National Fish and Wildlife Foundation New Grantee Webinar



AGENDA

- Your NFWF Contacts
- NEPA & QAPP
- FieldDoc
- Proposal Resubmission Process
- Managing your Active Grant
 - Requesting Payment
 - Requesting Amendments
 - Completing Reports
- Things to Keep in Mind
- Contact Information



YOUR NFWF CONTACTS



SWG



Your Grants Administrator

- Administrative questions
- Contracting
- **Payments**
- **Amendments**
- Reports
- Logo usage requests
- Day-to-day questions

Contact information can be found in your award notification email.







INSR/WILD





Ragan Smith **INSR/WILD**



Victoria Moreno **SWG**

Your Program Team

- Programmatic questions
- Media and events

Contact information can be found in the RFP, or on the NFWF website.

NEPA, ESA, and NHPA Compliance

- CBSF WILD awards include U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) funding, so your project must comply with the requirements of NEPA, ESA, NHPA, and other relevant state and federal legislation.
- Documentation of compliance with these regulations must be completed, received, and approved by NFWF and FWS <u>prior</u> to initiating those project activities and seeking reimbursement for them.
- If your project has USFWS funding, you will receive templates and forms with additional details on next steps in the week following this webinar
- A NEPA/NHPA/ESA webinar will be held on November 5th



Quality Assurance Project Plans

- CBSF INSR & SWG awards include U.S. Environmental Protection Agency funding, so your project must comply with the requirements of QAPP & QAS, and other relevant state and federal legislation.
- Documentation of compliance with these regulations must be completed, received, and approved by NFWF and EPA <u>prior</u> to initiating data collection activities and seeking reimbursement for them.
- If your project is funded by the US EPA and you have indicated that data collection activities are part of your project, your Program Manager will reach out to you to schedule a consultation with our external contractor. During this consultation, you will review the requirements for the QAPP.
- The entire QAPP process can take between 2-4 months to complete. It is highly encouraged to communicate frequently with your program manager during this time to ensure the process is understood and any delays are communicated.



QAPP Timeline

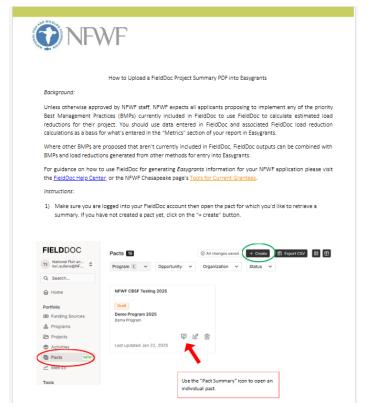
- You meet with your Program Manager and External Contractor.
- You begin drafting your Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) following the contractor's instructions.
- The first draft is submitted, initiating a 35-day review process of your QAPP draft.
- The contractor reviews the draft and sends back a comment matrix for you to review and implement any necessary changes.
- A second draft is submitted, starting a 30-day review of your draft.
- The contractor reviews this draft and sends it back for final edits.
- You then submit your final QAPP draft to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) for their review.
- NFWF approves your final QAPP and submits it to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for their review, which triggers a 45-day review period.
- The EPA approves your QAPP, and NFWF sends you the approval from the EPA.

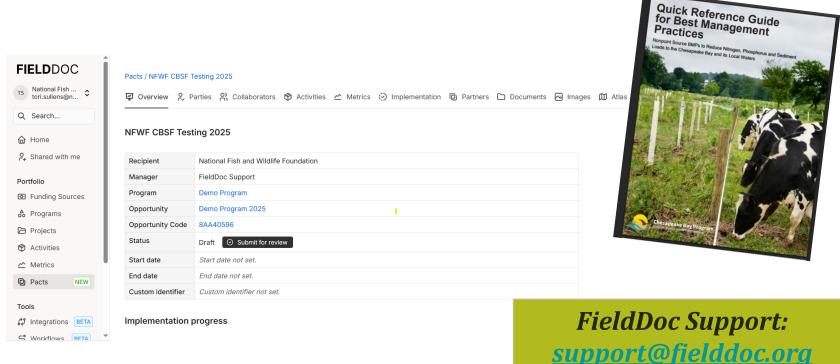


FieldDoc

- NFWF has partnered with The Commons to develop the <u>FieldDoc</u> tool that allows consistent planning, tracking, and reporting of selected water quality improvement activities and associated load reductions
- For implementation projects with water quality outcomes, you will be required to report both project-level metrics via Easygrants and more detailed site and practice-level data via FieldDoc

See Chesapeake WILD RFP webpage to view the most recent FieldDoc Applicant Webinar



