Hardner & Gullison

Final Evaluation
Healthy Watersheds Consortium Grant Program

February 17, 2022

Executive Summary

The goal of HWC was to promote the protection and stewardship of watersheds in support of EPA's work towards achieving the Clean Water Act goal of restoring and maintaining the integrity of the Nation's waters, including preventing future impairments in healthy waters. The program provided $11 million in grant support from 2015-2021 to organizations seeking to conserve watersheds by promoting landscape protection and stewardship. The funders of the program were EPA's Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds ($3.75 million), USDA's Natural Resource Conservation Service ($3.5 million), and the U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities ($3.75 million). Grantees matched these funds with other donor contributions ($111 million). The U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities administered the program through a cooperative agreement.

HWC generated significant gains in watershed conservation. Grantees participated in the conservation of 1,077,547 acres of natural habitats and 5,172 stream miles. HWC targeted critical gaps that, once filled, allowed for conservation outcomes to occur, or improved the chances that they will occur in the future. HWC supported grantees in lowering barriers to conservation such as limited sources of financing, public policies unfavorable to conservation, and inadequate stakeholder support.

The grant program itself was well designed and administered. The program selected excellent grantees who proved effective in using grant funding to achieve important outcomes. The grantees themselves found that the grants filled a critical gap in their funding needs, the duration of the grants allowed for the completion of meaningful work, and that administrative processes were efficient. Grantees found that the program managers added great value with strategic and technical support. Finally, both the managers of the grant program and the grantees should be applauded for their agile and effective management of the difficult circumstances presented by the COVID-19 pandemic.

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Evaluation Approach

The purpose of an evaluation is threefold: 1) to provide accountability via independent review; 2) to document successes and challenges; and 3) to generate ideas for program improvement. To achieve this, evaluations must rely on various sources of evidence and a degree of synthesis by the evaluator.

This evaluation relies on three sources of evidence. The evaluator assisted the program in developing grantee reporting templates (Appendix A). Grantees filed interim and final reports using these templates, allowing for the systematic collection of consistent performance information across the grant portfolio for the duration of the program. The evaluator participated in grantee gatherings, including a retreat in Seattle in March of 2018 and an online workshop in 2020. These gatherings included project presentations by grantees and dialogue on topics of shared interest across the portfolio. Finally, the evaluator conducted in-depth interviews with a selection of 13 grantees (23% of the grantee pool), stratified across EPA regions where the program provided funding (Appendix B).[1]

The information collected in grantee reports provided the basis for evaluating progress in terms of acres and stream-miles protected, as well as advances in overcoming the *limiting factors* to conservation. *Limiting factors analysis*[2] is a complementary way to measure progress of conservation programs designed to improve the capacity and the context for conservation, rather than solely focusing on the final outcomes of acres and stream-miles. For HWC grantees, those barriers principally include financing, institutional capacity, public policy, stakeholder support, science, and availability of lands to protect. Grantees rated these factors at the outset *and* completion of their grants in terms of the degree to which each impedes their work. As these barriers fall, grantees' goals become easier to accomplish, either during the life of the grant or beyond. Grantee reports and follow-up interviews provided supporting evidence of how limiting factors were addressed with each grant.

The evaluator used this evidence to verify that the program and its grantees made constructive use of grant funding, to document successes and challenges, and to generate several recommendations for improving this program, or others like it. The remaining sections of this report summarize these findings.

[1] The program supported grantees in all EPA regions except Region 7.

[2] Gullison, R.E. and J. Hardner. 2009. Using limiting factors analysis to overcome the problem of long time horizons when evaluating biodiversity conservation projects. *New Directions in Evaluation* no. 122: 19-29.

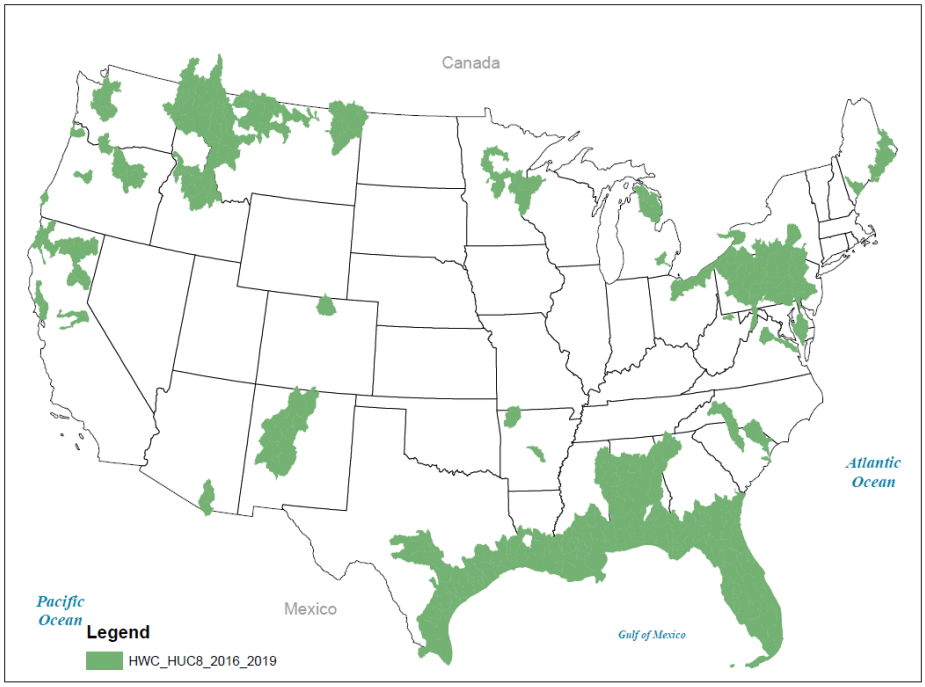
The Grant Program

The goal of HWC was to promote the protection and stewardship of watersheds in support of EPA's work towards achieving the Clean Water Act goal of restoring and maintaining the integrity of the Nation's waters, including preventing future impairments in healthy waters. The funders of the program were EPA's Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds ($3.75 million), USDA's Natural Resource Conservation Service ($3.5 million), and the U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities ($3.75 million). Grantees matched these funds with other donor contributions ($111 million). The U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities (the Endowment) administered the program through a cooperative agreement.

The amount of funding available, $11 million from 2015 to 2021, was not sufficient to directly support the acquisition of land or easements, so the program's strategy focused on three categories of grants: a) *watershed action projects* – for focused efforts to complete initiatives already underway; b) *building watershed protection capacity* – for improving the capabilities of grantee organizations and the sustainability and their initiatives; and c) *advancing the state of practice* – for the development of innovations with potential for scalable and catalytic impact.

HWC provided 56 grants in a range of geographic contexts across all but one of the EPA Regions (Figure 1). Grants had a duration of 1-3 years and the mean amount was $177,756 (with a range of $40,000 to $350,000). Most grantees were private non-profit organizations, ranging from small and local to very large national organizations. HWC also made grants to two state agencies, in Hawaii and Alaska. The geographic focus of the grants ranged in size, from local to regional, and the type of work undertaken varied according to their context. Overall, HWC supported a wide diversity of grantees.

