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Applicant: NATURAL RESOURCES, MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF
Application Number: FWS-WSFR2026028928
Project Title: Habitat Management for Breeding Waterfowl of Importance to Maryland
Status: Work in Progress

It appears that all attachments in the application have been processed correctly. Please review the uploads to ensure the full contents of all attached files display as expected. Not all file types may accurately print to PDF.

Online Forms

Additional Information to be Submitted

One or more attachments in the application failed to process correctly. Please contact the GrantSolutions Help Desk to notify them of the issue and to receive next steps of how to proceed.

1. SF-424A Budget Information - Non-Construction
2. SF-424C Budget Information - Construction Programs
3. Project Abstract Summary (Version 2.0)
4. SF-LLL Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (Version 2.0)
5. SF-424 Application for Federal Assistance (Version 4.0)
6. Other
 - (Upload #1): Cover Letter
 - (Upload #2): Canada Compliance Letter
 - (Upload #3): Ducks Unlimited Proposal
 - (Upload #4): Budget Narrative
 - (Upload #5): NICRA
 - (Upload #6): Project Abstract
 - **PENDING - (Upload #0): TRACS Narrative**

7. Project Narrative

- (Upload #0): Cover Letter
- (Upload #0): Canada Compliance Letter
- (Upload #0): Ducks Unlimited Proposal
- (Upload #0): Budget Narrative
- (Upload #0): NICRA
- (Upload #0): Project Abstract
- **PENDING - (Upload #7): TRACS Narrative**

Note: Upload document(s) printed in order after online forms.

Disclosures

One or more attachments in the application failed to process correctly. A list of failed attachments can be found below. Please contact the GrantSolutions Help Desk to notify them of the issue and to receive next steps of how to proceed.

1. **PENDING - (Upload #7): TRACS Narrative**

BUDGET INFORMATION - Non-Construction Programs**SECTION A - BUDGET SUMMARY**

Grant Program Function or Activity (a)	Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number (b)	Estimated Unobligated Funds		New or Revised Budget		
		Federal (c)	Non-Federal (d)	Federal (e)	Non-Federal (f)	Total (g)
1. WR-BHE-Wildlife Restor	15.611			\$300,000.00	\$105,000.00	\$405,000.00
2. WR-BHE-Wildlife Restor						
3. WR-BHE-Wildlife Restor						
4. WR-BHE-Wildlife Restor						
5. Totals				\$300,000.00	\$105,000.00	\$405,000.00

SECTION B - BUDGET CATEGORIES

6. Object Class Categories	GRANT PROGRAM, FUNCTION OR ACTIVITY				Total (5)
	(1) WR-BHE-Wildlife Restor	(2) WR-BHE-Wildlife Restor	(3) life Restoration and Basic H	(4) Restoration and Basic H	
a. Personnel					
b. Fringe Benefits					
c. Travel					
d. Equipment					
e. Supplies					
f. Contractual					
g. Construction					
h. Other	\$405,000.00				\$405,000.00
i. Total Direct Charges (sum of 6a-6h)	\$405,000.00				\$405,000.00
j. Indirect Charges					
k. TOTALS (sum of 6i and 6j)	\$405,000.00				\$405,000.00
7. Program Income					

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Standard Form 424A (Rev. 7-97)

Prescribed by OMB Circular A-102

SECTION C - NON-FEDERAL RESOURCES

(a) Grant Program	(b) Applicant	(c) State	(d) Other Sources	(e) TOTALS
8 WR-BHE-Wildlife Restoration and Basic Hunter Education			\$105,000.00	\$105,000.00
9. WR-BHE-Wildlife Restoration and Basic Hunter Education				
10. WR-BHE-Wildlife Restoration and Basic Hunter Education				
11. WR-BHE-Wildlife Restoration and Basic Hunter Education				
12. TOTAL (<i>sum of lines 8-11</i>)			\$105,000.00	\$105,000.00

SECTION D - FORECASTED CASH NEEDS

	Total for 1st Year	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
13. Federal					
14. Non-Federal					
15. TOTAL (<i>sum of lines 13 and 14</i>)					

SECTION E - BUDGET ESTIMATES OF FEDERAL FUNDS NEEDED FOR BALANCE OF THE PROJECT

(a) Grant Program	FUTURE FUNDING PERIODS (Years)			
	(b) First	(c) Second	(d) Third	(e) Fourth
16. WR-BHE-Wildlife Restoration and Basic Hunter Education				
17. WR-BHE-Wildlife Restoration and Basic Hunter Education				
18. WR-BHE-Wildlife Restoration and Basic Hunter Education				
19. WR-BHE-Wildlife Restoration and Basic Hunter Education				
20. TOTAL (<i>sum of lines 16-19</i>)				

SECTION F - OTHER BUDGET INFORMATION

21. Direct Charges:	22. Indirect Charges:
23. Remarks:	

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

Version 04

* 1. Type of Submission:

- ☐ Preapplication
- ☒ Application
- ☐ Changed/Corrected Application

* 2. Type of Application:

- ☒ New
- ☐ Continuation
- ☐ Revision

* If Revision, select appropriate letter(s):

* Other (Specify)

* 3. Date Received:

4. Applicant Identifier:

5a. Federal Entity Identifier:

* 5b. Federal Award Identifier:

State Use Only:

6. Date Received by State: 11/19/2025

7. State Application Identifier:

8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:

* a. Legal Name: NATURAL RESOURCES, MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF

* b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN):

526002033

* c. UEI:

USMJTDLGM6X8

d. Address:

* Street1: 580 TAYLOR AVE BLDG B4

Street2:

* City: ANNAPOLIS

County:

* State: Maryland

Province:

* Country: UNITED STATES

* Zip / Postal Code: 21401-2364

e. Organizational Unit:

Department Name: MD Department of Natural Resources

Division Name: Wildlife and Heritage

f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:

Prefix: * First Name: Hannah

Middle Name:

* Last Name: Devine

Suffix:

Title: Federal Aid Coordinator

Organizational Affiliation:

Wildlife and Heritage Service

* Telephone Number: 4102608623

Fax Number:

