

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

Green - action has been completed or is moving forward as planned **Yellow** - action has encountered minor obstacles **Red** - action has not been taken or has encountered a serious barrier

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 5: Natural											
5.1	Forest Land Conservation and Management	Preserve Quality Forest Land Surrounding Quality Resources through conservation easements, deed restrictions, land conservancies. <u>2,500 acres per year</u>	SCCD, NRCS, DCNR, Landowners	Forest lands near quality resources	2022-2025	Funding for preserved lands and landowner participation	Conservation efforts, existing land conservancy programs	Existing grant programs and private funds	Additional outreach and support	Costs associated with conservation planning and management	2022- Conservation planning and discussions have occurred although preservation is limited until a funding source is secured.
5.1a	Forest Management Plans	Create Forest Management Plans for private landowners. <u>20 plans per year</u>	SCCD, NRCS, Foresters, DCNR	Private Forest Owners	2022-ongoing	Funding, capturing plans, plan writers, available lands	Writing/assistance	Forest Management plan costs	Plan writers	Cost associated with plan writing	2022- Forest management plans have not been completed through the district due to the lack of a plan writers and funding will need to be secured to offer this assistance. There is a potential for NRCS funding to allow for plan creation.
5.1b	Forestry Harvest ED and Outreach	Educating private forest landowners on the importance of proper harvesting and selecting a qualified timber harvester. <u>2 in-person program events per year</u>	DCNR, NRCS, SCCD	Private Forest Owners	2023	Participation from landowners, interest, and technical assistance.	Educational materials	N/A	Outreach events, In-person programs, county specific informational packets	Costs associated with in-person programs and outreach events, and county specific material development	2022- Susquehanna County has partnered with Bradford County to complete a Forestry Education Symposium funded through the 2022 Environmental Education Grant award. The first event was held to provide education and outreach to the local landowners and professionals. A presentation on forestry harvest was also given during this years Contractor Workshop.

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5.2	Stream Restoration and Streambank stabilization	Stream restoration and streambank protection and stabilization for overall watershed health. <u>7,500 linear feet per year</u>	SCCD, TU, NRCS	County impaired streams	2022-ongoing	Cost associated with design and construction, and landowner participation	Project design, details, and permitting support	Existing Grant Programs and private funds	Prioritization and watershed approach, planning and design	Dedicated funding source to continue establishing new projects	2022- Stream stabilization has been implemented in stream crossing projects although no separate stream restoration projects have occurred this year.
5.3	Establish Master Watershed Steward Coordinator Position	Establish a coordinator for Susquehanna County or a shared position between multiple counties. This position could assist with the implementation of this plan and be a vital asset for numerous initiatives	PSU Extension, SCCD, County Commissioners	County	2021+	Initial establishment of the program and finding a qualified candidate	Existing Program and outline of duties	N/A	Qualified Candidate to function as the coordinator	Dedicated funding for new position, or shared county position	2022- This program has been developed through the partnership of multiple counties to share this position.

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Priority Initiative 2: Urban and Developed Stormwater											
2.1	Update and amend local Stormwater regulations	Update the Local regulations to include proven BMPs to be utilized in project to prevent increase stormwater and nutrient discharges. <u>5 Stormwater ordinance updates per year</u>	County Planning, Municipal Government	County Stormwater Regulations and Municipalities with existing stormwater ordinances.	2022	Enforcement, Resistance for Townships and Developers, Coordination	Guidance Documents, Existing plans, BMP recommendations	Funding sources to implement and amend local regulations	Technical guidance	Funds to amend and implement regulations	2022- Updates and amendments to the local stormwater regulations are proposed to occur once funding has been secured. The SALDO is under evaluation for update needs.
2.1a	Update and Amend ACT 167 Plan	Finalized Act 167 Plan from previously completed Draft Plan.	County Planning, Municipal Government	County	2021-2025	Funding, Resistance, Local Enforcement, Education	Existing plans, Stormwater BMP recommendations	Funding for amendments and implementations	Review and edits/approval of document, technical guidance	Funds to amend existing ACT 167 Plan	2022- This program has been discussed but is waiting to see how ACT 167 planning funding is allocated. Updates and amendments to the ACT 167 plan are proposed to occur once funding is secured.
2.2	Street Sweeping	Increase the miles of streets swept per year and increase opportunity for additional municipalities to utilize management practice.	COG; County Planning	County	2022-2025	Cost of implementation and obtaining a street sweeper	Contracted street sweepers Sweeping Corps of America	Cost of street sweeping	Cooperative agreement with multiple municipalities to share labor and/or equipment Coordination of sharing employees and/or equipment	Funds to purchase or rent sweeper	2022- Existing street sweeping is commencing as usual and increased street sweeping programs are still being planned and organized to provide the most practical use of county staffs time and resources available. The interval that street sweeping occurs is unknown and completed on a municipality level as well as by private organizations. This information will need obtained prior to project expansion.