Figure 1: Watersheds (HUC8) where HWC grants provided support



Source: U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities

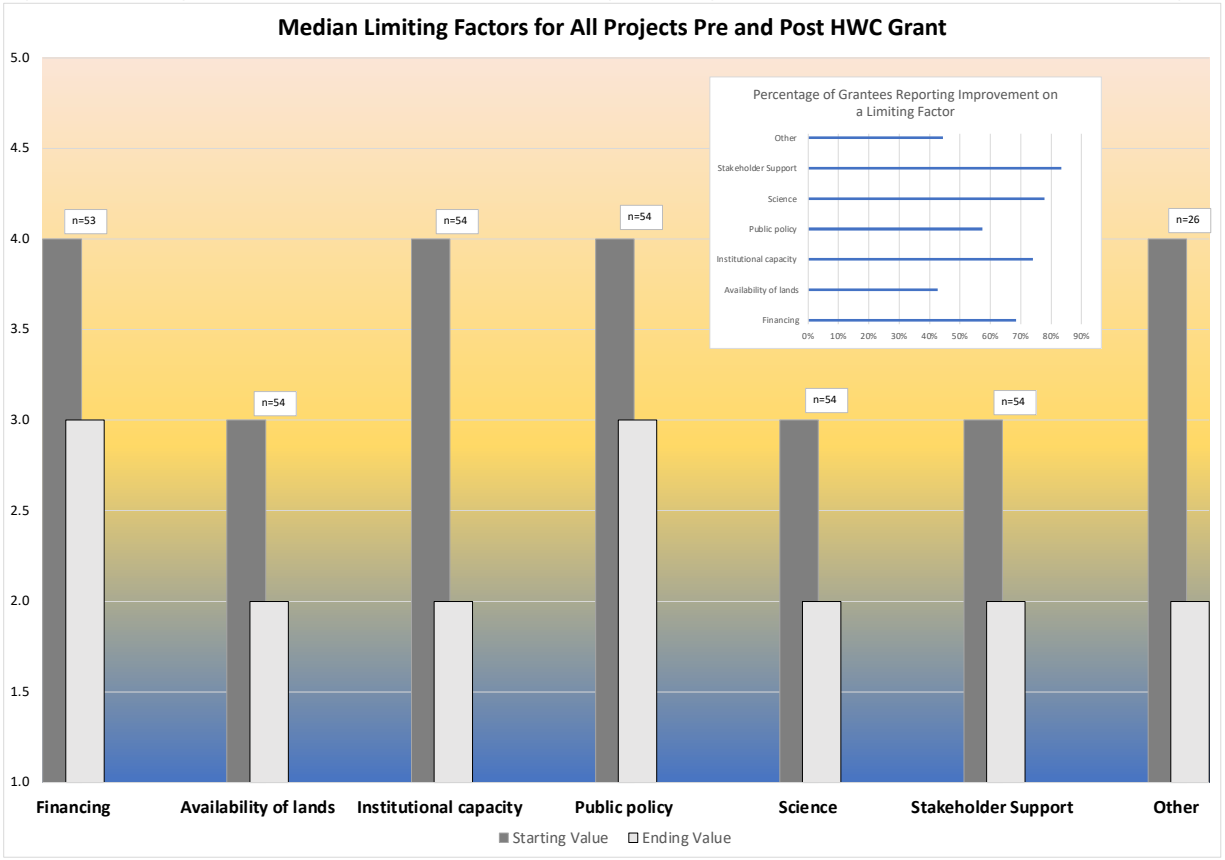
Program Outcomes

By the Numbers

Grantees reported that their work with HWC grants has, to date, supported the conservation of some 1,077,547 acres of natural habitats and 5,172 stream-miles. Conservation principally came in the form of easements, but also included a significant area where enhanced regulatory protections were triggered. Several grantees generated significantly larger gains in land protection than the others: Trust for Public Land in the Northern Rockies supported the protection of 317,497 acres, Trout Unlimited in Pennsylvania, 190,026 acres, and Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, 100,000 acres. The median land protection figure for all grantees is 6,144 acres. In terms of stream-miles, three grantees led the pack: Trust for Public Land in the Northern Rockies, 981 stream-miles, Trout Unlimited in Pennsylvania, 2,057 stream-miles, and the State of Alaska, 604 stream-miles.

For HWC grantees, limiting factors in protecting land and streams include financing, institutional capacity, public policy, stakeholder support, science, and the availability of lands to protect. Figure 2 displays the starting and ending *median* values for those factors as reported by HWC grantees. A rating of 1 indicates that the factor is not limiting performance, and a 5 indicates it is a major barrier. For all factors, the median score declined, indicating that the factor became *less* limiting, and many factors are now considered manageable for the work they are presently undertaking in their watersheds. The factors that will continue to limit grantees the most are financing and public policy.

Figure 2: Limiting factors at the start and finish of HWC grants (higher values indicate a factor is more limiting)



Project-level Evidence

Evidence of these gains is not difficult to find in the grant portfolio. A very simple way in which HWC has had large impacts is by building the capacity of grantee organizations through the hiring of additional staff to pursue known opportunities.

For example, a $199,000 two-year grant to the Montana Conservation Corps supported 1 full-time employee and 9 AmeriCorps volunteers. These individuals engaged landowners and promoted their enrollment in state and federal land conservation programs like Ranching for Rivers and the Environmental Quality and Incentives Program (EQIP). In addition, they supported NRCS in the implementation of its Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). In doing so, these 10 individuals enrolled 13,428 acres into land conservation programs (exceeding their goal of 5,000 acres). The longer-term impact of this effort is likely under-represented by the acreage conserved thus far – one might reasonably anticipate a catalytic effect as neighboring landowners become aware of these state and federal programs. In addition, the HWC grant provided a gateway to continued funding from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation that will sustain the Montana Conservation Corps' work in the coming years. HWC's relatively modest support for increasing capacity of this organization had a substantial impact by facilitating the flow of available state and federal funding to landowners that otherwise were not being reached.

A $183,000 three-year grant to the North Florida Land Trust for a project called *Accelerating Land Protection in the Ocala to Osceola (O2O) in Northeast Florida* supported the expansion of staff from 1 to 3 people, which in turn has allowed the organization to build a collaborative working relationship with 20 agencies and organizations in the region and to acquire grant funding for conservation projects in the O2O corridor in the range of $20 million. Sources of funding that this small group has helped to tap include the Army National Guard's Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) program at Camp Blanding, Florida Forever, the NRCS Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP), and private donors. NFLT has supported the acquisition of 11,000 acres during the HWC grant and anticipates an additional 5,000 acres will be acquired within a year. What's clear in this context is that there is established interest in, and money for, acquiring land for conservation in this corridor, but the lack of institutional capacity to do the work has been a limiting factor. The HWC grant helped to overcome that, and new funding sources such as RCPP will sustain this organizational growth.

Similarly, providing the on-the-ground personnel to fill a gap in scientific information can have a leveraged effect. A $100,000 two-year grant to Trout Unlimited funded biological assessments to document native brook trout populations in Pennsylvania's streams to support their protection under the Clean Water Act. The process first involves conducting field work to evaluate streams across the state to determine if they support healthy trout populations. Positive results are submitted to the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission who then recommend streams for greater protection by the Department of Environmental Protection. Once streams are protected for trout, more protective development practices are required in their buffers. If the streams receive a Class A designation, alternatives to discharging into these bodies must be considered, and 150-foot riparian buffers and best management practices for runoff management must be implemented. In terms of triggering stream protection per dollar invested by HWC, this grant has been extremely cost-effective. Trout Unlimited completed the protection of 190,026 acres and 2,057 stream-miles. In addition, they added to the protection pipeline another 337 new stream assessments that documented 161 new populations of naturally reproducing brook trout that will trigger greater protection of an additional 1,676 stream-miles, of which 381 could be designated Class A.

A similar approach was taken by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. They used a one-year grant of $192,000 to conduct an inventory of anadromous fish populations in drainages of the Kobuk and Koyukuk Rivers. The work involved helicopter supported electro-fishing surveys. The grantee used confirmed observations to add waters to the Anadromous Waters Catalog, the state's principal method for identifying and protecting fish habitats. The outcome of this work will be the protection of 604 stream-miles.

Grantees also made progress in addressing limiting factors in public policy. For example, at a local level the Huron River Watershed Council, using a $180,000 three-year grant, supported towns in developing Master Plans, changing zoning ordinances, and raising property taxes (known in Michigan as *millages*) to finance land protection. A *Step-by-Step Conservation Millage Tookit*, produced with HWC funding, provides comprehensive guidance on how to achieve local support for raising and spending tax revenue for watershed conservation. The guidance spans analysis of planning and ordinances, scientific rationale for protection, economic arguments, and tips for voter education and campaign organization. The grantee also has a prioritization method that assists towns in mapping target areas for conservation. Progress in municipal adoption of a conservation millage has been slow and more engagement is necessary. Nevertheless, short-term results in municipal planning were already evident in the course of the grant period, including 2,000 more acres of land conserved in partnership with existing land protection programs, the adoption of surface water setback ordinances that will protect 1,700 acres of riparian lands, progress towards a wetland ordinance that would protect about 4,300 acres of wetlands, and a natural areas overlay, which would protect 9,133 acres in one town and 4,637 acres in another. More of the progress made by this grant could evidence itself over the longer term if communities adopt and implement policies that support watershed conservation.