* Email: hannah.devine1@maryland.gov

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

Version 04

9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:

State Government

Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:

Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:

* Other (specify):

*** 10. Name of Federal Agency:**

DOI-US Fish and Wildlife Service

11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:

15.611

CFDA Title:

Wildlife Restoration and Basic Hunter Education

*** 12. Funding Opportunity Number:**

F-FWS-WSFR-25-021

* Title:

F-FWS-WSFR-25-021-115084 Region 5 Wildlife Restoration and Basic Hunter Education and Safety Program

13. Competition Identification Number:

F-FWS-WSFR-25-021-115084

Title:

F-FWS-WSFR-25-021-115084 Region 5 Wildlife Restoration and Basic Hunter Education and Safety Program

14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):*** 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:**

Habitat Management for Breeding Waterfowl of Importance to Maryland

Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

Version 04

16. Congressional Districts Of:* a. Applicant * b. Program/Project:

Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.

17. Proposed Project:* a. Start Date: * b. End Date: **18. Estimated Funding (\$):**

* a. Federal	<input type="text" value="300000"/>
* b. Applicant	<input type="text" value="0"/>
* c. State	<input type="text" value="0"/>
* d. Local	<input type="text" value="0"/>
* e. Other	<input type="text" value="105000"/>
* f. Program Income	<input type="text" value="0"/>
* g. TOTAL	<input type="text" value="405000"/>

*** 19. Is Application Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?**☒ a. This application was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on .☐ b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.☐ c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.*** 20. Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yes", provide explanation.)**☐ Yes ☒ No

21. *By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances** and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 218, Section 1001)**

☒ ** I AGREE

** The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.

Authorized Representative:

Prefix: * First Name:
 Middle Name:
 * Last Name:
 Suffix:

* Title: * Telephone Number: Fax Number: * Email: * Signature of Authorized Representative: * Date Signed:

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

Version 04

*** Applicant Federal Debt Delinquency Explanation**

The following field should contain an explanation if the Applicant organization is delinquent on any Federal Debt. Maximum number of characters that can be entered is 4,000. Try and avoid extra spaces and carriage returns to maximize the availability of space.

Upload #1

Applicant: NATURAL RESOURCES, MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF
Application Number: FWS-WSFR2026028928
Project Title: Habitat Management for Breeding Waterfowl of Importance to Maryland
Status: Work in Progress
Document Title: Cover Letter



Wes Moore, Governor
Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor
Josh Kurtz, Secretary
David Goshorn, Deputy Secretary

November 11, 2025

Jason Rasku
Acting Assistant Regional Director, Office of Conservation Investment
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Northeast Region
300 Westgate Center Drive
Hadley, MA 01035-9589

Dear Mr. Rasku,

Please accept Maryland's submission for a new Wildlife Restoration grant, entitled **"Habitat Management for Breeding Waterfowl of Importance to Maryland"** for your review and consideration for approval.

The following pertains to this grant application:

1. An application has been submitted in GrantSolutions and includes the SF-424 and SF-424A.
2. This application is for a new grant with a 3-year grant period and a start date of January 1, 2026 to end date of December 31, 2028.
3. This grant requests approval for the entire total (federal + state non-federal share) of \$405,000 federal Wildlife Restoration funds Subject to the Availability of Funds (SAF). The state share for this request is a minimum of 25%; we request approval of estimated additional overmatch.
4. Please obligate **\$100,000** of federal Wildlife Restoration funds for January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026.
5. Project and Budget Narratives have been submitted in GrantSolutions.
6. A Project Abstract Summary has been entered in the GrantSolutions application.
7. This application does not generate program income.
8. The work will be entirely conducted in New Brunswick, Canada and Ducks Unlimited Canada have provided a letter of assurance of their compliance with Canadian law.

If any additional information is needed, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards,

Hannah Devine
Federal Aid Coordinator
Wildlife and Heritage Service

Upload #2

Applicant: NATURAL RESOURCES, MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF
Application Number: FWS-WSFR2026028928
Project Title: Habitat Management for Breeding Waterfowl of Importance to Maryland
Status: Work in Progress
Document Title: Canada Compliance Letter

Adam Campbell

Manager of Provincial Operations
Ducks Unlimited Canada
adam.campbell@duc.ca
(506) 461-9469



October 29, 2025

Josh Homyack, CWB(R)
Game Bird Section Leader
Wildlife and Heritage Service
Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Mobile: 410-490-6553
josh.homyack@maryland.gov

Dear Mr. Homyack,

I hope this message finds you well. My name is Adam Campbell, and I serve as the Manager of Provincial Operations for Ducks Unlimited Canada. I'm reaching out regarding our ongoing work related to your Pittman-Robertson funded wetlands restoration in New Brunswick.

I'd like to take this opportunity to provide some context regarding our project delivery, particularly as it relates to regulatory compliance. Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC) operates under an agreement with the New Brunswick Department of Environment and Local Government, which includes a multi-site Watercourse and Wetland Alteration (WAWA) permit for routine work. All applicable stipulations are identified for work in and around water and wetlands. All our work requires 72 hr departmental notification and we are routinely audited for stipulation compliance. Elaborate projects require a site-specific permit application that must be obtained before work can proceed.

Importantly, the Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) permitting and sign-off process is integrated within the WAWA "one window" approach. This streamlines regulatory approvals and ensures that all applicable federal and provincial requirements are met prior to initiating any work.

We take pride in ensuring that all our projects are delivered in full compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

Thank you for your impactful support,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Adam Campbell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Adam" and last name "Campbell" clearly distinguishable.

Adam Campbell
Manager of Provincial Operations

Upload #3

Applicant: NATURAL RESOURCES, MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF
Application Number: FWS-WSFR2026028928
Project Title: Habitat Management for Breeding Waterfowl of Importance to Maryland
Status: Work in Progress
Document Title: Ducks Unlimited Proposal



Maryland Department of Natural Resources

PROPOSAL TO RESTORE CRITICAL WATERFOWL HABITAT IN NEW BRUNSWICK

FY2026-2028

Submitted by Ducks Unlimited Canada and Ducks Unlimited Inc.

