

REPORT ON PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN PURSUANT TO SETTLEMENT OR
MITIGATION AGREEMENTS UPON WHICH THE SECRETARY NATURAL RESOURCES
IS AUTHORIZED SIGNATORY ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNOR

Prepared Pursuant to the Commonwealth's 2020-2022 Biennial Budget Chapter 2. Article 7. Item 372. C.

Presented by the Secretary of Natural Resources

Presented to:

The Honorable Luke E. Torian, Chairman, House Appropriations Committee
The Honorable Janet D. Howell, Chair, Senate Finance & Appropriations Committee

Annual Report to the Chairmen of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance & Appropriations
Committees of all projects undertaken pursuant to a settlement or mitigation agreement upon which the
Secretary of Natural Resources is an authorized signatory on behalf of the Governor.

Mitigation Grant Awards
Pursuant to the Commonwealth's 2020-2022 Biennial Budget

Surry-Skiffes Creek-Wheaton Project

On July 3, 2017, the Army Corps of Engineers issued a final permit under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899. A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) has been developed and executed by the Commonwealth of Virginia including the Department of Historic Resources (DHR) acting as the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), the United States Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), the Advisory Council of Historic Preservation, and Virginia Electric and Power Company doing business in Virginia as Dominion Energy Virginia (Dominion Energy) to resolve adverse effects on historic properties due to the Surry-Skiffes Creek-Wheaton Project.

Virginia Land Conservation Foundation \$12,500,000

Financial Highlights

Total Funding	\$12,500,000
Total Obligated by VLCF	\$12,500,000
Prior Period Spending	\$ 7,231,691
Total Spent in 2021	<u>\$ 4,198,310</u>
<u>Amount Remaining</u>	<u>\$ 1,069,999</u>

2017 Grant Round

The VLCF Board approved nine grant projects in 2017. Two of the projects (Malvern Hill Farm and Battlefield Bluffs at Yorktown) were completed during 2018.

The Chickahominy on the Powhatan project closed in 2019. The Chickahominy Tribe acquired 105 acres on the James River in Charles City County. A VOF open-space easement protects the conservation values of the property, allows for tribal functions, and provides a place for historic interpretation.

Status: Closed.

The Belmead on the James grant to protect 2,265 acres of historic land along the James River in Powhatan County was released in 2019 because the project was no longer viable. The original landowner sold the property and the new owner is not interested in placing the land under a conservation easement.

Status: No longer going forward. Funds released.

The Fort Eustis Cultural Resources Management Program: Development of a 3D Laser Scan of Fort Crafford and an Earthwork Preservation Plan to Include a Landscape Management Plan

This grant is to fund a project to develop a 3D virtual model and an earthwork preservation plan of Fort Crafford (located at Fort Eustis). The virtual models will be accessible to visitors who cannot access the locations physically, as an illustration of the sophisticated defensive system developed by Confederate General John B. Magruder during the American Civil War.

Status: Complete. Closed November 2020

City of Newport News Parks, Recreation & Tourism: Endview Plantation Interpretive Program Development

This grant is to fund a new interpretive plan for Endview Plantation, located in Newport News, to enhance visitors' knowledge of the role the plantation and surrounding areas played in the American Revolution and the American Civil War.

Status: Complete. Final exhibits installed June 30, 2021.

Civil War Trust: Egger Tract at the Williamsburg Battlefield

This grant is to fund the fee-simple acquisition of the 251.17-acre Egger Tract in York County, located within the core area of the American Civil War Battle of Williamsburg. The parcel was also associated with the Algonquian People in the era of the Powhatan Confederacy. Public interpretation of the site's history will be supported through on-site interpretive signage.

Status: Extended to December 31, 2022. In addition to the \$300,000 grant received in the 2017 grant round, this project applied for and was granted additional funds in the 2020 Grant Round for the Surry Skiffes Creek Restricted Funds. Since this project is not yet under contract and probably will not close for another year, it will receive any amounts left over after the other projects have closed (projected to be \$519,999).

Civil War Trust: Colonial Williamsburg Tract at Williamsburg Battlefield

This grant is to fund the fee-simple acquisition of the 20.45-acre Colonial Williamsburg Tract, located within the core area of the Williamsburg Battlefield in the City of Williamsburg, and will fund interpretive signage related to the 1862 Battle of Williamsburg.

