

EPA Region	State	Award Year	Recipient	Project Title	Grant Category	Project Description	Award Amount
						WAP: Watershed Action Project; BWC: Building Watershed Protection Capacity; ASP: Advancing State of Practice)	
1	ME	2018	Highstead Foundation	Sebago Clean Water Initiative: Forests. Faucets. Forever	BWC	The Sebago Clean Waters (SCW) partners have a long-term goal of protecting 25% (70,000 acres) of the Sebago Lake Watershed, Maine's largest drinking water supply, within 15 years. This HWC grant was designed to catalyze the SCW initiative, increase collaboration among SCW, landowners, and communities, develop and launch a water fund, and connect water users with landowners. SCW exceeded its goals through creative financing solutions, protection of the Chadbourne tree farm, and partnerships with Portland Water District, Mahoosuc Land Trust, and local breweries.	\$350,000
1	ME	2017	Downeast Conservation Network	Supporting Healthy Watersheds and Communities in Downeast Maine	BWC	The DCN, a consortium of 11 organizations including land trusts, educational institutions, and applied conservation organizations, proposed 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. Its long-term goal is to protect 110,500 acres primarily in Hancock and Washington counties with the potential for over 350,000 acres of additional protection in the next 25 years. DCN protection work promoted clean water in Kilkenny and Egypt Streams. Additionally, DCN organized a convergence workshop on conservation lands in 2018 and completed an economic benefits study with the University of Maine in 2019. The results were applied through the Municipal Budgets and Conservation Working Group (which includes conservation professionals, researchers, municipal leadership, select board members, town managers, and others) which was able to overcome negative perceptions about the impacts of conserving watershed lands on local tax revenue. Engagement with local governments, particularly regional planning offices, built trust and was a key aspect of capacity building for watershed protection in this region. The HWC grant helped reveal the important role DCN plays among its members but also its necessary role within local communities.	\$150,000
1	ME	2016	Downeast Salmon Federation	Permanently Protecting the Largest Rivers in Eastern Maine	BWC	DSF's project area included the five largest watersheds in eastern Maine with a long-term goal to protect 80% of the corridors of the remaining three unprotected rivers in Washington County by 2025. The HWC grant allowed DSF to hire a part-time Land Trust Director to target properties for acquisition, negotiate with landholders, funders, and close land transactions. This work set the stage for DSF to continue focusing on high-quality projects identified for its conservation values including acreage, stream frontage, aquatic and terrestrial habitat, wetlands, vernal pools and critical Atlantic salmon spawning and rearing habitat.	\$150,000
2	NY	2017	Buffalo Niagara Riverkeeper	Niagara River Watershed Headwater Protection Initiative	BWC	The long-term vision for the Niagara River Watershed is to protect 60% of the watershed's undeveloped natural areas for a total of 433,000 acres of headwater forests and wetlands. BNW launched a circuit rider program and worked with 21 municipalities in the Eighteenmile Creek subwatershed (which contains most of the large forest tracts in the Niagara River Watershed) through meetings and direct technical support for watershed projects, including regional municipal trainings on <i>Smart Floodplains: Best Practices to Reduce Flood Risk and Restore Waterways</i> . BNW also secured a \$587,000 Water Quality Improvement Program Grant funded by New York's State Revolving Fund to protect up to 500 acres and pursue the development and implementation of a Western New York Source Water Protection Fund.	\$300,000
3	MD	2018	Lower Shore Land Trust	Delivering the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement on the Delmarva Peninsula	BWC	The original goal of this grant was to secure 10% of the acres needed in the Delmarva states to reach the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement goal of 2M acres conserved by 2025. Efforts included developing a strategic land conservation plan for the region, hosting a regional planning conference to create a collective vision for conservation planning across the Delmarva Peninsula, and attempting to secure sustainable funding from the state Rural Legacy program, Navy REPI funding, Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays Trust Fund, and other sources. LSLT made progress toward its organizational protection goals.	\$204,000
3	MD	2017	AKRF	Demonstrating Stream Health Improvements from Healthy Watershed Actions in Maryland	ASP	The goal of this project was to assess correlations between biotic water quality measures and quantity/quality of protected lands using a long-term database. This study revealed that watersheds in more natural or semi-natural condition, regardless of protected status, tend to be healthier, and good management practices benefit watershed health. Specifically, when ≥ 30% of the watershed was protected with a focus on parcels >100 acres, results improved over time, and water quality was better.	\$39,999

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3	PA	2018	Trout Unlimited	Assessing and Protecting Wild Trout Streams	WAP	The goals of the TU project were to assess 300 streams for naturally reproducing trout, with the expectation of documenting 100 new populations, and to engage grassroots volunteers and partners in securing protective regulatory designations for 1,000 miles of streams in Pennsylvania. TU's survey work from 2018–2020 exceeded its survey goals and discovered more trout populations than expected. Designation of trout streams can take 3-6 years and will continue for several years using these data.	\$100,000
3	PA	2017	Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Developing Programs for Easements and Forester Enrollment in Pennsylvania	ASP	The goals of this HWC grant were to develop a sustainably funded statewide conservation easement program to conserve working forestland, establish conserved forestland either under easement or in fee-simple ownership, and foster continued support for forest-products industry jobs through forester certification and maintenance of large-tract forest acres available for sustainable harvest. PADCNR succeeded in its protection efforts, and these lands are managed sustainably and provide forest industry jobs. Conversations have begun through the Caring Well initiative with Penn State Center for Private Forests to build the proposed conservation easement and forester certification programs.	\$175,665