May 2025



State support of continental conservation

The Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA) recently approved a new name and brand for the international U.S. state partnership supporting Canadian Waterfowl breeding grounds conservation. The program is now under the banner of **Fall Flights!** The AFWA established a goal for states to collectively contribute \$10 million per year to North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP) projects on the Canadian breeding grounds through the Fall Flights initiative. Fall Flights funding provides non-federal monies that are matched by DU and in turn, matched by federal funds through the North American Wetland Conservation Act.



MDNR leadership is critically important to waterfowl habitat conservation for future generations.

Our conservation vision

Ducks Unlimited (DU) is the world leader in wetland conservation.

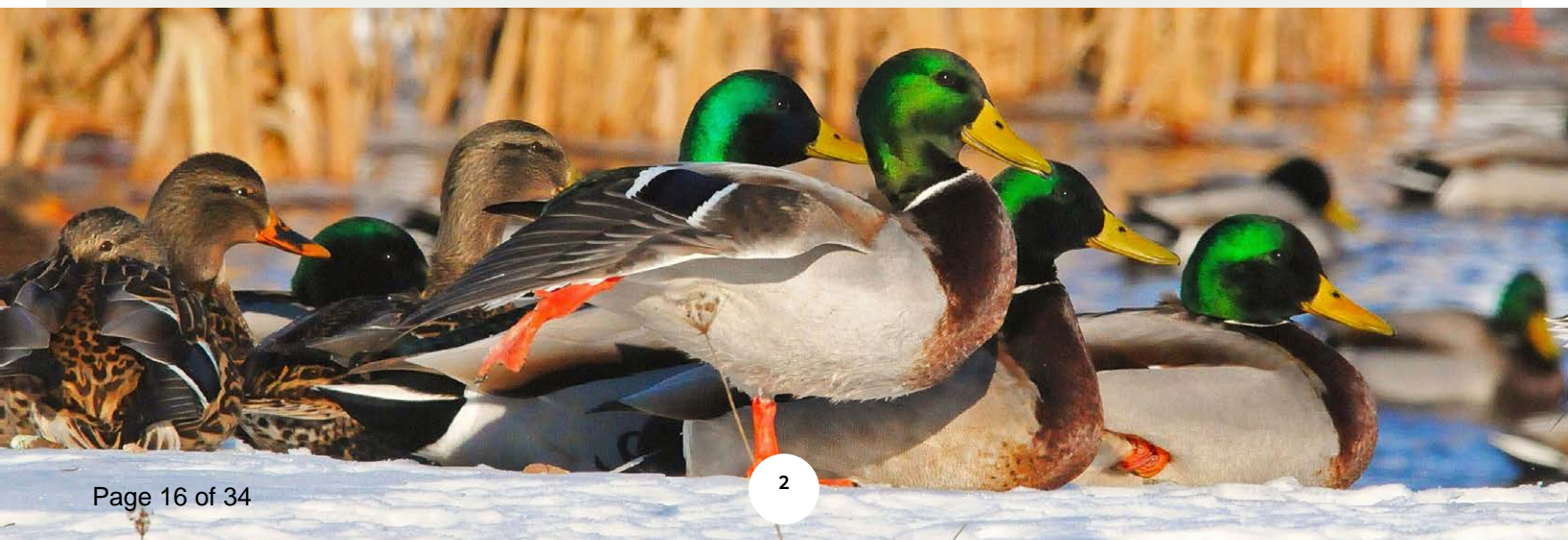
Since 1937, DU has invested over two billion dollars in waterfowl and wildlife habitat conservation in the United States, Canada and Mexico. In Canada alone, DU has completed more than 13,500 habitat projects, conserving 9.2 million acres, of which more than 4.6 million acres have been restored, and positively influencing over 244.7 million acres of habitat that benefit waterfowl, wildlife and people. Besides waterfowl, numerous species of wildlife — including many threatened or endangered species — live and flourish on DU projects.

The State of Maryland and New Brunswick have much in common when it comes to waterfowl resources. Both the state and the province have strong waterfowling heritages that continue today, a responsibility for meeting the needs of waterfowl that use the Atlantic Flyway, and a commitment to sustaining healthy waterfowl populations for future generations. This bond is further exemplified in the relationship between New Brunswick-produced waterfowl and Maryland-harvested birds.

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) and Ducks Unlimited have partnered and supported the North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP), North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA) and its waterfowl population goals for almost 50 years. We look forward to expanding our partnership to meet the habitat challenges facing this shared migratory resource.

State Fish and Wildlife Agencies play an important role in providing partnership funds that are critical in leveraging resources for acres on the ground. The non-federal U.S. source commitment made by 48 states this year will provide over \$5.5 million that will be matched by DU, NAWCA and Canadian partners.

