

Phase 3 Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) Annual Progress Update – Potter County

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Action #	Description	Performance Target(s)	Responsible Party(ies) and Partnerships	Geographic Location	Expected Timeline	Potential Implementation Challenges or Recommendations	Resources Available		Resources Needed		Annual Progress to Date (2022) *add new 2022 progress above the existing 2021 progress. Date each entry
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Priority Initiative 1: Agriculture											
1.1*	Implement Nutrient Management Analysis Program to Agricultural Landowners	Create Program for farmers to apply for soil sampling, manure analysis, and agronomic assistance to allow for technical assistance and recommendations for nutrient management implementation. <u>3,000 acres per year</u> BMP's will include Nutrient Core N & P Rate Placement and Timing, and Soil Conservation and Water Quality	PSU Extension, PCCD, Consultant Hunting Clubs: Tally Ho Camp, Packhorse Sportsman's Ass., and Pig Sty Rod and Gun Club	Agricultural and Hunting properties Targeting Cowanesque watershed: Headwater, North Fork, and Upper Cowanesque River Cross Fork, Little Kettle Creek	2022- Creation of program with evaluation in 2025.	Funding for initial 3 years of program, landowner participation, and understanding of data importance.	Local agency educational materials and sampling kits Consultant assistance	Soil Sampling Kits (\$15) Manure Test Kits (\$40)	Contracted Source for NMP analysis/recommendations List of recommended contacts for analysis completion.	Dedicated funding to assist in management and development of this program. \$60,000 for 1.1 – 1.1a	2022- This program has not been developed due to time and funding. This is still of high interest to complete and will hopefully be focused on shortly.
1.1a	Soil Sampling Program	Develop Soil Sample Collection and Analysis Program – 25 sites per year	PSU Extension, PCCD, Consultant	Agricultural and Hunting properties Targeting Cowanesque watershed	2022-2025		Education Materials Soil Sampling			\$30,000 per year	2022- Soil sampling will be completed within the Cowanesque Watershed NFWF Grant as well as the Soil Health EE Grant and it is hoped to expand that program after project completion.

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	Manure Testing Program	Develop Manure Testing and Analysis Program – 25 sites per year	PSU Extension, PCCD, Consultant	Agricultural and Hunting properties Targeting Cowanesque watershed	2022-2025		Education Materials Manure testing Labs			\$10,000 per year	2022- A manure testing program is included within the Cowanesque Watershed NFWF Grant and is hoped to be continued in the following years.
	Agronomy Assistance/ Analysis Program	Develop Agronomic Analysis Program – 25 sites per year	PSU Extension, PCCD, Consultant	Agricultural and Hunting properties. Targeting Cowanesque watershed.	2022-2025		Education Materials, Analysis		Analysis	\$20,000 per year	2022- Agronomy assistance has not been offered to date although after completion of the soil sampling and manure sampling programs, expansion into the agronomy analysis program is planned.
1.2*	Increase Reporting and Verification of Existing BMP's	Collect data through use of landowner reporting forms and verify existing BMP's on Agricultural Operations. Report and verify <u>50 farms a year.</u>	DEP, PCCD, NRCS, PFB	County	2021-ongoing	Time Capacity, Data Entry, Release of Records, producer participation and resistance	BMP's and plans that were funded through agencies and grants are already known	Agency verification	One dedicated staff or contracted staff to complete entry and inspections.	Dedicated funding to this position, \$80,000 per year	2022- BMP verification and reporting is moving along well. Field verification has been completed and now is in the reporting phase.
1.2a	Create Farmer Survey	Create and deploy Farmer Survey to collect private landowner data on existing BMP's.	DEP, PCCD, NRCS, PFB	County	2021-ongoing	Time Capacity, Data Entry, Release of Records, producer participation and resistance	BMPs and plans that were funded through agencies and grants are already known	Agency verification	Refer to 1.2	Refer to 1.2	2022- This survey has been discussed but is on hold due to the amount of BMPs the county was already able to collect.
1.3	Enhance No- Till Use	Promote No-Till on operations through	PCCD, PSU Ext	Agricultural Landowners operations	2021-2025	Producer Participation and Resistance.	No-Till Equipment,	\$12 per acre (\$24 per acre if used on	Outreach support, event development,	Dedicated funding to this position,	2022- Continual discussions on how to promote No-Till have occurred. It is a hope to host a Soil Health initiatives will be

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	throughout County	education, outreach events, and increased equipment availability.				Education on overall management change importance	Educational Materials, Farmer No-Till Survey	conventionally tilled ground)	Deliverables through existing publications	\$30,000 per year.	implemented through the Cowanesque Watershed NFWF Grant as well as the Soil Health EE Grant. It is hoped to increase knowledge throughout the county beyond that watershed following those two projects completion.
1.3a	Increase No-Till Equipment Availability	Expand use of the county owned No-Till equipment. <u>1250 acres per year</u>	PCCD	Agricultural Landowners operations, Cowanesque Watershed	2021-2025	Logistics and maintenance	No-Till Equipment	N/A	Rental Agreement Increase in equipment delivery		2022- The No-Till equipment rental is expanding in its use and reach.
1.3b	No-Till Equipment Reimbursement Program	Reimbursement % for rental fee cost for filling out reporting form.	PCCD	Agricultural Landowners operations	2021-2025	Participation, Importance of reporting	N/A	N/A	Training new staff	Funding for reimbursement fee coverage	2022- The No-Till reimbursement program has been set up for partial rental fee coverage.
1.4	Provide Alternative Species Cover Cropping Education Program	Program to promote cover cropping and education of species.	PCCD, NRCS, PSU Extension	Agricultural Communities	2022-ongoing	Participation and eagerness to change existing practice	Educational materials, programs	N/A	Consultant Education/outreach	Funding sources to cover seed costs	2022- Planning for this program has been under discussion. A cover cropping educational program would be beneficial within Potter County although this program is awaiting a designated funding source.
1.4a	Increase Cover Cropping Species Availability	Increase cover cropping implementation by increasing species availability of Cover Crops specific to Potter County climate	PCCD, NRCS, PSU Extension	Agricultural community	2022-ongoing	Availability/Funding for seed purchase	Educational manuals, Planting recommendations, case studies	N/A	Alternate species ID, cold climate crops	Seed/implementation costs	2022- Planning for this program has been under discussion. An alternative cover cropping program would be beneficial within Potter County although this program is awaiting a designated funding source.

