Internal Partnership To Protect Infrastructure And Improve Water Quality



NASCA Field Staff Sharing Session October 2022

WV Conservation Agency has two divisions which have field staff that work to implement mission specific practices.

"To provide for and promote the protection and conservation of our soil, land, water and related resources for the health, safety, and general welfare of the state's citizens."

Watershed Division

Conservation Services

Conservation Services receives funding annually to support various voluntary programs in West Virginia.

Approximately \$2 Million Annually

- State Funds
- §319 Non-Point Source Grant
- Chesapeake Bay Implementation Grant
- Various project specific grants



Chesapeake Bay Program Office awarded Most Effective Basin Funding to states beginning in 2020.

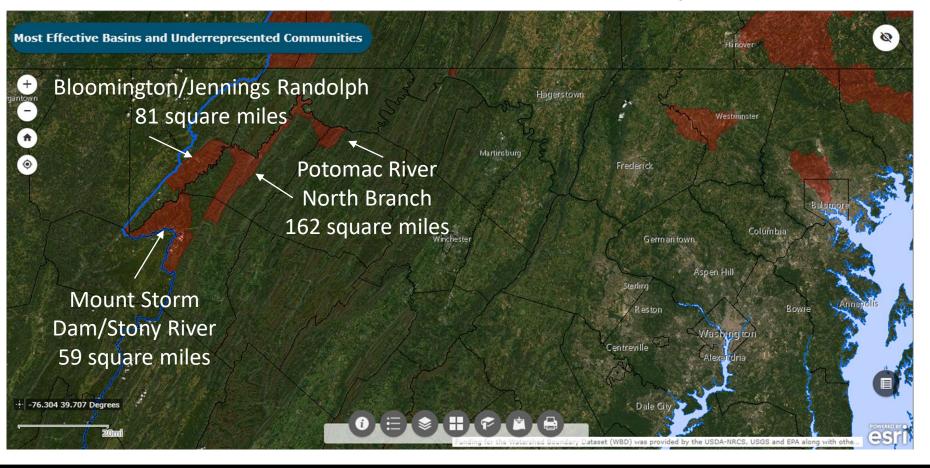
Allocations to states were determined considering the following two factors:

- Cost effectiveness
- Load effectiveness



What does this mean for West Virginia?

\$54,681 awarded annually to implement voluntary priority Ag BMPs within an identified 302 square mile area!



How will the funding be utilized?

Offer voluntary incentive payment programs

- Litter Transfer
- Divisional Fencing
- Water Exclusion Fencing
- Installation of Alternative Watering Facilities
- Installation of Forest Riparian Buffers

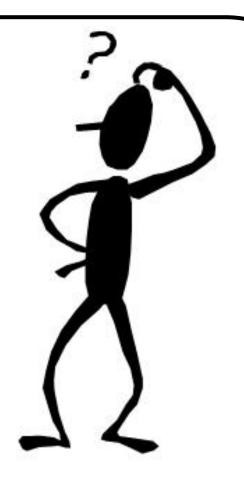


The program was met with challenges...