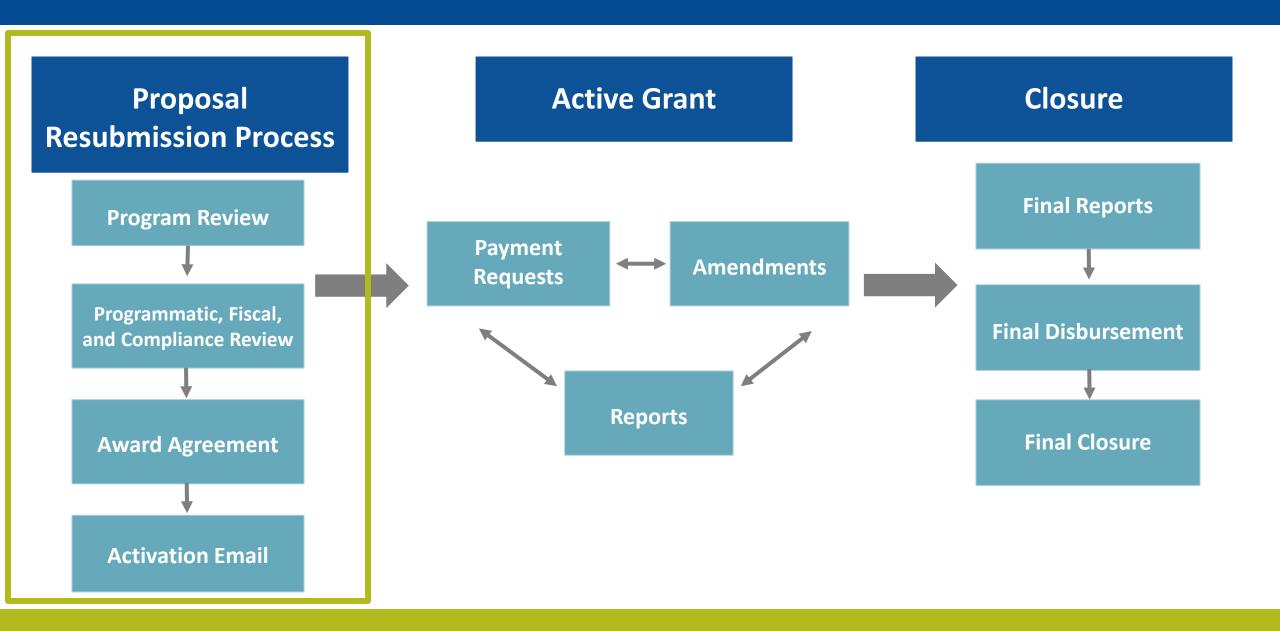


NFWF Proposal Resubmission Process

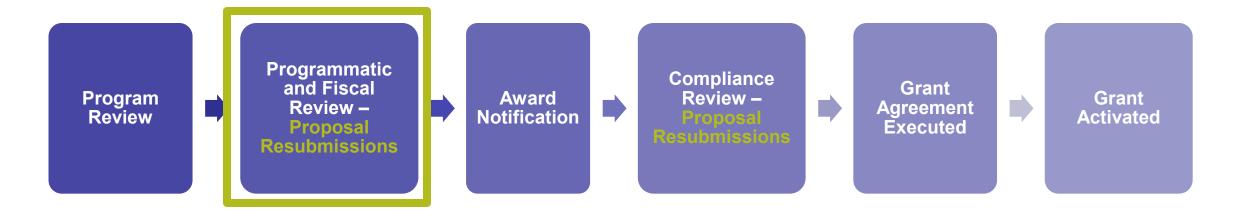




NFWF GRANT PROCESS



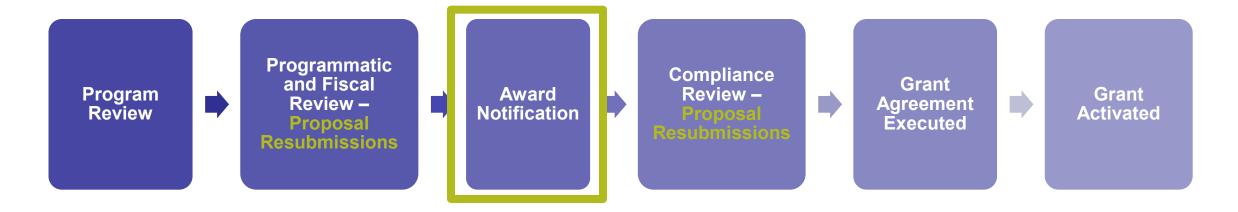
NFWF PROPOSAL RESUBMISSION PROCESS PROGRAMMATIC AND FISCAL REVIEW



- During proposal review, Program Staff and Grants Administration will review your proposal and request programmatic and fiscal resubmissions.
- Possible resubmission requests include:
 - Budget modification (<u>Detailed Budget and Narrative Guide</u>)
 - Financial documentation
 - Scope of work modification
 - Metrics
 - Map
 - Matching contributions
- Please respond within two weeks. Your proposal edits will be used for grant selection decisions.
- Note that a resubmission request does not constitute an award notification.

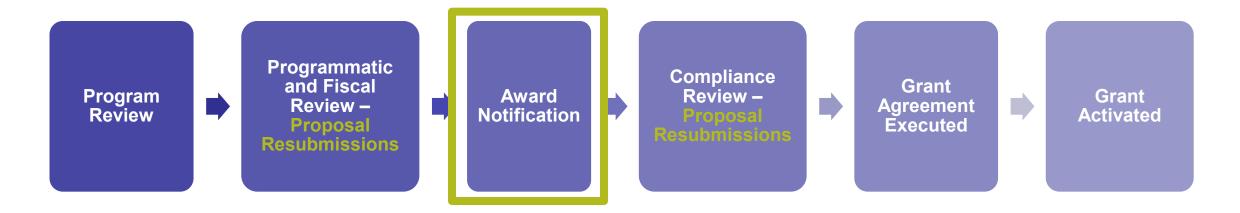
NFWF PROPOSAL RESUBMISSION PROCESS

AWARD NOTIFICATION



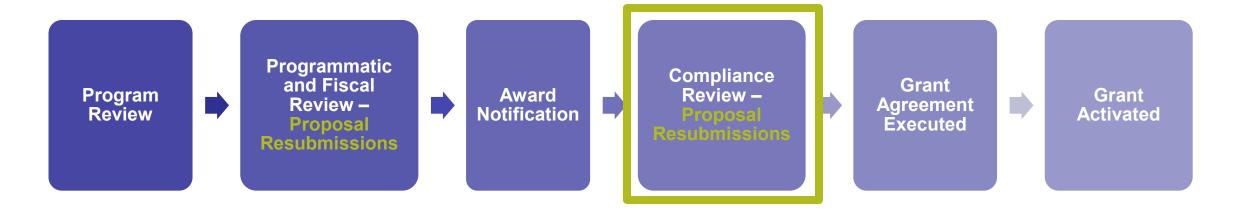
- Everyone here has received an award notification from easygrants@nfwf.org.
- Your award notification includes:
 - Award amount (which may be modified from your proposal)
 - Matching contributions requirement (which may be modified from your proposal)
 - Additional requirements: NEPA/NHPA/ESA
 - Additional program information:
 - Program webinar information
 - Press release date you might be asked to hold all communications regarding your award until this date has passed
 - Name of your Grants Administrator

NFWF PROPOSAL RESUBMISSION PROCESS AWARD NOTIFICATION



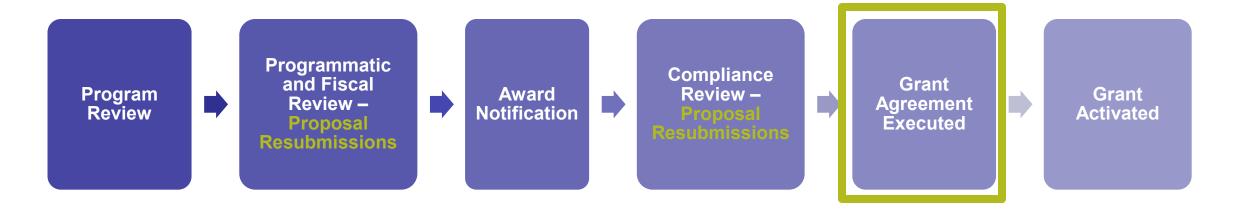
- Note that the proposal resubmission process may take several months.
- Payment cannot be made until the grant agreement is signed and activated.
- As long as your start date has passed, you can begin project work and start incurring expenses before execution of a grant agreement at your own risk.

