



Budget and Finance Workgroup

February 2023 Featured Funding Program

Chesapeake WILD

Program Pillars:

- **Fish and Wildlife Habitats** - Connectivity, conservation, restoration for “imperiled species”
- **Climate Change** - Protecting and enhancing nature-based resilience for critical habitats
- **Community Partnership** - Capacity building and enhanced delivery of technical assistance
- **Public Access** - Enhancing equitable access and public awareness
- **Water Quality** - Emphasizing benefit for imperiled species

Timeline:

- **February 8:** RFP Released
- **April 20:** Proposals Due
- **May:** Proposal Review
- **August:** Board Approval
- **September:** Award Announcement

Eligibility

- 501(C) non-profit organizations
- Community based organizations
- Local governments
- Municipals governments
- Tribal governments and organizations
- K-12 educational institutions
- US Federal Government agencies
- State Government Agencies
- Institutions of higher education

Project Example:

- **Short Hills Indigenous Wetland Assessment and Restoration Plan (VA)**
 - Total Project Amount: \$1,200,000
 - Develop a wetland assessment and restoration and management plan for an indigenous-owned mountaintop forestland in Rockbridge County, Virginia. Project will provide essential data for critical future implementation efforts aimed at restoring wetland conditions to protect endangered species and migratory bird habitat while also preventing future aquatic ecosystem failure.

Resources:

- **Preparing Proposals:** https://www.nfwf.org/sites/default/files/2023-02/cbsf_toolbox_2023.pdf
- **Grant Metrics Guide:** <https://www.nfwf.org/sites/default/files/2023-02/2023-swg-wild-metrics-guidance.pdf>
- **CBFS Quick Reference Project Guide:** <https://www.nfwf.org/sites/default/files/2023-02/2023-cbsf-quick-reference-guide.pdf>
- **Project Examples:** <https://www.nfwf.org/sites/default/files/2022-12/NFWF-Chesapeake-WILD-20220909-GS-Final.pdf>
- **WILD Presentation:** https://d18lev1ok5leia.cloudfront.net/chesapeakebay/documents/CBP-BudgetFinanceWG_Feb-2023_Final.pdf

Contact Info

- **Jake Reilly, Program Director**
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
Mobile: (202) 595-2610
Email: jake.reilly@nfwf.org
- **Joe Toolan, Program Manager**
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
Mobile: (202) 888-1677
Email: joetoolan@nfwf.org
- **Easygrants Helpdesk:** Easygrants@nfwf.org

Chesapeake WILD Q&A

Are all organisms in the overlap “imperiled”? What are the specific criteria for imperiled?

For WILD, it could be any species that is imperiled through Federal government, states, and of those programs for this small watershed program that particularly follows our Chesapeake Bay Business plan. Some of these species are specifically called out in the business plan such as oysters, black duck, brook trout. Those are fundable under the small watershed grant program. That might be the better route to take for those species. Other imperiled species might be a better fit under WILD. Could also depend on the type of project. If we noted overlap, you may be able to apply under either program, but for other imperiled species, WILD might be the better pot to follow.

Any state or federally listed imperiled species. USFWS has their own list of imperiled species. Other entities like state jurisdictions may have their own lists. Imperiled species is meant to be a broad term to catch at risk and endangered species across jurisdictions. Important because there are high criteria to endangered species status.

Are there any maps showing the range and habitat for imperiled species?

We do not have a map for this program. I would recommend looking at Nature's Network in our toolbox. Work primarily in Northeast region establishing those ranges

Can WILD funding be used for climate projects to help measure success of resilience strategies? Can it support modeling and research?

It's possible depending on the circumstances. I'd recommend setting up a meeting with us to discuss eligibility and best fit.

Are their limits/caps on the balance of funding going towards implementation vs technical assistance?

Depends on the track you choose. It's okay for implementation grant to contribute to some planning but if the balance of the project is planning and technical assistance you should apply under that track. Please reach out with any questions if you have any projects ideas or know of any others with ideas. Even if you don't have a project idea, we will come to you for help reviewing.

Can you talk a bit about the characteristics you have seen that sort of run across the most successful grant applications? Thematically?

Follow the narrative. Answer the specific questions in the application. Give detailed background for reviewers who are less familiar with your project.

Can staff time to implement a project be covered and can maintenance be included?

Staff time is covered. Typically, these grants don't cover long term maintenance, but if you have short term maintenance from 1 to 3 years, we can discuss it.