3	VA	2018	Virginia Department of Forestry	Healthy Watersheds/Forest TMDL Phase III Project	ASP	The major goal of the VDOF's Healthy Watersheds Forests (HWF) Phase III project was to create the policy and financial infrastructure needed to facilitate forest and agricultural land conservation/retention on a landscape scale, long-term, sustainable basis. Previous project phases demonstrated that retaining forestland protects and enhances healthy watersheds by reducing nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment loads and thus reducing TMDL 2025 projections within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. The projects findings contributed significantly to the decision to credit forestland retention as a BMP in the Chesapeake Bay 6.0 TMDL model. This phase III project involved 1) working with two Rappahannock river basin localities to develop and implement plans, policies and ordinances to foster high quality (HQ) forest and HQ agricultural land retention, 2) developing, modeling, and piloting long-term private funding mechanisms that could be implemented on a landscape scale, and 3) coordinating and collaborating with other Chesapeake Bay Program workgroups and goal implementation teams to integrate the findings and deliverables from phase III with those of other initiatives to achieve land conservation through private sector investment. Ultimately, the team determined that carbon could be used as a proxy for ecosystem services resulting from forest protection and used Virginia's Economic Development Authority (EDA) as a tool to aggregate carbon credits among landowners.	\$120,000
3	WV	2018	Morgantown Utility Board	Upper Monongahela Land Protection Program	WAP	The purposes of this grant were to establish the Upper Monongahela Land Protection Program and an associated Protection Fund to protect land upstream of the new reservoir in the Cobun Creek Watershed with a long-term protection goal of 9,000 acres. MUB launched its Land Protection Program and Fund in 2021, implemented bill-round up and direct donation systems, established a service line protection program, completed a project promotional video and website, and sent landowner contact letters.	\$137,311
3	WV	2016	Cacapon and Lost Rivers Land Trust	Healing Waters Regional Landscape Initiative Cacapon River Watershed	BWC	This project was designed to help build a watershed-focused Regional Landscape Initiative including capacity building for large-scale protection efforts throughout the watershed and the creation of a strategic local/regional plan for collaboration, with a long-term goal of 130,000 acres of protection (30% of the watershed). The project used consultants to complete the watershed strategy and identify protection priorities. CLRLT kick-started its programs in 2019. A key project of 452 forested acres linked the 8,000-acre Short Mountain Wildlife Management Area with >5,600 privately protected acres held in conservation easement by CLRLT.	\$100,000
4	AL	2018	Mobile Bay National Estuary Program	Accelerating Headwater Land Protection in the Mobile Bay Basin	BWC	This project was designed to advance strategic protection of healthy habitat parcels in the 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. The team refined the GIS database and completed a habitat atlas. The protection emphasis shifted to 5.7M acres of the most hydrologically connected parts of the watershed based on EPA catchment data and connectivity indices. Analyses identified ~800 parcels covering 450,000 acres as priorities for protection. The Mobile Basin Habitat Atlas identified healthy headwater habitat parcels in Alabama's portions of HUCs 0315 and 0316 which were vetted by forestry resource managers at the Alabama Resource Center to develop a matrix of potential funding mechanisms and identify amenable landowners. During the project period, eleven easements were secured.	\$300,000

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4	FL	2019	Alachua Conservation Trust	Accelerating Land Protection in Florida's Santa Fe River Basin	BWC	The goal of this project was to support a full-time coordinator and additional staff capacity to protect land in north Florida's Santa Fe River Basin, which has >90 freshwater springs. HWC funding helped ensure ACT's ability to invest in existing land conservation funding, coordinate land acquisition and conservation easements, and conduct expanded outreach in the Santa Fe River Basin. Added staff capacity for planning, landowner outreach, and coordination among partners made a difference in helping ACT protect springshaded areas. The local Water Management District and Alachua County were key partners. ACT secured additional funding to keep dedicated staff working in the broader Suwannee River Basin to protect more land.	\$166,755
4	FL	2019	Tall Timbers Research Station and Land Conservancy	Aucilla River Watershed Conservation Initiative	BWC	In 2019, TTRS hired a coordinator for the Aucilla River Watershed Coalition, and with additional funding from its recent RCPP grant, extended support for the position through 2026 and added two more staff. Partnerships with the Suwannee River Management District and the Aucilla Research Institute (ARI) were strengthened, including a transfer of land from the District to TTRS. The Research Station's Geospatial Lab and ARI also developed a land conservation prioritization tool and draft web interface with wetland, upland, listed species, and prescribed burning opportunities. TTRS made significant progress on its partnerships in the Aucilla watershed and is well-positioned to expand protection and stewardship of watershed lands.	\$171,000
4	FL	2018	North Florida Land Trust	Accelerating Land Protection in Florida's Ocala to Osceola (O2O) Conservation Corridor	BWC	This project was focused on watershed protection and aquifer recharge within the Ocala to Osceola Conservation Corridor (O2O) in Northeast Florida. NFLT intended to direct \$17M to protect 10,000 acres in three years with a long-term goal of 140,000 acres by 2040. NFLT exceeded its goal of protecting 10,000 acres in the O2O. Land protection in the O2O will benefit headwater regions of six North Florida watersheds in addition to protecting wildlife habitat, rural landscapes, and military training capacity of Camp Blanding Joint Training Center. HWC funding has increased NFLT's capacity and stakeholder support. NFLT's partnerships with federal and state agencies, including Department of Defense, NRCS, and the Florida Forever program, were also essential to its success.	\$170,178