NFWF PROPOSAL RESUBMISSION PROCESS COMPLIANCE REVIEW



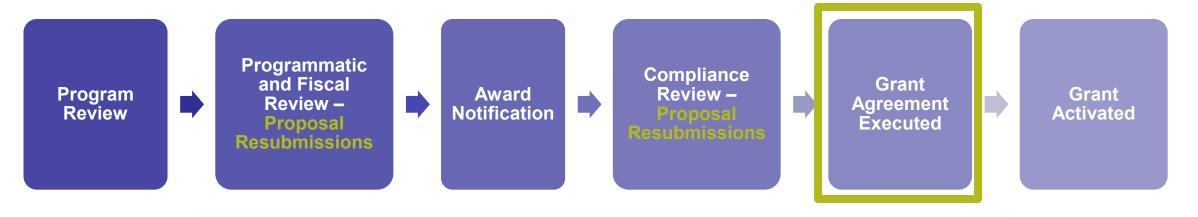
- Once you have submitted the requested programmatic/financial resubmissions, your proposal will go to our **Compliance** department for review and approval.
- Compliance will review:
 - Proposed budget
 - Financial documentation (you may be assigned additional reporting requirements)
- Your Grants Administrator may come back with additional resubmission requests based on Compliance review.
- Send your Grants Administrator any questions you have about resubmissions.
- Please respond within two weeks. The quicker you respond to these requests, the quicker you'll have your grant agreement!

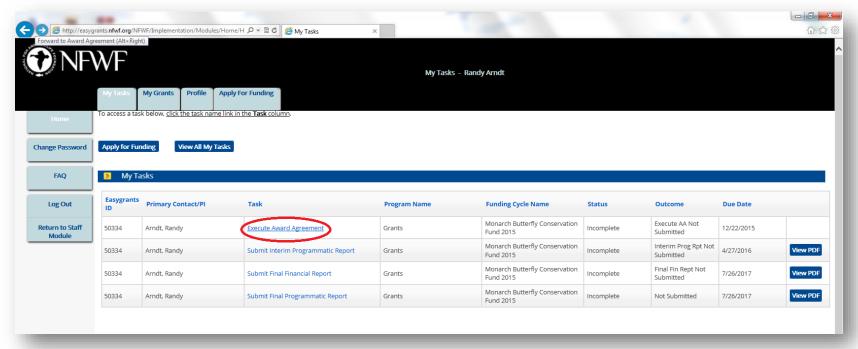
NFWF PROPOSAL RESUBMISSION PROCESS GRANT AGREEMENT EXECUTED



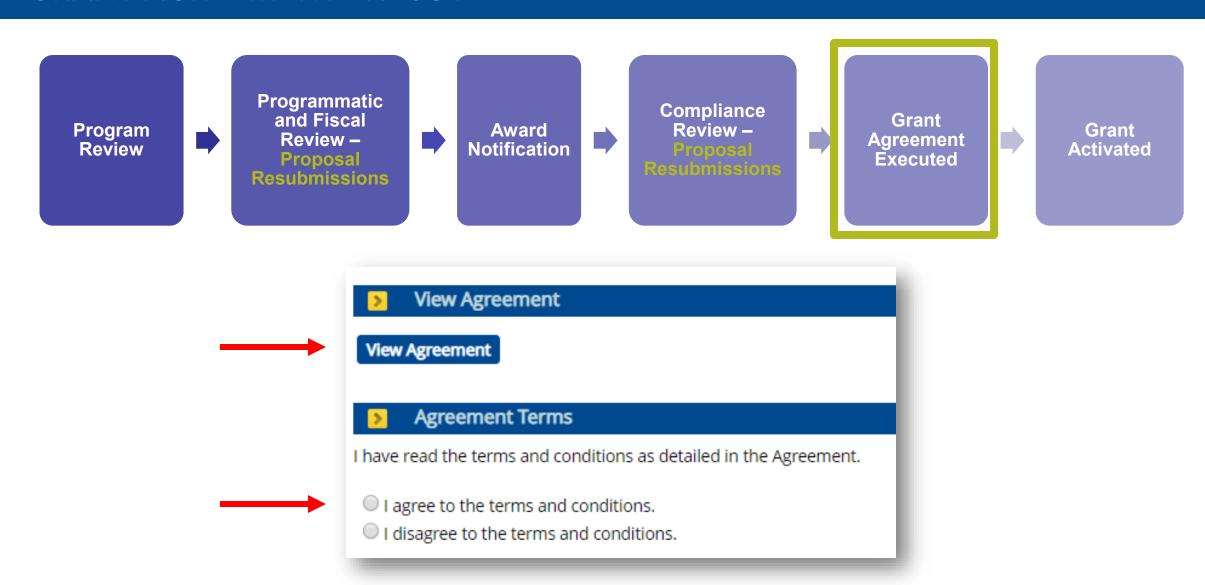
- Your Grants Administrator will generate your grant agreement and send e-mail notification with instructions about how to access the agreement. These e-mails will arrive via <u>easygrants@nfwf.org</u>, so make sure not to filter the address!
- Make sure info@nfwf.org and easygrants@nfwf.org are added to your safe senders list.
- To view and print your grant agreement, be sure to disable your browser's pop-up blocker.
- Once the agreement has been reviewed, **please email one signed copy** to NFWF for counter-signature. Your Grants Administrator will return one fully-executed copy for your records.