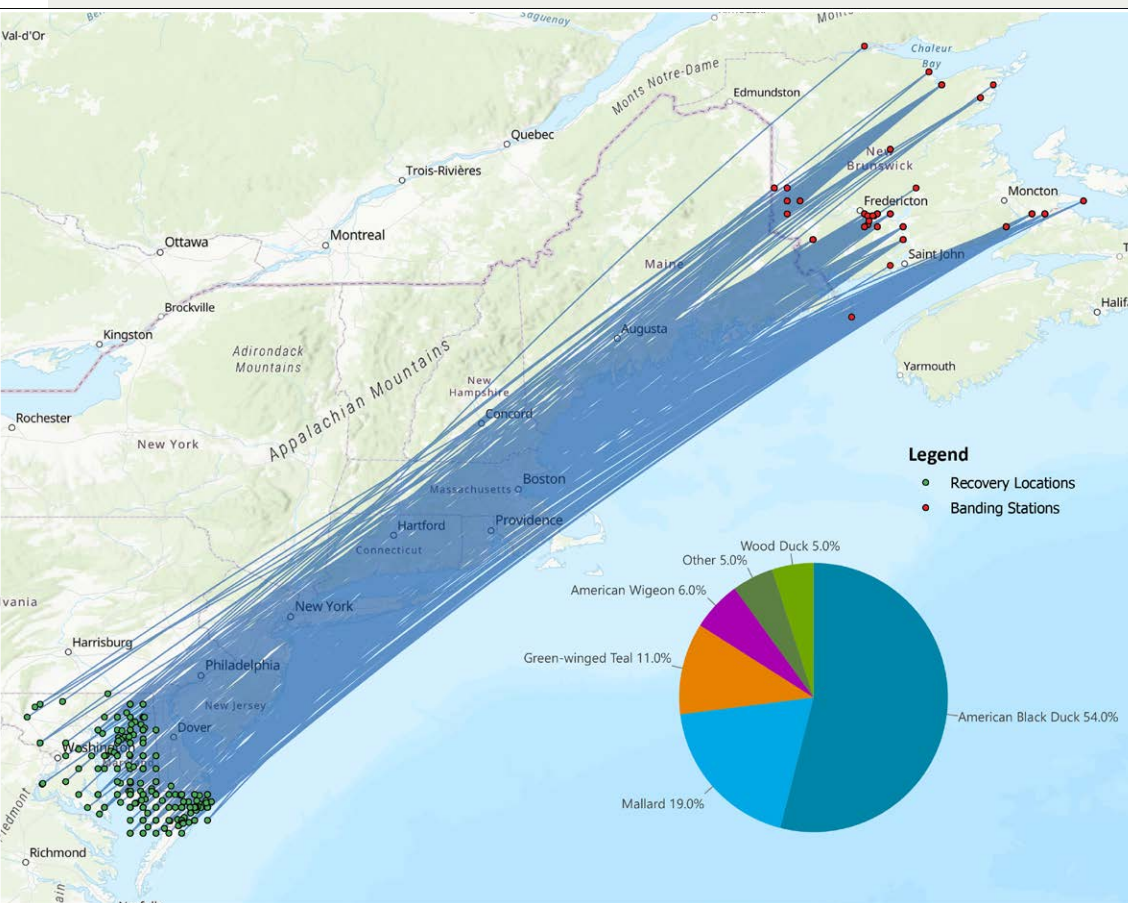
Ducks Unlimited conserves, restores and manages wetlands and associated habitats for North America's waterfowl. These habitats also benefit other wildlife and people.



Waterfowl connection

Maryland and New Brunswick share a linkage through migratory bird movements through the Atlantic Flyway.

The important species of waterfowl that Maryland hunters commonly harvest such as American black ducks, mallards, wood ducks, green-winged teal and American wigeon often trace their origins to habitat in New Brunswick. To ensure long-term benefits from the waterfowl resource to Maryland waterfowl hunters and residents, we must continue our international cooperation in conserving habitat in both New Brunswick and within the State. This proposal outlines how Maryland can contribute to important waterfowl conservation in New Brunswick by protecting the most important existing habitat and restoring productive wetlands.



Band recoveries

Origin of ducks harvested in Maryland that originated from New Brunswick. Note: this datum is not corrected for banding effort.



DUC is a proud partner of the EHJV. Canada is home to 25% of the world's wetlands – of which 39% are within EHJV boundaries. The conservation of those wetlands is fundamental to the survival of waterfowl and all migratory bird populations as well as hundreds of other wildlife and plant species.

The habitat challenge

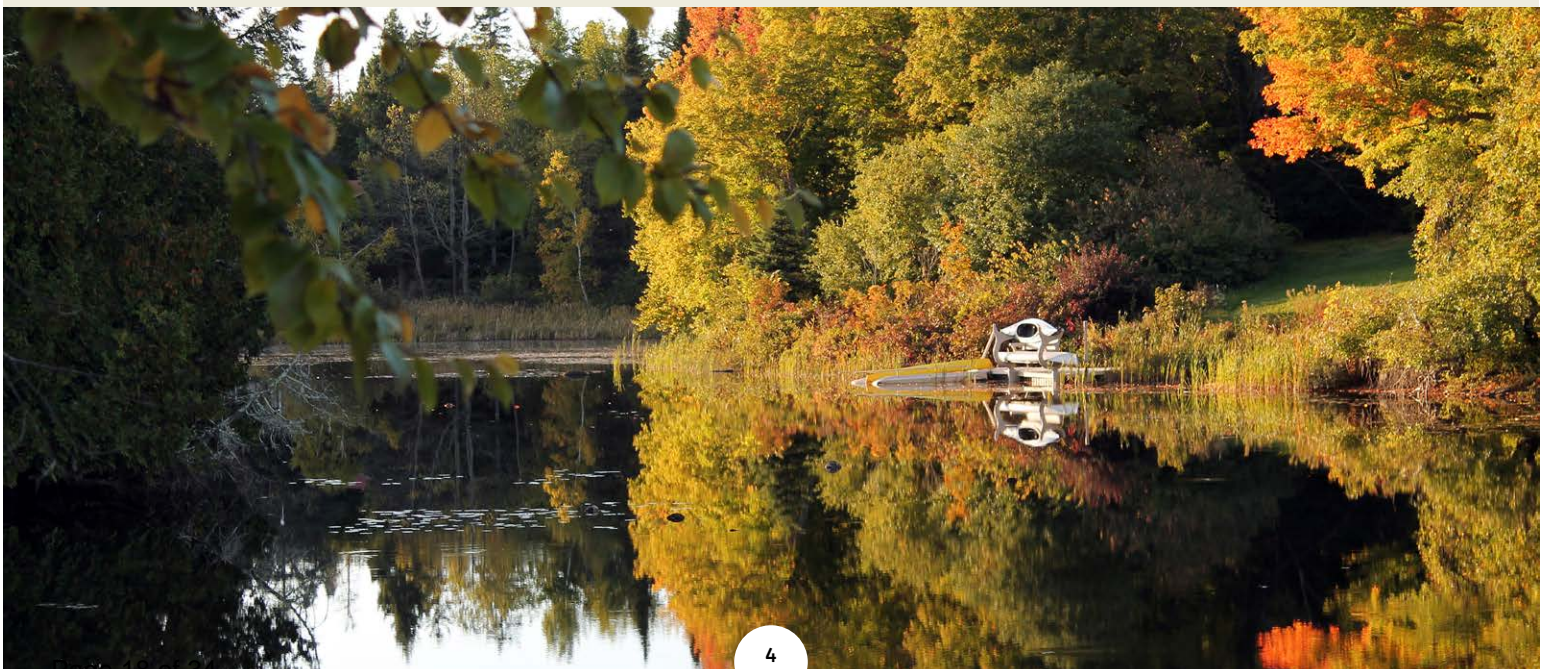
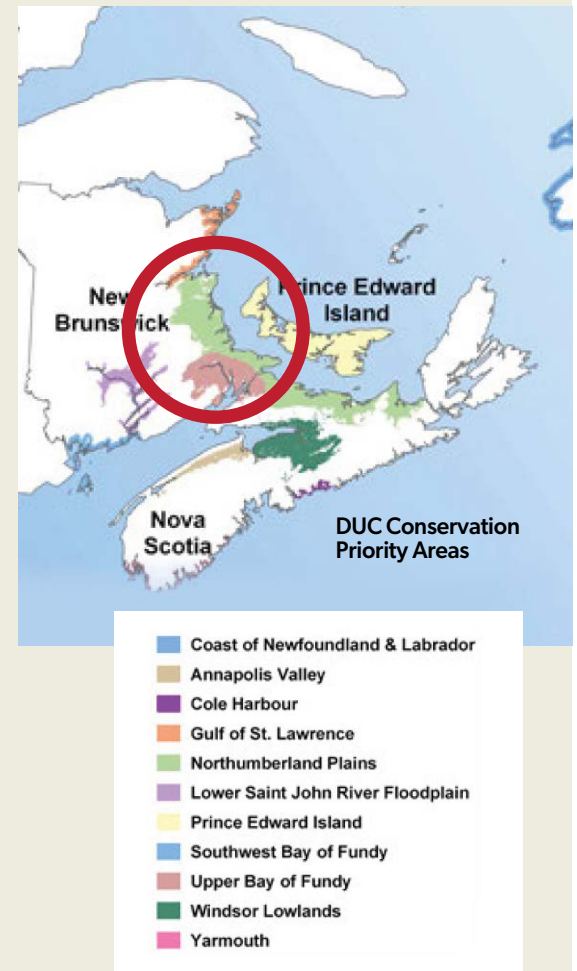
Waterfowl habitat throughout Atlantic Canada is diverse and includes both salt and freshwater marshes and associated upland habitats. The Atlantic Provinces' inland wetlands are particularly vital for breeding waterfowl harvested in Maryland. Atlantic coastal islands and associated intertidal waters provide critical breeding, moulting or migration (staging) habitat for many species of waterfowl including northern pintail, American black duck, wood duck, common eider and surf and black scoter.