4	FL	2016	Conservation Foundation of the Gulf Coast	Myakka Island Conservation Corridor	WAP	This project was designed to build capacity to raise \$25M to permanently conserve >10,000 acres over the next six years within the Myakka River watershed including properties in the rapidly-growing Sarasota and Manatee Counties that link and/or buffer protected lands. CFGC secured \$20M towards the purchase of the Orange Hammock Ranch, finalizing protection with additional state funds, and through this process developed partnerships with Manatee and Sarasota Counties, water districts, and regional water authorities. With HWC guidance, CFGC also pursued support from the State Revolving Fund to protect and restore former wetland (underutilized golf course) property.	\$154,798
4	MS	2017	Partnership for Gulf Coast Land Conservation	Increasing Capacity for Strategic Land Conservation in the Gulf Coast Region	BWC	The major focus of this HWC grant was the creation and long-term funding of a perpetual \$1M Project Assistance Fund (PAF) to support members of the partnership's land transactions and facilitate the protection of 250,000 acres over 25 years in key watersheds of the Gulf Coast. PGCLC established itself as an independent 501c3 allowing independent operations and receipt of funds. PGCLC developed and adopted funding plans supporting the PAF in addition to operational and strategic planning efforts to support this core program.	\$140,000

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4	NC	2017	Foothills Conservancy of North Carolina	Catawba-Wateree Clean Water Initiative	BWC	This grant was designed to support 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. The Catawba-Wateree Initiative (CWI) team effectively worked with the Water Management Group (WGM) to achieve consensus around watershed protection. With contractor support, CWI built a Source Water Protection (SWP) spatial planning tool to evaluate all parcels in the basin for conservation benefits and pollutant reductions. CWI used the SWP tool and funding from private donors, state clean water and agricultural conservation programs, the WGM, North Carolina State Parks, and other partners to protect properties. Acquisition highlights included a community park and educational forest, a portion of Wilson Creek (a National Wild and Scenic River in the headwaters of the Catawba River), and a property adjoining the Linville Gorge Wilderness Area that will be conveyed to the US Forest Service. Based on these successes, CWI partners obtained the first financial contribution from the WGM for land acquisition, and future funding for watershed protection projects became a line item in the WGM budget. CWI also made progress with NC and SC State Revolving Fund programs to explore use of the 'sponsorship' option for utilities to obtain funds for non-traditional infrastructure. Perhaps most critically, the source water protection work will be incorporated into the next Water Supply Master Plan for the basin (prepared for the WGM). For the first time, the plan will include direct measures for non-point source water protection and land conservation, and it will eventually incorporate/align with the source water protection plan, creating an integrated system of watershed management.	\$175,000
4	SC	2017	American Rivers	Protecting South Carolina's Winyah Bay Watershed	BWC	This grant had two primary outcomes: 1) 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 and 2) to secure a major boundary expansion of Waccamaw National Wildlife Refuge (increase from 55,000 to 90,000 acres). American Rivers added thousands of acres to the refuge and continued to pursue source water protection funding from local communities, water utilities, and other sources.	\$150,000
5	MI	2017	Huron Pines	Connecting Northeast Michigan's Land and People for Conservation Success	WAP	The goal of this project was to build the regional capacity and sustainable funding structure needed to protect 100,000 acres of prioritized lands (long-term) and reconnect high-quality trout stream in Northeast Michigan and the Lake Huron Basin. Project tasks strengthened community readiness and stimulated economic investment for Northeast Michigan communities to result in long-term land protection for the area's people and natural resources. HP exceeded its aquatic connectivity goals and made significant progress towards its land protection goals, reporting stewardship gains through collaboration with large protected area managers like Camp Grayling and Pigeon River State Forest. Its engagement with local governments, state (Michigan Dept. of Natural Resources, Camp Grayling Michigan National Guard) and federal (U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) agencies were important contributors to this success. HP continued to increase its pace on watershed protection through its new Land Protection Program.	\$180,000
5	MI	2017	Huron River Watershed Council	Land Protection in the Huron River Watershed through Innovative Conservation Funding and Planning	WAP	This grant was designed to generate new land protection funds from local governments and support watershed protection goals. HRWC engaged 67 local governments in its watershed and built a millages toolkit to help communities understand how a small increase in property tax revenue could create a sustainable fund for watershed protection. It found large citizen support for these efforts (e.g., Northfield Township formed a land preservation committee), and progress was made on public policy hurdles through HRWC's work on local government master plans, adopted ordinances, and multiple green infrastructure workshops. Through the course of the project, HRWC saw protection of more land in partnership with existing land protection programs. HRWC also played a key role in advancing the use of the State Revolving Fund for protection within the state, using a high-quality wetland/lake complex ("Mohican Lake") in Hamburg Township as a proposed pilot.	\$180,000

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5	MN	2019	Beltrami Soil and Water Conservation District	Mississippi River Headwaters Watershed Accelerated Land Protection Program	WAP	This project was designed to protect natural watershed function and maintain high quality natural resources in the Mississippi River Headwaters of Minnesota through protection of 10,000-forested acres and building a HUC8 protection concept. Beltrami SWCD's protection efforts addressed lakes of outstanding biological significance, priority wild rice lakes, and lakes with exceptional fish Index of Biotic Integrity scores. The watershed prioritization process guided its targeted outreach to 350 landowners owning 28,000 acres of high-priority land to reach its 75% protection goal. Beltrami SWCD demonstrated the HUC 8 protection concept and worked to expand the concept to six other SWCDs and three other HUC 8 watersheds. This work culminated in a Mississippi Headwaters Watershed Comprehensive Plan, outlining \$51M in funding needs over the next ten years with 78% of the funds going towards forest protection and stewardship. Beltrami SWCD also developed a local forestry technical team to oversee the coordination and implementation of forestry protection efforts.	\$150,066
