

# 2026 Chesapeake Watershed Investments for Landscape Defense (WILD) Request for Proposals

Applicant Webinar  
*January 27, 2026*





# AGENDA

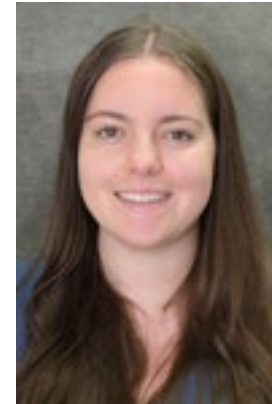
- **Webinar Instructions**
- 2026 WILD RFP Overview
- How to Submit a Proposal Using Easygrants



Jake Reilly,  
Program Director



Tori Sullens,  
Program Manager

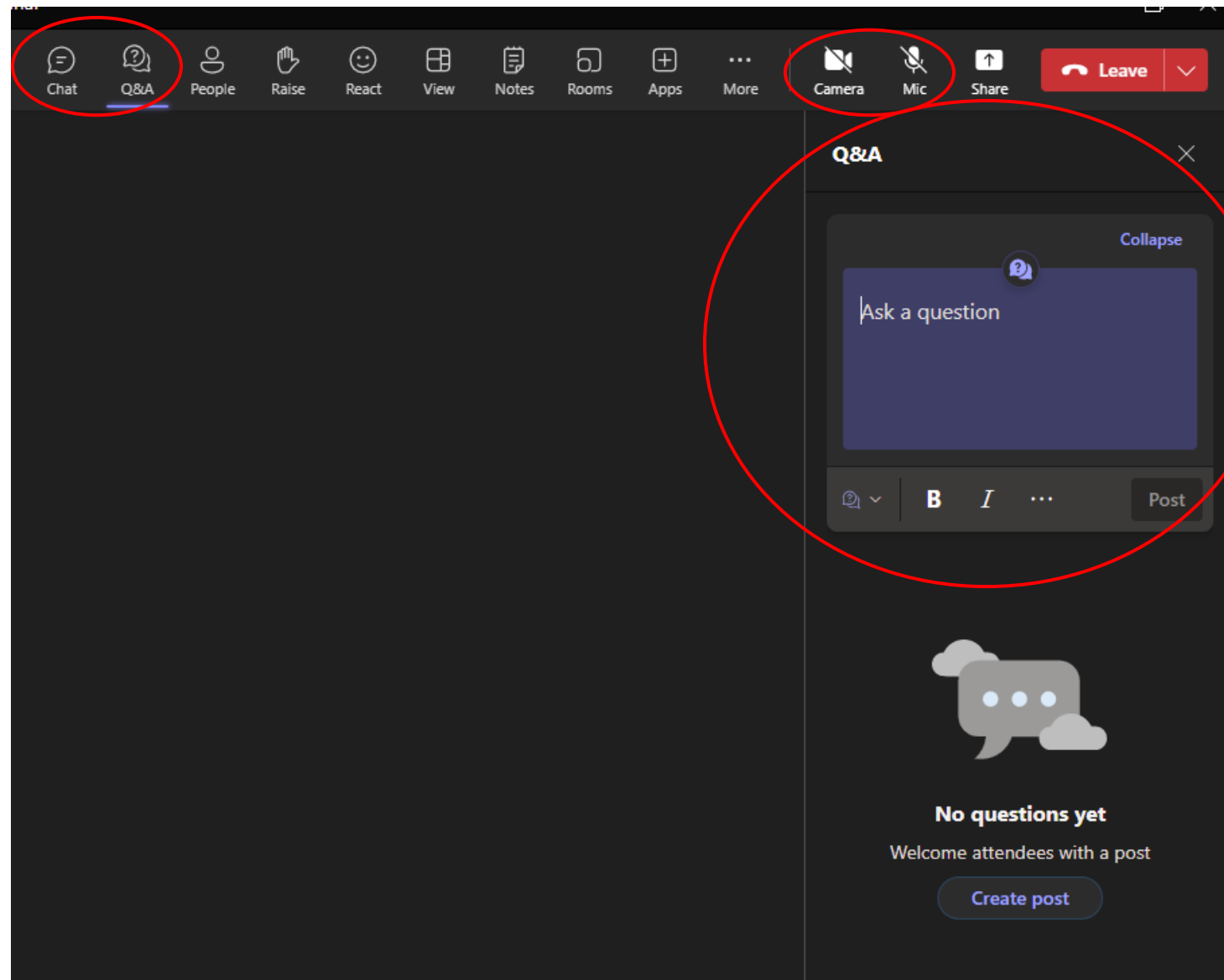


Ragan Smith,  
Program Coordinator

# WEBINAR INSTRUCTIONS

- To improve sound quality, please make sure your microphone is muted for the duration of the webinar content. If you want to ask a question you have two options:
  1. Enter your question into the Q&A section or chat and click send. We will type a response or read your question aloud when we pause for Q&A.
  2. Write it down and contact us after the webinar. We have a lot of material to cover, so you may prefer to have a more in-depth discussion later.
- If you experience a technical glitch, please type it into the question box or chat, since we can't hear you. (We may not know about the glitch unless you say something!)