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		Tracking miles of roadway completed for reporting. <u>50 miles per year</u>									
2.2a	Street Sweeper Municipality Partnership	Develop Township partnership with adjacent township to utilize existing vac-truck and street sweeper and assist with overall maintenance. Increase overall capacity of street sweeping implementation through use of partnership.	Municipal Staff	County municipalities	2021-2025	Feasibility of increased equipment use and shared staffing	Vac-truck and Street Sweeper, staff	Existing staffing and equipment	Equipment availability, Labor (municipality to municipality basis) Development of Municipality partnership program	N/A	2022- Multiple discussions have occurred surrounding program feasibility and implementation strategy but has yet to be implemented. Partnerships with municipalities are under discussion to utilize staff time and resources effectively.
2.3	Residential Stormwater Management and Rain Barrel Program	Develop Education and material Program for residential and small commercial properties.	SCCD	County	2022-2025	Funding for materials; resistance to participation; maintaining use	Existing example programs and educational materials	Cost of project implementation	Rain barrels, Rain gardens, and associated small rain mitigation project materials, educational programs	Funding for materials	2022- This program is in discussion and will need a funding source to complete the in-person events and provide necessary materials. Possible funding for this would be an EE Grant.

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		<p><u>2 in-person programs per year</u></p> <p><u>Implement 50 stormwater management practice son residential lands per year</u></p> <p>BMPs include: Bio-retention/Rain gardens</p>									
2.4	Nutrient and Fertilizer Planning for Turf Grass	<p>Develop and implement plans and guidance for Turf Grass. Host Contractor and landscaper workshops.</p> <p><u>20 acres per year</u></p>	SCCD, PSU Extension, NRCS	Urban Tall Pines Players Club, Panorama Golf Course. And Montrose Country Club	2024+	Reporting and Lack of participation, guidance, regulations	Guidance documents,	N/A	Example plans, outreach, Enforcement	Dedicate funds to launch the program and implement BMP's	2022- This program is still of importance and project locations are being identified and discussed to gain interest and availability for project sites once the program is kicked off.
2.4a	Stormwater and Nutrient Management for Turf Grass	<p>Implement BMPs on Non-Ag lands like golf courses, lake properties to reduce nutrient</p>	SCCD, NRCS, PSU Extension	Urban Tall Pines Players Club, Panorama Golf Course. And Montrose Country Club	2023+	Reporting and lack of participation, guidance, and regulations	Guidance documentation and existing programs	Outreach and education funding. Privates funds from organizations to improve their own lands,	Design planning, BMP recommendations, area management and maintenance	Cost share program, funding	2022- This program has not been developed but is still of interest to complete. Funding will need dedicated to launch this program and will be planned for in the future.