5	MN	2019	Morrison Soil and Water Conservation District	Building Capacity for Land Protection in the Camp Ripley Sentinel Landscape	BWC	This project was designed to increase capacity for protection within the Camp Ripley Sentinel Landscape through the addition of a private lands biologist position to accelerate protection by 880 acres per year. A biologist was hired in 2019 and increased interest in land conservation in the area. Morrison SWCD now has a waiting list of 350 landowners who wish to be considered for conservation easements, up from 250 landowners in 2018. Morrison SWCD also secured \$8.5M in additional funding for protection from various sources.	\$72,000
5	OH	2017	Chagrin River Watershed Partners	Collaborating to Protect Ohio's Healthy Central Lake Erie Basin Watersheds	BWC	This grant was designed to leverage \$11M of land protection funds projected to 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 through a combination of land protection and local land use planning tools. CRWP made significant progress towards these goals. Public and private funding for protection projects was successful with \$32M raised since the grant's onset. Total funds raised or committed exclusively for protection reached >\$60M. CRWP worked with 23 local governments on natural resource protection code adoption and reviewed codes in 11 communities. Thirteen communities adopted riparian setback codes or tree ordinances. The partners submitted six applications to the Clean Ohio Fund and continued to use, present on, and apply for State Revolving Fund financing from the state WRRSP. HWC capacity support helped CRWP and partners raise project funds, engage landowners, and work with communities on local planning policy.	\$200,000
5	WI, MN	2018	St. Croix River Association (now Wild Rivers Conservancy)	Building Capacity for Healthy Forest Protection in the St. Croix Watershed	BWC	The goals of this project were to 1) build capacity to support forest protection across the ecologically significant St. Croix River Watershed in northwestern Wisconsin and east central Minnesota, 2) support the further development, institutionalization, and expansion of the My St. Croix Woods program infrastructure for the long-term goal of 300,000 acres of forest protection and stewardship in the St. Croix River Watershed, 3) facilitate the protection and stewardship of forests through easements, land acquisitions, and stewardship planning, 4) pursue \$2M in regional protection funding and support of active peer networks, and 5) through strategic outreach, cultivate >6,000 newly engaged private woodland owners. By playing a central role in coordinating the protection outreach efforts in the watershed, SCRA secured more than three times its funding milestone and reached landowners for >10,000 acres of forest land.	\$150,000
6	AR	2019	Central Arkansas Water	Unlocking Private Finance to Protect Central Arkansas' Drinking Water	WAP	To scale up source water protection in the Lake Maumelle watershed, CAW aimed to develop a model for utilities to unlock private capital by leveraging watershed fees and carbon financing to access PRIs and green bonds. CAW made significant progress in financing watershed protection by issuing a green bond with \$10M for forest land protection with hopes to leverage with other federal funds. CAW also certified 12,500 acres of forest that it owns for sustainable forest practices aligning with watershed protection. Additional staff capacity and partnerships with conservation organizations and the U.S. Forest Service helped to leverage the utilities' resources and achieve mutual objectives.	\$197,368
6	AR	2018	Beaver Watershed Alliance	Establishing Conservation Funding Mechanisms in the Beaver Lake Watershed	BWC	The goal of this project was to complete development of interactive tools, mapping, and a utility matrix alongside greater engagement with the State Revolving Fund program since BWA identified protection needs of 30,000 acres and 30 miles of stream restoration.	\$233,965

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6	NM	2018	The Nature Conservancy	Monitoring for Success and Sustainability to Protect the Rio Grande Watershed	ASP	The goal of this project was to advance the state of practice in watershed monitoring and management for the upper Rio Grande using drones and field collection with tablets. This project also aimed to quantify the value of ecosystem services provided by the Rio Grande Water Fund (RGWF). Ultimately, field work proved to be transferable to other large watershed protection projects and helped justify new public policy and funding for watershed protection in New Mexico.	\$150,000
6	TX	2019	Hill Country Alliance	Texas Hill Country Conservation Network: Scaling Conservation in Central Texas	BWC	HCA, leading the Hill Country Conservation Network (HCCN), set out to grow the organizational capacity needed for large-scale, long-term healthy watersheds protection. HCCN's target geography includes the entire Texas Hill Country—18 counties (11M acres)—with a focus on the Blanco and Guadalupe River basins in Hays, Comal, and southern Travis counties. HCA made significant strides toward achieving its goals to advance the utilization of permanent land conservation to ensure continued watershed health and function over the course of the HWC grant. In 2020, a \$75M open space measure was approved in Hays County. HCCN played a key role in this victory and continues work to replicate a similar model for funding watershed protection in seven other jurisdictions. HCA and HCCN also worked on a feasibility study to create a source water protection fund to expand land stewardship and conservation in the Pedernales River basin, which could serve as a model to engage other utilities around the region. HCCN has a new vision to create a Natural Infrastructure Plan for the region focusing on how nature offers solutions to pressing challenges like flooding and increasing temperatures. Lastly, the Network adopted a formal operating agreement and hired its first full-time staff to manage Network affairs, which enabled convenings of HCCN, various committees, and working groups and fundraising and collaboration for projects undertaken by partners. The HWC award elevated its work to a national level and helped the Network become one of six participants in the Water Funder Initiative, a matching grant opportunity that brought an additional >\$1M to the Texas Hill Country.	\$120,000