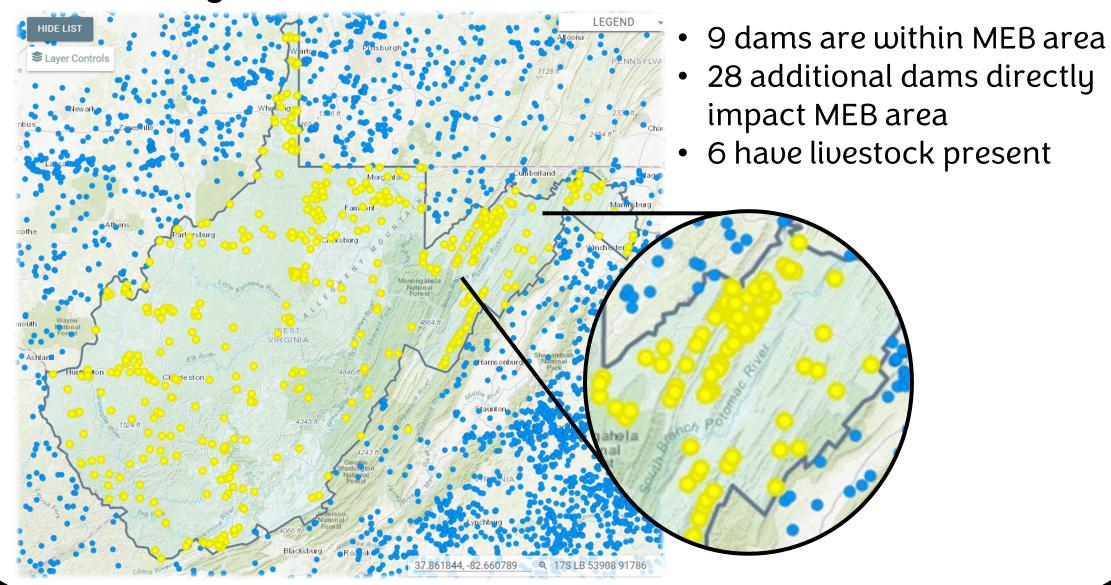
- Lack of history
- Limited cooperators

Solutions included...

- Providing outreach via mailers
- Cold calling
- Implementing highly visible projects in a public park
- Implementing practices on property that will protect local infrastructure



West Virginia has 170 flood control dams



New Creek 7

- Constructed in 1958 to reduce the flood risk
- 3-acre earthen reservoir
- Located on a 300+ acre family beef farm
- Within identified MEB
- Cattle actively grazing dam and spillway







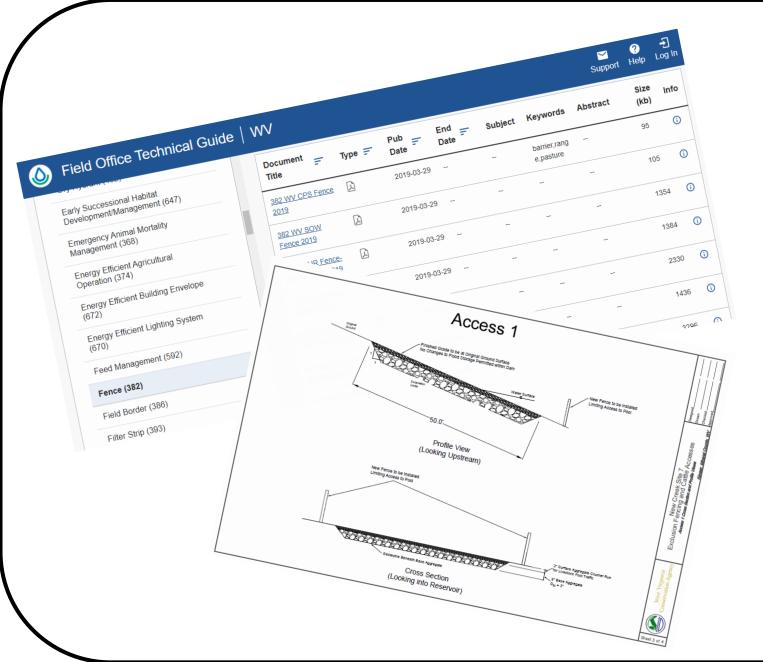


Project Overview - New Creek 7



BMPs Proposed

- 1,665 feet of exclusion fence
- 1,680 square feet of controlled access point



- NRCS standards and specifications will be followed.
- Access points will be engineered.
- Projects will be monitored and maintained for the expected lifespan by the Watershed Division.

What is it going to cost to implement?

PROJECT COST

Exclusion Fence = \$8,000 Controlled Water Access Point = \$3,300 TOTAL = \$11,300

Grass buffers on pasture provide the following efficiencies to the Chesapeake Bay:

- 24% Nitrogen
- 30% Phosphorous
 - 40% Sediment

Future Plans

- Continue to provide MEB outreach
- Continue to investigate potential projects
- Develop farm specific plans
 - Exclude livestock
 - Provide alternative water source or controlled access points
 - Develop Prescribed Grazing Plans



Thank You



Cindy Shreve cshreve@wvca.us

Ben Heauner bheauner@wuca.us