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		and producer’s needs. <u>1550 acres per year</u>									
1.5	Cost Share Liming Program	Provide a cost sharing program and education to increase liming practices and increase overall pH. Also, the purchase of a 5 Ton Lime Spreader to achieve liming program goals. <u>625 acres</u> of farmland per year Soil testing analysis to determine eligibility.	PCCD, NRCS, PSU Extension, PA Dept. of Agriculture	Agricultural Community and Hunting Clubs, Watersheds with low soil pH	2022-ongoing	Funding, Adoptees, Importance of Education, Logistics issues and maintenance, staffing	Soil Sampling Kit (\$15), New or used lime spreaders	Testing, Cost sharing, County Funds	Soil testing and recommendations, Staff to coordinate Rental Program, delivery	Funding Source for lime, lime spreader, and staffing	2022- A cost share liming program is planned to be implemented through the Cowanesque Watershed NFWF Grant. It is hoped that this trial run will determine feasibility for program expansion to the rest of the county.
1.6*	Existing BMP Maintenance Program	Assist producers with maintenance of existing BMP’s to keep them functioning, through cost-share labor or funding.	PCCD, NRCS, PSU Extension	Agricultural Producers	2023-ongoing	Funding and Producer participation, Identifying BMPS that need maintenance	Technical assistance	Existing Funding for maintenance	Maintenance	Grant funding	2022- Discussions have been had on the best way to rank or prioritize BMP maintenance projects once a program has been developed and funding is secured. A BMP maintenance initiative was submitted within the CAP Implementation Grant for funding.

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		Achieve maintenance on <u>5 farms per year.</u>									
1.7*	Riparian Buffer and Stream Fencing	Implement Stream fencing and riparian buffer on crop and pasture lands. <u>Implement or verify 200 acres per year</u>	PCCD, NRCS, PSU Extension	Streams on Agricultural Properties	2021-ongoing	Funding and Producer participation, Importance of maintenance	Planting design, educational materials, labor to plant and install	Trees and fencing cost-shares	Labor to plant/install	Funding Source, Stream fencing costs	2022- Riparian buffer and stream fencing projects have been completed as well as verified. 3,000 sq. ft of riparian buffer was installed this year.
1.8	Aquaculture / Fish Hatchery Maintenance and Nutrient Planning	Complete Nutrient Management Planning and Upgrades to at least 2 hatcheries.	PCCD, PFBC	2 Existing Hatcheries	2024+	Funding and Participation Getting private hatcheries onboard.	Required maintenance and management	Operation and maintenance cost	Upgrades, design, Permitting, construction cost	Cost associated with upgrades	2022- An Aquaculture/Fish Hatchery maintenance project has been completed for facility upgrades and treatment facility implementation.
1.9*	Manure Injection Equipment Rental Program	Purchase Manure Injection Equipment and administer program to promote manure injection. <u>300 total acres</u>	PCCD	1 farm (300 acres) in PC	2022-2025	Producer participation and resistance, Education on overall management change and importance	Educational materials	Manure Injection Equipment	Staff to coordinate Rental Program, delivery Manure Injection Equipment	Dedicated funding to this position and equipment rental	2022- Manure Injection discussions to raise interest and awareness of benefits are occurring. Need confirmed interest before releasing manure injection rental program. Evaluating contractor completion although for feasibility we need to retain more acreage to secure contractor and make program worthwhile.
1.9a	Manure Injection Equipment Reimbursement Program	Reimbursement % for rental fee cost for filling out reporting form.	PCCD	County	2021-2025	Participation	Similar Program Examples	N/A	Staff to approve forms and record data	Funding for reimbursement fee coverage	2022- Dependent on 1.9 completion and will be evaluated once initial program set-up is completed.

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1.10*	Partnership-Potter/Tioga County Cowanesque Watershed Agricultural BMP Upgrades	Implement Agricultural BMP's across Tioga and Potter County to assist the Cowanesque Watershed as a whole. <u>10 agricultural projects within the watershed a year</u>	TCCD, PCCD	Tioga and Potter County, Cowanesque Watershed, Agricultural Properties	2023-2025	Funding and farmer participation within the watershed	Engineering assistance, Existing BMP programs	Cost sharing programs	Planning, outreach, and Implementation	Costs associated with design permitting and construction of BMP's and programs	2022- NFWF Grant Funding has been applied to by Potter and Tioga County to secure funding to implement BMPs within the Cowanesque Watershed. The grant funding was awarded and this project is underway.