6	TX	2018	Hill Country Conservancy	Middle Colorado River & Contributing Watersheds Protection Plan	BWC	This project was designed to catalyze the long-term protection of 175,000 acres of priority watershed lands to address urgent nonpoint source threats to three critical drinking water sources: the Middle Colorado, Blanco/San Marcos Rivers, and Edwards Aquifer. HCC sought to formalize the Hill Country Conservation Network (HCCN) and its efforts to secure public funds, develop a regional strategic conservation plan, and promote a conservation ethic for landowners and the public. HCC helped increase the understanding and appreciation of the value of watershed protection and land conservation through its individual activities and collaboration with utilities, local governments, and other conservation organizations. Notably, it made significant progress on building capacity to support landowner engagement, financing and funding mechanisms, and supporting the evolution of the HCCN. HCC focused on protecting wooded ranchlands and added to its own capacity with a new landowner relations team member. Conservation planning and landowner outreach generated >30,000 additional acres of high priority parcel prospects with interest in conservation easements. HCC and HCCN partners worked with a consultant to develop a report detailing the importance of Pedernales River Basin protection efforts for regional water supplies and building the case for using source water protection fees to finance these efforts with the prospect of a program being underwritten by a Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) loan. In 2020, a \$75M open space bond was approved by voters for Hays County to be used in part for watershed protection. HCC applied for use of the funds to protect 2,000 additional acres. HCC and partners worked on similar model watershed programs with seven other jurisdictions. With a significant increase in formal collaboration across its region, HCC is poised to enhance collaboration and related strategic initiatives related to the HCCN, including the pursuit of CWSRF funding, partnerships with water utilities, bond campaigns, and other programs.	\$180,000
6	TX	2018	Katy Prairie Conservancy (now Coastal Prairie Conservancy)	Accelerating Land Acquisition to Protect Watersheds & Increase Resiliency	BWC	The goals of this HWC grant were to conserve diminishing prairie lands in five important watersheds to aid flood control and help create a resilient landscape from the prairie to the Gulf, and to develop new finance mechanisms for the Houston area in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey and concerns over flooding. To date, KPC's primary focus has been opportunities to conserve the Katy Prairie and Damon Prairie. KPC made progress toward its conservation goals of several thousand acres of coastal prairie. Large acreage ranchlands presented attractive opportunities as well.	\$297,741

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8	CO	2016	Colorado Conservation Exchange (Peaks to People)	Accelerating Investment in Watershed Health	ASP	The goal of this project was to create a new, sustainable watershed protection fund to accelerate forest restoration in the Cache la Poudre and Big Thomson watersheds to reduce threat of severe wildfire. The HWC grant supported creation of a Watershed Investment Tool to ensure investors get maximum water quality benefits for each dollar invested, a business plan for engaging water dependent businesses, and a marketing plan. Two pilot forest treatment demonstration sites (totaling 100 acres) were completed with monitoring programs tracking water quality impact results.	\$149,500
8	MT	2019	Montana Conservation Corps	Connecting and Supporting MT Stakeholder Enrollment in Protection Programs	ASP	The overall goal of this project was to build capacity to promote enrollment in one or more of three major protection initiatives: Ranching for Rivers Program, Croplands to Grasslands Programs, and/or conservation easements. This included a long-term goal of protecting 1M acres throughout the Missouri Watershed in Montana. MCC aided NRCS in expanding landowner outreach in Eastern Montana and secured support for permanent protection and stewardship actions on the ground through its key programs.	\$198,800
8	MT	2018	World Wildlife Fund	Connecting Partners to Conserve Working Lands in the Missouri River Basin	WAP	This project focused on protecting intact grassland habitat by engaging conservation districts, agencies, and others on watershed health in Eastern Montana and addressing barriers to enrolling landowners in programs that help reduce threats to land. Activities included development of a "roadshow" with information on grassland conservation, visits to NRCS and Conservation District Offices, and direct feedback from partners and decision support tools. WWF reached all conservation districts and 29 counties in the area, and its efforts coincided with a new "focused conservation" initiative led by Montana NRCS to create Long-Range Plans and Targeted Implementation Plans developed by local working groups at the county level, which include protection targets for conservation easements. WWF analysis identified 700,000 acres of priority grasslands for protection and thanks to this project's influence on three adjacent grassland states, there is progress in working towards this goal.	\$90,000
8	MT	2017	Blackfeet Fish and Wildlife Department/Center for Large Landscape Conservation	Blackfeet Glacier Healthy Headwaters Conservation Corridor	BWC	The Blackfeet Healthy Watersheds Land Protection Project was designed to provide guidance and a framework to the Blackfeet Nation Tribal Business Council as it works to identify conservation land set asides and develop a nature-based economy for the Blackfeet Nation. Activities included 1) identifying and prioritizing key conservation lands for wildlife, native fish, and habitat connectivity within the 50,000 acre/10-mile buffer along Glacier National Park on the western side of the Blackfeet Reservation, 2) identifying conservation action on 40% of this buffer (~20,000 acres), and 3) developing a list of recommendations for protecting conservation lands and contributing to a nature-based economy. This grant was originally awarded to the Blackfeet Nation in 2016. At the Tribe's request it was transferred to CLLC who worked extensively on aspects of land use planning to help shape the protection of watershed lands and wildlife habitat. The process became more inclusive, engaging the Tribal council and other Tribal departments, and the work set the stage for strategic land transfers or use of funds from a separate Water Compact. CLLC provided vital support compiling and developing additional maps and spatial analyses to support decision-making around water compact investment and holistic land planning, including work on a long-term contract to liaise with the Blackfeet Business Council on land planning topics such as easement opportunities, the Agricultural Resource Management Plan, and ultimately the Tribe's larger Integrated Resource Management Plan that allows the Tribe to make land use and regulatory changes for lands under Tribal ownership and Tribal majority interest.	\$159,850