*The webinar recording and slides will be available for download within 48 hours*



# AGENDA

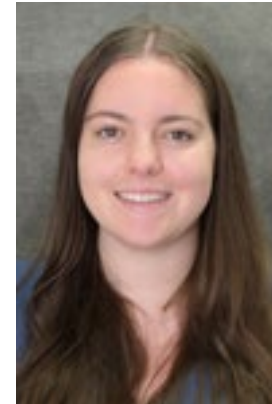
- Webinar Instructions
- **2026 WILD RFP Overview**
- How to Submit a Proposal Using Easygrants



Jake Reilly,  
Program Director



Tori Sullens,  
Program Manager



Ragan Smith,  
Program Coordinator

# CHESAPEAKE BAY STEWARDSHIP FUND (CBSF) OVERVIEW

NFWF's CBSF is a **pooled funding mechanism** drawing resources from federal agencies, private companies, and other foundations that provides:

- **Competitive grants programs** that support on-the-ground efforts to advance the goals and outcomes of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement, Chesapeake Bay TMDL, and NFWF's Chesapeake Bay Business Plan
- **Direct (e.g., non-competitive) grant support** for critical networking, information-sharing, and convening partners and functions that support CBSF priorities
- **Contracted technical assistance support** for prospective applicants and grantees to help them conceive of and develop competitive proposals and ensure the impact and replicability of successful projects

## 2026 WILD RFP OVERVIEW

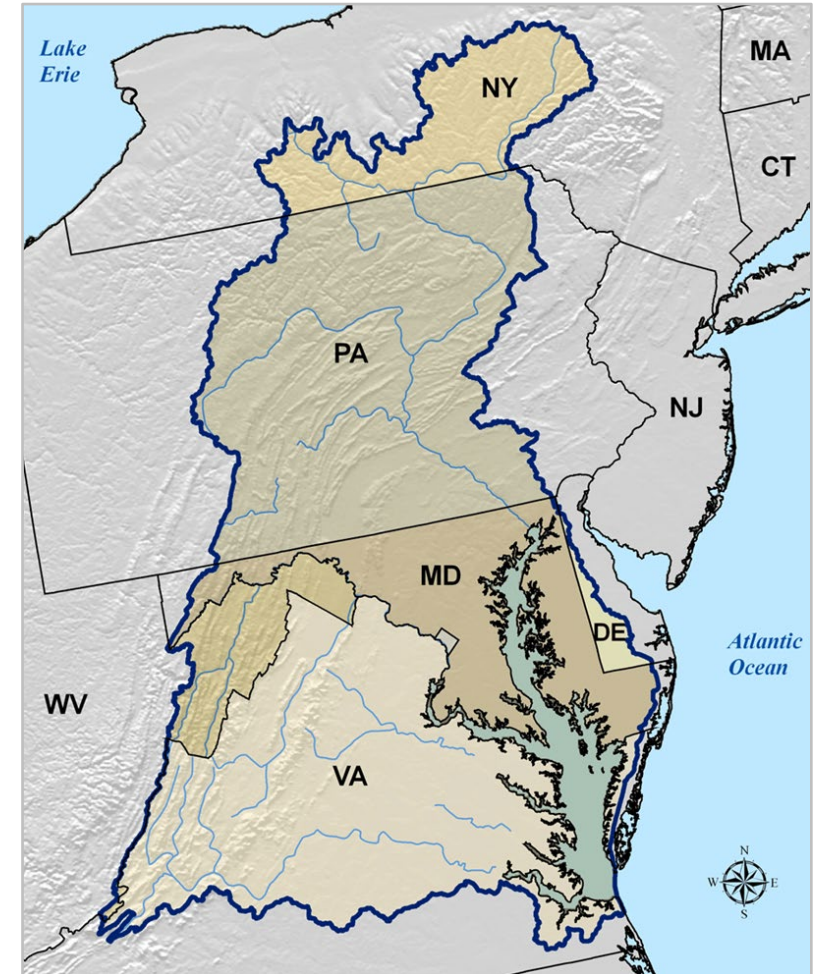
- **Objective:** Projects that enhance conservation, stewardship, and enhancements of fish and wildlife habitats and related conservation values in the Chesapeake Bay watershed
- **Implementation Grants (\$75,000-\$500,000)** for projects that result in direct on-the-ground conservation, stewardship, and enhancements
- **Collaborative Conservation (up to \$200,000)** for projects that support the cultivation and enhanced coordination of existing multi-party partnerships and/or networks of partners collaborating and coordinating conservation actions
- **Planning and Technical Assistance Grants (up to \$75,000)** for community-based assessment, planning, design, and other technical assistance-oriented activities

# GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS

All projects must occur wholly **within the Chesapeake Bay watershed**

Several available resources to help applicants target proposed actions to understand and maximize outcomes and benefits for associated **Program Priorities**:

- [NFWF Chesapeake Bay Business Plan mapping portal](#)
- [Chesapeake WILD Project Mapper](#)



# 2026 WILD PROGRAM PRIORITIES



Figure 1. Chesapeake WILD Program Pillars (Credit: Sophia Seufert, USFWS)



## WILD PROGRAM PILLAR 1: FISH AND WILDLIFE HABITAT

- Restoring, conserving, stewarding, and/or connecting important Chesapeake Bay watershed habitats and ecosystems for **imperiled fish and wildlife**, including existing habitat hubs and travel corridors:
  - At-Risk, State designated Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SCGN) in State Wildlife Action Plans (SWAPs)
  - Regional SGCNs by the Northeast Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies; and/or
  - Species identified in tribal stewardship or fish and wildlife plans

*See "Appendix A" in RFP for information resources and links for Chesapeake WILD priority fish and wildlife*

## WILD PROGRAM PILLAR 2: CLEAN WATER

- Water quality and water management projects that directly benefit **imperiled species** populations, associated habitats, and other priority living resources across the Chesapeake Bay watershed
  - Floodplain reconnection and restoration
  - Instream restoration and streambank stabilization
  - Water conservation and management measures
  - Monitoring programs and outreach campaigns
  - Planning projects that result in shovel-ready designs for nature-based solutions, living shorelines, bioswales, etc.