In those places where public policy is already supportive of healthy watershed protection, as it is in Minnesota where they passed the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment to the state constitution, the limiting factor is cost-effective implementation. Beltrami Soil and Water Conservation District received a two-year $150,000 grant for a project called *Mississippi River Headwater Watershed Accelerated Land Protection Program*. With this grant, Beltrami was able to pilot a watershed conservation method developed by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources. The method builds on years of preparatory analysis and strategy development for surface water protection by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, most notably a 2010 study that evaluated the condition and optimal protection strategies for conserving water quality in 1300 lakes in the state. The grantee provided the missing link, a method for implementing on-the-ground conservation that could take advantage of this excellent policy and planning context. By bringing targeted private land holdings into long-term forest management, they sought to achieve a protection target of 75 percent of forest cover per watershed. With HWC support they enrolled 8,613.5 acres into forest protection programs (relative to their initial goal of 10,000 acres), brought 11 sub-watersheds within their HUC-8 watersheds to over the 75 percent protection goal, and increased protection by 1-30 percent in 13 others. More importantly, this pilot demonstrated *how* to implement a program to conserve watersheds in northern Minnesota. The grantee reported:

> "At the time of the application there were no groups implementing the protection strategies developed by the Minnesota DNR. Now there are six SWCDs and partners across three HUC 8s in north central Minnesota advancing the protection of at least 75% of the forests where achievable that will also protect priority water resources."

However, grantees in many other locations noted that there is a strong public policy bias towards built infrastructure over watershed protection. The Pacific Water Trust in California used a three-year, $225,000 HWC grant to support legislative recognition of watersheds as natural storage infrastructure – a significant public policy achievement. But the grantee notes that significant inertia remains, perhaps due in part to the influence of water contractors in the state. Grantees in other states, like the Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources, also expressed frustration in what they perceived to be a regulatory bias towards emphasizing built infrastructure over protecting healthy watersheds as natural infrastructure. HWC supported the Puget Sound Regional Council with $200,00 over two years to develop an open space conservation plan for Central Puget Sound, and the Emerald Alliance with $150,000 over two years to coordinate the organizations working on the various facets of work needed to fund and implement the plan. The creation of a plan by an objective planning entity like the Puget Sound Regional Council is a major step in the right direction. However, progress in conserving land in the fast-growing Seattle area will require much greater public policy support and public financing. The limiting factors results presented in Figure 2 indicate that public policy will remain one of the two greatest impediments to conservation for most grantees.

Sebago Clean Waters, a project of the Highstead Foundation supported by a three-year $350,000 HWC grant, actually decided to downplay the concept of watershed protection as a means of avoiding the costs of built infrastructure for water filtration. They found greater public support from a general interest in protecting the natural landscapes of the region, and corporate support from entities seeking to support their environmental sustainability goals. Among those businesses are a number of local and regional craft breweries, such as Allagash Brewing Company and Lone Pine Brewing Company. The project has been able to raise tens of millions of dollars from corporate partners, landowners, foundations, and NRCS, in addition to a "resolution" commitment from the Portland Water District to invest $9 million of water rate payer revenue towards protecting 25 percent of the Sebago Lake watershed.

Like Sebago Clean Waters, other grantees have been creative and effective in tapping new sources of conservation finance, including green bonds and accessing Clean Water State Revolving Funds. HWC provided two grants, $180,000 over three years to the Texas Hill Country Conservancy and $120,000 over two years to the Hill Country Conservation Network, to advance the protection of source water in an 18-county area of Texas that includes the city of Austin. The grantees were successful in assisting the passage of a $72 million green bond for watershed protection in Austin and a $75 million green bond in Hays County for open space protection. This example should certainly be considered a success, but also provides a sobering reality check. Protecting healthy watersheds at a meaningful scale in regions under threat of development will be very expensive. The Texas Hill Country Conservancy estimates that protecting the source water for this region will require $100 million per year. The limiting factors results presented in Figure 2 indicate that finance, like public policy, will remain one of the two greatest impediments to conservation for most grantees.

Attributing Gains to HWC

The sum of acres and stream-miles protected cannot entirely be attributed to HWC. The program's grantees generally built on the ongoing work of many entities. HWC's contribution was to target critical gaps that, once filled, allow for conservation outcomes to occur, or improve the chances that they will occur in the future.

Interviews with grantees revealed that these critical gaps are generally difficult to fill. Grantees were able to provide substantive evidence that their HWC grants allowed them to do things that otherwise would not have been possible, especially building their institutional capacity to pursue opportunities. A single quote captures what grantees told us in many interviews: "*Nobody* else would have funded hiring new staff to build institutional capacity."

Highstead Foundation had this to say in their final report:

> "HWC's 3.5-year seed investment allowed SCW [Sebago Clean Waters] to hire its first 'staff' members, two part-time contractors, in 2018. The capacity that having dedicated personnel brought to the coalition fostered increased momentum, substantial organizational growth and remarkable progress toward our goals. A little over three years later, SCW is hiring a new full-time Program Manager that will bring our core staff to two full-time and two part-time staff. A federal funding award—which was leveraged by this USE award—will partially fund these positions for the next five years and SCW is seeking matching grants from other funders. Further, SCW has created a novel and replicable governance structure and partnership agreement for 10 organizations, with an eye to organizational sustainability and equity."

Given the repeated nature of this type of testimonial by HWC grantees, we think it is reasonable to believe that by filling unfunded and often *un-fundable* gaps, the program found a sweet spot that did in fact make a difference. As one grantee stated, "The leveraged outcomes this grant produced are enormous. I hope the EPA sees that when they look at what the HWC has accomplished."

Administration of the Grant Program

The grant program itself was well designed and administered. The Endowment selected good grantees by identifying cases where a modest grant could fill an important gap, and avoided funding grantees where limiting factors were too large to overcome.

Grantees confirmed that the grants filled a critical gap in their funding needs. They further noted the duration of the grants allowed for the completion of meaningful work, program managers provided useful strategic and technical advice, and administrative processes were efficient. Grantees were especially grateful for the flexibility of the program in adapting to the difficult circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic. In a comment that echoed many of the grantees we spoke with, one grantee explained:

> "We manage a lot of types of grants, public and private. The HWC grant is by far the easiest grant to administer by a long shot. The Endowment is administratively robust and very fast. We are more effective when we don't have to be bogged down in reporting. The Endowment has been phenomenal."

In numerous interviews grantees called out the program administrators, Jeff Lerner and Peter Stangel, for their vision, strategic advice, and accessibility. Grantees felt that the combined experience of Mr. Lerner and Dr. Stangel in grantmaking and conservation generated notable benefits for the program.

Discussion and Recommendations

Grantees can point to specific initiatives and actions they undertook with HWC funding that addressed important limiting factors to watershed protection. In many cases, the context for an organization's work may have improved in material ways that allow it to work more effectively. Having said that, some factors will continue to impede progress, albeit to a lesser extent in many cases. Continued need for more financing and more supportive public policy will continue to place the biggest drag on progress in protecting healthy watersheds. Grantees pointed to the need for EPA and state regulators to make a bigger commitment to protecting healthy watersheds to avoid the future need to remediate degraded waters and expenditures on built infrastructure.

While the theory of watershed protection is widely understood, the benefits often are not readily quantifiable. If society must choose where to invest its next dollar, then certain questions will always arise: What does it take to avoid an impaired watershed? Can watershed protection be optimized to achieve the greatest benefits through the selection of specific areas to protect? What is the cost-benefit ratio of watershed protection versus built infrastructure? Will built infrastructure always be needed? Watershed analysis is not necessarily easy and possibly not recommendable if it requires a major investment of time and resources at the expense of on-the-ground conservation work while watersheds continue to be developed and degraded. However, this may not be an "either/or" problem and there are probably many opportunities for improving the tools of analysis for organizations like those supported by HWC. Future programs like HWC should carefully consider opportunities for supporting such work.