Status: Completed. Acquisition completed on December 15, 2020, with the Historic Preservation and Open-space easement recorded on September 30, 2021.

DCR - Natural Heritage Program: Yorktown Civil War Battlefield Protection

This grant is to fund a York County project to protect six undeveloped, wooded tracts, totaling 700 acres that are part of the Yorktown Civil War Battlefield Study Area. Surveys are now in hand. Surry Skiffes funds will purchase an historic easement on 554 acres of land owned by the City of Newport News and managed by Newport News Waterworks. A portion of this land adjoins the existing Grafton Ponds Natural Area Preserve. This project is projected come in under budget.

Status: Completed. Historic Preservation and Open-space easement recorded on 549.69 acres on April 2, 2021.

2020 Grant Round

A second grant round was announced in October of 2020 to expend the remaining funds of \$1,145,829. In addition, DCR released \$300,000 from its Yorktown Battlefield because this project is projected to come in significantly under budget. At the December 10, 2020 VLCF Board meeting, three projects were awarded funding as follows:

American Battlefield Trust: Battle of Glendale (Atkins Tract)

This grant will assist in the purchase and interpretation of the 39.45-acre Atkins Tract in Henrico County. It is situated entirely in the Core Area of the Glendale Battlefield and partially in the Study Area of the Malvern Hill Battlefield, two battles that were part of the Peninsula Campaign. This tract is also located in the Gravel Hill Community, a historic African American community founded in 1777 by formerly enslaved persons who had been freed. The tract is at risk of being subdivided and developed. Fee simple purchase of 39.45 acres in Henrico County. \$250,000

Status: Under contract with closing to take place by December 31, 2022.

DCR: Cedar Field Plantation

Easement purchase on 286.30 acres in Surry County.

This grant is to fund the acquisition of an Open-Space Easement held by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation on 286.30 acres of land located on the south side of the James River in Surry County. The property is wholly contained within the Surry Skiffes Creek-Wheaton 500 kV Transmission Line Project Area of Potential Effects "APE" in Surry County. It lies within the viewshed of Historic Jamestown and Jamestown Island, Colonial National Historic Park, Chippokes Plantation State Park, and Hog Island Wildlife Management Area.

Status: Closed. An Open-space Easement was recorded on December 30, 2020.

American Battlefield Trust: Williamsburg Battlefield (Egger Tract): Any funds remaining in account after all funded projects have closed (projected to be \$519,999).

Status: Expected to close by December 31, 2022.

The Conservation Fund \$26,200,000

The Conservation Fund manages a \$26.2M account. This funding is to be disbursed to support a variety of projects that have been approved by the State Historic Preservation Office and the Army Corps of Engineers.

As of the end of 2020, \$4,738,116 has been paid out of the account.

Virginia Environmental Endowment \$15,595,000

The Virginia Environmental Endowment (VEE) has completed four rounds of grant applications and awards under the \$15.595M James River Water Quality Improvement Program (JRWQIP). VEE makes these awards annually, the first having occurred in 2018. Over the past year, VEE made one additional award bringing the total number of awards to 17. The total amount of the awards made to date is \$12,281,376.

With its partners Chesapeake Conservancy and Chesapeake Commons, VEE in 2021 built an interactive online “story map” showing the history and successes of the JRWQIP. The story map includes a summary of the pollution reductions achieved as of the spring of 2021. The numbers follow the prescribed method of calculating reductions and are checked and entered into the Field Doc platform by each grantee. The reported reductions from the VEE James River Program as of the Spring of 2021 are impressive:

- 19,558 pounds of nitrogen
- 26,640 pounds of phosphorus
- 7,110,042 pounds of sediment

2021 GRANT AWARDS

Trout Unlimited

VEE Grant Award: \$754,700

Match: \$2,578,535

TU will continue and expand its work in the upper James River watershed. TU will springboard off its previous JRWQIP grant to expand and accelerate conservation practice implementation on priority resource lands. At a minimum, TU expects to:

- Restore five additional miles of streams using native rock and logs to improve vital pool and run habitat, protect banks and riparian habitat, and stabilize banks to remove sediment sources;
- Restore 40 acres of riparian stream buffer with a mix of tall trees and native plants;
- Stabilize 10 miles of eroding streambanks with riparian buffers or stabilization practices;
- Implement 10 comprehensive farm conservation plans;
- Engage and educate 100 residents, landowners, and conservation professionals on identifying and assessing stream bank erosion through outreach efforts and field days;

- Install 20 miles of livestock exclusion fence on priority properties to protect sensitive riparian, upland forests and coldwater springs and streams; and
- Provide conservation planning and technical assistance to 25 landowners.