9	AZ	2018	Arizona Land & Water Trust	Identifying Conservation Priorities in the Upper Santa Cruz Watershed	BWC	The goal of the original project proposal was to build and support ALWT's capacity to identify and prioritize conservation projects that would have the biggest impact on riparian areas, groundwater supplies, and streamflow with a long-term goal of 10,000 acres of protection. Much of the proposed work focused on data synthesis and modeling to prepare for more targeted landowner outreach. ALWT made headway toward its protection goal, and its hydrology modeling helped refine its priorities for protection and further engaged both partners and landowners in the watershed.	\$217,320

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9	CA	2019	Pacific Forest Trust	Healthy Watersheds California	ASP	This was the second HWC grant awarded to PFT as a continuation of its 2016 HWC grant work. The grant was used to develop policies, technical assessments, and implementation plans, and to gather funding needed to leverage private and public capital to enable the comprehensive restoration and conservation of the 7M acres of watersheds which serve California's primary reservoirs, defining these as essential infrastructure components for the State's water system. PFT made progress on planning, policy, funding, and implementation in its key watersheds, building a potential model for transfer to other states that recognizes the value of watershed lands as part of water infrastructure. PFT and its academic partners completed <i>Planning for Species Adaptation and Climate Resilience in California's Primary Source Headwaters</i> , a climate change modeling report for 10M acres of Northern California watersheds including Sacramento River headwaters and are using the information to guide specific protection projects. PFT developed and proposed actions to restore California's source watersheds for California's Water Resource Portfolio released in 2020. These actions included a greater emphasis on the health of the upper watersheds, the source of most of California's developed water supply. PFT made recommendations for the Watershed Infrastructure Improvement Act including using California as a pilot for watershed approaches. In early 2021, PFT was instrumental in securing \$536M in emergency funding for statewide fire management. PFT also protected 2,000 acres for the Lightning Canyon Ranch project in the McCloud watershed, which links the Shasta National Forest with other working forests, and it advanced two additional pilot projects in the watershed (9,000 acres of Shasta Timberlands, a critical headwaters area, at the intersection of the crests of the McCloud, Klamath, and Pit River basins and 11,000 acres Trinity River headwaters project).	\$225,000
9	CA	2016	Western Rivers Conservancy	Protecting Blue Creek & the Klamath River for Salmon, Wildlife and People	WAP	The goal of this project was to complete sophisticated financing for land protection in the Blue Creek Watershed. WRC and the Yurok Tribe used innovative (new market tax credits, state revolving fund loans, and carbon offset credits) and traditional (foundations) financing to complete the project. With partial support from HWC, the two organizations protected the final 8,582 acres of a 47,097-acre sustainable community forest and cold-water salmon sanctuary (14,790 acres) through conservation easements in 2019.	\$100,000
9	CA	2018	Sonoma Land Trust	Ensuring the Resiliency of the San Pablo Bay and Russian River Watersheds	BWC	The goals for this grant were to permanently protect nearly 10,000 acres in the San Pablo Bay watershed and 5,000 acres in the Russian River watershed through 15 ready-to-implement land acquisition and conservation easement projects by 2025. SLT's protection work reached the two watersheds through six projects. The projects included mostly ranchlands protected by conservation easements or transfer to regional park authorities for permanent protection and long-term watershed stewardship. The increased capacity for SLT provided by the HWC allowed it to secure \$11M toward these transactions, with additional applications pending.	\$180,000
9	CA	2017	Feather River Land Trust	Achieving landscape-scale conservation in the Feather River Watershed	BWC	The goal of this project was to build the capacity to protect and steward 150,000 acres of additional priority areas in the Feather River watershed. FRLT exceeded its fundraising goals, increased its capacity for conservation and stewardship, and finalized the long-term protection of land in the North Fork and Sierra Valley regions of the Feather River watershed.	\$200,000
9	CA	2017	Western Rivers Conservancy	Protecting Blue Creek & the Klamath River for Salmon, Wildlife, and People	WAP	The goal of this project was to complete sophisticated financing for land protection in the Blue Creek Watershed. WRC and the Yurok Tribe used innovative (New Market Tax Credits, state revolving fund loans, and carbon offset credits) and traditional (foundations) financing to complete the project. With partial support from HWC, the two organizations protected the final 8,582 acres of a 47,097-acre sustainable community forest and cold-water salmon sanctuary (14,790 acres) through conservation easements in 2019.	\$210,000

EPA Region	State	Award Year	Recipient	Project Title	Grant Category	Project Description	Award Amount