NFWF PROPOSAL RESUBMISSION PROCESS GRANT AGREEMENT EXECUTED

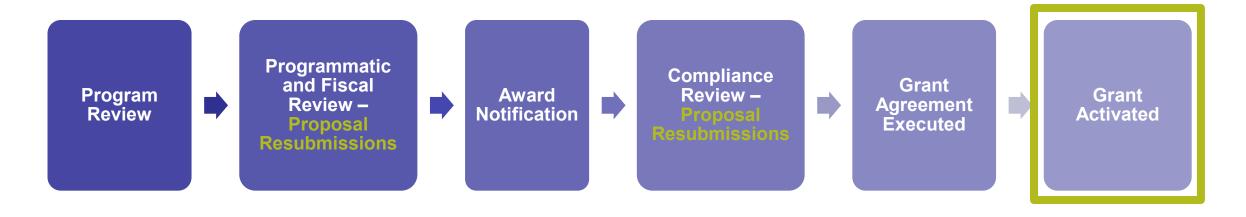




NFWF PROPOSAL RESUBMISSION PROCESS GRANT AGREEMENT EXECUTED

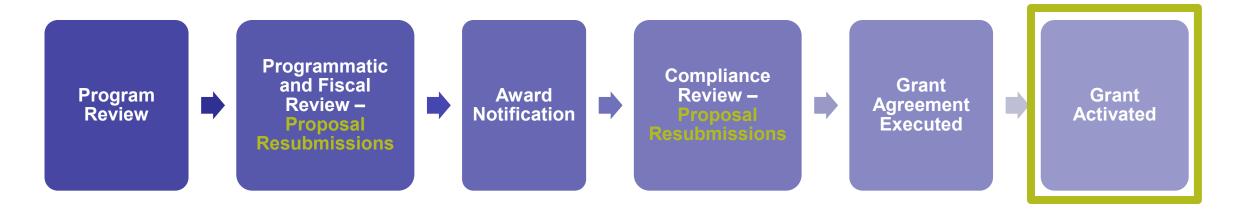


NFWF PROPOSAL RESUBMISSION PROCESS GRANT ACTIVATED



- You will receive an email from your Grants Administrator when your project has successfully been activated.
 - Note that you will not receive the activation e-mail until at least **30 days** before your project start date.
- You can now request payment for expenses incurred after your project start-date!

NFWF PROPOSAL RESUBMISSION PROCESS GRANT ACTIVATED



• All grants administration is done online via Easygrants, including all payments, amendments, extensions and reporting.

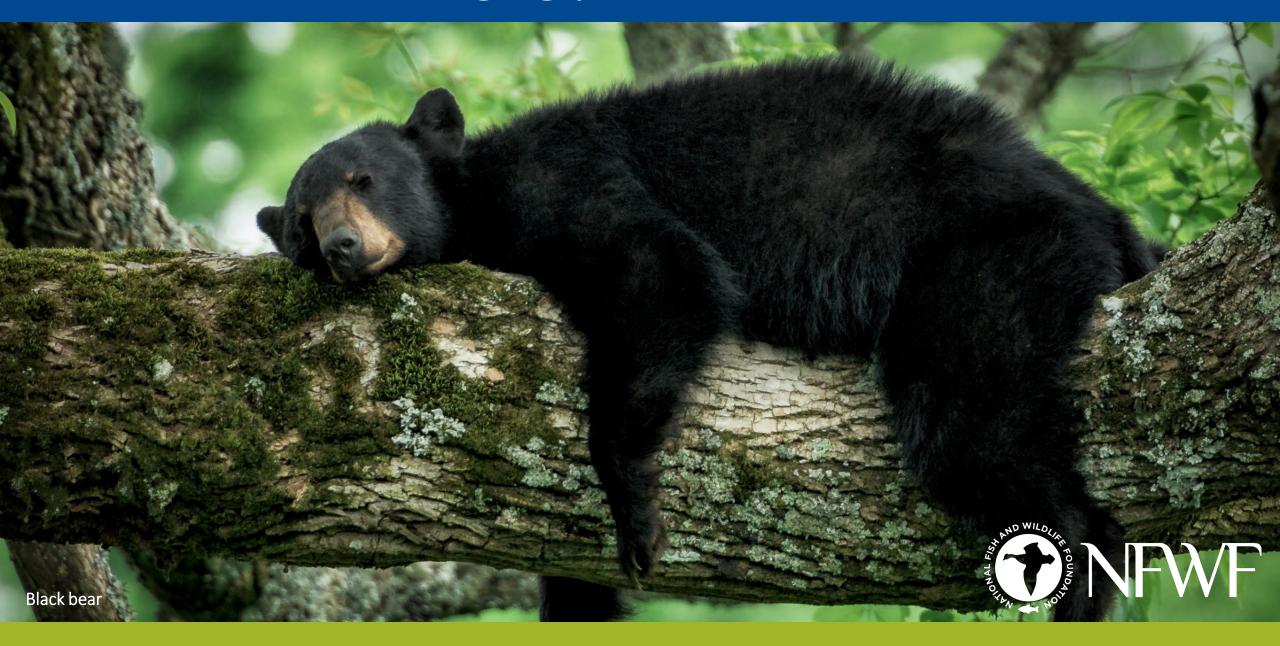
Easygrants problems?

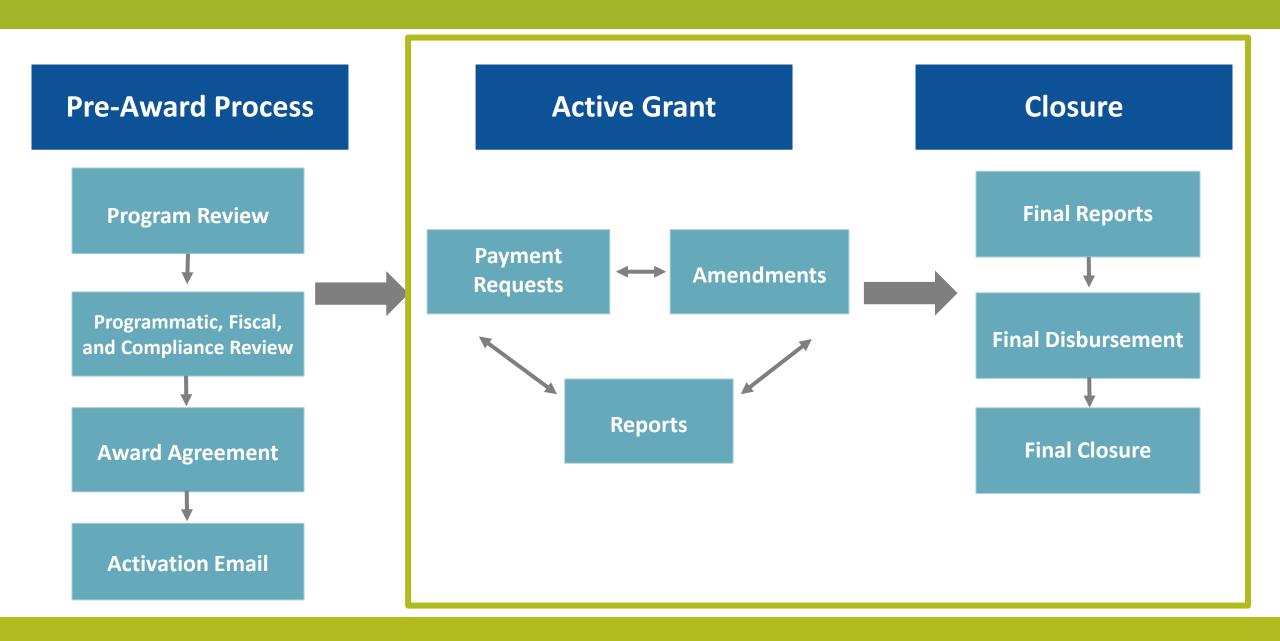
- Work with your Grants Administrator
- If your Grants Administrator is not available, send an email to easygrants@nfwf.org or use the Help Link at the bottom of any Easygrants page

Forgot your log in?