## WILD PROGRAM PILLAR 3: NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS

- Enhancing the resilience of the Chesapeake Bay ecosystem to future storms and other naturally occurring event impacts through natural and nature-based solutions
  - Protecting, restoring, or reconnecting important natural habitats for **imperiled species** that may be negatively impacted
  - Engaging partners and communities to improve natural disaster tolerance and response
  - Establishing local finance authorities to focus on resilience, conservation, and investment planning activities



## WILD PROGRAM PILLAR 4: PUBLIC ACCESS

- Enabling recreational endeavors of communities through traditional and non-traditional outdoor experiences
- Compatible with and supporting the conservation of natural resources and habitat needs of **imperiled fish and wildlife species**
  - Actions and investments that make public lands and open spaces more welcoming and accessible
  - Develop new low or no-cost public access points and wildlife-associated recreation opportunities
  - Enable public access and participation in wildlife-associated recreation activities

## WILD PROGRAM PILLAR 5: COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

- Investments in collaboration and community partnerships, including building the capacity to support conservation and restoration actions for **imperiled species**
- Enhance community and organizational capacity to collaborate and coordinate to implement conservation actions across jurisdictions and landscapes
- Enhance existing conservation partnerships or develop new partnerships
- Enhance partner capacity to provide technical assistance and deliver habitat connectivity, conservation, and restoration outcomes for imperiled fish and wildlife

# 2026 WILD PROGRAM PRIORITIES



Figure 1. Chesapeake WILD Program Pillars (Credit: Sophia Seufert, USFWS)



# APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

Eligible Organizations (All funding categories)	
501(C) Non-Profit Organizations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Community-Based Organizations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Local Governments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Municipal Governments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tribal Governments and Organizations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
K-12 Educational Institutions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
U.S. Federal Government Agencies	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
State Government Agencies	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Institutions of Higher Education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Businesses	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unincorporated Individuals	<input type="checkbox"/>
International Organizations	<input type="checkbox"/>

# COST ELIGIBILITY

- ✓ Applicants are encouraged to rent **equipment** where possible and cost-effective or use matching funds to make equipment purchases. If you have questions, contact program staff to discuss options.
- ✗ NFWF funds and matching contributions may not be used to support political advocacy, fundraising, lobbying, litigation, terrorist activities or Foreign Corrupt Practices Act violations
- ✗ NFWF funds may not be used to support ongoing efforts to comply with legal requirements, including permit conditions, mitigation and settlement agreements

# PROJECT METRICS

- Three categories of metrics available within Easygrants for your WILD application
- Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation, Management, and Restoration Metrics
- Capacity, Outreach, and Engagement
- Planning & Technical Assistance, Research, and Monitoring
- We ask that applicants select only the most relevant metrics from the list for their project. The list of metrics can be found in the RFP



## Appendix B Applicable Proposal Metrics Chesapeake WILD Grants


### Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation, Management, and Restoration Metrics

Strategy	Activity	Metric	Metric Description/Instructions
Habitat Conservation	Conservation easements	Acres protected under easement	Enter the number of acres 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).
Habitat Conservation	Conservation easements	Miles under long-term easement	Enter the number of miles under long-term easement (permanent or >30yr)
Habitat Conservation	Land acquisitions	Acres acquired in fee	Enter # acres acquired in fee. If the parcel has been identified, in the NOTES indicate whether there is 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.
Habitat Management	BMP implementation for stormwater runoff	Acres with BMPs	Enter the number of acres with Best Management Practices (BMPs)
Habitat Management	BMP implementation for stormwater runoff	Volume stormwater prevented	Enter the volume (in gallons) of stormwater prevented from entering water body
Habitat Management	Nature-based infrastructure	# trees planted	Enter the number of trees planted.
Habitat Restoration	Erosion control	Acres of living shoreline restored	Enter the acres of living shoreline restored
Habitat Restoration	Erosion control	Miles restored	Enter the number of miles restored
Habitat Restoration	Fish passage improvements	# of barriers assessed and/or with design plans	Enter the # of in-stream barriers with assessments or engineering and design plans completed through 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.
Habitat Restoration	Fish passage improvements	# passage barriers rectified	Enter the # of in-stream barriers removed/rectified in THIS grant. In the notes, provide the barrier's SARP ID-- see SARP Natl. Aq. Barrier Inventory (aquaticbarriers.org). If the barrier(s) is not in SARP, provide its lat/long or its name and source.
Habitat Restoration	Fish passage improvements	Acres of lake habitat opened	Enter the number of acres of lake/pond habitat opened
Habitat Restoration	Fish passage improvements	Miles of stream opened	Enter total # of miles of stream opened as a result of this project. 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. Consider utilizing the Chesapeake Bay Program's <a href="#">Fish Passage Prioritization Tool</a> to assess potential outcomes.



# FIELDDOC

- NFWF has partnered with The Commons to develop the [FieldDoc](#) 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



How to Upload a FieldDoc Project Summary PDF into Easygrants

Background:

Unless otherwise approved by NFWF staff, NFWF expects all applicants proposing to implement any of the priority Best Management Practices (BMPs) currently included in FieldDoc to use FieldDoc to calculate estimated load reductions for their project. You should use data entered in FieldDoc and associated FieldDoc load reduction calculations as a basis for what's entered in the "Metrics" section of your report in Easygrants.

Where other BMPs are proposed that aren't currently included in FieldDoc, FieldDoc outputs can be combined with BMPs and load reductions generated from other methods for entry into Easygrants.

For guidance on how to use FieldDoc for generating Easygrants information for your NFWF application please visit the [FieldDoc Help Center](#), or the NFWF Chesapeake page's [Tools for Current Grantees](#).

Instructions:

1) Make sure you are logged into your FieldDoc account then open the pact for which you'd like to retrieve a summary. If you have not created a pact yet, click on the "+ create" button.

FIELDDOC

TS National Fish an...  
tori.sullens@nfwf.org

Search...

