

# Winooski River Basin Water Quality Council Meeting

October 20, 2022

# Agenda

- 1:00 Call to order & Roll call
- 1:05 Updates to agenda
- 1:10 Public Comment
- 1:15 Review & approve minutes from September 15, 2022 meeting (action item)
- 1:25 Introductions – Keith Fritschie (DEC – Basin Planner), Erin De Vries (Vermont River Conservancy – Conservation Program Manager), Kinny Perot (Friends of the Mad River – Board Member)
- 1:35 Chapter 6 Guidance Document: Project Eligibility, Screening, Prioritization & Selection (information & discussion)
- 2:30 Watershed Projects Database: Winooski Basin Projects (information)
- 2:55 Agenda items for next meeting (November 17, 2022)
- 3:00 Adjourn

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# Project Eligibility (1)

- ◇ A project must comply with the [Clean Water Initiative Funding Policy Eligibility Criteria](#)
  - ◇ Eligibility Screen #1: Project Types & Standards
  - ◇ Eligibility Screen #2: Budget
  - ◇ Eligibility Screen #3: Recipient Entities
  - ◇ Eligibility Screen #4: Project Landowner
  - ◇ Eligibility Screen #5: Natural Resource Impacts
  - ◇ Eligibility Screen #6: Leveraged Funds Requirements
  - ◇ Eligibility Screen #7: Long-term Operation & Maintenance



# Project Eligibility (2)

- ◆ A project must be non-regulatory, or exceed the regulatory requirement (per 10 VSA Chapter 47, and not subject to the requirements of 6 VSA Chapter 215)
  - ◆ Regulatory projects are those required / compelled by water quality-related regulatory programs
  - ◆ Non-regulatory projects may still be subject to regulatory oversight (e.g. require a permit)
  - ◆ An individual project may fulfill both regulatory & non-regulatory requirements; Formula Grant funds may be eligible to partially fund the non-regulatory project components

# Project Eligibility (3)

- ◆ Projects located on agricultural lands must meet specific practice type and farm size requirements
  - ◆ Natural resource projects determined to be eligible in accordance with §39-403 (d)(3); or
  - ◆ Projects on agricultural land that is not subject to the Required Agricultural Practices because the farm does not meet the minimum eligibility criteria for the Required Agricultural Practices to apply

# Clean Water Projects

- ◆ § 39-403 d) Clean Water Project Identification, Prioritization, and Selection
  - 1) develop and implement a project ranking schedule and scoring process to ensure that the highest priority projects are developed, designed, and implemented within the available funding provided by the Formula Grant;
  - 2) consult with the Secretary to determine project eligibility before scoring and ranking projects;
  - 3) for projects in the agriculture sector only, consult with AAFM quarterly on project eligibility, selection, and progress, as AAFM shall have the authority to determine whether a proposed project in the agricultural sector qualifies as a clean water project;
  - 4) consider empirical project-specific factors including the pollution reduction, cost effectiveness of that reduction, design life, cost of operation and maintenance of the project, and conformance with the basin plan;
  - 5) consider co-benefits provided by the project; and
  - 6) prioritize projects in accordance with any additional requirements imposed
  - 7) by the Secretary's guidance.

# Project Prioritization

- ◆ Consider empirical project-specific factors including:
  - ◆ Pollution reduction estimate: DEC will provide CWSPs, BWQCs & implementors training on and access to pollution reduction calculator tools consistent with the Standard Operating Procedures for Tracking & Accounting of Phosphorous
  - ◆ Project cost: proposed Formula Grant funds + match / leveraged funds
  - ◆ Design life: capped at 15 years
  - ◆ Cost-effectiveness (\$/kg/yr) =  $((15 \text{ years} / \text{design life years}) * (\text{total cost for design \& construction})) / \text{average annual total phosphorous source load reduction (kg/yr)}$ 
    - ◆ The Water Quality Restoration Formula Grant Targets & Fund Allocation Methodology provides benchmarks of reasonable values for cost effectiveness (i.e. cost per unit phosphorous)
  - ◆ Operation & Maintenance costs
  - ◆ Conformance with the Tactical Basin Plan
- ◆ Consider co-benefits provided by the project
  - ◆ Importance of individual co-benefits
  - ◆ DEC recommends that if a potential project negatively impacts a co-benefit, it should receive a negative co-benefit score

# Project Prioritization

- ◆ § 39-403 – Clean Water Projects
  - a) With direction from the BWQC and in consultation with the applicable basin plan, the CWSP shall oversee identification and prioritization of clean water projects
- ◆ The CWSP is responsible for applying this scoring process to all eligible projects & presenting these results to the BWQC
- ◆ BWQCs will meet to review the slate of proposed projects presented for their consideration
- ◆ BWQCs will follow the operating procedures outlined in Chapter 4
- ◆ BWQCs are not obligated to select any projects on the prioritized list (e.g. if none meet the necessary cost-efficiencies)