Request log in information from the Easygrants login page

Managing your Active Grant





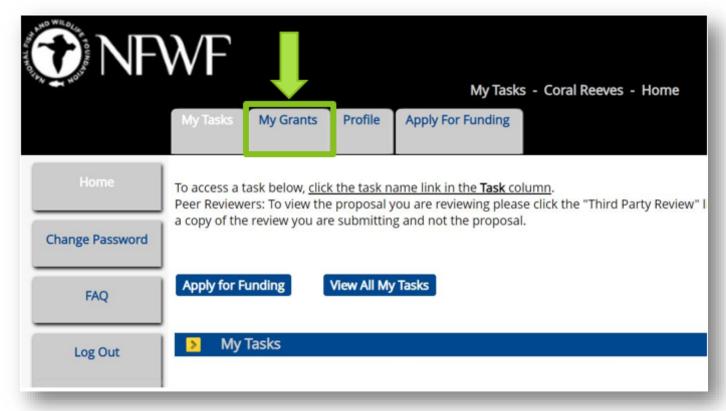
MANAGING YOUR ACTIVE GRANT PAYMENT REQUESTS

- Grantees should request funds from NFWF whenever you have expenses. We want you to request funding often.
- Payment requests should be submitted via Easygrants.
- Funds are requested on a reimbursable basis. If an advance is needed, contact your Grants Administrator. An
 advance of funds must be due to an imminent need and must be spent as quickly as administratively possible.
 Approval of any advance payment of funds is made at the sole discretion of NFWF and will require additional
 reporting.
- Expenses must occur within the project period of performance.
- Note that 10% of the award is held in reserve until receipt and approval of final reports.

Make sure you hit the <u>SUBMIT</u> button on all requests – you will receive an email confirmation when a request has gone through successfully.

Step-by-step instructions for submitting a payment request through Easygrants can be found here: https://www.nfwf.org/apply-grant/recipient-information/requesting-payment

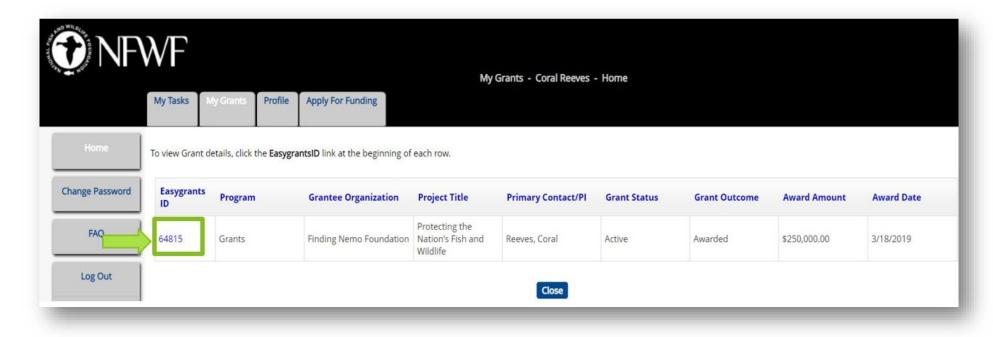
PAYMENT REQUESTS – EASYGRANTS INSTRUCTIONS



From the homepage, click the "My Grants" tab at the top of the page, next to the "My Tasks" tab.

Step-by-step instructions for submitting a payment request through Easygrants can be found here:

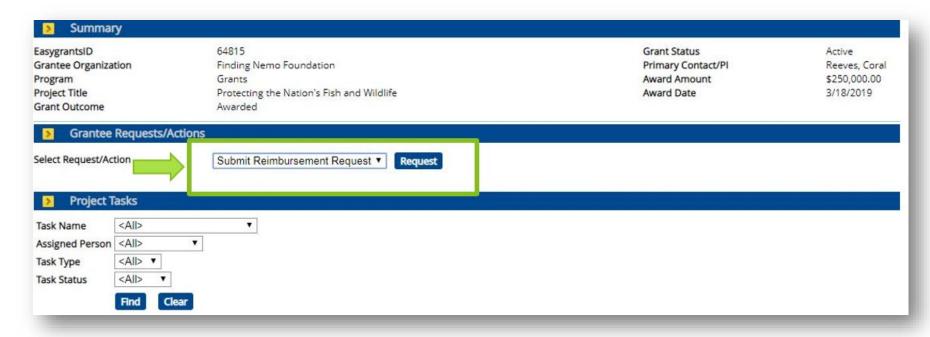
MANAGING YOUR ACTIVE GRANT PAYMENT REQUESTS — EASYGRANTS INSTRUCTIONS



Click the grant number for the grant you want to submit a payment request for.

Step-by-step instructions for submitting a payment request through Easygrants can be found here:

MANAGING YOUR ACTIVE GRANT PAYMENT REQUESTS — EASYGRANTS INSTRUCTIONS

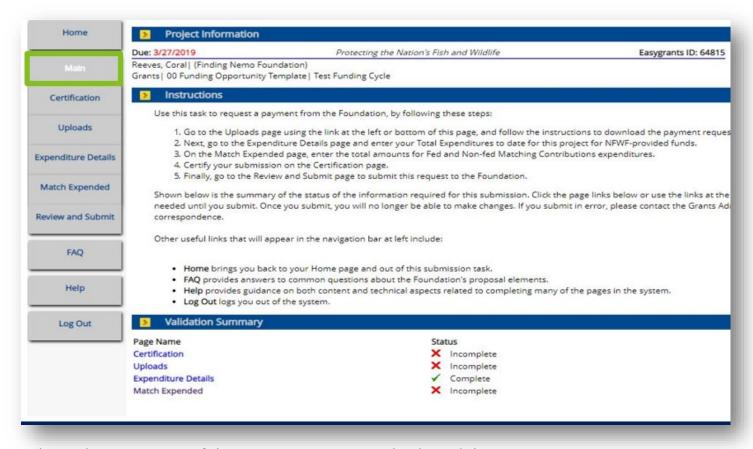


From the dropdown menu under Grantee Requests/Action, select "Submit Reimbursement Request" and click "Request"

Only click once, and only click when you are ready to request payment.