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		pollution. These include, buffer and tree plantings, turf grass reduction, grass buffers, etc. <u>400 acres</u>						Tree plantings			
2.5*	Roadway Stormwater Management	Implement new BMPs for Supervisors and PennDOT to reduce runoff from roadways and minimize nutrient carrying capacity. <u>20 miles of road per year</u>	SCCD, DCNR, PGC, Municipalities	County	2021-2025	Follow through on protocol and lack of updates with new techniques.	Training, design manuals	BMP implementations on roadways	Additional project identification and design permitting and implementations	Cost associated with additional BMP implementations	2022- This program has not been established but is being addressed through ongoing DGLVR projects although larger scale projects haven't been undertaken.
2.5a	Township Supervisor Roadway Management Guide	Development of Roadway Management Guide for new Township supervisors.	SCCD	County	2021-2025	Development and use of educational materials	Various educational materials	N/A	Planning Document Development for Township Supervisors	Funding to develop educational materials	2022- This program hasn't been established due to the lack of township supervisor involvement.
2.6	Public Green Space for Environmentally Sensitive Areas	Protect environmental sensitive areas by encouraging	County Planning, SCCD	Public owned grounds	2023-2025	Cost of Green Space conversion and participation.	Identification of Public Green Space Areas	Existing public lands	Educational Materials, further site identification	Cost of creating publicly accessible greenspace	2022- This initiative has not been started due to the lack of designated funding to secure green space.

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Priority Initiative 4: Lake Management											
4.1	Source Water Protection	Implement BMPs that will reduce nutrients in lake source water to reduce algal chemical treatments. BMP's to include Agricultural Farmland management, Reforestation, Forest Land Management <u>250 acres per year</u>	Landowners, SCCD, Lake associations	Lake Property and surrounding landscape	2023	Funding to implement BMP's on lands contributing to the source water and Surrounding landowner participation	Project Identification, Design, permitting and implementation	Funds to complete project design and implementation	Outreach to landowner and support for project design, permitting, and implementation	Funds need to complete BMP's	2022- Lakefront riparian plantings have been discussed to help source water protection and are being completed this year at two different lake communities, Hart Lake and Silver Lake. Grant funding is being discussed to continue lake community improvements to find potential project sites and feasible grant funding. 2023 CAP Implementation funding was applied to for Lake community improvements.
4.2	Septic System Upgrades on Lakefront Properties	Determine possible solutions for septic upgrades on lakefront communities to improve overall water quality. <u>10 system upgrades per year and evaluate small waste treatment facilities at</u>	SEOs, Lake Community organizations	Lakefront Communities	2022-2025	Funding to complete systems upgrades, willingness to participate from community members	System evaluation design and implementations	Private Funds, Loans for septic replacements	Outreach to Community members and septic system design and permitting	Funds for design, permitting and implementation	2022- Private septic and sewer maintenance activities have been ongoing. A plan to increase available maintenance activities is being discussed and needs a dedicated funding source identified. Program evaluation is still underway. Potential funding source of PennVEST will be targeted.

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		<u>lakeside communities.</u>									
4.3	Stormwater Management	Develop Educational and Material Program for residential and small commercial properties and roadways. <u>3 programs per year, including rain barrels and other education events</u>	SCCD, Lake associations, PSU Extension	Lake Communities and surrounding municipalities	2022-2025	Funding for materials; resistance to participation; maintaining use	Existing example programs and materials	Environmental Educations Grants	Guidance documents and workshops	Funding for materials	2022- This program has been discussed but has not been started due to limited funding available to complete the educational events. There has been discussion regarding potential overlap of DGLVR project completion surrounding these lake communities and its potential benefit to the community.

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Priority Initiative 3: Wastewater											
3.1	Private Septic/Sewer Maintenance	Develop a program to provide maintenance and education to residential On-Lot Septic system. <u>100 systems per year</u>	County Planning, SEOs	County private landowners	2022-2025	Funding and Community Participation to complete maintenance	Septic Professionals, inspections, permit reviews, pumping trucks	Cost for upgrades and maintenance	Maintenance and upgrade support, outreach and education	Cost of private septic maintenance	2022- Private septic and sewer maintenance activities have been occurring as needed although this program has not been implemented due to the lack of dedicated funding to provide this resource. PennVEST is being evaluated as a potential funding source to complete this task.
3.1a	Private Septic Upgrades	Complete necessary upgrades to septic systems that are outdated <u>10 systems per year</u>	SEOs, Municipalities	County private systems	2022-2025	Cost of upgrades and Owners willingness to participate	Sewer inspections, permit reviews, design, install	Costs for upgrades	Design, feasibility, permitting, construction	Cost of private septic upgrades, design, and construction	2022- Private septic upgrades and construction are occurring as needed although a program has not been started due to lack of funding and increased costs for construction. There has been discussion to target PennVEST funding as a source for program completion.
3.2	Upgrades and Maintenance on Public Sewer	Complete necessary upgrades on WTP and Implement proper Maintenance on remaining. <u>1 system</u>	County Planning, Local Authority	County - Susquehanna a Wastewater Treatment Plant	2025	Cost of upgrades and maintenance, design and permitting	Engineers, Authority, Operators, inspections and permit reviews	Costs associated with upgrades and maintenance	Design Feasibility, engineering and construction support, permitting	Cost of upgrades and maintenance	2022- This program is in the beginning stages of discussion and is on hold due to cost of upgrades and no secured funding source.