Home

Portfolio

Funding Sources

Programs

Projects

Activities

Metrics

Pacts **NEW**

Tools

Pacts 15

All changes saved

+ Create

Export CSV

15

16


NFWF CBSF Testing 2025

Draft

Demo Program 2025

Demo Program

Last updated Jan 22, 2025



Use the "Pact Summary" icon to open an individual pact.

FIELDDOC

TS National Fish an...  
tori.sullens@nfwf.org

Search...

Home

Shared with me

Portfolio

Funding Sources

Programs

Projects

Activities

Metrics

Pacts **NEW**

Tools

Integrations **BETA**

Workflows **BETA**

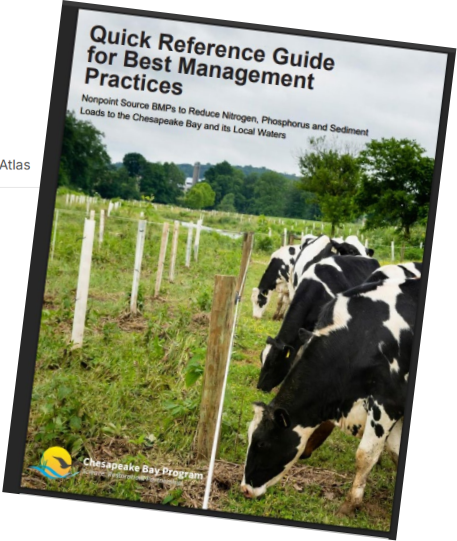
Pacts / NFWF CBSF Testing 2025

Overview Parties Collaborators Activities Metrics Implementation Partners Documents Images Atlas

NFWF CBSF Testing 2025

Recipient	National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
Manager	FieldDoc Support
Program	<a href="#">Demo Program</a>
Opportunity	<a href="#">Demo Program 2025</a>
Opportunity Code	8AA40596
Status	Draft <a href="#">Submit for review</a>
Start date	Start date not set.
End date	End date not set.
Custom identifier	Custom identifier not set.

Implementation progress



FieldDoc Support:  
[support@fielddoc.org](mailto:support@fielddoc.org)

# FUNDING AVAILABILITY AND MATCH

In general, match expended on or after January 1, 2026, is considered eligible under the Chesapeake WILD Grants program. For the purposes of the Chesapeake WILD Grants program, up to 50% of the grant match requirement may be met through federal match from non-Department of Interior sources.

	Implementation	Collaborative Conservation	Planning and Technical Assistance
Project Award Range	\$75,000 – 500,000	Up to \$200,000	Up to \$75,000
Match Requirement	1:1	Preferred, but not required	Encouraged, but not required

# EVALUATION CRITERIA

CONSERVATION OUTCOMES	PARTNERSHIPS AND COMM. ENGAGEMENT	BUDGET	TECHNICAL
Clear and demonstrable increases in the rate and/or scale of implementation (Implementation Grants)	Collaborative and/or engagement with local communities to sustain impact	Quality and level of detail in the budget and budget narrative	Specific goals and objectives
Enhance collaborative coordination and capacity to accelerate conservation, stewardship, and/or enhancement actions (Collaborative Conservation Grants)	Adequate description of community characteristics and proposed engagement activities	Cost-effectiveness	Core competencies of the project team
Delivery of planning and technical assistance that meaningfully advances potential future implementation (WILD-PTA Grants)	Documented support from community partners and/or collaborators	Reasonability of proposed costs	Permitting and environmental compliance considerations
Plans and approaches to verify and sustain habitat improvements and benefits to species		Evidence of genuine partnerships in budget	Demonstrated ability of lead applicant
Plans and approaches to actively transfer and disseminate project-related information			

# ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

- All applicants with active grants from NFWF **must be in good standing** in terms of reporting requirements, expenditure of funds, and quality assurance (if required)
- When procuring goods and services, NFWF recipients must follow documented **procurement** procedures which reflect applicable laws and regulations
- Applicants must demonstrate awareness and the status of all **permits** required to comply with federal, state or local requirements

The screenshot displays the NFWF Grants Management System interface. On the left is a navigation menu with links: Home, Main, Contact Information, Organization Information, Project Information, Project Location, Map, Uploads, Metrics, Budget, Matching Contributions, Permits and Approvals, Review and Submit, and FAQ. The main content area is titled 'Project Information' and shows the due date '5/13/2025 12:00 PM ET' and the Easygrants ID '87199'. Below this, the 'Instructions' section provides guidance on adding permits and approvals. The 'Permits and Approvals' section shows a table with no results and an 'Add New' button. A 'Continue' button is also visible. A modal window titled 'Permits and Approvals - Click Help for Examples and Instructions Editor' is open, showing a form with fields for 'Agency - Contact Person', 'Status', 'Permit/Approval Description', and 'Anticipated Submittal/Approval Date'. A dropdown menu is open for the 'Permit/Approval Description' field, showing options: '<Select>', 'Application Submitted', 'Intend to Apply', 'Received', and 'Completed'. The 'Save and Close' and 'Close' buttons are at the bottom of the modal.

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: 5/13/2025 12:00 PM ET

Easygrants ID: 87199

Sullens, Tori |

Grants | Chesapeake WILD | Chesapeake WILD - Collaborative Conservation and Capacity Building 2025

**Instructions**

If Permits and/or Approvals are required for this project, click Add to enter permit/approval information. Click Help for examples and instructions. After you add a permit/approval 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.

**Permits and Approvals - Click Help for Examples and Instructions**

No results to display [Add New](#)

[Continue](#)

**Permits and Approvals - Click Help for Examples and Instructions Editor**

**Instructions**

Please describe the Permits or Approvals that are required for this project by completing the fields below. Fields marked with a red asterisk (\*) are required. Click Save regularly to save your work. The system will timeout 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 Permits list page. Click Help for examples and instructions.