Step-by-step instructions for submitting a payment request through Easygrants can be found here:

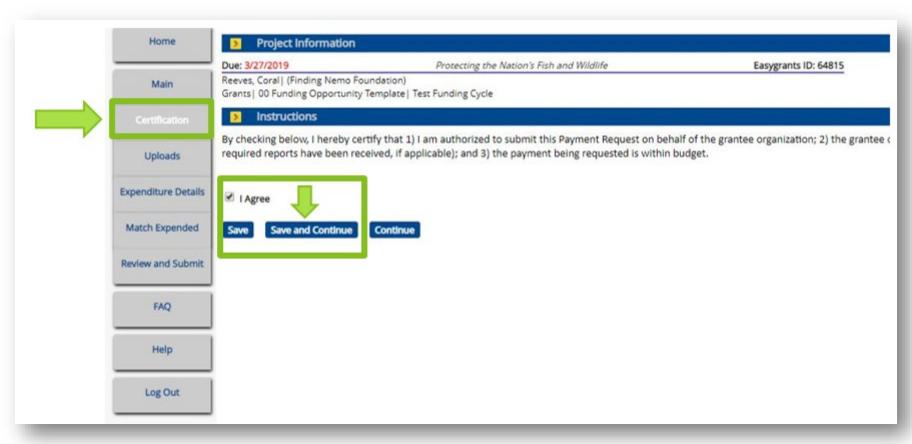
PAYMENT REQUESTS – EASYGRANTS INSTRUCTIONS



This is the main page of the payment request task. The Validation Summary must show that everything is complete before allowing you to submit

Step-by-step instructions for submitting a payment request through Easygrants can be found here:

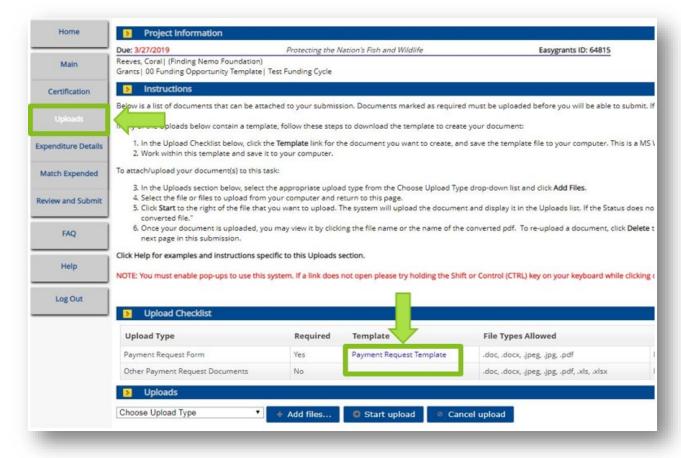
PAYMENT REQUESTS – EASYGRANTS INSTRUCTIONS



Please read the certification statement and click "I agree", then click "Save and Continue"

Step-by-step instructions for submitting a payment request through Easygrants can be found here:

PAYMENT REQUESTS – EASYGRANTS INSTRUCTIONS



Click the blue text "Payment Request Template" to download the Payment Request Form

Step-by-step instructions for submitting a payment request through Easygrants can be found here:

PAYMENT REQUESTS – EASYGRANTS INSTRUCTIONS



Payment Request Form

Please complete this payment request form and upload it to the Submit Payment Request task in Easygrants. If you have any issues completing this form, please contact your grant administrator.

Basic Payment Information (questions 1-8 are required for all payment requests)

- 1. Project Title (From Agreement): Click here to enter project title.
- 2. NFWF ID Number: Click here to enter Easygrants ID Number.
- 3. Payee Organization (If Payee Organization is a third party, please contact your grant administrator): Click here to enter Organization Name.
- 4. Reimbursement Amount Requested: \$Click here to enter amount requested.
- 5. Final Payment?: Choose an item.
- 6A. Do you have remaining funds from previous disbursements from NFWF for this project?: Choose an item.
- 6B. If "Yes", please provide an explanation including the amount that remains unspent and expected timeline for expenditure: Click here to enter text.
- 7A. Have there been any developments that may have a significant impact on the project budget, matching contributions, period of performance, or scope of work?: Choose an item.
- 7B. If "Yes", please provide an explanation of the development and potential impacts:

Click here to enter text.

- 8A. Reimbursement Period of Expenditure: Click here to enter the start date. Click here to enter the end date.
- **8B.** If your period of expenditure start date is older than six months, please explain the delay in requesting reimbursement: Click here to enter text.

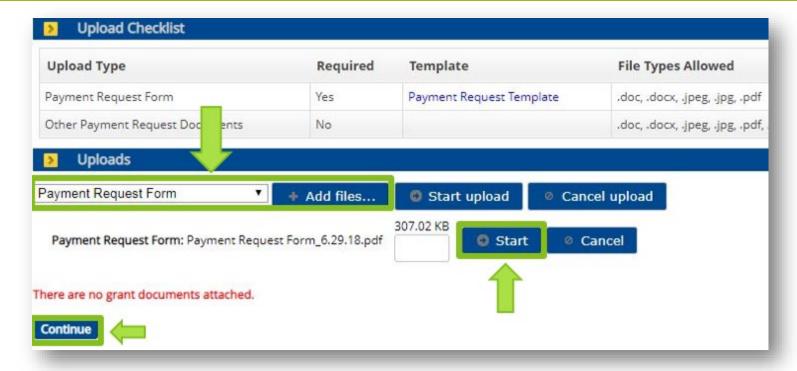
Expenditure Information

9. For projects that do NOT have a budget in Easygrants, provide a summary of project expenses to date:

Click here to enter text.

I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that the payment request is true, complete, and accurate. The expenditures, disbursements, and cash receipts are for the purposes and objectives set forth in, and otherwise compliant with, the applicable Grant Agreement, Project Funding Agreement, Contract for Services, or other agreement with NFWF (each, an "Agreement"). Such expenditures and costs have been or will be expended within the

PAYMENT REQUESTS – EASYGRANTS INSTRUCTIONS



On the uploads page, choose "Payment Request Form" as the upload type, then click on "Add files" and navigate to the location on your computer where the payment request is saved. Click "Start" after adding the payment request form to the task. Click "Continue" after the form has been uploaded. Only attach one payment request form per task. Use the "Other Documents" upload type to provide any additional documentation as required by NFWF.