Atlantic Waterfowl Habitat Conservation Initiative

Waterfowl habitat throughout Atlantic Canada is diverse and includes both salt and freshwater marshes and associated upland habitat. The Atlantic Provinces' inland wetlands are particularly important for breeding waterfowl that are harvested in Maryland. Atlantic coastal islands and associated intertidal waters provide critical breeding, molting or migration (staging) habitat for many species of waterfowl including pintail, black duck, common eider and surf and black scoter.

Maryland and Ducks Unlimited have a long and successful partnership in conserving waterfowl habitat in eastern Canada under the NAWMP, in conjunction with the recommendations of the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. Funds have been used by DUC to protect and restore thousands of acres of waterfowl habitat in eastern Canada, which have provided direct benefits to Maryland waterfowl hunters, birdwatchers and citizens.

The objective of this proposal is to restore wetland habitat to increase waterfowl production in the Northumberland Plain Conservation Priority Area (CPA) of New Brunswick.





Pittman-Robertson program: Restoring six large wetlands in the Northumberland Plain CPA

The Northumberland Coastal Plain in New Brunswick extends from the Nova Scotia border north to Miramichi and encompasses areas that have experienced wetland loss over the past 400 years. This conservation priority area is approximately 2,000 square miles and the roughly 14% of the area is classified as agricultural. The wetland habitat includes both equal parts of inland freshwater and coastal wetland habitat. DUC has focused on both large wetland restoration, small farm wetlands and coastal marsh protection in this priority area. Currently, DUC has 26 wetland restoration projects with aging infrastructure in this CPA.

Many of the former family farms have been abandoned over the last 100 years. As a result, many fields are in various stages of succession (early success to mature forest). While the amount of land being farmed (170,000 acres) has decreased, the intensity of farming has increased. Potato production on the Cape Tormentine Peninsula is a signal of renewed agricultural activity. Several thousand acres of the better land on Cape Tormentine has been bought, cleared and made ready for potato production, but is currently not being farmed because of economic conditions. Forest harvest activities have intensified in this CPA, and the coastal zone has seen increased human activity. Cottage and summer home development was once focused around Parlee Beach and Shediac but in the last 15-years cottage development has expanded along the full coastline. Large coastal habitat is still in-tact in four major estuaries: Richibucto, Buctouche, Shemogue, Cocagne and Shediac. Large tidal wetlands are also situated behind long sand dunes and Baie Verte is a huge shallow tidal bay with extensive eel grass beds.

Waterfowl, such as American black ducks, green-winged teal and ring-necked ducks use the freshwater habitats for breeding at a density of 0.1 per square mile. Beaver ponds and DUC impoundments are the most important freshwater for breeding waterfowl in the area.

The large coastal wetlands are used by black ducks for both breeding and as staging and migration areas. Other species such as American wigeon, northern pintail and Canada geese use the brackish marshes during migration. The beaches and sand dunes offer habitat for a few endangered or rare species of birds including the piping plover.

Inland wetlands have been altered over the past few hundred years as the land was settled and farmed. Increased farming of potatoes on steep slopes is a major threat to both fresh and tidal wetlands. Coastal development in the form of recreational properties and the ensuing infrastructure poses threats to the habitat and also to wetland function.



