



NFWF

Delaware Watershed Conservation Fund 2023 Grants: Full-proposal Project Narrative Template

Instructions: Save this document on your computer and complete the narrative in the format provided. The narrative may not exceed ten pages, and smaller grants with fewer partners may be as few as five pages. Please retain the outline format below, but you may delete italicized instructions. Once complete, upload this document into the online application as instructed.

Things to consider while drafting your narrative:

1. How will watershed communities benefit?
2. How will fish and wildlife communities benefit?
3. How will results be used to ultimately enhance conservation action on the ground?
4. What immediate challenges or difficult questions will this project address?

For applicants seeking implementation grants, describe the shovel-ready conservation or restoration project. Thoughtfully detail the long-term sustainability and impacts of the project and transferability to other parts of the watershed.

For applicants seeking funding for capacity building, fully explain the capacity-related problem to be solved, why it is timely, and how the project will help the organization(s) ultimately address the goals and strategies of the Framework. Describe how methods developed and lessons learned from projects will have broad benefits within the watershed.

For applicants seeking planning grants, rationalize planning needs. Define the planning goals, how planning will set-the-stage for future implementation, and where/how future funding for project implementation will be obtained. Explain how appropriate experts and partners will be engaged throughout planning and roles they will play during project implementation.

For applicants seeking funding for research, monitoring, and evaluation, describe how anticipated data and outcomes will contribute to broader conservation improvement in the watershed—beyond discrete project delivery and performance assessment.

Project Type: Please select the DWCF grant category for the proposed project.

- Implementation
- Capacity Building
- Planning
- Research, Monitoring & Evaluation

Project Priority: Briefly explain the need and strategic importance of implementing the project in the specific location at this particular time—and why the proposed approach is appropriate for addressing the need. Please describe how the project will address the Delaware River Basin Restoration Program [Framework](#)'s Strategic Program Area (or Areas) and any Cross Program Activities.

Project Context: Explain why this project is important and prudent in its geographic/landscape context. Describe if and how the project relates to any local or regional habitat or watershed initiatives or plans. Indicate whether this project is a continuation, expansion or aggregation of an existing project and provide information on the status and results/outcome of the previous work. Describe how the project will be maintained to ensure benefits are achieved and sustained long-term. How will future funding be secured for necessary long-term monitoring and maintenance activities; does the project contribute to habitat or community resilience efforts? Please note if this is your first application to the DWCF.

If you have received a **DWCF grant** in the period of 2018-2022 for a prior phase of the work proposed herein, please provide a summary specific to progress associated with that grant relative to promised deliverables, including progress on NEPA/NHPA/ESA approvals. Clearly describe any outcomes or lessons learned in initial phase(s) that will affect the proposed project.

For projects benefitting **at-risk species**, please include a list of species expected to benefit (see priority species in Appendix A of the RFP) and the specific management actions intended for each. Actions to benefit these species should be gleaned from [State Wildlife Action Plans](#) or U.S. Fish and Wildlife species management plans. Cite plans that endorse proposed management actions.

Objectives and Methods: Describe the project's specific objectives (or goals) relevant to Framework strategies; detail proposed methods to achieve those objectives. List anticipated outputs and outcomes; describe expected benefits to habitats and communities. Note specifically how Cross Program Activities embedded in the project will contribute to achieving objectives.

Partner Justification: Describe how all partners necessary to ensure efficient project success have been engaged. Describe the strength, qualifications, and nature of the contribution of the applicant (including expert staff) and other collaborating organizations to the project. Clearly describe the nature of landowner/site manager engagement and support for the project. Indicate whether the proposed project has been reviewed by or otherwise involves the participation of appropriate local, state, or federal government agencies, and whether the project leverages resources provided by those agencies.

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice: Please highlight partnerships and project elements intended to enhance equity, social inclusion, and support for underserved and underrepresented communities. Projects that incorporate outreach to communities, foster community engagement, and pursue collaborative management leading to measurable conservation benefits are encouraged (for more details see Evaluation Criteria). Please reference Coalition for the Delaware River Watershed's Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice [Resource Hub](#) as necessary.

- a. Describe the community(ies) where the project will take place and who will benefit from the project. Using the table below, provide demographic information on the community(ies) and target audiences to support descriptions. Applicants can use the [US Census Bureau](#) website and EPA's [EJ Screen](#) to obtain demographic data for the table below. Applicants are encouraged to include an EJ Screen report as an upload in addition to the descriptions provided below. Please see the DWCF Toolbox for information on pulling an EJ Screen report.

Community(ies) or Target Audience	Race/Ethnicity	Poverty Rate	Low Income %	Annualized Unemployment Rate

- b. Describe outreach and community engagement activities, how they were or will be engaged in project development and implementation, and how those will be monitored and measured. See the "Direct Community Engagement" call out box for examples.

Work Plan: Provide a detailed work plan, using template below if needed, including: an overall statement of the project's methodology or approach; a description of each major activity to be undertaken (including any long-term project maintenance and stewardship); the parties responsible for each activity; a schedule for completion of each activity; and an expected result of the activity. For each activity, explain any technical, planning and design expertise that will be utilized. Include any supplemental information in narrative format. Applicants may upload larger work plans separately in the "Other Documents" section if space is needed.

Statement of overall project methodology or approach:			
Activity	Responsible Party	Time Period (express in months, quarters, etc.)	Expected Result of Activity (outputs)

Monitoring and Measuring Performance: *Describe how progress toward objectives will be evaluated, including how applicants will verify and document quantifiable results and impact, especially those related to the metrics selected for the project. Describe if and how applicants have considered existing monitoring infrastructure and local, on-going monitoring efforts for the assessment of the success of their project; describe any monitoring relative to NFWF's Delaware Watershed Business Plan goals. Note, also, how applicant will provide project oversight to ensure timeliness and completeness.*

Dissemination and Transferability of Results: *Describe how the results of the project will be transferred to other parts of the Delaware River Watershed or integrated into broader policies and programs to restore and conserve the watershed. Note if results are applicable or informative outside the watershed. Describe how results will be communicated to appropriate audiences. Describe the particular methods, techniques and/or findings of this project that can best be used by others.*