Step-by-step instructions for submitting a payment request through Easygrants can be found here:

PAYMENT REQUESTS – EASYGRANTS INSTRUCTIONS

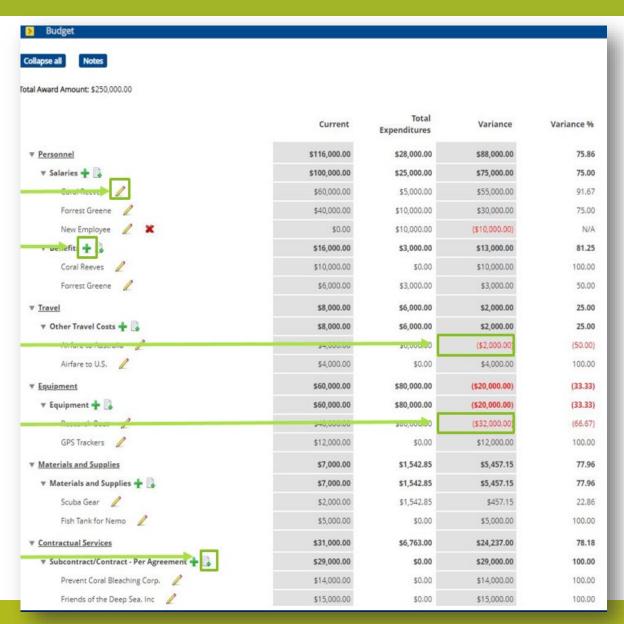
Use the pencil icon next to each line item to add expenses

The green plus icon can be used to add new line items that were not part of your original project budget

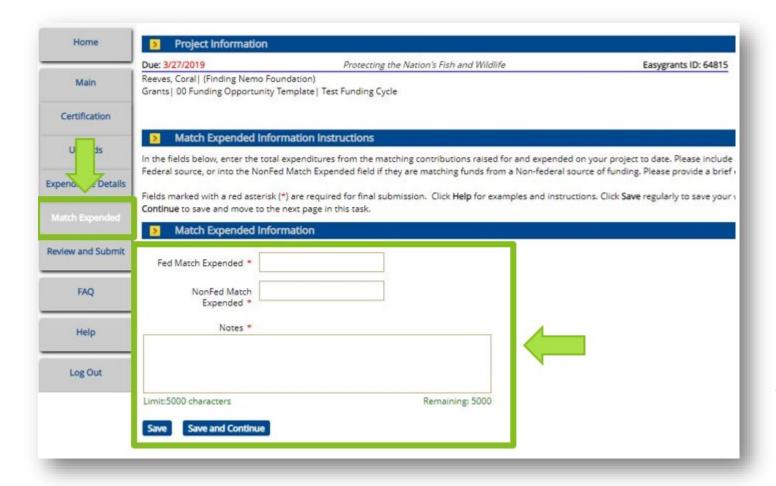
Anytime a line item exceeds its budgeted amount, the variance column will show the amount exceeded in red

Line item or budget category increases that exceed 10% of the total award amount will require program approval or a budget amendment before your payment request can be processed

Enter a note in the budget for any new line items added, explaining the purpose of the line item and how it ties in with the overall project goals



PAYMENT REQUESTS – EASYGRANTS INSTRUCTIONS

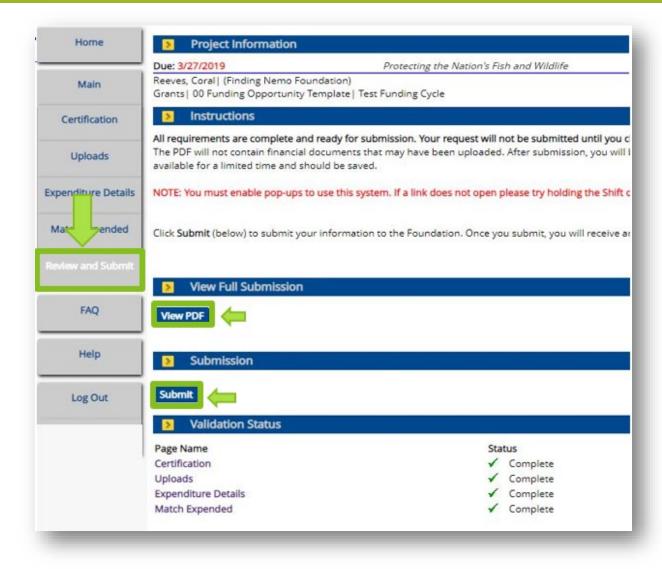


Report all match expended and any accompanying notes.

*If this is the final payment request: make sure to update the match and that it agrees with the match reported in the Final Financial Report

Step-by-step instructions for submitting a payment request through Easygrants can be found here:

PAYMENT REQUESTS – EASYGRANTS INSTRUCTIONS



Make sure to click the blue "Submit" button to submit the payment request!

If correctly submitted, you will receive a confirmation e-mail and the task will disappear from your homepage.

If your payment is not received within 30 days:

- 1. Check to make sure the request was submitted. If the task is on your homepage, it was not submitted, or resubmission was requested.
- 2. Check your bank account. If you selected "ACH" as your payment method on your vendor setup form, the funds will be put into the specified bank account via direct deposit.
- 3. Contact your Grants Administrator.

Step-by-step instructions for submitting a payment request through Easygrants can be found here: https://www.nfwf.org/apply-grant/recipient-information/requesting-payment

AMENDMENT REQUESTS

- 1. **If you think you need an amendment, contact your Grants Administrator.** Your Grants Administrator may also contact you if, based on your reporting, they think you may need an amendment. They will create the amendment task for you in Easygrants.
- 2. You will log into <u>Easygrants</u> and find the amendment task on your homepage and click on the blue link that is the title of the task, then complete the following sections.
- 3. On the **Amendment Type** page, indicate the type(s) of amendment that you would like to request:
 - Extension: If you would like to request an extension for your project end date, enter a proposed new end date and an explanation.
 - Scope Change: If you would like to request a scope change, enter an explanation of the new scope.
 - Matching Contributions: If you would like to request a change to your matching contributions requirement enter the proposed new Federal and Non-federal match requirements and an explanation.
 - Budget Change: If you and your Grants Administrator decide that a Budget amendment is appropriate, this page will be included in your amendment task.
 - Budget amendments are required if you need to move more than 10% of the total NFWF award amount between budget categories, for certain new expenses such as an equipment purchase or a real estate acquisition, or for a change in indirect rate.

AMENDMENT REQUESTS

- 4. On the Matching Contributions page, review your sources of matching contributions for accuracy and update the Status for each source as applicable.
- 5. On the Uploads page, include any backup documentation requested by NFWF.
- 6. On the Certification page, check the box to certify your submission.
- 7. On the Review and Submit page, you can generate a PDF summary of your amendment request to check your work. When your request is ready, send it to NFWF by clicking the Submit button.
- 8. Once you have hit "Submit", we will be prompted to review the request. If the amendment is approved, you will receive an email from Easygrants@nfwf.org. If you have requested an extension to the end date of the project, you will be notified of new reporting due dates.