9	CA	2017	Blue Forest Conservation, World Resources Institute	Evaluating the Economic Value of Landscape-Scale Forest Restoration to Advance the Forest Resilience Bond in Sierra Nevada watersheds	ASP	This project was designed to develop metrics to measure water quantity and economic impacts from forest stewardship to make the business case to utilities for investing in a Forest Resilience Bond (FRB) in the California Sierra Nevada. BFC, World Resources Institute (WRI), and its partners in the U.S. Forest Service and Yuba Water Agency successfully launched the FRB in 2018 for \$4.6M to support forest treatments on 15,000 acres of the Tahoe National Forest. The development of metrics for measuring water supply and an economic analysis on project benefits were instrumental in convincing the Yuba Water Agency and other investors to support the project. Since then, the partners started two projects in the lower portion of the watershed, covering 50,000 acres. In addition, a North Yuba River partnership group was formed to develop a programmatic EIS over the remaining 240,000 acres in the watershed to streamline long-term restoration planning and permitting. Finally, BFC, WRI, and partners began another project for the El Dorado National Forest, working with the Sacramento Municipal Utility District. FRBs are now of interest at >20 National Forests.	\$175,000
9	CA	2016	Pacific Forest Trust	Healthy Watersheds California	BWC	This project was designed to develop the policies, technical assessments, and financing instruments needed to leverage private and public capital for conservation and stewardship of the watersheds which serve California's primary reservoirs. In 2017, PFT released <i>A Risk Assessment of California's Key Source Watershed Infrastructure</i> —a comprehensive assessment of the condition of 7M acres in the five watersheds that feed the Shasta and Oroville reservoirs as well as a framework to restore and maintain these as resilient watersheds. PFT identified ~1.5M acres needing permanent protection and 3.4M acres (mostly forests, but also riparian area, wetlands, and meadows) needing stewardship.	\$225,000
9	CA	2016	Trust for Public Land	Protecting Forests to Protect Watersheds	ASP	The goal of this project was to purchase >100,000 acres of redwood forest for sustainable management. To make progress towards this goal, TPL pursued landscape-scale conservation easements, with focus on properties adjacent to Redwood National Park. The due diligence work associated with this project proved readily transferable to other projects as well. One transaction received full financial support from the Land and Water Conservation Fund.	\$200,000
9	HI	2018	Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources	Building Capacity for Hawaii's Watershed Partnerships	BWC	This grant provided support for the Hawaii Association of Watershed Partnerships (HAWP) Outreach and Education Specialist to engage with stakeholders on options for financing watershed protection (including investments in source protection), current protection challenges, and alternative approaches. This helped support HAWP and the State to protect and effectively manage 253,000 acres of priority forested watersheds across Hawaii. Two key deliverables were the <i>Baseline Analysis on Public Perceptions on the Value of Source Water Protection, Effective Messaging, and Progress to Date on Financing Watershed Protection</i> (2018) and the <i>Stakeholder Engagement Plan</i> (2019). Through these analyses, HAWP identified the need to improve public understanding of why Hawaii's watersheds are so important to protect and what that protection entails. Through HAWP's participation in the Stormwater Utility Stakeholder Advisory Group, it secured a commitment from the County and City of Honolulu to provide \$100K/year for headwaters conservation. HAWP also facilitated a new partnership through the Business for Water Stewardship program, administered by the Bonneville Environmental Foundation (BEF). Through this new partnership, BEF paired Mauna Kea Watershed Alliance on Hawaii Island with a mainland company interested in supporting restoration projects. Maui Dept. of Water Supply worked with HAWP to request funds via a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund set-aside. Through the HWC grant, necessary upfront work was completed to establish eligibility and a process for accessing these funds.	\$160,000
10	AK	2018	Alaska Department of Fish and Game	Fish Inventory in Select Drainages of the Kobuk and Koyukuk Rivers	WAP	This grant supported an inventory of stream fish assemblages and aquatic and riparian habitats of the Kobuk and Koyukuk Rivers of Alaska. With assistance from National Park Service, ADFG conducted helicopter supported electrofishing surveys in select drainages along the south slope of Brooks Range during 2018. All the fish and habitat data collected were published through the department's online Fish Resource Monitor interactive mapper, and anadromous fish observations were used to nominate water bodies to Alaska's Anadromous Waters Catalog (AWC) – the state's strongest and most comprehensive instream fish habitat protection standard. Follow-up sampling in 2019 resulted in additional nominations to the catalog.	\$187,543

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10	OR	2019	Sustainable Northwest	Oregon Coast Community Forest Initiative	BWC	This project was designed to connect 12 coastal communities to build awareness and support for drinking water quality and quantity as well as forest management and acquisition. SNW worked directly with communities to support phases of drinking water protection programs. Key activities included building capacity, mapping, planning, inventories, financing, and implementation. SNW conducted modeling work, including the use of EPA's VELMA model, for 8 communities. Results regarding the trade-offs and estimated benefits of alternative green infrastructure strategies appropriate for these drinking water source areas were shared with utility managers, city councils, community members, and landowners. SNW developed a forest management plan for the City of Newport's drinking water supply and applied for implementation funding from the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board. The City of Port Orford used the information to protect 149 acres in 2021 and developed a management plan for 250 acres of city-owned forest. Protection projects have been completed or are underway on forested properties in three coastal communities.	\$200,200
10	OR	2018	Trout Unlimited	Protecting Oregon's Pristine Waterways and Public Lands	WAP	This grant focused on protecting two priority watersheds using policy tools: State Scenic Waterway (SSW) designation for the Nehalem River, Outstanding Resource Water designation for the Elk River (to protect public drinking water supplies where any land-based activities that would degrade water quality along the protected reaches would be prohibited), and the federal Oregon Wildlands Act which includes 10 additional watersheds. The Nehalem SSW designation was approved and signed by the governor in 2019, protecting 45 stream miles. TU also proposed SSW designation for the South Umpqua River. With the passage of the OR Wildlands Act in 2019, 256 miles of new Wild and Scenic River protections were afforded for the Nestucca, Molalla, Elk, and Chetco Rivers.	\$30,409
