

Pennsylvania

Outcome: By 2025, ...95,000 additional riparian forest buffer acres

Long term Target: 9,500 acres/year

2 year Target:

Management Approach 1: RFB Leadership

Key Action** <i>Description of work/project. Define each major action step on its own row. Identify specific program that will be used to achieve action.</i>	Performance Target(s) <i>Identify incremental steps to achieve Key Action.</i>	Participating Entity <i>Identify responsible partner for each step.</i>	Geographic Location	Timeline <i>Identify completion date (month & year) for each step)</i>	Factors Influencing and/or Gap <i>Identify related factor or gap in Management Strategy</i>
1. Establish a PA RFB Leadership Team	a. Craft a purpose statement	DCNR and DEP	Bay-wide	By Dec 31, 2015	
	b. Recruit members	DCNR, DEP, other agencies	Bay-wide	By Dec 31, 2015	
	c. Hold first meeting in Jan. 2016	State and local agencies, nonprofits, other stakeholders	Bay-wide	By Jan 30, 2016	
2. Host a PA RFB summit, led by leadership team	a. Conduct a planning meeting at the PA Bay conference in Jan. 2016	DCNR, DEP, PSU	Bay-wide	Jan-16	
	b. Reach out individually to organizations to gauge interest, search	DCNR and DEP (leads); nonprofits, conservation districts, interested	Bay-wide	By Dec 31, 2015	
	c. Research funding options to offset costs and have them ready for	DCNR and DEP	Bay-wide	30-Apr-16	

Management Approach 2: RFB Program Enhancements

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1. Achieve related value-added conservation objectives	a. Incorporate woodland management plans	DCNR	Priority watersheds	Ongoing implementation	
	c. Suggest improvements to MS4 Program, municipality ordinances regarding, trees, landscaping, etc...	DCNR, DEP, State Planning Board, agency workgroups	Bay-wide	By Dec 31, 2017	
2. Continue PA's Stream ReLeaf program	work with Leadership Team to provide recommendations for improvements to	DEP, Leadership Team			

3. Pursue a state/private-funded RFB program	a. Identify potential state funding opportunities	DCNR, DEP	Statewide	By Dec 31, 2015	
	b. Identify potential partners for private funding, including foundations, corporations, and universities	DCNR, DEP	Statewide	Ongoing implementation	
	c. Develop concept proposals for state and private funding	DCNR, DEP	Statewide	By Dec 31, 2015	
	d. Explore Adopt-A-Stream program	DCNR, DEP	Bay-wide	31-Dec-16	
	e. Pilot sites showcasing different approaches including maintenance	DCNR, DEP	Priority watersheds		
	f. Explore incorporating agroforestry practices into the RFB program	DCNR	TBD		
	g. Introduce needed policy changes to implement the program	DCNR, DEP	Statewide		
	h. Test methods for flexibility in buffer administration and management	DCNR, DEP	Statewide		
	i. Incorporate robust tracking system	DEP	Statewide		
	j. Secure funding for above	DEP/DCNR	Statewide	30-Jun-16	
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1. Pursue increased staffing levels to provide more technical assistance	a. Increase interagency coordination	DCNR, DEP, PFBC, PGC, etc...			
	b. Incorporate FSA-funded foresters into RFB program	DCNR	Priority watersheds	In process	
	c. Continue to seek additional staffing	DCNR, DEP	Priority watersheds	30-Jun-16	
	a. Identify successful programs	DCNR, DEP, PDA, Leadership Team	Bay-wide	30-Jun-16	

2. Increase effectiveness of landowner education on RFB establishment and maintenance through coordination and incorporating lessons learned					
	c. Support PACD outreach efforts in creating a clearinghouse of informational materials	DCNR, DEP, PACD	Bay-wide	31-Dec-17	
	d. Enhance collaboration among organizations to better understand farmers' needs	DCNR, DEP, Leadership Team	Bay-wide		
3. Better understand relationship between RFBs and the spread of avian influenza					
	a. Collaborate with Dept of AG and other experts	PDA, DCNR, DEP	Statewide	31-Dec-17	
4. Pursue an approach to identify liaisons (leaders, early adopters) within farming communities	a. Reach out to dairy, horse, and poultry farmers, and others	Dept of Ag	Baywide	31-Dec-16	
	b. Reach out to plain sect community	Partners	Priority watersheds	31-Dec-16	
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1. Encourage new enrollment					
2. Support re-enrollment					

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1. Improve tracking, planning, and reporting	a. Utilize GIS, CAST, and other tools	EPA, DEP, DCNR, Partners	Baywide	31-Dec-17	
	b. Track progress through reports and maps	DEP, DCNR	Baywide	31-Dec-17	
	c. Analyze efforts to recommend efficiencies	DEP, DCNR	Baywide	31-Dec-17	
2. Strengthen inter-organizational operations, including reporting and verification by partner, NGOs	a. Enable verification to be completed by multiple entities, independent of landowner/installer	EPA, DEP, DCNR, Partners	Baywide	31-Dec-17	
	b. Promote RFB summit as a kick-off event	DCNR, DEP	Baywide	30-Jun-16	
3. Evaluate use of Stream ReLeaf as a tracking and reporting tool	a. Utilize existing system for tracking buffer implementation	DEP and partners	Statewide	31-Dec-16	
	b. Expand knowledge and access to the system in order to capture all existing buffers	DEP and partners	Statewide	31-Dec-16	
Total					
4. Use analysis to focus outreach in targeted watersheds	c. messages and materials created	DEP and partners	Baywide	31-Dec-16	
Total					
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1. Strengthen technical assistance to emphasize and promote establishment and maintenance of RFBs	(See Management Approach 3)				
	Total				
2. Ensure that funding for maintenance is included in planting efforts	(See Management Approach 3)				
	Total				

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1. Explore a buffer easement program	a. Incorporate RFBs into a broader forest conservation easement program, if created	DCNR, DEP, FBC, Ag, DCED	Statewide	31-Dec-17	
2. Support local green space planning and protection	a. Incorporate RFBs into other planning efforts, such as the State Planning Board, county comprehensive plans, and local zoning ordinances	State Planning Board, county planners, local elected officials	Bay-wide	Ongoing implementation	
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1. Promote upland reforestation	a. Identify potential AMLs on PA state forests	DCNR, DEP	Bay-wide (TBD)	31-Dec-17	
2. Explore options for reduced mowing	a. Collaborate with other agencies to review mowing policies	DCNR, DEP, PennDOT, land-holding agencies	Statewide	31-Dec-17	
3. Identify and connect with major non-ag. land owners	a. Identify locations through GIS analysis	Golf courses, universities, corporate campuses, schools, public lands	TBD (see participating entities)	31-Dec-17	
	b. Prioritize state-owned properties	Landholding state agencies	State-owned lands	31-Dec-17	
	d. Work to broaden public awareness of RFBs outside of the farming and conservation communities	Golf courses, schools, universities	Bay-wide	By Dec 31, 2017	

Absorbed by staff* means that we will make an effort to accomplish this task with existing staff by shifting duties and prioritizing this work, but it is not a sustainable solution. In the end, our hope is to if this doesn't happen, then we probably will not be able to accomplish everything.