Agency - Contact Person \*

Status \*

Permit/Approval Description \*

Anticipated Submittal/Approval Date \*

Application Submitted

Intend to Apply

Received

Completed

Remaining: 500

[Save and Close](#) [Close](#)



## ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS – NEPA

- Projects selected may be subject to requirements under the National Environmental Policy Act, Endangered Species Act (state and federal), and National Historic Preservation Act
- Documentation of compliance with these regulations must be approved prior to initiating activities that disturb or alter habitat or other features of the project site(s)
- **Applicants must budget time and resources to obtain the needed approvals**
- NFWF has retained technical experts with Stantec to provide technical support to impacted grantees



# LAND ACQUISITION & CONSERVATION EASEMENTS

Direct costs for land conservation are eligible for funding under the WILD program (e.g., fee title, land acquisition, conservation easements, etc.)

**Proposals for land conservation efforts should:**

- Describe in as much detail as possible specific parcels to be conserved (if known)
- Include specific fish and wildlife conservation and habitat values of those parcels, and whether proposed parcels are identified as important habitat or conservation areas in State Wildlife Action Plans

**For proposals where specific parcels are not yet known:**

- Describe priorities, eligibility criteria, and other considerations that will guide landowner outreach and selection of parcels for conservation action.



## Chesapeake Watershed Investments for Landscape Defense (WILD) Grants 2026 Request for Proposals

 / [Programs](#) / [Chesapeake WILD](#) / ...



### RFP GUIDANCE

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) is committed to operating in full compliance with all applicable laws, regulations, and Executive Orders. We continuously monitor legal and regulatory developments to ensure our policies, procedures, and operations align with current federal directives. We encourage all applicants to do the same.

#### Related Content

- [WILD 2026 RFP PDF](#)
- [WILD 2026 Appendix A](#)
- [WILD 2026 Appendix B](#)
- [WILD 2026 Tip Sheet](#)



### Chesapeake WILD 2026 Full Proposal Tip Sheet

#### STARTING AN APPLICATION

- When you are ready to begin the application process, go to [easygrants.nfwf.org](https://easygrants.nfwf.org).
- New users to the system will be prompted to register before starting their application.
  - Existing users should log in using their e-mail address and password. If you have forgotten your password, please click the "Forgot your password?" link on the Easygrants login page and a reset link will be sent to you. The link expires within 24 hours of being sent.
  - Once you are logged in, click the **Apply for Funding** button, and select one of the three Chesapeake WILD opportunities listed below from the list of "Available Funding Opportunities".
    - **Chesapeake WILD - Implementation 2026**
    - **Chesapeake WILD – Collaborative Conservation and Capacity Building 2026**
    - **Chesapeake WILD – Planning and Technical Assistance 2026**
  - 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 **Chesapeake WILD 2026**. 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 Control (CTRL) key when clicking the link.
- **Cookies:** Easygrants uses cookies to maintain the session information. Please make sure that your browser and computer can accept cookies.
- **PDF:** 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 **Thursday, April 9th, 2026, 12:00 PM (noon) Eastern Time**. Please note DO NOT hit the "Submit" button until you are actually ready to submit. Once you hit submit the application is formally submitted and you may no longer make changes.

The instructions below follow sequentially through each section and field in Easygrants required for this 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 Indirect Cost Policy, can be accessed on the NFWF website by clicking [here](#). Use the Quick Launch box on the left hand side of the screen to locate your desired information.

#### CONTACT INFORMATION



# CRITICAL RESOURCES FOR DEVELOPING YOUR APPLICATION



## DETAILED BUDGET AND NARRATIVE GUIDE

This **DETAILED BUDGET AND NARRATIVE GUIDE** contains three sections, please refer to the applicable sections. Budgets not completed according to these instructions may create significant delays in evaluation, approval and/or contracting.

- SECTION I.** GENERAL GUIDELINES – Pg. 1
- SECTION II.** BUDGET INPUT FUNCTIONALITY – Pg. 1
- SECTION III.** BUDGETING AND NARRATIVE BEST PRACTICES – Pg. 4

I. **A complete detailed budget must be submitted with NFWF Full Proposals.** In order to complete a budget for your proposal, applicants must expand the appropriate categories and provide the information requested.

- If you do not anticipate an expense for a category, skip that category - it is not necessary to enter a "0" value in the cost fields
- Try to anticipate factors that may affect the budget when developing projections and provide an explanation of those factors
- Matching funds should not be included in the proposal budget

II. In addition to the financial aspects of the budget, applicants must include category or full budget level narratives for each line item category.

Below is a snapshot of a **COLLAPSED** blank NFWF summary budget as seen in the Grants Management System. **These categories will need to be expanded in order to add line item detail for each cost category. It can be helpful to expand only one budget category at a time.**

## NARRATIVES ARE REQUIRED FOR ALL BUDGETED CATEGORIES.

Click this symbol to add a narrative within a budget subcategory

Personnel

Personnel +

Budget

\$23,365.38

\$23,365.38

Next, complete the narrative box as shown below:

Notes

Line Item Budget	Personnel
Budget	Jackie Smith will manage all aspects of the program which includes, surveys of the project site alongside field techs, landowner interviews and follow-ups, and supervision of volunteers during sponsored work days.