10	OR	2018	Western Rivers Conservancy	Transforming Watershed Health for 2 Top-Tier Havens for Pacific Salmonids	WAP	This grant focused on the permanent protection of land in the Hood River watershed of Oregon adjacent to Mt. Hood National Forest. WRC pursued conservation easements, positioning the project for U.S. Forest Service Forest Legacy Project (FLP) funding and Oregon Department of Forestry management, with guidance from the Oregon Forest Action Plan, FLP, and watershed plans. WRC secured FLP funds in FY18, FY19 and FY20 for a total of \$11M as well as \$2M from Hood River County, toward the 25% nonfederal match.	\$250,000
10	OR	2016	Freshwater Trust	Framework for Acquiring and Sustainably Managing Agricultural Land	ASP	The goal of this project was to build a scalable framework for targeting, acquiring, and sustainably managing agricultural operations in the John Day River basin. FT developed such a framework, supporting profitable food production while simultaneously addressing issues of environmental degradation, which provided proof of concept for a new technique to identify and evaluate potential properties for both economic and environmental returns.	\$200,000
10	OR	2017	Eugene Water & Electric Board (EWEB)	McKenzie Watershed Conservation Fund	BWC	This project focused on piloting a watershed conservation fund for the McKenzie watershed in Oregon with a long-term goal of protecting and managing up to 15,000 acres of riparian forests. EWEB expanded its Pure Water Partners (PWP) program to absorb funds from various sources. The HWC grant was used to set up components of the program, including a PWP handbook and Memorandum of Agreement, intergovernmental agreement with the Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission, and a metrics framework. EWEB also offered trainings on its approach to adjacent subwatersheds: Middle Fork Watershed Council, Long Tom Watershed Council, and Coast Fork Watershed Council. In the aftermath of the Holiday Farm fire, PWP priorities shifted to post-fire recovery, engaging hundreds of landowners interested in stabilizing their lands.	\$132,537
10	WA	2018	Blue Mountain Land Trust	Building a Sustainable Conservation Program in the John Day River Basin	BWC	This grant was focused on watershed protection for the John Day River Basin of Oregon to eventually achieve a pace of 15,000 acres/year toward a long-term goal of 375,000 protected acres. The project also aimed to demonstrate a sustainable funding model for expanding land trust capacity without long-term reliance on grant funding and integrate land conservation with other efforts, including the John Day Basin Partnership—a basin-wide collaborative of 28 conservation agencies and entities.	\$250,000

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10	WA	2018	Forterra	Upper Puyallup River Watershed Assessment: Protection & Resiliency Planning	BWC	This grant supported on-site data collection and research in the Upper Puyallup River Basin as part of a long-term goal to protect 40,000 acres of forestland, floodplains, and critical fish and wildlife habitat. The project team, including South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group (SPSSEG), aimed to develop a conservation strategy to protect key features of the watershed, identify funding opportunities to implement the strategy, and develop relationships with landowners in the assessment area to advance conservation opportunities. Forterra and SPSSEG made progress toward a strategy for watershed protection and salmon conservation in the Upper Puyallup watershed. Its relationships with communities created opportunities for collaborative funding and implementation of its protection strategy as well.	\$191,185
10	WA	2018	Emerald Alliance	Accelerating Watershed Protection in Central Puget Sound, Part 2	WAP	This grant continued HWC support to the Puget Sound Region on two key outcomes: 1) developing a comprehensive funding strategy that served to implement Puget Sound Regional Council's Regional Open Space Conservation Plan (ROSCP) and 2) supporting the newly formed Emerald Alliance's organizational infrastructure. Emerald Alliance and partners continued to learn about conservation finance mechanisms and maintained a focus on implementation of the ROSCP and its integration with Vision 2050 to advance replication of King County's Land Conservation Initiative to other Puget Sound counties.	\$150,000
10	WA	2016	Puget Sound Regional Council	Accelerating Watershed Protection in the Central Puget Sound Region	BWC	The main goal of this project was to accelerate the protection of watersheds in the central Puget Sound region through the development of a Regional Open Space Conservation Plan. The plan was coordinated across 86 jurisdictions and multiple agencies and completed in 2019, identifying 463,000 acres as important for additional watershed protection. The entire acreage is expected to be permanently conserved or under stewardship by 2050. PSRC worked with its Growth Management Policy Board and regional staff committee to integrate the plan into VISION 2050, the new integrated regional plan. Emerald Alliance, another HWC subrecipient, developed a funding strategy for the open space plan. PSRC also engaged with others who work in the region and implement aspects of the plan including land trusts (such as HWC grantees Forterra and Trust for Public Land), conservation districts (in King and Pierce Counties who work on stewardship activities with private landowners), and resource agencies (like the WA Dept. of Ecology who work with local governments on updating and implementing watershed plans).	\$200,000
8, 10	ID, MT, WY	2017	Trust for Public Land	Northern Rockies Watershed Conservation Project	BWC	TPL's <i>Northern Rockies Timber & Watershed Decision Support Tool (DST)</i> used GIS mapping and modeling to identify critical timberland conservation priorities in northwestern Montana, northern Idaho, and Wyoming. The driving goal of the DST was to keep the region's most important forested watersheds intact by preventing parcel fragmentation and conversion to non-forest use. The tool was completed and resulted in signed option agreements on three new projects—totaling 21,330 acres of critical watershed lands. The tool also helped TPL expand some of its existing projects. By revealing the conservation values of Northern Rockies parcels, TPL secured agreements with Weyerhaeuser Company to protect >22,000 acres spanning four watersheds and applied for LWCF, Forest Legacy, and private grants to fund the projects.	\$175,000