CLOSED GRANT AWARDS

City of Hopewell – Stream Restoration Grant (closed)

VEE Grant Award: \$261,203

Match: \$424,176

Grant Funds Expended: \$201,893

The City of Hopewell successfully completed the stream restoration work funded by a 2019 grant; thus, VEE has closed this grant. Since the City of Hopewell completed the work for less amount than anticipated, VEE has \$59,310 from the original grant award to Hopewell to add back to the JRWQIP for future grant awards, bringing its total to \$3,372,934.

Pamunkey Indian Tribe

\$4,500,000

Funds have been disbursed to the Tribe for expansion and operation of the Pamunkey Cultural Center; establishment of a Tribal Historic Preservation Office; and expansion and operation of the Pamunkey Indian Tribe's shad hatchery facility.

Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources

\$4,205,000

(Formerly Department of Game and Inland Fisheries)

Total Funding: \$4,205,000

Prior Period Spending: \$1,506,310

Total Spent in 2021: \$1,742,269

Five different projects are explicitly identified and funded in the Agreement:

- The comprehensive archaeological inventory of Hog Island Wildlife Management Area (WMA) was completed in 2019 (total cost \$130,285).
- The wetlands/marsh enhancement (including replacement of water control structures and ditching) at Hog Island WMA was completed in 2019 through a partnership with Ducks Unlimited (total cost \$1,155,601).
- In partnership with Ducks Unlimited, the Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR) is completing a restoration of nearly 1.25 miles of shoreline at Hog Island WMA using living shoreline techniques. Preliminary engineering and submission of a Joint Permit Application were completed in 2019. After considerable delays resulting from work on higher-priority permit applications by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the project permit was issued in fall 2020. The project was awarded and construction completed in 2021 (\$220,424 through 2020; \$1,696,145 paid in 2021; total cost \$1,916,569).
- The DWR established remote viewing infrastructure at Hog Island WMA to support wildlife viewing of one of the key marshes and two impoundments on the island. Related online historical and natural resources interpretation are under development to support the live-streaming webcam. A variety of educational curricula are being developed by K-12 educator partners of the Agency. In 2021, the DWR cleared approximately 1.5 acres of trees to create a clear line of site which would allow an internet connection to be beamed from its partners at the Williamsburg Plant of

the Hampton Roads Sanitation District to the camera (4 miles), established all of the necessary supporting infrastructure for the camera build (cable extension, circuit installation, tower installation, solar panel support beam), and completed the full installation including solar paneling, batteries, electrical, two cameras, a microphone, and internet radios. The webcam stream is expected to go live to the public in early 2022 (anticipated cost \$150,000; \$46,123.85 expended to date).

- The acquisition of 400 acres of marsh adjacent to the Chickahominy WMA is being handled via agreement with The Conservation Fund (TCF). Activities in 2020 included meetings with the landowners and exploration of alternative acquisition locations. The estimated acquisition cost is \$1 million; no funds have been expended to date.

Machicomoco State Park, Gloucester County \$25,000,000

Land Acquisition by The Conservation Fund	\$15,398,610
Development of future state park	\$ 9,601,390
Staff support and operations	\$1,250,000

Machicomoco State Park was opened by Governor Northam on April 16, 2021. The 644 acre parcel transferred to the Department of Conservation and Recreation. Development is complete on a 30-site campground, hand carry boat launch, open-air interpretive center and picnic pavilions, hiking trails and observation areas. Staff hiring is complete along with final projects such as signage, trail marking, entrance station setup, and miscellaneous needs.

Mountain Valley Pipeline Virginia Resource Impacts Mitigation

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issued a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity on October 13, 2017 pursuant to section 7 (c) of the Natural Gas Act for the Mountain Valley Pipeline. The Commonwealth of Virginia and Mountain Valley, LLC entered into a Memorandum of Agreement to mitigate historic resource impacts and forest fragmentation. Per the agreement, payments to fund managers occur in installments upon tree clearing and grubbing.