HWC made a concerted effort to bring grantees together to share their experiences, both via an in-person retreat in Seattle and on-line gatherings. Grantees had positive sentiments about the community of learning that the program sought to cultivate, but only a minority of the interviewed grantees indicated that they acquired significant new knowledge or approaches from others. To some degree, this speaks to the diversity of grantees in the portfolio, which may have resulted in the perception that innovations are not transferable across organizations that are not alike. But a preponderance of grantees we interviewed did gain inspiration from one-another and in some cases committed to stay in touch with others in hopes they would find areas of collaboration in the future.

The program has supported the achievement of measurable and significant outcomes. The strategic focus of this program appears to hit a sweet spot by funding activities that are generally not easy to fund. This has generated a relatively large return on investment. The grant-making model accommodates a wide range of grantees and different approaches appropriate to their varied contexts. The expertise of program administrators at the Endowment was evident in their selection of effective grantees with sound ideas and the ability to do the work. If it is possible to replicate this model, it appears to be a very effective way to advance watershed protection.

Finally, both the managers of the grant program and the grantees should be applauded for their agile and effective management of the difficult circumstances presented by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Appendix A: Grantee Reporting Templates

Healthy Watersheds Consortium Grant Program
Report Template

Organization name:	
Project name:	
Contract number:	Contract #:
Reporting period:	Date report submitted:

1. **Please briefly summarize the goals and objectives of your original proposal, using bullet points where possible, and provide a brief summary of progress since receiving your HWC grant award. (1000 words)**

2. **How many acres in the watershed did you focus on through your HWC project? (This may or may not be the total acreage of your watershed—our interest is *the acreage that was your focus*). Did you change the geographic focus of your grant in any way during the contract period? (250 words)**

3. **Weaknesses in the following thematic areas may present hurdles for conserving or improving management of watershed lands. Using your knowledge, please rate the degree to which these hurdles were limiting watershed conservation at the outset of your project, are limiting it at the present time, and the degree to which these hurdles will continue to limit conservation at the conclusion of your proposed grant, thus reflecting changes that may take place in the course of your project. Use a 5-point scale: 1=not an obstacle to 5=major obstacle.**

Hurdles	**Outset of HWC Project**	**Present Time**	**Estimate at HWC Project Conclusion**
Financing for watershed protection			
Availability of lands to conserve (e.g., land for sale; landowner interest in easements or land management; size and configuration of lands that can be protected)			
Institutional capacity of all relevant organizations in the watershed (e.g., ability to raise funds, execute deals, manage land)			
Public policy that affects watershed conservation (e.g., regional or municipal planning; tax incentives for conservation; riparian protection rules)			
Science (e.g., demonstrated benefits of watershed protection; prioritization of parcels to be protected)			
Stakeholder support (e.g., business case for watershed land protection; awareness of watershed needs and stewardship opportunities; conservation mindedness of the community)			
Other (describe)			
Other (describe)			

4. **Which hurdles have you worked on with the HWC grant? Did this change over the period of the grant? If so, how, and describe any associated changes in strategies. (500 words)**

5. **Which hurdles did you work on with *other* donor support? (250 words characters)**

6. **What *other* organizations worked on hurdles, either independently or in partnership with you? Please describe. (250 words)**

7. **If you had known then what you know now, what would you have done differently with regard to setting objectives or accomplishing your work? Think about this in terms of advice we can share with others undertaking similar work. What advice would you have for others starting a similar project? (250 words).**

8. **Please attach copies of any reports, publications, press releases, or media generated as a result of this project.**

Appendix B: Grantees Interviewed for Evaluation

Region 1:
Downeast Conservation Network
Highstead Foundation (Sebago Clean Waters)

Region 3:
Trout Unlimited

Region 4:
North Florida Land Trust

Region 5:
Huron River Watershed Council
Beltrami Soil and Water Conservation District

Region 6:
Hill Country Conservancy
Hill Country Conservation Network / Hill Country Alliance

Region 8:
Montana Conservation Corps

Region 9:
Pacific Forest Trust
Hawaii State Department of Land and Natural Resources

Region 10:
Puget Sound Regional Council
Emerald Alliance

Appendix C: Grant Portfolio

Grant	Grant Category (WAP: Watershed Action Project; BWC: Building Watershed Protection Capacity; ASP: Advancing State of Practice)	Project Name	State	EPA Region	Project Description	Award	Grant Duration	Watershed(s)
Region 1								
ME - Downeast Salmon Federation (2016)	**BWC**	Permanently Protecting the Largest Rivers in Eastern Maine	ME	1	Conserve 80 percent of the habitat corridors along the remaining three unprotected rivers in Washington County, Maine, by 2025. Funds will support a full-time director for three years for the Federation's Downeast Rivers Land Trust.	$150,000	3 years	Maine Coastal 01050002
ME - Downeast Conservation Network (2017)	**BWC**	Supporting Healthy Watersheds and Communities in Downeast Maine	ME	1	A consortium of 11 organizations including land trusts, educational institutions, and applied conservation organizations, with the goal of conserving up to 15,000 acres and increasing public support for watershed protection through trainings and community workshops, coordination, better understanding of the economic value of healthy watersheds, and a shared regional vision for watershed protection. Estimate this investment will leverage $200 million over 25 years, potentially more than $633 million to permanently conserve 15,500 acres in 3 years, 14% of the 25-year goal of 110,500 acres; 350,000+ acres could be conserved if a few larger projects are completed.	$150,000	3 years	Maine Coastal 01050002, St. Croix 01050001
ME - Highstead Foundation (2018)	**BWC**	Sebago Clean Waters Initiative: Forests. Faucets. Forever.	ME	1	Highstead, Open Space Institute (OSI), and The Nature Conservancy (TNC), with Sebago Clean Waters (SCW) partners over three years will catalyze the SCW initiative's goal of protecting 25% of the Sebago Lake Watershed, Maine's largest drinking water supply, within 15 years. Through this 3-yr grant we will increase collaboration among SCW, landowners, and communities; develop and launch a water fund; connect water users with landowners; and protect 2500-3500 ac.	$350,000	3 years	Sebago Lake Watershed; HUC 10: 0106000101 within Presumpscot HUC8: 01060001
Region 2								
NY - Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper (2017)	**BWC**	Niagara River Watershed Headwater Protection Initiative	NY	2	To increase their capacity to protect priority upper watershed lands and secure a source water protection fund. Using a "circuit rider" model, the program will engage more than 80 communities to accelerate protection and management measures on up to 433,000 acres of source water lands in the Niagara River Watershed and help ensure clean drinking water for 11 million people while supporting healthy communities and economies.	$300,000	3 years	Niagara River; 04120103, 04120104
Region 3								
WV- Cacapon & Lost Rivers Land Trust (2016)	**BWC**	Healing Waters Regional Landscape Initiative Cacapon River Watershed, WV	WV	3	Develop the Healing Waters Regional Landscape Initiative, build capacity for large-scale protection efforts throughout the watershed, and create a strategic local and regional plan for collaboration.	$100,000	2 years	Cacapon, Lost and North River Watersheds (02070003)
MD -AKRF Consultants (2017)	**ASP**	Demonstrating Stream Health Improvements from Healthy Watershed Actions	MD	3	AKRF, an environmental consulting firm, will work in collaboration with Versar and Maryland Department of Natural Resources, to examine the relationship between land protection and stream health improvements that have been achieved in Maryland from 1995-2015. The comprehensive Maryland Biological Stream Survey will be used to compare stream condition in both protected and unprotected watersheds.	$40,000	1 year	Entire state of Maryland
PA - Pennsylvania Dept. Conservation and Natural Resources (2017)	**ASP**	Develop Forest Easement & Forester Enrollment Programs	PA	3	To develop two interrelated programs: a forest conservation easement program designed to conserve in perpetuity up to 100,000 working forest acres within the Chesapeake Bay watershed, and a forest practitioner enrollment program for landowners who implement sustainable management practices that will improve forest health and water quality.	$175,000	3 years	32 Counties comprising the Chesapeake Bay Watershed in Pennsylvania
MD, DE, VA - Lower Shore Land Trust (2018)	**BWC**	Delivering the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement on the Delmarva Peninsula	MD DE VA	3	The Lower Shore Land Trust of Maryland will permanently protect 11,000 acres with conservation easements by 2020. Land protection will increase buffers, forest protections and water quality and soil conservation throughout our region. Our partnership will effectively deliver 10% of the acres needed in the Delmarva states to reach the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement goal of 2,000,0000 acres conserved by 2025.	$204,000	3 years	Nanticoke -02060008; Choptank - 02060005; Blackwater/Wicomico - 02060007;
PA - Trout Unlimited (2018)	**WAP**	Assessing and Protecting Wild Trout Streams in Pennsylvania	PA	3	To support assessments of 300 streams for naturally reproducing trout, with the expectation of documenting 100 new populations, and to engage grassroots volunteers in securing protective regulatory designations for 1,000 miles of streams and the resultant protection of an estimated 24,000 acres of wetlands and 18,000 acres of riparian buffers.	$100,000	3 years	Allegheny (HUC4; 0501), Susquehanna (HUC4; 0205), and Delaware (HUC4; 0204) River Basins in PA
VA - Virginia Dept. of Forestry (2018)	**ASP**	Healthy Watersheds/Forest TMDL Phase III Project	VA	3	To build on Phases I&II successes by addressing challenges associated with creating the policy and financial infrastructure needed to facilitate forest and agricultural land conservation and retention on a sustainable, Chesapeake Bay-wide basis. One major goal of Phase III is to create the policy and financial infrastructure needed to facilitate forest and agricultural land conservation and retention on a sustainable, landscape-scale, long-term, sustainable basis.	$120,000	3 years	VA: Rappahannock River (02080103 & 02080104) MD: To Be Determined