Save

Save and Close

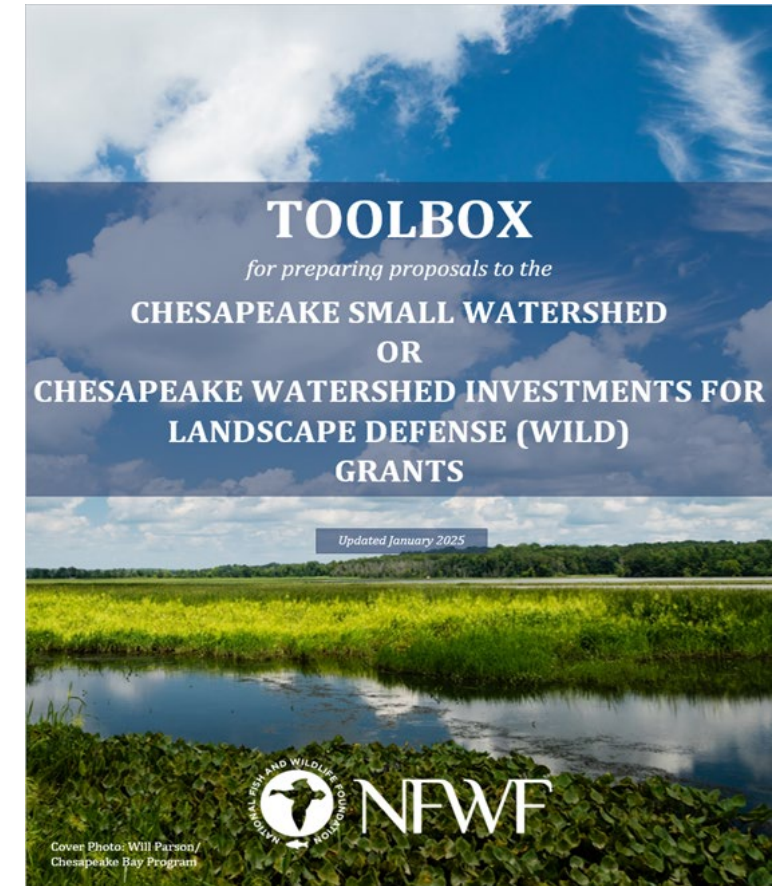
Cancel



- Narratives should be written in such a way that someone not familiar with the project can conceptually understand the rationale, purpose and calculation of the anticipated costs identified by line item.
- Narratives should be concise and describe line items in 1-3 sentences.

# ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Schedule a 30-minute proposal lab with NFWF staff via links in RFP (**encouraged but not required**)
- Contact one of the NFWF Chesapeake Field Liaisons to discuss potential project ideas.
- [CBSF Applicant Toolbox](#)






# REQUIRED FINANCIAL DOCUMENTS AND FISCAL COMPLIANCE

Upload	Required	Notes
Narrative	Yes	Template provided in Easygrants online application "Uploads" section.
Stream Narrative Supplement	Optional	Template provided in Easygrants online application "Uploads" section. If your project includes stream restoration this narrative supplement is required.
FieldDoc Project Summary	Yes	Instructions PDF provided in Easygrants online application "Uploads" section.
Project Maps	Optional	In addition to the Mapping Tool, please submit maps and/or diagrams of on-site work proposed, if applicable. Strongly <u>recommended for</u> restoration or green infrastructure projects.
Letters of Support	Yes	Recommended from significant partners, especially those providing matching contributions. <b>Letters of support should <i>not</i> be mailed directly to NFWF.</b> Scan all letters of support into one single file and upload the file in the "Uploads" section of your online application.
Other documents	Optional	Ten (10) page limit.
Statement of Litigation	Yes	Template provided in Easygrants online application "Uploads" section. Federal, state, and local government applicants are not required to complete this section.
Board of Trustees or Directors	Yes	Provide a list of members. If your organization is not a nonprofit and does not have a Board, upload a document stating that none exists.
GAAP Audited Financial Statements*	Yes	Please refer to the <a href="#">Required Financial Documents and FAQs</a> webpage for details on all financial information required for submission.
IRS Form 990*	Yes	Please refer to the <a href="#">Required Financial Documents and FAQs</a> webpage for details on all financial information required for submission.
Single Audit*	Yes	Please refer to the <a href="#">Required Financial Documents and FAQs</a> webpage for details on all financial information required for submission.
Applicant Controls Questionnaire	Yes	Please refer to the <a href="#">Required Financial Documents and FAQs</a> webpage for details on all financial information required for submission.
Conceptual or Engineered Plans	Optional	Conceptual or engineering designs of green infrastructure, restoration, best management practices, and other technology or techniques that will be employed <u>during the course of</u> the project, if applicable.
Photos	Optional	Please compress photos to minimize file size.

Organization Type	Required Financial Documentation							
	<sup>1</sup> IRS Form 990 or Electronic Notice (e-Postcard)	EIN or FEIN	Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)	<sup>2</sup> Applicant Controls Questionnaire	<sup>3</sup> Single Audit	GAAP Audit	<sup>4</sup> Balance Sheet <b>AND</b> Income Statement	<sup>6</sup> NICRA or CAP
Nonprofit Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	<u>Only if no</u> Single Audit	th	
U.S. Federal Governments	No	Yes	Yes	No	N/A	No		
State, Local & Municipal Governments	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	<u>Only if no</u> Single Audit	th	

APPLICANT CONTROLS AND CAPABILITIES QUESTIONNAIRE



**INSTRUCTIONS:** The Applicant Controls Questionnaire (Questionnaire) is required with the submission of a NFWF full proposal. An authorized representative with adequate knowledge of your organization's capability, competence, resources, policies, and procedures should complete and sign the Questionnaire and submit it along with your organization's most recent Single Audit Report (if applicable). Please do not include copies of policies and procedures unless requested.

NFWF utilizes this Questionnaire to perform a risk assessment and determine an organization's eligibility and capacity to manage a NFWF award. Negative responses do not mean an organization is not eligible for an award. Depending on the type of award and the responses herein, NFWF may require additional documentation and/or reporting requirements to raise an organization's capacity and mitigate any potential compliance, audit, financial, or programmatic risks.

ORGANIZATION LEGAL NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ORGANIZATION EIN: \_\_\_\_\_

**Audits and U.S. Federal Funding Experience:** The following information provides insight into your organization's experience and performance in administering past awards.

