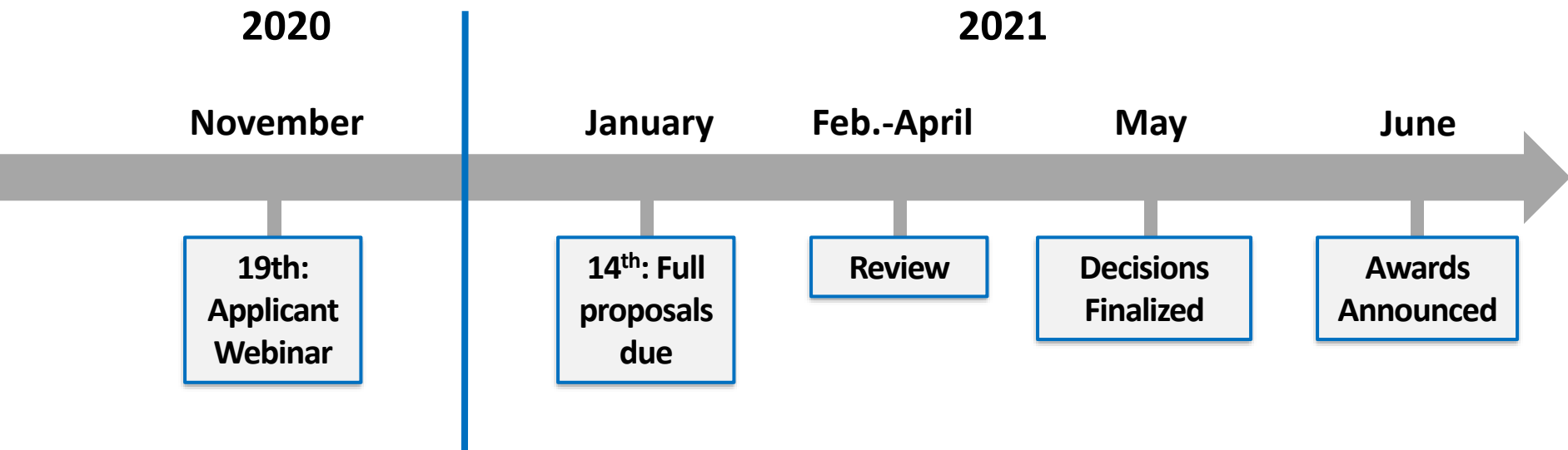
SUBMITTING A COMPETITIVE PROPOSAL

6. **Partnerships:** Demonstrate appropriate partnership exists or is developing to successfully implement project.
7. **Monitoring:** Project includes a plan for monitoring progress during and after the proposed project period to track project success and adaptively address new challenges and opportunities as they arise.
8. **Long-term Sustainability:** Describe project maintenance post grant period including securing future funding.

ADDITIONAL TIPS FOR APPLICANTS

- If you've never used Easygrants before, create your login **TODAY** and familiarize yourself with the system.
- If you *aren't* new to Easygrants, check and make sure your login is working and that your organization's record is up to date in our system.
- Start the application *as soon as possible* to minimize last minute Easygrants trouble.
- Contact potential partners early in the process to develop project priorities, scope of work, and budget, as well as identifying sources of match.
- We're here to help! Don't hesitate to contact us with questions about your proposal, Easygrants, etc.

TIMELINE



RESOURCES

Tip Sheet

<https://www.nfwf.org/sites/default/files/2020-11/Lower-Mississippi-Alluvial-Valley-Restoration-Fund-2021-Tip-Sheet.pdf>

Lower MS Alluvial Valley Business Plan

<https://www.nfwf.org/lowermsvalley/Documents/lmav-business-plan.pdf>

Required Financial Documents

<http://www.nfwf.org/whatwedo/grants/applicants/Pages/required-financial-docs.aspx>

Budget Instructions

<http://www.nfwf.org/whatwedo/grants/applicants/Pages/budget-instructions.aspx>

NFWF Indirect Policy

<http://www.nfwf.org/whatwedo/grants/applicants/Pages/indirect-policy.aspx>

Mapping Tutorial

<http://www.nfwf.org/whatwedo/grants/applicants/Pages/mapping-tool.aspx>

QUESTIONS or COMMENTS

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Easygrants technical support:

Email helpdesk at Easygrants@nfwf.org or
leave a message at 202-595-2497