WV - Morgantown Utility Board (2018)	**WAP**	Upper Monongahela Land Conservation Program	WV	3	To create a land protection program and fund in the Upper Monongahela Watershed, the drinking water source for 100,000 people in Monongalia County. The project will focus initially on the Cobun Creek Watershed, where a new drinking water reservoir is under construction. These efforts will support the Utility's Source Water Protection Program.	$150,000	3 years	Upper Monongahela River watershed, 05020003	296,729	100,332	400 short-term 9,000 long-term
Region 4											
FL - Conservation Foundation of the Gulf Coast (2016)	**WAP**	Myakka Island Conservation Corridor, Florida	FL	4	Conserve more than 10,000 acres over the next six years within the Myakka River watershed, in rapidly-growing Sarasota and Manatee Counties. These properties will link and buffer already protected lands and help keep waterways drinkable, fishable and swimmable.	$156,000	3 years	Myakka River, 03120003	385,000 acres	75,000	10,000 acres to complete Myakka corridor
AL, FL, LA, MS, TX - Partnership for Gulf Coast Land Conservation (2017)	**BWC**	Increasing Land Trust Capacity for Strategic Land Conservation in the Gulf Coast Region	AL, FL, LA, MS, TX	4 & 6	A coalition of 25 land trusts working cooperatively in Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida. The plan is to secure sustainable financial support to build their Gulf Coast Land Conservation Assistance Fund, a program that helps land trusts develop land conservation projects. The Partnership's initial goal with this award is to secure an additional $1,000,000 for the Project Assistance Fund and their ultimate goal is to help protect up to 75,000 high-priority acres in the Gulf Region over the next several years.	$140,000	3 years	03 - South Atlantic - Gulf, 08 - Lower Mississippi 12- Texas-Gulf	122 million acres	N/A	75,000 (short term) 250,000 (long term)
NC, SC - Foothills Conservancy (2017)	**BWC**	Catawba Wateree Clean Water Initiative (CWI)	NC, SC	4	To work with 18 water utilities, Duke Energy, and stakeholders from the mountain headwaters to the coastal plain to help conserve 15,000 acres of land prioritized as high impact for future water security and to create a sustainable source water protection fund for the Catawba-Wateree River Basin.	$175,000	3 years	Catawba - Wateree River Basin, 0305010101, 0305010102, 0305010103, 0305010104, 0305010105, 0305010106, 0305010107, 0305010108, 0305010109, 0305010110, 0305010111,	3.5 million acres	2,000,000	15,000 (short term) 50,000 (long term)
SC - American Rivers (2017)	**BWC**	Permanently Protecting South Carolina's Winyah Bay Watershed	SC	4	To create a source water protection fund and help protect healthy forests, floodplain wetlands, and wildlife habitats along the Great Pee Dee, Little Pee Dee, Black, and Waccamaw Rivers in the Winyah Bay watershed. These rivers are the primary drinking water supply for over 500,000 people. The rivers are well known for outstanding recreational opportunities and contribute significantly to the regional economy by supporting industrial water users and ecotourism businesses.	$150,000	2 years	Lower Pee Dee: 03040201; Little Pee Dee: 03040204; Carolina-Coastal Sampit: 03040207	11 million acres	500,000	30,847 (short term) 125,000 (long term)
AL - Mobile Bay National Estuary Program (2018)	**BWC**	Accelerating Headwater Land Protection in the Mobile Bay Basin	AL	4	To advance strategic protection of healthy habitat parcels in Mobile Tombigbee and Alabama River basins, where 75% of catchments drain first and second order streams, key to the ecological health of the Mobile Bay estuary. Develop a land protection atlas to identify priority parcels and possible funding sources for acquisition and protection, and then supporting Alabama Forest Resources Center efforts to secure upstream acreage.	$300,000	2 years	Mobile Bay Basin: Mobile-Tombigbee (0316) and Alabama River (0315)	20.9 million acres		10,000 short-term 100,000 long-term
FL - North Florida Land Trust (2018)	**BWC**	Accelerating Land Protection in the Ocala to Osceola (O2O) in NE Florida	FL	4	3 years of support for a full time coordinator and land protection & outreach staff to implement land protection in the Ocala to Osceola Conservation Corridor (the O2O) in NE Florida. NFLT will direct existing funds (~17M) to protect 10,000 acres in 3 years, and leverage funds for a long-term goal of 140,000 acres by 2040. Land protection in the O2O will benefit headwater regions of six North Florida watersheds, as well as protect wildlife habitat, rural landscapes, and military training capacity of Camp Blanding Joint Training Center.	$183,000	3 years	Upper Suwannee, St. Marys, Santa Fe, Lower St. Johns, Oklawaha, (Upper St. Johns)	1.6 million	2,200,000	10,000 short-term; 140,000 long-term
FL - Alachua Conservation Trust (2019)	**BWC**	Accelerating Land Protection in Florida's Santa Fe River Basin	FL	4	To support a full-time Coordinator and additional staff capacity to protect land in north Florida's Santa Fe River basin, a true Florida treasure with over 90 freshwater springs. Healthy Watersheds funding will ensure ACT's ability to focus and invest existing land conservation funding, coordinate land acquisition and conservation easements, as well as conduct expanded outreach in the Santa Fe River Basin.	$168,000	2 years	Santa Fe	883,836	85,000	9,000 short-term; 75,000 long term
FL - Tall Timbers Research Station & Land Conservancy (2019)	**BWC**	Aucilla River Watershed Conservation Initiative	FL	4	To support a new staff position to: 1) complete existing land conservation transactions for high priority properties, 2) strengthen our coalition, 3) develop a watershed based land conservation prioritization analysis, 4) develop funding proposals to State (Florida Forever) and National (NRCS-RCPP) programs, and 5) build endowment support for a long-term full-time position.	$171,000	2 years	Aucilla River (HUC: 3110103)	631,439	unknown	2,381 short term; 189,941 long term
Region 5											
OH - Chagrin River Watershed Partners (2017)	**BWC**	Collaborating to Protect Ohio's Healthy Central Lake Erie Basin Watersheds	OH	5	To leverage $11 million of land protection funds that are projected to help protect up to 425 miles of streams and 30,000 acres of land within Ohio's Central Lake Erie watershed in partnership with the Central Lake Erie Basin Collaborative, West Creek Conservancy, and Western Reserve Land Conservancy.	$200,000	3 years	Sandusky 04100011, Huron-Vermilion 04100012, Black-Rocky 04110001, Cuyahoga 04110002, Ashtabula-Chagrin 04110003, Grand 04110004, Chautauqua-Conneaut	2.5 million acres	11 million	30,000 (short term) 320,000 (long term)
MI - Huron Pines (2017)	**BWC**	Connecting Northeast Michigan's land and people for conservation success	MI	5	To build the regional capacity and the sustainable funding structure needed to help protect up to 10,000 acres of prioritized lands and reconnect 50 high-quality trout stream miles in Northeast Michigan and the Lake Huron Basin. Project tasks will strengthen community readiness and stimulate economic investment for Northeast Michigan communities to result in long-term protection for the area's people and natural resources.	$180,000	4 years	AuSable - 04070007; Au Gres-Rifle - 04080101; Cheboygan - 04070004; Thunder Bay - 04070006; Black - 04070005	4.5 million acres	10,000	10,000 (short term) 100,000 (long term)
MI - Huron River Watershed Council (2017)	**WAP**	Land Protection in the Huron River Watershed through Innovative Conservation Funding and Land Use Planning	MI	5	To advance land protection through innovative strategies to generate new land protection funds from local governments and to support watershed protection goals. Natural lands serve a host of benefits to local governments and their residents, including treatment of polluted runoff, recreation, and clean water. The partners will work with local governments to ensure the most ecologically beneficial natural lands are protected so they can continue to provide these benefits.	$180,000	3 years	Huron 04090005	756,000 acres	117,000	23,000 (short term) 100,000 (long term)
WI, MN - St. Croix River Association (2018)	**BWC**	Building Capacity for Healthy Forest Protection in the St. Croix Watershed	WI MN	5	To build the capacity for landowner outreach and forest protection across the ecologically significant St. Croix River Watershed. Funds will support the protection and stewardship of 15,000 acres over the next two years, working towards our long term goal of 300,000 acres of forest protection and stewardship in the St. Croix.	$150,000	2 years	St. Croix River Watershed - 070300	4.97 million	N/A	15,000 short-term; 85,000 long-term