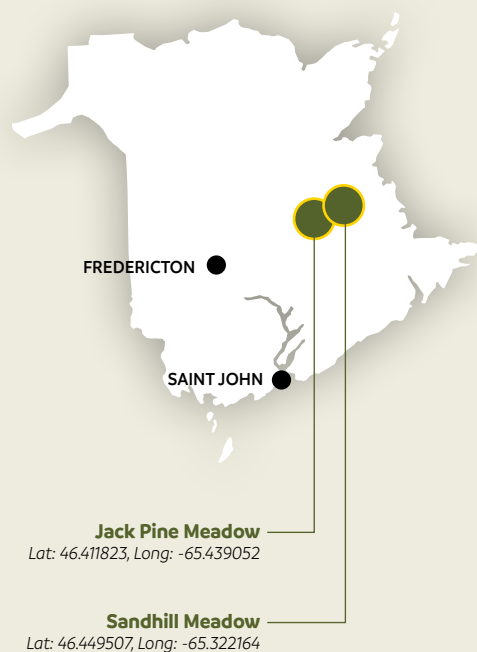
Jack Pine Meadow and Sandhill Meadow: Restoring vital habitat in New Brunswick



The proposed work to rebuild Jack Pine Meadow and Sandhill Meadow (*above*) will restore two critical wetland habitats that are nearing the end of their useful life, ensuring continued support for waterfowl and other birds.

Both projects involve comprehensive upgrades, including mulching to clear vegetation, replacing existing culverts and hauling in new soil to restore and top the access and berms. Berms will be rebuilt with new material, maintaining a 15-foot width and a 2:1 slope ratio for stability. At Jack Pine Meadow, originally constructed in 1990, the access and berm measures approximately 5,205 feet. Sandhill Meadow, built in 1988, includes an access road and a berm of 7,784 feet. In both locations, the existing water control structures will be replaced with modern systems featuring beaver deterrent devices and rock overflow components. These improvements will allow for precise water-level management to optimize waterfowl productivity while reducing future maintenance and management costs.

Additional wetland restoration and management projects will be identified in years two and three of the grant period. These projects will be incorporated into the overall program through annual scope changes and funding amendments, ensuring continued investment in the long-term health and functionality of priority wetland habitats.



Overall, DU's vision for the New Brunswick section of the Northumberland Plain conservation program area is to protect the existing freshwater 61,500 acres and coastal 47,850 acres wetland base. By leveraging MDNR's Pittman-Robertson funding, DUC will rebuild six wetlands that were all originally built in the mid-to-late 1980s over the three-years, totaling 200 acres so that they do not lose some or all their value to wildlife and society. All the projects have small drop box water control structures that are prone to blockage by beavers. New engineered structures with beaver abatement will be installed and dikes will be strengthened and rebuilt, and new 20-30-year conservation agreements will be signed with private landowners.

FY26-28 Pittman-Robertson Wetland Restoration Program

Project	Acres
<i>Proposed FY26 rebuilds</i>	
Sandhill Meadow	48
Jack Pine Meadow	48
<i>Proposed FY26 rebuilds (104 acres)</i>	

FY26-28 Detailed Expenditures by Budget Category and Funder

	MDNR-PR	DU Match	Total (\$USD)
Personnel		\$15,500	\$15,500
Travel		\$2,200	\$2,200
Supplies	\$10,500	\$7,000	\$17,500
Construction	\$89,500	\$10,300	\$99,800
Total Direct Costs	\$100,000	\$35,000	\$135,000

FY26-28 Pittman-Robertson Funding Sources

Revenue Source	Revenue (\$USD)
State of Maryland*	\$100,000
Ducks Unlimited Canada**	\$35,000
Total	\$135,000

* Pittman-Robertson Funding secured through MDNR

** Through various Canadian sources such as partnerships with the New Brunswick government, private donations and foundations partnerships.



Above: Aged DUC water control structures in need of replacement at (top to bottom) Jack Pine Meadow and Shirley's Meadow.



MDNR contributions provide the critical first dollar which levers additional funding, that drives Canadian waterfowl habitat conservation.

The critical first step

Ducks Unlimited respectfully requests funding of \$100,000 per year for the next three years from the MDNR as a contribution toward annual direct program expenses for this international wetland habitat conservation initiative aimed at bolstering waterfowl populations in the Northumberland Plain CPA of New Brunswick and eastern North America.

Your contribution of \$100,000 per year of Pittman-Robertson funding will be matched by 25% from Canadian contributions from DUC that could include Canadian government partners, at both the provincial and federal levels, further maximizing habitat program impacts and waterfowl benefits.

Thank you very much for your consideration of this proposed international waterfowl habitat collaborative.

Contact information

Sarah Fleming

*Director of Conservation Programs –
Northeast Region, Ducks Unlimited, Inc.*

1035 7th North Street, Suite H
Liverpool, NY 13088

Phone: 585-683-6764

Email: sfleming@ducks.org

Deanne Drouillard

*Manager of Eastern Region Partnerships –
Ducks Unlimited Canada*

PO Box 430
Amherst, NS (Canada) B4H 3Z5

Phone: 902-694-2656

Email: d_drouillard@ducks.ca



Upload #4

Applicant: NATURAL RESOURCES, MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF
Application Number: FWS-WSFR2026028928
Project Title: Habitat Management for Breeding Waterfowl of Importance to Maryland
Status: Work in Progress
Document Title: Budget Narrative

Budget Narrative for “Habitat Management for Breeding Waterfowl of Importance to Maryland”
January 1, 2026 –December 31, 2028

Maryland requests for the January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2028 period of performance \$405,000. Federal portion would be 75%, or \$300,000. The remaining 25% match, \$105,000, will be provided by Ducks Unlimited. We are requesting that the first year of federal funding, \$100,000, be obligated with this application and the remaining funds be subject to available funding with \$35,000 in match for the first year. See Table 1 for annual budgets by year.

Personnel \$0

There are no personnel costs for the State of Maryland for this project.

Fringe Benefits \$0

There are no fringe benefits for the State of Maryland for this project.