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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 technical assistance and recommendations for nutrient management implementation. BMP's will include Nutrient Core N and Nutrient Core P, Rate, Placement, and Timing.	PSU Extension, SCCD, Consultant	Agricultural and Hunting properties Targeting Appalachian Creek, Choconut Creek, Wappasening Creek, Snake Creek, Wyalusing Creek, Susquehanna River, Salt Lick Creek, Starrucca Creek, Meshoppen Creek, Tunkhannock Creek, and Lackawanna River Watersheds	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	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 \$30,000 for 1.1 – 1.1 a per year	2022- Nutrient Management planning has been provided to those who have contacted the district although a specific program has not been developed. Funding is being identified to establish this program moving forward. CAP implementation monies may be applied for this program.
1.1a	Soil Sampling Program	Develop Soil Sample Collection Program and Analysis – <u>12 sites per year</u>	PSU Extension, SCCD, Consultant	Agricultural and Hunting properties Targeting Lower, EB Tunkhannock Creek, Wilson Creek, Horton	2022-2025		Education Materials Soil Sampling			\$15,000 per year	2022- Progress and discussion have occurred surrounding sampling programs and a funding source is needed to secure this program. Funding was applied for 2023 CAP Implementation Funds.

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				Creek, Thomas Creek, and Little Meshoppen Creek Watersheds							
1.1a	Manure Testing Program	Develop Manure Testing Program and Analysis – <u>12 sites per year</u>	PSU Extension, SCCD, Consultant	Agricultural and Hunting properties Targeting Lower, EB Tunkhannock Creek, Wilson Creek, Horton Creek, Thomas Creek, and Little Meshoppen Creek Watersheds	2022-2025		Education Materials Manure testing Labs			\$5,000 per year	2022- Progress and discussion have occurred surrounding sampling programs and a funding source is needed to secure this program. This program will be developed following the roll out of the Soil Sampling Program.
1.1a	Agronomy Assistance/ Analysis Program	Develop Agronomic Analysis Program – <u>12 sites per year</u>	PSU Extension, SCCD, Consultant	Agricultural and Hunting properties Targeting Lower, EB Tunkhannock Creek, Wilson Creek, Horton Creek, Thomas Creek, and	2022-2025		Education Materials, Analysis		Analysis	\$10,000 per year	2022- Progress and discussion have occurred surrounding sampling programs and a funding source is needed to secure this program. This program will be developed following the roll out of the Soil Sampling Program.