# Example: Project Scoring

- ◆ Total score equals 100 points
- ◆ P-reduction:
  - ◆ § 39-402 a) “The CWSP shall use the Secretary’s pollution reduction methodology to assign pollutant reduction values to individual projects.”
  - ◆ § 39-402 c) When no methodology exists, submit “... an application form provided by the Secretary ...” and “the Secretary shall establish the requested pollutant reduction value ... within 60 days following such a request ...”
  - ◆ 90 points
- ◆ Co-benefits:
  - ◆ § 39-403 d) 5) consider co-benefits provided by the project
  - ◆ 10 points

# Example: Co-Benefits Weighting Matrix

Co-benefit	Member 1	Member 2	Member 3	Member 4	Mean
Environmental Justice	37	40	20	15	<b>28</b>
Clean Water & Sanitation	25	20	20	15	<b>20</b>
Ecosystem Services	5	15	30	25	<b>18.75</b>
Recreation & Community	13	5	25	5	<b>12</b>
Education	10	15	5	20	<b>12.5</b>
Economic Growth	10	5	0	20	<b>8.75</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

# Example: Co-Benefits Score (10 point max)

	Project 1			Project 2		
	CWSP Score (0 – 10)	BWQC Weight (%)	Co-benefit Score	CWSP Score (0 – 10)	BWQC Weight (%)	Co-benefit Score
<b>Environmental Justice</b>	10	28	<b>2.8</b>	10	28	<b>2.8</b>
<b>Clean Water &amp; Sanitation</b>	10	20	<b>2</b>	5	20	<b>1</b>
<b>Ecosystem Services</b>	10	18.75	<b>1.875</b>	4	18.75	<b>0.75</b>
<b>Recreation &amp; Community</b>	10	12	<b>1.2</b>	9	12	<b>1.08</b>
<b>Education</b>	10	12.5	<b>1.25</b>	7	12.5	<b>0.875</b>
<b>Economic Growth</b>	10	8.75	<b>0.875</b>	4	8.75	<b>0.35</b>
		<b>Total Score</b>	<b>10</b>		<b>Total Score</b>	<b>6.855</b>



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# Watershed Projects Database

- ◆ § 39-304 – Secretary’s Guidance: At a minimum, the guidance shall address the following:
  - c) how the CWSP and BWQC utilize the Watershed Projects Database to integrate, prioritize, score, and select projects consistent with the applicable basin plan, including how to account for the co-benefits provided by a project, as provided in § 39-403 of this Rule;
- ◆ § 39-403 – Clean Water Projects
  - c) All clean water projects proposed for Formula Grant funding shall be entered into the Agency’s watershed projects database ... The Agency shall provide means for projects to be entered into the database by CWSPs, to include project attributes as required by the Secretary ... This information shall be available to the project sponsor, CWSP, and BWQC for use in prioritization.



# Watershed Projects Database Search

Name	<input type="text"/>	Status	<input type="text"/>	FED Step	<input type="text"/>
Project Type	<input type="text"/>	County	<input type="text"/>	Grant Number	<input type="text"/>
Basin Plan	<input type="text"/>	Town	<input type="text"/>	Project ID	<input type="text"/>
Grade Type	<input type="text"/>	Grade	<input type="text"/>		



# Watershed Projects Database Search

Name	<input type="text"/>	Status	Proposed ▼	FED Step	<input type="text"/>
Project Type	Stormwater - Implementation ▼	County	<input type="text"/>	Grant Number	<input type="text"/>
Basin Plan	Basin 8 - Winooski ▼	Town	<input type="text"/>	Project ID	<input type="text"/>
Grade Type	<input type="text"/>	Grade	<input type="text"/>		



# Watershed Projects Database Search

Name  Status  FED Step

Project Type  County

Basin Plan  Town  Project ID

Grade Type  Grade

[Search](#) [Clear](#) [To Report](#)

		ID	Project Name	Project Type	Status	Grant Number(s)
<a href="#">Project Details</a>		5619	Underground stormwater chamber at railroad	Stormwater - Implementation	Proposed	
<a href="#">Project Details</a>	<a href="#">Screening Report</a>	9865	Colchester MRGP culverts_ Holbrook Ct	Stormwater - Implementation	Proposed	
<a href="#">Project Details</a>	<a href="#">Screening Report</a>	9866	Richmond- Volunteer Green River Access	Stormwater - Implementation	Proposed	
<a href="#">Project Details</a>		2316	Coyote Run Pond Retrofit	Stormwater - Implementation	Proposed	
<a href="#">Project Details</a>	<a href="#">Screening Report</a>	2318	Williston Stormwater Treatment at Heritage Meadows	Stormwater - Implementation	Proposed	
<a href="#">Project Details</a>		4892	Fayston school gravel wetland	Stormwater - Implementation	Proposed	
<a href="#">Project Details</a>	<a href="#">Screening Report</a>	7020	Spring Street bioretention island	Stormwater - Implementation	Proposed	
<a href="#">Project Details</a>	<a href="#">Screening Report</a>	7021	Willow Street subsurface infiltration project	Stormwater - Implementation	Proposed	
<a href="#">Project Details</a>	<a href="#">Screening Report</a>	9863	Hubbard Park Access Road erosion mitigation	Stormwater - Implementation	Proposed	
<a href="#">Project Details</a>	<a href="#">Screening Report</a>	2279	Route 127 NW Outfall Repair	Stormwater - Implementation	Proposed	
<a href="#">Project Details</a>	<a href="#">Screening Report</a>	2330	Williston Central School Pond Upgrade	Stormwater - Implementation	Proposed	



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Project Details	
WPD ID	9866
Status	Proposed
Project Name	Richmond- Volunteer Green River Access
Project Type	Stormwater - Implementation
Sector	Stormwater
Lat/Long	44.40164, -72.9977
Stream Segment	
Technical Project Manager	
Description	This heavily used boating and fishing access to the Winooski has continued to erode from foot traffic and stormwater runoff from the park. A staff crew spent one week with support from the Town to install a set of timber infiltration steps.