MN - Beltrami Soil and Water Conservation District (2019)	**WAP**	Mississippi River Headwaters Watershed Accelerated Land Protection Program	MN	**5**	The Mississippi River Headwaters Watershed has some of the highest quality resources in the state of Minnesota. The Beltrami Soil and Water Conservation District and partners developed a forest stewardship protection program to help conserve 75% of the watershed and protect its high-quality natural resources.	$150,000	2 years	Mississippi River Headwaters, 07010101	1,228,889	20,000	10,000 short term; 50,000 long term
MN - Morrison SWCD Camp Ripley (2019)	**BWC**	Building Capacity for Land Protection in the Camp Ripley Sentinel Landscape	MN	**5**	This project directly supports the Camp Ripley Sentinel Landscapes Partnership, which involves the Departments of Defense, Interior, and Agriculture. A new Private Lands Biologist position will increase the pace of protection by about 900 acres annually by securing conservation easements and facilitating further contract enhancement plans through various partner programs.	$72,000	2 years	Crow Wing River: 07010106, Mississippi River-Brainerd: 07010104, Long Prairie River: 07010108, Mississippi River-Sartell: 07010201	805,000	1,300,000	1,760 short term; 575,000 long term
Region 6											
AR - Beaver Watershed Alliance (2018)	**BWC**	Establishing Conservation Funding Mechanisms in the Beaver Lake Watershed	AR	6	Three years to coordinate development of funding mechanisms, including enhancements to the State's clean water revolving loan, open space conservation fund and a source water protection rate with 3 water utilities on Beaver Lake. Funding will pay for personnel to conduct educational workshops, assist landowners in managing lands for healthy forests and freeing the Executive Director to meet with power brokers for sustainable funding.	$234,000	3 years	Beaver Reservoir HUC# 11010001	762,880	500,000	130,000 long-term
AR - Central Arkansas Water (2019)	**WAP**	Unlocking Private Finance to Protect Central Arkansas' Drinking Water	AR	**6**	CAW, WRI & Encourage will develop a model for utilities to unlock private capital for source water protection (SWP) by leveraging watershed fees and carbon finance to access PRIs & green bonds. CAW will apply this model to scale up source water protection on up to 35,000 acres in Lake Maumelle watershed. Project costs will be matched >3:1 over 2 years. The project will help CAW access >$20M for forest land acquisitions	**$220,000**	2 years	Lower Arkansas-Maumelle, 11110207; Maumelle River-Arkansas River, 1111020701	88,000	450,000	20,000 short term (34,700 high priority); 88,000 acres long term
TX - Hill Country Conservancy (2018)	**BWC**	Middle Colorado River & Contributing Watersheds Protection Plan	TX	6	To catalyze protection of up to 15,000 acres of priority watershed lands and formalize the Hill Country Conservation Network, which seeks to secure $10M in public funds, develop a regional strategic conservation plan, and promote a conservation ethic for landowners and the public. This collaboration addresses an urgent non-point source threat to three critical regional drinking water sources, the Middle Colorado, Blanco/San Marcos Rivers, and Edwards Aquifer.	$180,000	3 years	Austin-Travis Lakes 12090205, Pedernales River 12090206, Llano River 12090204, San Saba River 12090109, Buchanan-Lyndon B. Johnson Lakes 12090201, San Marcos River (12100203)	7,247,000	2,492,920	15,000 short-term; 175,000 long-term
TX - Hill Country Alliance (2019)	**BWC**	Texas Hill Country Conservation Network: Scaling Conservation in Central TX	TX	6	To grow the regional capacity needed for large-scale, long-term healthy watershed protection across 550,000 acres in the Guadalupe-Blanco river basins in Comal and Hays counties in Central Texas, affecting drinking water and natural resources for millions of Texans. A coalition will accelerate land conservation, build financing models to fund land protection, create a shared regional land conservation strategy, initiate a rapid-response fund for emergent land conservation opportunities, and seek to protect 30,000 acres of key watershed lands in this rapidly urbanizing region.	$120,000	2 years	Upper Guadalupe (12100201): San Marcos (12100203) and Middle Guadalupe (12100202)	1,247,000	100,000	30,000 short term; 550,000 long term
TX - Katy Prairie Conservancy (2018)	**BWC**	Accelerating Land Acquisition to Protect Watersheds & Increase Resiliency	TX	6	To conserve diminishing prairie in five important watersheds. This will aid flood control and help create a resilient landscape from the prairie to the Gulf. Hurricane Harvey and continuing development have made natural watershed protection, with supportive financial mechanisms, a priority for the Houston area.	$300,000	3 years	Spring HUC 12040102, Buffalo-San-Jacinto 12040104, Austin-Oyster 12010205, Lower Brazos 12070104, San Bernard 12090401	4,695,430	2.2 million	60,000 acres long-term
NM & CO - The Nature Conservancy New Mexico (2018)	**ASP**	Monitoring for success and sustainability to protect the Rio Grande Watershed	NM CO	6 & 8	To advance the state-of practice in watershed monitoring and management for the upper Rio Grande. The Rio Grande and its tributaries supply water to one-half of New Mexico's population. The Rio Grande Water Fund was established to help protect these watersheds from severe fire and other threats. This project will help quantify the impact value of ecosystem services provided by watershed protection activities supported by the Rio Grande Water Fund.	$150,000	2 years	Rio Grande-Elephant Butte (130202) Upper Rio Grande (130201)		1,000,000	600,000 acres of stewardship long-term
Region 8											
CO - Peaks to People Water Fund (2016)	**ASP**	Colorado Conservation Exchange -Accelerating Investment in Watershed Health	CO	8	Accelerate investment in watershed health to reduce wildfire threats in the Big Thompson and Cache La Poudre watersheds and beyond through a Watershed Investment Fund linking investors with land stewards.	$150,000	2 years	Big Thompspon 10190006; Cache La Poudre 10190007	1.73 million acres	300,000	100,000 acres of forest land in the watersheds treated for excess fuel loads over 20 years.
MT, ID, WY - Trust for Public Land (2017)	**BWC**	Northern Rockies Watershed Conservation Project	ID, MT, WY	8 & 10	To develop a Watershed Conservation decision-support tool and catalyze the conservation of up to 60,000 acres of priority watershed lands in the Northern Rocky Mountains using conservation easements.	$175,000	2 years	HUC 6 - 170601,170602,170101,170102,170103	2-3 million acres within a 97 million acre area	n/a	60,000 (five years)
MT- Blackfeet Tribe/Center for Large Landscape Conservation (2017)	**BWC**	Blackfeet-Glacier Healthy Headwaters Conservation Corridor	MT	8	To facilitate conservation of up to 223,000 acres of lands critical for clean drinking water and wildlife important to the tribe's hunting and fishing culture including headwaters of 3 watersheds. Funds will also be used to develop and implement natural resource management plans for long term land stewardship to boost rural economic benefits through increased tourism and preservation of traditional livelihoods.	$160,000	3 years	Marias (100302); Milk (100500), St. Mary's (100100)	1.5 million acres	1 million	25,000 (short term) 223,338 (long term)
MT - World Wildlife Fund (2018)	**WAP**	Connecting partners to conserve working lands in the Missouri River Basin	MT	8	To engage conservation districts, agencies and not-for-profit partners in a discussion on threats to their watersheds and addressing barriers to enrolling landowners in programs that help to reduce those threats. The focus will be on intact grassland habitat.	$90,000	1 year	Milk, Missouri-Musselshell, Lower Yellowstone, Powder-Tongue HUC 4 1004, 1005, 1009, 1010	38 million	150,000	2.5 million acres long-term
MT - Montana Conservation Corps (2019)	**ASP**	Connecting and Supporting MT Stakeholder Enrollment in Protection Programs	MT	8	To increase landowner engagement through its Ranching for Rivers and Croplands to Grasslands Programs within the Missouri River Watershed. The initiative will support implementation of effective, community-driven grazing plans and common-sense-driven stewardship of native grasslands with a long-term goal of securing perpetual conservation easements along 1 million acres of riparian corridors throughout the plains of Central and Eastern Montana.	$199,000	2 years	HUC 4=Missouri-Marias (1003), Milk (1005), Missouri-Musselshell (1004), Missouri-Poplar (1006). HUC 8 Watersheds for Protection: 10030203 Marias 10040101 Bullwhacker-Dog 10050001 Milk Headwaters 10050002 Upper Milk 10050004 Middle Milk 10050006 Sage 10060001 Prairie Elk-Wolf 10060002 Redwater 10060003 Poplar 10060004 West Fork Poplar 10060005 Charles Little Muddy 10060006 Big Muddy 10060007 Brush Lake Closed Basin	93,000,000	200,000	5,000 short term; 1 million long term