All amendment requests require justification and are granted at the discretion of NFWF staff.

MANAGING YOUR ACTIVE GRANT COMPLETING REPORTS

You will be responsible for completing four types of reports. Two are required during the project period:

1. Interim Programmatic Report:

You will be asked to provide brief descriptions of "Summary of Accomplishments" and "Lessons Learned" and updates on the metrics from your full proposal. You will also be asked to complete a brief narrative report that you will download, complete and upload into the reporting task. Program Staff will review the report and follow up with you if there are any questions.

2. Annual Financial Report:

This report will show you what NFWF has disbursed for the project between the project start date and September 30th of the reporting year. You will be prompted to enter how much of the disbursed amount you have actually spent, and provide an explanation for any variance between the disbursed amount and spent amount. NFWF will review the report and follow up with you about next steps if a significant amount of funds remains unspent.

Note that you will not be expected to expend the entire NFWF award; rather, we are looking to make sure that you have expended most or all of what's been disbursed to you up until that point. Also note that you will not see this link on your homepage until October 1st. You will likely receive an email in September reminding you about this report.

The reporting requirements will be detailed in the "Reporting Due Dates" section of your Grant Agreement.

MANAGING YOUR ACTIVE GRANT COMPLETING REPORTS

And two are required at the completion of the project:

3. Final Programmatic Report:

The report will prompt you for brief descriptions of "Summary of Accomplishments" and "Lessons Learned." These fields are hard-coded into our database and grants library. The report will also show you any metrics that were provided in the Full Proposal for the project. Please update this information as appropriate. You will also be asked to upload certain documents, including a completed narrative report (for which you will download a template from the reporting task) and photographs.

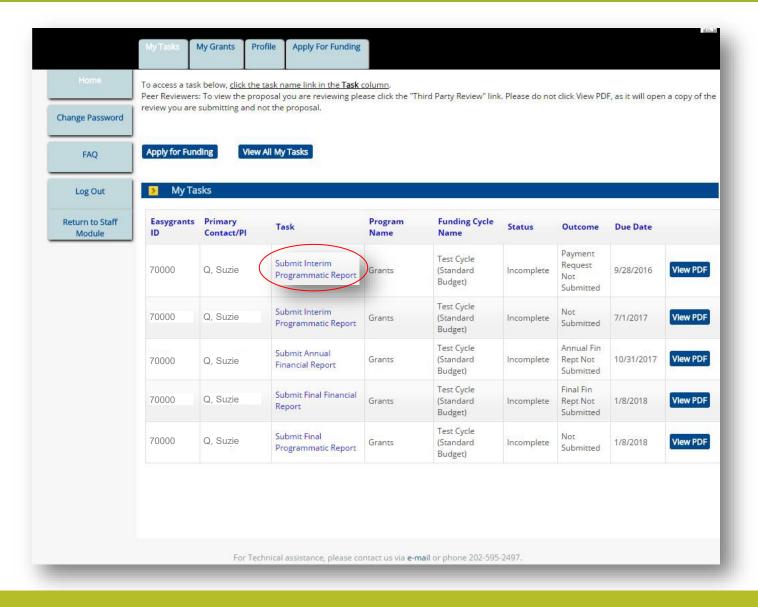
4. Final Financial Report:

The report will show you the budget that was approved for the project, and you will be asked to enter actual amounts spent by line item. If there were changes from the originally approved line item amounts, that is fine; please enter the actual amounts spent in each line item, describing any changes that were needed. The report also shows you the matching contributions that were listed in your full proposal - you will be asked to update/add/delete contributions as appropriate. The status of any matching contributions actually received and spent should have a status of "Received."

NFWF holds 10% of the grant award until review and approval of final reports. Once final reports are approved, you may request final payment and your project will be closed.

The reporting requirements will be detailed in the "Reporting Due Dates" section of your Grant Agreement.

MANAGING YOUR ACTIVE GRANT COMPLETING REPORTS



- 1. Sign in to your Easygrants homepage.
- Locate reporting tasks on your homepage.
 Reports are listed in chronological order by due date.
- 3. Click on the report you wish to complete and follow the instructions.
- 4. Late reports disappear from your homepage. Contact your Grants Administrator if an overdue report disappears from your homepage.

Make sure you hit the <u>SUBMIT</u> button on all reports – you will receive an email confirmation when a request has gone through successfully.

OTHER THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND



OTHER THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND

Grant Agreement: Please read your agreement for other essential terms and conditions including Access to Records, Reporting Deadlines, Evaluations, Federal Regulations (if applicable) and SAM.gov requirements.

Expenditures: All costs must be allowable, allocable, and reasonable. Supporting documentation for all project-specific expenditures must be retained; these include: accounting records, timesheets, payroll journals, receipts, invoices, purchase orders, etc.

Contracting: The procurement of goods and services must comply with federal, state, and local laws. If your award is funded with federal funds, visit the UG's <u>Procurement Standards</u> section to review the methods of procurement your organization must comply with, including competition requirements and conflict of interest criteria. If your award contains subawards, review the UG's <u>Subrecipient Monitoring and Management</u> section.

Equipment: If your federally funded award contains equipment, visit the UG's <u>Property Standards</u> to learn more about prior approval requirements, property records and disposition instructions upon closure. Tangible Property Forms can be found at: https://www.grants.gov/forms/post-award-reporting-forms.html

Logos: You must contact NFWF prior to any use of NFWF or Funding Source logos (presentations, reports, brochures, posters, etc.) to ensure you have the correct version(s) and that the use is appropriate. Approval must be requested for each use. Please allow at least five business days for review.

Contact Information

NFWF Staff

<u>Jake.Reilly@nfwf.org</u> Director, CBSF Programs & Central Apps

<u>Tori.Sullens@nfwf.org</u> Program Manager, INSR & WILD

<u>Oleksandr.Faryga@nfwf.org</u> Program Manager, SWG & Central Apps

<u>Victoria.Moreno@nfwf.org</u> Program Coordinator, SWG & Central Apps

<u>Ragan.Smith@nfwf.org</u> Program Coordinator, INSR & WILD

Field Liaisons

kristen@headwaters-llc.org Kristen Saacke Blunk sarah@icl.org Sarah Clark kristen@susches.org Kristen Hughes Evans dave@hirschmanwater.com David Hirschman katie@woodswaters.com Katie Ombalski bryan.hofmann@riverfriends.org Bryan Hofmann davisstrategies1@gmail.com Mariah Davis

THANK YOU!