MVP Mitigation Funds

The Community Conservation Program provides grant funds for conservation initiatives located within the counties of Craig, Franklin, Giles, Montgomery, Pittsylvania and Roanoke, and the cities of Salem and Roanoke (the jurisdictions impacted directly by the Mountain Valley Pipeline route). The Program focuses on water quality protection, restoration, and improvement; land conservation support; and environmental literacy and awareness within the listed jurisdictions.

In 2021, VEE awarded four additional grants bringing the total dollars awarded for the Program to \$1,475,359. Applicants submit their proposals by January 15 each year and the VEE Board acts on them the following April.

2021 GRANT AWARDS

Blue Ridge Land Conservancy (BRLC)

VEE Grant Award: \$63,152

Match: \$39,865

BRLC will develop a seven-county land conservation plan that will identify land and water conservation priorities at the intersection of conservation science and the needs and interests of the local community. The project involves producing a community-focused conservation plan, with special emphasis on the needs of underserved communities, including communities with significant Black and non-white populations. BRLC will identify community conservation needs and interests, which it will combine with demographic

and scientific datasets to identify and map parcels possessing the greatest number and highest quality of conservation values. The result will be a tool to help BRLC and others target resources, pursuing conservation of those properties with the best and most conservation values, yielding better and more land conservation. At a minimum, BRLC plans to complete four conservation projects over the life of the grant. The VEE grant will go towards work done in the localities covered by the Program.

New River Land Trust (NRLT)

VEE Grant Award: \$189,134

Match: \$184,702

NRLT will implement additional restoration, improvement and protection activities in the North Fork of the Roanoke River. One restoration project will address approximately 2,400 linear feet of the river and will reconstruct and stabilize banks and restore floodplain connectivity. The outcome will be a restored river segment with an 11-acre riparian buffer with an average width of 35 feet. A second restoration project will address approximately 1,500 linear feet of the river to establish 5 acres of riparian buffer. This buffer will include native trees and shrubs to increase woody vegetation along the banks and improve stabilization of the river channel. This is the second Community Conservation Program grant NRLT has received for restoration work in the North Fork of the Roanoke River basin.

Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (VASWCD)

VEE Grant Award: \$177,600

Match: \$124,200

The VASWCD's second grant will accelerate the implementation of the Virginia Conservation Assistance Program (VCAP) program in the four Soil and Water Conservation Districts that host the Community Conservation Program jurisdictions. The funds would be available for implementing qualified conservation projects on residential and commercial properties throughout the four districts. Qualified projects can include water quality improvement practices such as conservation landscaping, rain gardens, dry wells, constructed wetlands, impervious surface removal, rainwater harvesting and green roofs.

Western Virginia Water Authority (WVWA)

VEE Grant Award: \$136,725

Match: \$179,860

In partnership with several local organizations, the WVWA is executing a community-wide plan to address the environmental and health issues surrounding medication disposal and misuse. The overarching goals of the project are: (1) to improve community knowledge about the health and environmental risks associated with the improper storage, disposal, and misuse of prescription drugs; (2) to increase the number and use of safe and convenient medication storage and disposal options; and (3) to help protect the quality of the water in the Roanoke Valley and Franklin County by reducing the amount of unused or unwanted medication flushed down a drain. The partners plan to:

- Deliver radio, TV, digital, social, and outdoor advertising messages regarding storage and disposal.
- Purchase and distribute 1,000 individual lockboxes for medications as well as medication disposal bags that allow for safe disposal of unwanted or expired medications.
- Coordinate, weigh, and track the amount of disposed medications at annual "take back" events and at permanent drop boxes.

- Test the Authority’s wastewater at the beginning and end of the grant for over 118 pharmaceuticals and personal care products as well as other emerging contaminants to determine if traces of medication substances in the water have been maintained, increased, or decreased.

Forest Conservation Virginia Outdoors Foundation \$15,000,000

The Virginia Outdoors Foundation has awarded \$8,378,097 in grants to support twenty-one on-the-ground projects that protect and restore forests throughout the MVP region. The grants were awarded from the Forest CORE (Community Opportunities for Restoration and Enhancement) Fund- a component of VOF's TERRA program, which administers funds resulting from legal and regulatory actions involving Virginia's natural resources. The Forest CORE Fund was established with \$15 million received by the Commonwealth of Virginia to mitigate for forest fragmentation caused by the Mountain Valley Pipeline.