Region 9											
CA - Pacific Forest Trust (2016)	**ASP**	Healthy Watersheds California	CA	9	Develop the policies, technical assessments, and financing instruments needed to leverage private and public capital for restoration and conservation of an estimated 5-7 million acres of watersheds which serve California's primary reservoirs.	$225,000	3 years	18020002 -- Upper Pit; 18020003 -- Lower Pit; 18020004 – McCloud; 18020005 -- Sacramento headwaters; 18010211 – Trinity; 18020123 -- Middle Fork Feather; 18020122 -- East Branch North Fork Feather; 18020121 -- North Fork Feather	10 million acres	25 million	5 million acres long term
CA - Trust for Public Land/Save the Redwoods League (2016)	**ASP**	North Coast Redwoods Conservation Project	CA	9	Project planning and due diligence costs associated with the conservation of 179,000 acres of redwood forestland surrounding Redwood National Park in California's Klamath River, Redwood Creek, and Mad River watersheds. Acquisition and easement costs will be financed by loan from the California Clean Water State Revolving Fund and repaid through timber sales and carbon credits.	$200,000	1 year	Lower Klamath - 18010209; Mad-Redwood - 18010102	5 million acres	80,000	179,000 acres
CA - Western Rivers Conservancy (2016)	**WAP**	Protecting Blue Creek & the Klamath River for Salmon, Wildlife and People	CA	9	Implement long-term watershed protection plans, sell carbon offsets, and create new jobs in rural northern California. 47,000 acres will be protected and transferred to the Yurok tribe to create a community forest and salmon sanctuary within four watersheds in northern California's temperate rainforest.	$100,000	1 year	Lower Klamath - 18010209	980,000 acres	114,000	47,000 acres to complete project
CA - Western Rivers Conservancy (2017)	**WAP**	Protecting Blue Creek & the Klamath River for Salmon, Wildlife and People	CA	9	To create the Blue Creek Salmon Sanctuary and Yurok Tribal Community Forest. Together these comprise 47,000 acres of coastal temperate rainforest within a top-priority northern California watershed. The project completes conservation of Blue Creek, the most important source of cold water for the Klamath River, and a lifeline for salmon. Western Rivers Conservancy will develop a carbon offset project and assist the Yurok Tribe with new funding strategies, while helping ensure that salmon, which are crucial to the Yurok way of life, survive in the Klamath forever.	$210,000	2 years	Blue Creek: 1801020909. Turwer Creek & Klamath R.: 1801020911. Tectah Ck. & Klamath R.: 1801020910. Bluff Ck. & Klamath R.: 1801020908.	82,000 acres	1,750	8,582 (towards total of 47,097)
CA- Blue Forest Conservation (2017)	**ASP**	Hemlock Landscape Restoration Site Specific Scientific & Economic Analysis	CA	9	To develop an economic case for utility investment in watershed restoration through the Forest Resilience Bond, a pay-for-success financing vehicle. Research will focus on the water quantity impacts of fuel reduction treatments in forested watersheds within California's Sierra Nevada.	$175,000	2 years	Upper Mokelumne - HUC 18040012 (~90%), Upper Stanislaus - HUC 18040010 (~10%)	350,000 acres	1,400,000	50,000 (short term)
CA - Feather River Land Trust (2017)	**BWC**	Achieving landscape-scale conservation in the Feather River Watershed	CA	9	To build the capacity to protect and steward an additional 75,000 priority acres in the Feather River watershed of northern California, a source of water for 60% of Californians. This will help protect the watershed's large intact meadow systems, rare species populations, and working ranches, while promoting ecotourism. A land transaction cost recovery model will be developed to generate funds for stewardship and legal endowments to ensure long term watershed protection.	$200,000	3 years	North Fork Feather 18020121; East Branch North Fork Feather 18020122; Middle Fork Feather 18020123	2.3 million acres	23 million	75,000 (short term) 150,000 (long term)
CA - Sonoma Land Trust (2018)	**BWC**	Ensuring the Resiliency of the San Pablo Bay and Russian River Watersheds	CA	9	To accelerate protection efforts in these biologically rich hotspots. The Land Trust's long-term cultivation of landowners at the watershed scale provides them the opportunity to secure key properties to help support these valuable ecosystems.	$180,000	2 years	San Pablo Bay 18050002; Russian River 18010110	1,734,980	600,000	11,388 short term
AZ - Arizona Land & Water Trust (2018)	**BWC**	Identifying Conservation Priorities in the Upper Santa Cruz River Watershed	AZ	9	To address groundwater overdraft, land fragmentation and development in the Upper Santa Cruz River Watershed. An analytical framework will be developed to help identify threats and prioritize land conservation projects that will limit development in riparian areas, stabilize groundwater levels, and assure continued flow in the river. This area includes one of seven designated Sentinel Landscapes in the U.S., a collaboration involving the Departments of Defense, Agriculture, and Interior.	$219,355	2 years	1505030101; 1505030102; 1505030103; 1505030104; 1505030201; 1505030201 (watershed names: an Rafael; Sonoita Creek; Portero Wash; Sopori Creek; Josephine Canyon; Cienega Creek)	945,754	47,000	15,000 long-term
HI - Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources (2018)	**BWC**	Building Capacity for Hawaii's Watershed Partnerships	HI	9	To support the Hawaii Association of Watershed Partnerships Outreach and Education Specialist position to build capacity for Hawaii's 10 Watershed Partnerships by developing a sustainable financing mechanism to help fund long-term watershed management and the goal of protecting 253,000 acres of priority areas across the State.	$160,000	2 years	Various (Statewide)	843,000	1.4 million	253,000 (long term)
CA - Pacific Forest Trust (2019)	**BWC**	Healthy Watersheds California	CA	**9**	To develop the policies, technical assessments, implementation plans, and financing needed to restore California's key source watersheds. The project aims to improve the climate resilience and reliability of the state's water supply system through landscape-scale restoration and conservation, increasing water security for millions of Californians, and protecting critical wildlife habitat. This grant will help leverage private and public capital to enable the comprehensive protection and stewardship of these forested watersheds, defining these 7 million acres as essential infrastructure for the state's water system.	$225,000	2 years	18020002 — Upper Pit / 18020003 — Lower Pit / 18020004 — McCloud / 18020005 — Sacramento headwaters / 18010211 — Trinity / 18020123 — Middle Fork Feather / 18020122 — East Branch North Fork Feather / 18020121 — North Fork Feather	7,000,000	28,000,000	3,375,000 (stewardship), 1,470,000 (protection) long term