1. Does your organization have a current Single Audit report (within the last two years) on file with the Federal Audit Clearinghouse?

☐ Yes

☐ No

2. If you responded "Yes" above, does your organization's most recent Single Audit report include any audit findings, material weaknesses, and/or significant deficiencies? If yes, please describe whether your organization has implemented the recommended corrective actions to address the findings. If you responded "No" above, select "N/A".

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ N/A

Enter response here.

3. Has your organization been suspended or debarred from any government contracting process? If yes, please explain if the suspension and debarment are still in effect.

☐ Yes

☐ No

Enter response here.

Applicant Controls Questionnaire  
May 2023

[LINK TO NFWF REQUIRED FINANCIAL DOCUMENTS](#)

# PROGRAM TIMELINE

RFP Released:	Friday, January 16 <sup>th</sup>
Applicant Webinar:	Tuesday, January 27 <sup>th</sup>
Proposals Due:	<b>Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup> by 12:00 pm (Noon) ET</b>
Proposal Review:	April – August 2026
Board Approval:	August 2026
Award Notification:	September 2026 (anticipated)



# QUESTIONS?

## NFWF Staff Contacts:



**Jake Reilly**  
Program Director  
[jake.reilly@nfwf.org](mailto:jake.reilly@nfwf.org)  
(202) 595-2610



**Tori Sullens**  
Program Manager  
[tori.sullens@nfwf.org](mailto:tori.sullens@nfwf.org)  
(202) 888-1656

## Field Liaison Contacts:

Liaison Contact	Email	Phone	Primary Focus
<a href="#">Kristen Saacke Blunk</a>	<a href="mailto:kristen@headwaters-llc.org">kristen@headwaters-llc.org</a>	(814) 360-9766	Watershed-, stream-, and wetland restoration and protection, land protection
<a href="#">Sarah Clark</a>	<a href="mailto:sarah@icl.org">sarah@icl.org</a>	(240) 472-1772	Collaboration and partnership development
<a href="#">Kristen Hughes Evans</a>	<a href="mailto:kristen@susches.org">kristen@susches.org</a>	(804) 554-3403	Agriculture, collaborative project development
<a href="#">David Hirschman</a>	<a href="mailto:dave@hirschmanwater.com">dave@hirschmanwater.com</a>	(434) 409-0993	Stormwater, green infrastructure, stream corridor restoration
<a href="#">Katie Ombalski</a>	<a href="mailto:katie@woodswaters.com">katie@woodswaters.com</a>	(814) 574-7281	Watershed restoration, agriculture, forest and aquatic habitat restoration, and land conservation
<a href="#">Mariah Davis</a>	<a href="mailto:davisstrategies1@gmail.com">davisstrategies1@gmail.com</a>	(757) 291-8785	Community engagement, urban and suburban stormwater, urban and suburban agriculture
<a href="#">Bryan Hofmann</a>	<a href="mailto:bryan.hofmann@riverfriends.org">bryan.hofmann@riverfriends.org</a>	(540) 693-0443	Green infrastructure, forestry, living shorelines, stream restoration, education, collaborative project development

# AGENDA

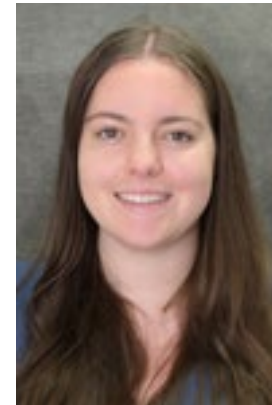
- Webinar Instructions
- 2026 WILD RFP Overview
- **How to Submit a Proposal Using Easygrants**



Jake Reilly,  
Program Director



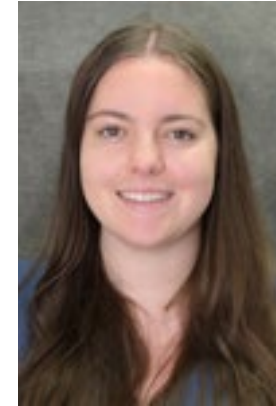
Tori Sullens,  
Program Manager



Ragan Smith,  
Program Coordinator

# TIPS FOR SUBMITTING A PROPOSAL

1. Register now if you do not have an Easygrants account – this will allow for time to familiarize yourself with the system
2. Turn off your pop-up blockers
3. Download and use the tip sheets available on the program webpage
4. You can work on the narrative offline – download the narrative template and upload when you're finished
5. Please be as specific as possible with mapping AND providing location information on your project
6. Click save frequently
7. Make sure all your check marks are green; do not click SUBMIT until you are completely finished



Ragan Smith,  
Program Coordinator  
[Ragan.smith@nfwf.org](mailto:Ragan.smith@nfwf.org)

**Easygrants Helpdesk:**  
[Easygrants@nfwf.org](mailto:Easygrants@nfwf.org)



# BUDGET TIPS

- **Input budget line-item narratives!**
  - Concise Budget Narratives must be included for every line item
- The total budget should only include the grant amount you are requesting from NFWF
  - Note: the total amount requested in the “project information” section must equal the total in the “budget” section
- Must comply with [OMB's Uniform Guidance](#)
- Itemize all costs in appropriate budget categories
  - Please avoid lumping costs!

# BUDGET TIPS

Subaward	Contract
Transfer of programmatic responsibility to another organization, with measurable performance goals related directly to the primary award	A party is required to deliver a product or service in exchange for compensation

- For each Subaward or Contract, briefly describe the associated activities, scope of work or services to be provided and how the costs were estimated
- If you have not identified the specific contractor or subrecipient who will be conducting the required work, put “TBD” in the Contractor/Subrecipient line

# FINANCIAL DOCUMENTS

All financial documentation must:

- Represent the same fiscal year period
- Be the most recent financial information available
- Be less than two years old
- **Ex:** Fiscal year 2024 audited financial statements should be accompanied by the entity's fiscal year 2024 IRS Form 990.