2018 Grant Awards

•DCR, Chestnut Ridge, Giles County, 808 acres \$915,500

Status: Land acquired, restoration work to follow

•DCR, Poor Mountain-Greenways Connector, Roanoke County, 279 acres, \$562,504

Status: Land acquired, restoration work to follow

•New River Land Trust, Brush Mountain Preservation & Park, Montgomery County, \$1,205,800

Status: Land acquired, trail work ongoing, first of two properties placed under easement and transferred to Town of Blacksburg, second to follow in 2022

•Appalachian Trail Conservancy, Appalachian Trail Core Forest and Viewshed Protection, Botetourt County, 243 acres, \$376,500

Status: project completed, land transferred to National Park Service

•VOF, Mystic Forest, Rockbridge County, 185 acres \$360,000

Status: easements purchased & recorded, restoration work underway

•Roanoke County, Explore Park Forest Preservation, Bedford & Roanoke Counties, 34.1 acres \$165,450

Status: due diligence underway

•Pittsylvania County Department of Parks & Recreation, Wayside Park Trail, Pittsylvania County, 37 acres, \$106,460

Status: project completed: trail installed, native plantings completed, easement recorded

2019 Grant Awards

•DCR, Chestnut Ridge, Phase Two, Bland County, 770 acres, \$999,500

Status: landowner negotiations underway

•DCR, Poor Mountain-Phase Two, Roanoke County, 100 acres, \$452,500

Status: landowner negotiations underway

•Appalachian Trail Conservancy, Doc’s Way, Botetourt County, 125 acres, \$416,200

Status: land acquired, restoration work to follow

•VOF, House Mountain, Rockbridge County, 108 acres, \$155,000

Status: one of two parcels acquired, ongoing landowner negotiations

•**Roanoke County, Read Mountain North, Roanoke County, 304 acres, \$620,054**

Status: land acquired and easement recorded

•**The Conservation Fund, Stanley Land and Lumber, Charlotte County, 750 acres, \$1,000,000**

Status: Phase one land acquisition completed, phase two to be completed in 2021

2020-21 Grant Awards

•**Western Virginia Water Authority, Carvins Cover Shoreline Protection, 45 acres, \$175,000**

Status: landowner negotiations underway

•**City of Danville, Anglers Ridge Trail, 54 acres, \$200,000**

Status: due diligence and easement drafting underway

•**Friends of Rivers Virginia, Round Hill, 6 acres, \$94,100**

Status: due diligence underway

•**Giles County, Newport Park, 6 acres, \$200,000**

Status: easement drafting underway

•**New River Land Trust, Brush Mountain Property 2: Trail Planning & Implementation, 219 acres, \$32,460**

Status: trail work underway

•**New River Valley Regional Commission, Plant SWVA Natives Campaign & Propagation Center \$175,000**

Status: project underway

•**Town of Blacksburg, Meadowbrook Greenway, 0.75 miles, \$85,000**

Status: project underway

•**Town of Narrows, Mill Creek Nature Park Revitalization, 160 acres, \$39,490**

Status: project underway

Atlantic Coast Pipeline Virginia Resource Impacts Mitigation

. The Commonwealth of Virginia and Atlantic Coast Pipeline, LLC entered into a Memorandum of Agreement to mitigate historic resource impacts and forest fragmentation. Per the agreement, payment to fund managers was to occur upon issuance by FERC of a Final Notice to proceed. However, no such approval was given, and ACP cancelled the project in 2020. Therefore, there is no obligation for ACP to mitigate.

DuPont Waynesboro Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration Settlement Land Conservation Projects Under the DuPont Waynesboro Settlement

The Commonwealth of Virginia worked with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service through the Trustee Council (TC) established by Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to implement land protection, property acquisition, and recreational and wildlife enhancements and neotropical migratory songbird habitat restoration projects in the South River watershed. The Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources sought input from Virginia Land Conservation Foundation on potential projects to consider proposing to the TC for funding through the DuPont Waynesboro settlement. The TC made the final decision on project selection.