Estimated fringe benefit costs are for Social Security, Medicare, employer-paid retirement benefits, and employer-paid health care contributions. Costs are estimated at the Department average of 30% of wages for permanent employees. The rate is approximately 10% for long term contractual employees. Actual cost charges will use specific fringe rates for each individual coding grant time.

Supplies \$0

There are no supply costs for the State of Maryland for this project.

Contractual

There will be no contracts anticipated for this grant.

Travel \$0

There are no travel costs anticipated for agency employees.

Equipment \$0

No equipment will be requested with this project. Useful life of computers is estimated at 3-5 years, small equipment 3-5 years, vehicles 100,000 miles, and other large equipment 10-15 years.

Other: Subrecipient Agreement and match (appears on SF424a in the “other” category) \$405,000

Subrecipient Agreement: \$300,000 (\$100,000 for the first year)

Federal funds will be used to fund a three-year subrecipient agreement with DU to construct 30,855 linear feet of roads, 8,112 linear feet of berms, and six beaver abatement structures across six wetlands in New Brunswick, Canada. The cost of constructing the berms and roads will total \$89,500 annually (10,285 linear feet of road per year and 2,704 linear feet of berm). The cost of six beaver abatement structures (water control structure, beaver leveler, and pipe) will be \$10,500 annually (2 per year).

Match: \$105,000 (\$35,000 for the first year)

Expenditures used as match is anticipated from Ducks Unlimited. Ducks Unlimited will be contributing funding to their personnel (\$15,500 annually), travel (\$2,200 annually), and supplies and construction (\$17,300 annually).

Indirect Charges \$0

Indirect charges are based on the FY25 rate of 11.19% provided by a NICRA between the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Department of Interior. The most recently approved NICRA is on file in the WSFR Region 5 office. Indirect rates for the state Fiscal Year 2026 and 2027 are currently being negotiated with the Department of the Interior and are anticipated to be 11.19%.

Pre-Award Costs

No pre-award costs are requested for this grant.

Program Income

None.

Indirect Cost Statement: MD DNR is a U.S. state government entity receiving more than \$35 million in direct Federal funding each year with an indirect cost rate averaging 7.67%. We submit our indirect cost rate proposals to our cognizant agency. A copy of our most recently approved rate agreement is attached.

Single Audit Reporting Statement: The State of Maryland was required to submit a Statewide Single Audit report for its most recently closed fiscal year and that report is available on the Federal Audit Clearinghouse Single Audit Database website. The report is filed under the State of Maryland's EIN 52-6002033.

Conflict of Interest Statement: At the time of this application, Maryland DNR Wildlife and Heritage Service is not aware of any actual or potential conflicts of interest that may arise. Should an actual or potential conflict of interest arise during the period of performance, MD DNR WHS will notify the OCI Regional Office.

Table 1.

	Year 1 (current obligation)	Year 2	Year 3
Federal Share	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
Match provided by DU	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000

Upload #5

Applicant: NATURAL RESOURCES, MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF
Application Number: FWS-WSFR2026028928
Project Title: Habitat Management for Breeding Waterfowl of Importance to Maryland
Status: Work in Progress
Document Title: NICRA



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Washington, DC 20240

State and Local Governments Indirect Cost Negotiation Agreement

EIN: 52-6002033

Date: 12/12/2025

Organization:

Maryland Department of Natural Resources
580 Taylor Avenue, B-4
Tawes State Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Report Number: 2025-0916

Filing Ref.:

Last Negotiation Agreement
dated: 08/25/2025

The indirect cost rate contained herein is for use on grants, contracts, and other agreements with the Federal Government to which 2 CFR Part 200 applies subject to the limitations in Section II.A. of this agreement. The rate was negotiated by the U.S. Department of the Interior, Interior Business Center, and the subject organization in accordance with the authority contained in applicable regulations.

Section I: Rate

Start Date	End Date	Rate Type	Rate Details				
07/01/2025	06/30/2026	Fixed Carryforward	Name	Rate	Base	Location	Applicable To
			Indirect	55.20 %	(A)	All	Forest Service
			Indirect	37.50 %	(A)	All	Park Service
			Indirect	41.96 %	(A)	All	Resource Assessment Service
			Indirect	14.93 %	(A)	All	Engineering and Construction
			Indirect	7.67 %	(A)	All	Wildlife and Heritage Service
			Indirect	17.53 %	(A)	All	Natural Resources Police
			Indirect	0.00 %	(A)	All	Chesapeake and Coastal Services
			Indirect	25.30 %	(A)	All	Fishing and Boating Services

(A) Base: Total direct salaries and wages, including fringe benefits. The rate applies to all programs administered by the non-federal entity. To determine the amount of indirect costs to be billed under this agreement, direct salaries and wages and related fringe benefits should be summed and multiplied by the rate. All other program costs should be eliminated from the calculation.

Section I: Rate (continued)

Treatment of fringe benefits: Fringe benefits applicable to direct salaries and wages are treated as direct costs; fringe benefits applicable to indirect salaries and wages are treated as indirect costs.

Treatment of paid absences: Vacation, holiday, sick leave, and other paid absences are included in salaries and wages and are claimed on grants, contracts, and other agreements as part of the normal cost for the salaries and wages. Separate claims for the costs of these paid absences are not made.