More information about required financial documents can be found on <https://www.nfwf.org/apply-grant/application-information/required-financial-documents>

# REGISTERING FOR EASYGRANTS

[? 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](#)

## Register

First Name \*

First Name

Middle Name

Middle Name

Last Name \*

Last Name

Login ID / Email \*

Login ID / Email

Confirm Login ID / Email \*

Confirm Login ID / Email

Password \*

Password

[Password Requirements](#)

Confirm Password \*

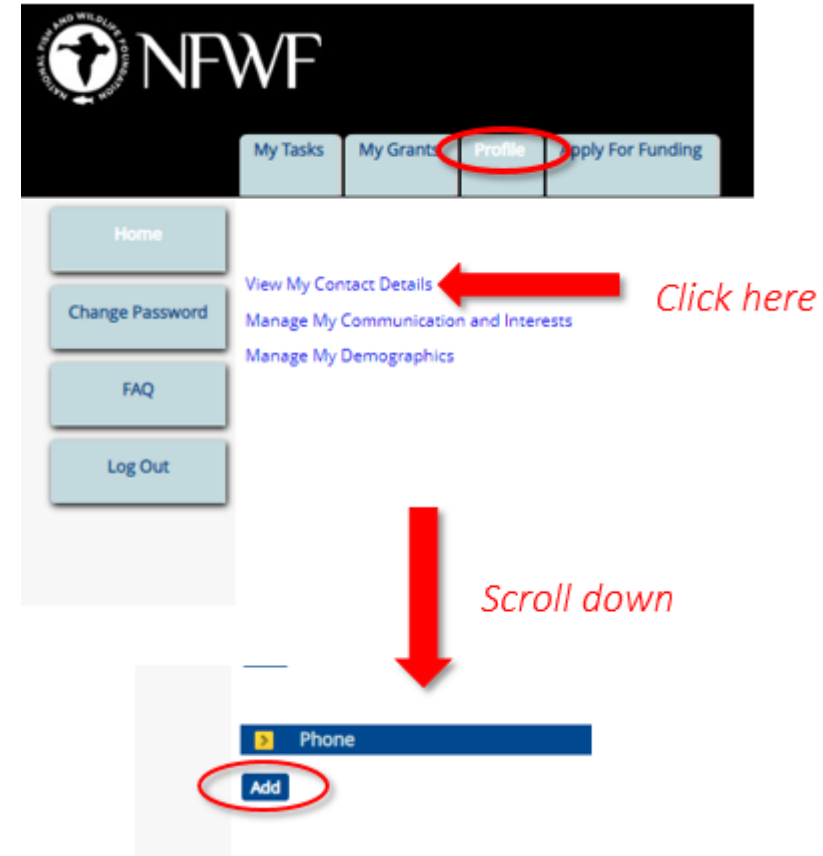
Confirm Password

Register

Back

# REGISTERING FOR EASYGRANTS (CONT.)


- Please add a phone number!
- Once you have created your Easygrants log-in and or you log-in as an existing user, please visit review your contact details and make sure that you provide a phone number.





# SUBMITTING A FULL PROPOSAL IN EASYGRANTS

- Let's try it...

 **NFWF**

My Tasks - Ragan Smith - Home

[My Tasks](#) [My Grants](#) [Profile](#) [Apply For Funding](#)

[Home](#) [Change Password](#) [FAQ](#) [Log Out](#)

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, go to the Review and Submit page, and click the Submit button. After submitting the task will no longer display on this page but you may view a PDF copy (if applicable) by clicking the View All My Tasks button.

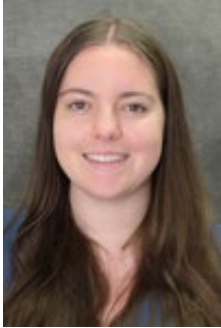
Peer Reviewers: To view the proposal you are reviewing please click the "Third Party Review" link. Please do not click View PDF, as it will open a copy of the review you are submitting and not the proposal.

[Apply for Funding](#) [View All My Tasks](#)

[My Tasks](#)

Easygrants ID	Primary Contact/PI	Task	Program Name	Funding Cycle Name	Status	Outcome	Due Date	
90009	Smith, Ragan	<a href="#">Pre-Proposal</a>	Grants	Chesapeake Bay Innovative Nutrient and Sediment Reduction 2026	Incomplete	Pre-proposal Not Submitted	2/12/2026	<a href="#">View PDF</a>
90157	Smith, Ragan	<a href="#">Full Proposal</a>	Grants	Chesapeake WILD - Collaborative Conservation and Capacity Building 2026	Incomplete	Not Submitted	4/9/2026	<a href="#">View PDF</a>
90189	Smith, Ragan	<a href="#">Full Proposal</a>	Grants	Chesapeake WILD - Implementation 2026	Incomplete	Not Submitted	4/9/2026	<a href="#">View PDF</a>

# EASYGRANTS QUESTIONS?



**Ragan Smith**

Program Coordinator

[Ragan.smith@nfwf.org](mailto:Ragan.smith@nfwf.org)

(202-938-0625)

**Easygrants Helpdesk**

[Easygrants@nfwf.org](mailto:Easygrants@nfwf.org)

(202-595-2497)

# PROGRAM TIMELINE

RFP Released:	Friday, January 16 <sup>th</sup>
Applicant Webinar:	Tuesday, January 27 <sup>th</sup>
Proposals Due:	<b>Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup> by 12:00 pm (Noon) ET</b>
Proposal Review:	April – August 2026
Board Approval:	August 2026
Award Notification:	September 2026 (anticipated)