Total Funding Available \$18,200,000

Financial Highlights

Total Funding:	\$18,200,000.00
Total Obligated by TC:	\$16,724,268.62
Prior Period Spending:	\$ 7,230,605.99
Total Spent in CY 2021:	\$ 9,493,662.41
Total unallocated funds:	\$ 1,475,731.14

In 2021, the TC awarded \$ 2,520,000 (calendar year 2021) to the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation for acquisition and/or restoration at four project sites, described in the updates below.

Updates on the projects selected by the TC in 2018 and 2021 for grant funding:

Virginia Department of Forestry: Boones Run Farm

This grant funded the fee-simple acquisition of 573 acres adjacent to the George Washington National Forest for the creation of a new state forest. The property is entirely forested and includes a number of perennial and intermittent streams that flow directly into the South Fork Shenandoah River.

Status: Project closed April 4, 2019.

Virginia Native Plant Society: Mount Joy Special Area Acquisition & Restoration

This grant funded the fee-simple acquisition and restoration of 85 acres as an addition to the Mount Joy Pond NAP. The project will substantially benefit migratory bird species, as the tracts are located within the Upper Blue Ridge Important Bird Area (IBA). Restoration activities will be implemented over the next few years.

Status: Initial projects closed October 23, 2018, transferred to DCR March 8, 2019.

Additional funds allocated to Department of Conservation and Recreation for restoration and monitoring in 2021.

Potomac Appalachian Trail Club, Inc. (PATC): Madison Run Fire Road

This grant funded the fee-simple acquisition of 124.8-acre parcel that adjoins both Shenandoah National Park and Deep Run Ponds Natural Area Preserve. The area lies within a mapped "Important Bird Area," as defined by the National Audubon Society, and will extend permanent habitat protection benefitting many migratory species.

Status: Project closed October 30, 2019.

Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation: River's Edge Farm, South Fork Shenandoah River / Big Run Watershed

This grant was to fund the fee-simple acquisition of 19 acres located along the South Fork of the Shenandoah River across from the Port Republic battlefield. Upon purchase, the SVBF would have granted an easement to the Virginia Board of Historic Resources.

Status: Project withdrawn. The landowner was no longer willing to conserve his property. The grant funds (\$483,360) were returned to the NRDAR fund.

Cave Conservancy of the Virginias: Steger-Cave Hill Karst Preserve

This grant will fund the fee-simple acquisition of two contiguous parcels (totaling 119 acres) that adjoin the South River near Grottoes, Virginia. The property includes the entrances of two important caves, Madison Saltpetre Cave and Steger's Fissure, as well as 78 acres of undeveloped woodlands that provide wildlife habitat and access to the South River, and that will be placed under an open-space easement.

Status: Project Closed March 13, 2020

The Shenandoah National Park Trust: Tanners Ridge

This grant will fund the fee-simple acquisition of three parcels (totaling 964 acres) adjacent to Shenandoah National Park with the intent of donating this property as an addition to the national park. This project will place tributaries of the South Fork of the Shenandoah River under the highest level of federal protection.

Status: Project closed December 23, 2020 (116-acre parcel) and January 28, 2021 (other 2 parcels).

Blue Ridge Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management: Stopping Wavyleaf Grass

This grant is to fund measures to control the spread of invasive wavyleaf grass in the South River and South Fork of the Shenandoah River watersheds. The focus of this project is six sites within Shenandoah National Park and one site in Elkton consisting of about 400 acres total.

Status: Project underway (2nd year complete). Funds have been obligated in a 5-year agreement between U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and Blue Ridge Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management (PRISM) (expires March 2023).

Department of Conservation and Recreation: Lyndhurst Ponds Natural Area Preserve

This grant is to fund the fee-simple acquisition of approximately 350 acres that were dedicated as a new NAP (Lyndhurst Ponds NAP). The property contains multiple sinkhole pond wetlands, several significantly rare species, relatively intact upland forests, and significant opportunities for habitat restoration.

Status: Initial project closed June 23, 2020. \$450,000 allocated in 2021 for new acquisitions at this site.