Town/County/Region	Basin/Sub Basin	Potential Partners	Potential Funding Source
Richmond	Tributaries to Lower Mid-Winooski	Richmond Town	

Event Date	Event Type	State Amount	Match	Grant Total	Funding Source	Grant Num	Funded Partner
10/27/2020	Project Created in Database						

Performance Measure	Value	Status

Related Projects				
	Relationship	WPD ID	Project Name	Status
<a href="#">View</a>	Parent	9608	2020 Work Crew Block Grant - Vermont Youth Conservation Corps (VYCC)	Funded



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Project Type  County

Basin Plan  Town  Project ID

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### Project Screening Report

#### Location

**Coordinates:** 44.4016, -72.9977  
**Town:** Richmond  
**County:** Chittenden

#### Basin Information

**Planning Basin:** Winooski  
**Sub Basin:** Tributaries to Lower Mid-Winooski (VT08-04)  
**Drainage Area:** Winooski River  
**Lake Champlain Segment:** Main Lake

#### Project

**ID:** 9866  
**Name:** Richmond- Volunteer Green River Access  
**Type:** Stormwater - Implementation

#### Non-Regulatory Contact Information

##### Tactical Basin Plan Contact

Karen Bates  
802-490-6144  
Karen.Bates@vermont.gov

##### Fisheries Biologist

Bernie Pientka  
802-879-5698  
Bernie.Pientka@vermont.gov

#### Natural Resource Regulatory Contact Information



##### Rivers - River Scientist

Gretchen Alexander  
802-490-6150  
Gretchen.Alexander@vermont.gov





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ID	Project Name	Project Type	Status	FED Step	Project Description	Gr
2279	Route 127 NW Outfall Repair	Stormwater - Implementation	Proposed	3	repair of an eroding stormwater outfall on Route 127 - RFP for design services out as of 4/24/17	
2316	Coyote Run Pond Retrofit	Stormwater - Implementation	Proposed	3		
2318	Williston Stormwater Treatment at Heritage Meadows	Stormwater - Implementation	Proposed	3	Modify the existing stormwater pond in accordance with the approved EFA to meet the current water quality volume and channel protection volume treatment standards. If the upgrades of the project and access stay within the footprint of the existing stormwater pond, and impacts from the expansion of the pond in the northwest corner into lawn stays under the 250 sf threshold (proposed buffer impacts of 160 sf), then it is considered an allowed use under the section listed below of the Vermont Wetland Rules (VWR).	
2325	Turtle Crossing Dry Swale/Infiltration	Stormwater - Implementation	Proposed	3		
2327	Whitney Hill Pond Upgrade	Stormwater - Implementation	Proposed	3		
2329	Allen Brook School Pond Retrofit	Stormwater - Implementation	Proposed	3		
2330	Williston Central School Pond Upgrade	Stormwater - Implementation	Proposed	3		
4892	Fayston school gravel wetland	Stormwater - Implementation	Proposed	3	100% Final Design Plan:The preferred option selected during Task 4 for Fayston was a system of new catch basins installed at the toe of a pavement shim (for routing runoff to the catch basins and preventing sheet flow into the adjacent brook).These will outlet to an improved roadside swale with timber check dams, and lead to a two-cell gravel wetland with a forebay. The primary concerns during this	

# Tools, Databases & Resources

- ◇ Clean Water Portal
  - ◇ <https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/CleanWaterDashboard/>
- ◇ Clean Water Project Explorer
  - ◇ <https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/CleanWaterDashboard/ProjectExplorer.aspx>
- ◇ Watershed Projects Database
  - ◇ <https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/CleanWaterDashboard/WPDSearch.aspx>
- ◇ Water Quality Project Screening Tool
  - ◇ <https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/CleanWaterDashboard/ScreeningTool.aspx>
- ◇ Custom query created by DEC
  - ◇ <https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/cleanWaterDashboard/ReportViewer.aspx?Report=BMPOperatingPeriod&ViewParms=True>
- ◇ Clean Water Roadmap
  - ◇ <https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/CWR/CWR-tool>
- ◇ Vermont Environmental Disparity Index
  - ◇ <https://www.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=68a9290bde0c42529460e1b8deee8368>

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# Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- ◇ Next meeting is Thursday, November 17, 2022
- ◇ CWSP Policy Updates
- ◇ Other ideas
  - ◇ Member / Organization roundtable