Region 10											
OR - The Freshwater Trust (2016)	**ASP**	Framework for Acquiring and Sustainably Managing Agricultural Land	OR	10	Build a replicable framework to attract outside private investment to acquire and sustainably manage agricultural land in the John Day Basin, Oregon. The model will address the increasing conversion of farmland to other uses nationally. As farmers retire over the next 20 years, nearly one-half of all U.S. farmland—400 million acres—will change hands. Sustainable management of these farmlands will enhance watershed protection.	$200,000	2 years	John Day River basin; 17070201; 17070202; 17070203; 17070204	5.1 million	20,000	TBD
WA - Puget Sound Regional Council (2016)	**BWC**	Accelerating Watershed Protection in the Central Puget Sound Region	WA	10	Puget Sound Regional Council is a Metropolitan Planning Organization that includes 86 jurisdictions. Their project will develop a regional open space plan focused on protecting high priority, threatened ecosystems; identify watershed protection targets for inclusion in the Region's growth plan, VISION 2040, to integrate growth management with ecosystem protection; and promote use of a new online ecosystem service valuation tool for regional watershed benefits, decision making, and local actions.	$200,000	2 years	Stillaguamish, 17110008; Snohomish, 17110011; Cedar/Sammamish, 17110012; Green/Duwamish, 17110013; Puyallup/White, 17110014; Nisqually, 17110015; Kitsap, 17110019 & 17110018	8.3 million	3.8 million	100,000 acres of additional priority watershed lands protected by 2025
OR - Eugene Water & Electric Board (2017)	**BWC**	McKenzie Watershed Conservation Fund	OR	10	To design, develop, and test a watershed conservation fund that aligns funding from multiple sources to protect and manage up to 15,000 acres of riparian forests in a healthy watershed which is the sole source of drinking water for 200,000 people. EWEB will also work with the North and South Santiam Watersheds to test transferability of this concept to neighboring basins. This effort is part of EWEB's new Pure Water Partners program that will be rolled out in 2017.	$140,000	2 years	McKenzie Watershed/HUC#17090004	832,000 acres	200,000	4,100 (long term)
OR - Trout Unlimited (2018)	**WAP**	Protecting Oregon's Pristine Waterways and Public Lands	OR	10	To help protect two priority watersheds through state designations including the State Scenic Waterway Program and Outstanding Resource Water Designation Program and through the federal Oregon Wildlands Act.	$31,000	1 year	Elk River: 17100306 Nehalem River: 17100202	810,816		80 miles short term; 300 miles long term; protect 205,000 acres of habitat.
OR - Blue Mountain Land Trust (2018)	**BWC**	Building a Sustainable Conservation Program in the John Day River Basin	WA	10	To accelerate watershed protection with willing landowners and to demonstrate a sustainable funding model for expanding land trust capacity in a watershed without long-term reliance on grant funding.	$280,000	2 years	John Day, HUC6 170702	5,076,000	n/a	17,300 short-term 375,000 long-term
OR - Western Rivers Conservancy (2018)	**WAP**	Transforming Watershed Health for 2 Top-Tier Havens for Pacific Salmonids	CA OR	9 & 10	To advance two large-scale projects: A conservation easement over nearly 20,000 acres (10% of the watershed) of Oregon's Hood River Basin to protect drinking water for 8,000 people and conserve habitat for endangered fish; and in California's Klamath Basin to establish a new land management regime to restore 47,000 acres of fish and wildlife habitat that WRC permanently conserved in partnership with the Yurok Tribe to save Blue Creek, the cold-water lifeline of the Klamath River.	$250,000	1 year	WFHR 1707010506, EFHR 1707010505, BC1801020909,TurwerCrk & KR 1801020911, T.Ck&KR1801020910, BluffCrk.&KR 1801020908	298,633	9,750	20,000 acres short-term; management on 47,000 acres long term
OR - Sustainable Northwest (2019)	**BWC**	Oregon Coast Community Forest Initiative	OR	**10**	To build capacity to help protect up to 50 municipal drinking water source areas along Oregon's Coast. Partners will map, plan, and implement conservation transactions including community forests as a tool for watershed protection. The initiative will also help inform and contribute to the development of a 100-year resilient water strategy for the State of Oregon.	$200,000	2 years	Nehalem 17100202; Necanicum 17100201	104,117	35,000	10,000 short term; 104,117 long term goal
WA - Emerald Alliance (2018)	**WAP**	Accelerating Watershed Protection in Central Puget Sound, Part 2	WA	10	To build on work accomplished in an earlier Healthy Watersheds Consortium grant to develop a Regional Open Space Conservation Plan, currently in development by the Puget Sound Regional Council. Phase 2 work is to develop a comprehensive funding strategy that serves to implement the Regional Open Space Conservation Plan and to support the newly formed Emerald Alliance's organizational infrastructure so it can grow to provide a neutral forum for collaboration and action to better implement this new Regional Open Space Conservation Plan	$150,000	2 years	Stillaguamish-17110008;Snohomish_11;Cedar/Sammamish_12; Green/Duwamish_13;Puyallup/White_14;Nisqually_15;Kitsap_19&18	4,407,000	1.5 to 2 million	100,000 short term; 450,000 long-term
WA - Forterra (2018)	**BWC**	Upper Puyallup River Watershed Assessment: Protection & Resiliency Planning	WA	10	To conduct on-site data collection and research in the Upper Puyallup River Basin in support of a long-term goal to protect 40,000 acres of forestland, floodplains, and critical fish and wildlife habitat. This work will further the partners' efforts to secure funding to conserve this critical landscape in the shadow of Mt. Rainier.	$225,000	3 years	Puyallup Watershed (HUC 17110014)	128,000	2,000	40,000 long-term
AK - Alaska Dept. of Fish & Game (2018)	**WAP**	Fish Inventory in Select Drainages of the Kobuk and Koyukuk Rivers	AK	10	To conduct an inventory of stream fish assemblages and aquatic and riparian habitats in select drainages of the Kobuk and Koyukuk Rivers. Anadromous fish observations made will be used to nominate water bodies to Alaska's Anadromous Waters Catalog, which represents Alaska Statute 16.05.871, Alaska's strongest and most comprehensive instream fish habitat protection standard. All of the fish and habitat data collected will be made available through the department's online Fish Resource Monitor interactive mapper.	$192,000	1 year	Project will sample a portions of two basins (HUC6): Kobuk-Selawik Rivers (#190901), Kobyukuk River (#190503)	32,565,029	3,000	300 - 2000 km of stream habitat