Department of Conservation and Recreation: Deep Run Ponds Natural Area Preserve Expansion & Ecological Restoration

This grant is to fund the fee-simple acquisition of approximately 137 forested acres adjoining the Deep Run Ponds NAP. The tracts lie within a globally designated "Important Bird Area," as defined by the National Audubon Society. Funds will also be used for restoration actions at Deep Run Ponds NAP over a period of 5 years, including invasive species control and reestablishing woodlands in a former nursery production area.

Status: Initial project closed December 20, 2019. \$1,250,000 allocated in 2021 for new acquisitions at this site.

City of Waynesboro: South River Greenway Natural Area

This grant is to fund the fee-simple acquisition and restoration of approximately five acres of private property, which will be combined with adjacent City-owned property to create a six to eight-acre park. This property is within the South River floodplain and adjacent to the South River Greenway.

Status: Project closed January 8, 2021. Planning and design phases are in progress.

City of Waynesboro: South River Preserve

This project will fund the protection and restoration of several tracts of parkland owned by the City of Waynesboro along the South River. \$500,000 for acquisition.

Status: Project underway.

Department of Conservation and Recreation: Cowbane Prairie Natural Area Preserve Expansion and Ecological Restoration

The acreage will add to Cowbane Prairie Natural Area Preserve, enhancing the Willets property protected with settlement funds, protect one of Virginia's most outstanding conservation sites, featuring an exemplary concentration of globally rare calcareous wetlands and one of Virginia's most significant assemblages of state-rare plant species. \$500,000 allocated for acquisitions.

Status: Negotiations in progress.

DuPont Neotropical migratory songbird full life cycle restoration. \$2,500,000 – Funds not yet allocated.

DuPont Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources Mussel Propagation and Restoration

DWR has received \$943,658 in Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration (NRDAR) funds for Mussel Restoration, of which \$820,284 has been obligated through contracts, and whereas \$811,697.4 has been expended to date. These mussel restoration funds are also used to support operations at the Virginia Fisheries and Aquatic Wildlife Center (VFAWC) at Harrison Lake National Fish Hatchery, of which \$29,325.33 has been expended to date. Freshwater mussel propagation is being conducted at two facilities in Virginia: VFAWC and the Freshwater Mollusk Conservation Center (FMCC) at Virginia Tech In 2021, VFAWC and FMCC propagated 594,000 juveniles freshwater mussels of 6 species, with 6,308 sub-adult mussels released of 5 species at 3 sites in the South River and 2 sites in the South Fork Shenandoah River from fall 2020 through early summer of 2021. Since 2018, both facilities have produced over 1.28 million juvenile mussels of eight species and released 12,549 sub-adult mussels of five species. VFAWC and FMCC currently have tens of thousands of mussels they will continue to grow-out for future releases, and both facilities will continue to propagate mussels for continued restoration.

DuPont Recreational Fishing Improvement Projects – Access Points

Financial Highlights

Total Funding:	\$2,500,000.00
Total Obligated:	\$658,892.00
Total Spent in CY 2020:	\$110,006.00
Total Remaining:	\$2,389,994.00
<i>Total unallocated funds:</i>	<i>\$1,841,108</i>

In 2019, the Commonwealth of Virginia and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) announced the launch of a program to help Commonwealth citizens with the development of public recreation access to Shenandoah Valley Rivers. This program, named “Support to Partners – Shenandoah River Watershed,” is designed to enhance or create recreational fishing access on reaches throughout the Shenandoah River Watershed. Funding of the program is through the DuPont settlement in the amount of \$2,500,000. Applications for funding are reviewed by the Support to Partners Oversight Committee for approval or denial.

Headley Bridge (NF Shenandoah River)

Completed in May 2021 by DWR. DWR used \$3,559 of Settlement funds for the project (materials). Fill was brought in, grading of a new parking area, adding stone to the area, and creating a boundary/barrier around the parking lot. DWR has pictures of the site before and after development. New parking area can accommodate approximately six vehicles. The old road approach was retained as access path/ramp to hand launch canoes and kayaks.

Seven Bends State Park (NF Shenandoah River)

DCR has completed one of the two trails for updating and adding features. Gokotta Trail is a little over a mile of the 1.8 total miles funded by the settlement. The entire trail now meets ADA standards and

features natural bottom culverts at all stream crossings and riverbank platforms. DCR has received a lot of great feedback on the new trail and its improved accessibility.