Section II: General

- A. **Limitations:** Use of the rate(s) contained in this agreement is subject to any applicable statutory limitations. Acceptance of the rate(s) agreed to herein is predicated upon these conditions: (1) no costs other than those incurred by the subject organization were included in its indirect cost rate proposal, (2) all such costs are the legal obligations of the grantee/contractor, (3) similar types of costs have been accorded consistent treatment, and (4) the same costs that have been treated as indirect costs have not been claimed as direct costs (for example, supplies can be charged directly to a program or activity as long as these costs are not part of the supply costs included in the indirect cost pool for central administration).
- B. **Audit:** All costs (direct and indirect, federal and non-federal) are subject to audit. Adjustments to amounts resulting from audit of the cost allocation plan or indirect cost rate proposal upon which the negotiation of this agreement was based will be compensated for in a subsequent negotiation.
- C. **Changes:** The rate(s) contained in this agreement are based on the accounting system in effect at the time the proposal was submitted. Changes in the method of accounting for costs which affect the amount of reimbursement resulting from use of the rate(s) in this agreement may require the prior approval of the cognizant agency. Failure to obtain such approval may result in subsequent audit disallowance.
- D. **Rate Type:**
 - 1. **Fixed Carryforward Rate:** The fixed carryforward rate is based on an estimate of the costs that will be incurred during the period for which the rate applies. When the actual costs for such period have been determined, an adjustment will be made to the rate for a future period, if necessary, to compensate for the difference between the costs used to establish the fixed rate and the actual costs.
 - 2. **Provisional/Final Rate:** Within six (6) months after year end, a final indirect cost rate proposal must be submitted based on actual costs. Billings and charges to contracts and grants must be adjusted if the final rate varies from the provisional rate. If the final rate is greater than the provisional rate and there are no funds available to cover the additional indirect costs, the organization may not recover all indirect costs. Conversely, if the final rate is less than the provisional rate, the organization will be required to pay back the difference to the funding agency.
 - 3. **Predetermined Rate:** A predetermined rate is an indirect cost rate applicable to a specified current or future period, usually the organization's fiscal year. The rate is based on an estimate of the costs to be incurred during the period. A predetermined rate is not subject to adjustment.
- E. **Rate Extension:** Only final and predetermined rates may be eligible for consideration of rate extensions. Requests for rate extensions of a current rate will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. If an extension is granted, the non-Federal entity may not request a rate review until the extension period ends. In the last year of a rate extension period, the non-Federal entity must submit a new rate proposal for the next fiscal period.
- F. **Agency Notification:** Copies of this document may be provided to other federal offices as a means of notifying them of the agreement contained herein.
- G. **Record Keeping:** Organizations must maintain accounting records that demonstrate that each type of cost has been treated consistently either as a direct cost or an indirect cost. Records pertaining to the costs of program administration, such as salaries, travel, and related costs, should be kept on an annual basis.
- H. **Reimbursement Ceilings:** Grantee/contractor program agreements providing for ceilings on indirect cost rates or reimbursement amounts are subject to the ceilings stipulated in the contract or grant agreements. If the ceiling rate is higher than the negotiated rate in Section I of this agreement, the negotiated rate will be used to determine the maximum allowable indirect cost.
- I. **Use of Other Rates:** If any federal programs are reimbursing indirect costs to this grantee/contractor by a measure other than the approved rate(s) in this agreement, the grantee/contractor should credit such costs to the

Section II: General (continued)

affected programs, and the approved rate(s) should be used to identify the maximum amount of indirect cost allocable to these programs.

- J. **Central Service Costs:** If the proposed central service cost allocation plan for the same period has not been approved by that time, the indirect cost proposal may be prepared including an amount for central services that is based on the latest federally-approved central service cost allocation plan. The difference between these central service amounts and the amounts ultimately approved will be compensated for by an adjustment in a subsequent period.
- K. **Other:**
 - 1. The purpose of an indirect cost rate is to facilitate the allocation and billing of indirect costs. Approval of the indirect cost rate does not mean that an organization can recover more than the actual costs of a particular program or activity.
 - 2. Programs received or initiated by the organization subsequent to the negotiation of this agreement are subject to the approved indirect cost rate(s) if the programs receive administrative support from the indirect cost pool. It should be noted that this could result in an adjustment to a future rate.
 - 3. Indirect cost proposals must be developed (and, when required, submitted) within six (6) months after the close of the governmental unit's fiscal year, unless an exception is approved by the cognizant agency for indirect costs.

Section III: Acceptance

Listed below are the signatures of acceptance for this agreement:

By the State and Local Governments

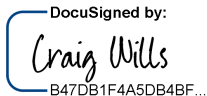
By the Cognizant Federal Government Agency

Maryland Department of Natural Resources

US Department of the Interior

Signed by:

FD938B5C07704F6...

DocuSigned by:

B47DB1F4A5DB4BF...

Signature

Signature

David Goshorn

Name:

Craig Wills

Name:

Division Chief

Indirect Cost & Contract Audit Division

Interior Business Center

Deputy Secretary

Title:

Title:

1/5/2026

Date

12/18/2025

Date

Negotiated by: Stacy Frost

Telephone: (916) 930-3815

Email: stacy_frost@ibc.doi.gov

Next Proposal Due Date: 12/31/2025

Upload #6

Applicant: NATURAL RESOURCES, MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF
Application Number: FWS-WSFR2026028928
Project Title: Habitat Management for Breeding Waterfowl of Importance to Maryland
Status: Work in Progress
Document Title: Project Abstract

Project Abstract Summary

This Project Abstract Summary form must be submitted or the application will be considered incomplete. Ensure the Project Abstract field succinctly describes the project in plain language that the public can understand and use without the full proposal. Use 4,000 characters or less. Do not include personally identifiable, sensitive or proprietary information. Refer to Agency instructions for any additional Project Abstract field requirements. If the application is funded, your project abstract information (as submitted) will be made available to public websites and/or databases including USAspending.gov.

Funding Opportunity Number

F-FWS-WSFR-25-021-115084

CFDA(s)

15.611

Applicant Name

MD Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife & Heritage Svc

Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project

Habitat Management for Breeding Waterfowl of Importance to Maryland

Project Abstract

A major portion of important species of waterfowl that hunters commonly harvest in Maryland are produced annually in New Brunswick. To ensure long-term benefits from the waterfowl resource to Maryland waterfowl hunters and residents, we must continue our international cooperation in conserving habitat for migratory birds in both New Brunswick and within the State. This project will support habitat management and wetland restoration projects in New Brunswick to maintain or increase production of waterfowl that migrate to and winter in Maryland.

Upload #7

Applicant: NATURAL RESOURCES, MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF
Application Number: FWS-WSFR2026028928
Project Title: Habitat Management for Breeding Waterfowl of Importance to Maryland
Status: Work in Progress
Document Title: TRACS Narrative failed to attach

GrantSolutions.gov was not able to attach this document Updated TRACS Fall Flights.pdf due to technical reasons.