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				Little Meshoppen Creek Watersheds							
1.2*	Reporting and Verification of Existing BMPs	Collect data through the use of landowner reporting forms and verify existing BMPs on agricultural operations. <u>50 farms per year</u>	DEP, SCCD, NRCS, PFB	County	2021-2025	Time Capacity, Data Entry, Release of Records, producer participation and resistance	Existing BMP's funded through Government programs are already recorded	Agency verification	Dedicated staff or contracted staff to complete entry and inspections	Dedicated funding to this position \$80,000 per year for staff salary	2022- BMP verification is underway through the use of Bay Office Funding for verification and reporting completion. An aerial identification platform was created to located BMPS and field verification is taking place to collect BMP information.
1.3	Existing BMP Maintenance Program	Assist producers with maintenance of existing BMP to keep them functioning. <u>10 farms per year</u>	SCCD, NRCS, PSU Extension, Farmland Preservation Board	Agricultural communities targeting impaired watersheds	2022-2025	Lack of existing funds for maintenance, farmer resistance to project completion	Design and inspection support, specifications and details	Private funds	Design, permitting, engineering, and construction Prioritization of BMP's in need of maintenance	Funds to complete maintenance activities, including design, permitting, and construction \$150,000 per year	2022- Existing BMPs that require maintenance or upgrades are being noted and completed as available. Additional maintenance activities will be implemented once a funding source becomes available.
1.4	Agricultural Stream Protection BMPs	Implement BMPs for operations that are located directly on streams to improve overall stream quality. <u>1,250 Linear feet per year</u>	SCCD, NRCS, SCC, DEP, TU	Agricultural communities targeting impaired watersheds	2021-2025	Lack of funds for project completion, resistance from landowners, and lengthy permitting process	Design and permitting support, project location selection	Private Funds and existing grant programs	Design, permitting, and construction support Additional outreach to identify projects	Match funds or In Kind for existing grant programs Funding to complete additional projects \$250,000 per year	2022- Stream protection BMPs are being implemented within agricultural properties to improve overall water quality and stream stability through CAP implementation funds. The Daniels Ag Crossing project was completed this year.
1.4a	Riparian Buffer Implementation	Implement riparian buffers on crop and pasture lands.	SCCD, NRCS, PSU Extension	County Appalachian Creek, Choconut	2021-2025	Lack of landowner participation, large match requirements for existing	Design and project identification	Plantings and materials	Planting and maintenance assistance	Funding for professional planters or purchasing materials	2022- Riparian buffer zones are being planted and restored on crop and pasture fields to allow nutrients and animals from reaching the

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		Implement or verify <u>500 acres per year</u>		Creek, Wappasening Creek, Snake Creek, Wyalusing Creek, Susquehanna River, Salt Lick Creek, Starrucca Creek, Meshoppen Creek, Tunkhannock Creek, and Lackawanna River Watersheds		programs, lengthy contract terms				\$350,000 per year	waterways through CAP implementation funds. 13.62 acres of riparian buffer was installed this year.
1.4b*	Riparian Stream Fencing	Implement Riparian Stream fencing along pasture lands. <u>500 acres per year</u>	SCCD, NRCS, PSU Extension	Agricultural communities targeting impaired watersheds	2021-2025	Lack of landowner participation, large match requirements for existing programs, lengthy contract terms	Design and project identification	Cost of materials and installation	Installation labor and materials Outreach to landowners for project identification	Additional funds to complete more projects	2022- Riparian stream fencing is being installed on agricultural properties to exclude livestock from stream and pond systems through CAP implementation funds. 10,470 linear feet of stream fencing was installed this year.
1.5	Farmer Survey Program	Generate a farmer survey to track yearly BMPs and better assist farmers with grant applications and additional hard BMPs. <u>75 Surveys completed per year, increasing</u>	SCCD, Farm Bureau, Equipment Rental Businesses	County Lower, EB Tunkhannock Creek, Wilson Creek, Horton Creek, Thomas Creek, and Little Meshoppen Creek Watersheds	2021+	Farmers not completing or returning the survey, data entry from returned surveys	Survey Form	N/A	Outreach and education for importance of survey, Staff to enter completed survey data, Incentive to complete survey	Funding for additional staff support Funds to establish reimbursement program for completed surveys	2022- A farmer survey has been developed and deployed to gain insight from the community on needs and opportunities for project implementation. Further program development is needed for increased responses. 10 farmer survey responses were received.

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		<u>by 25% each consecutive year</u>									
1.6	Operation Transition and Land Retirement Assistance	Assist farmers that are transitioning operation types with the necessary BMP and management practices and consult individuals that are removing lands from production. Provide assistance with reforestation, recreational management, CREP and Wildlife habitat improvements <u>10 farms per year</u>	SCCD, NRCS, PSU Extension	County	2022-2025	Outreach to Landowners, Potential for Long Term Contracts. Maintenance for proposed BMP's	Planning Documents, Education	Plantings, and seed for land retirement plantings	Staff to complete recommendations	Funds for Plan Writers and new BMP being implemented, Plan Revisions	2022- Operational transition assistance has been provided to those who have contacted the district directly although a program has not been developed to support this initiative. Funding needs to be secured to continue the development of this program.