Work started in February and was mostly completed by May. DCR then had to put the project on pause as we entered the summer because the park became a little too crowded to be doing any major trail work. Additionally, we found ourselves not putting enough time into the project to justify having the construction equipment rented. We will begin work on the second trail in September in order to finish it all out.

Alma (SF Shenandoah River)

Page County signed agreement with DWR on May 1, 2020. Trustee Committee awarded \$54,932 to Page County January 15, 2020. \$27,466 (50%) was paid to Page County in August 2020. Upgraded parking area, new concrete boat ramp constructed, and concrete pads with metal picnic tables completed in July 2021. August 25, 2021 Nina Fox of Page County provided expenditure sheet and pictures to DWR. Informed DWR that signs that had been ordered had not been produced and that they were going to go with another company for sign construction. DWR communicated to Page County that once the signs were installed that the remaining \$27,466 would be released. DWR has inspected the site and it is currently being heavily used by the public.

Dooms & Crimora (South River)

Augusta County signed agreement with DWR on July 17, 2020. Doug Wolfe of Augusta County predicted some movement on Crimora and Dooms beginning in summer 2021. Jeff VanFossen is new Augusta County project leader taking over for Doug Wolfe who is now overseas serving in the National Guard. Louise Finger of DWR is coordinating dam removal and stream restoration portion of Dooms project. Contract has been awarded to consulting firm and Dooms project began September 7, 2021. Predicted completion by December 2021. Augusta County is still looking to bid out Crimora project. Start and completion date unknown. Grant funds would assist with \$100K maximum for each site. No funds (\$) have been awarded to Augusta County to date.

Morgan's Ford (Main stem Shenandoah River)

Warren County signed agreement with DWR in January 2020. DWR met with Warren County in May 2021 to discuss some changes to original proposed plan. DWR approved changes - no construction of concrete boat ramp, slight changes to parking lot construction. Warren County is communicating with DWR. Project proposed to be completed by December 2021. \$100K approved for project. No funds (\$) awarded to Warren County to date.

Bentonville (SF Shenandoah River)

Agreement "drafted" between DWR and Warren County (April 2021). Recent meeting (August 11, 2021) meeting with DWR-Warren County-U.S. Forest Service on site to discuss changes to original conceptual plan. Expansion of existing parking lot and development of concrete boat ramp and addition to ramp access road. This new, proposed infrastructure will be located on U.S. Forest Service property adjacent to the DWR property. Development by Warren County will require a special use permit / public easement agreement from the USFS. Warren County plans to re-submit design and construction plans to DWR and sign agreement with USFS in October 2021. DWR hopes to approve new plans and sign agreement with

Warren County by November 2021. Warren County predicts completion of project by fall 2022. \$100K approved for this project. No funds (\$) awarded to Warren County to date.

Mount Crawford (North River)

Town of Mount Crawford signed agreement with DWR April, 2021. As of August 6, 2021, Town of Mount Crawford has had Valley Engineering complete survey for project and began the permitting process. Some tree removal was completed in late July.

DuPont Support for Agriculture Best Management Practices

Three local Soil and Water Conservation Districts (District) offering technical and financial assistance to farmers in the Shenandoah Valley were provided funding through the DuPont NRDA settlement. These funds assist farmers implementing conservation practices to reduce polluted runoff. Funding also supports District technical assistance capacity. As of December 2021, funds that have been obligated and funds that have been requested are provided in the tables below.

Dec 2021				
District	Total Obligated Payment	State Amount Obligated	DuPont Funds Obligated	Technical Assistance Provided to Districts
Headwaters	\$4,100,318.95	\$1,675,214.83	\$2,425,104.12	\$345,816.76
Lord Fairfax	\$385,685.45	\$22,041.85	\$363,643.60	\$43,384.00
Shenandoah Valley	\$3,843,286.72	\$2,585,526.76	\$1,257,759.96	\$218,287.00

Dec 2021				
District	Total Expected Payment	State Amount Requested	DuPont Funds Requested	Technical Assistance Provided to Districts
Headwaters	\$4,353,929.87	\$1,743,152.07	\$2,610,777.80	\$345,816.76
Lord Fairfax	\$388,804.25	\$25,160.65	\$363,643.60	\$43,384.00
Shenandoah Valley	\$5,626,440.46	\$3,536,875.33	\$2,089,565.13	\$218,287.00