

Wetland Program
Development
Grants and
Wetland Grants
Database (WGD)
Redesign Updates



Photo by Jay Osenk

WPDGs: Alignment with Administration Priorities



Pillar 1 - Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American

- WPDG outcomes provide information to states/tribes to improve the quantity and quality of wetlands.



Pillar 3 - Permitting Reform, Cooperative Federalism, and Cross- Agency Partnership

- Permitting Reform: WPDG supports states/tribes in develop strategies for regulatory efficiencies.
- Cooperative Federalism: WPDG supports states/tribes in strengthening their decision-making authority over their resources.
- Cross-Agency Partnership: Improves EPA's partnership and understanding of state/tribe priorities.



Supports EO 14303: Restoring Gold Standard Science

- WPDG funded activities must meet EPA's gold standard science through EPA's approval of Quality Assurance Project Plans.
- All wetland mapping projects must comply with FDGC standards and with reviewed by National Wetland Inventory.



Supports EO 14309: Achieving Efficiency Through State and Local Preparedness

- WPDGs used by states/tribes to develop specific wetland plans to reduce flood risk – “recognizing that preparedness is most effectively owned and managed at the state, local and individual level.”



Supports EO 14313: Make America Beautiful Again

- WPDG supports states/tribes developing voluntary conservation and restoration plans that prioritize hunting/fishing/recreational uses.

WPDG Competitions

	Funding range	Competition years	Eligible applicants
Regional NOFO	\$1.698M to \$3.878M	Even-numbered years (e.g., FY2026)	Federally-recognized Tribes (TAS not required), intertribal consortia, states, territories, interstate agencies, and local governments
Tribal-only NOFO	\$2.8M to \$3.5M	Odd-numbered years (e.g., FY2027)	Federally-recognized Tribes (TAS not required) and intertribal consortia

NOTE: Competition Years changed in 2026 due to changes in administrative processes in EPA.

Two Tracks to Apply

Track 1

- Develop a Wetland Program Plan (WPP) only.
- Develop a WPP and carry out eligible actions from the Core Elements Framework as indicated in Appendix A of the NOFO.
- Carry out eligible actions from an existing WPP
- Larger portion of funds designated to support

Track 2

- Carry out actions/activities from the Core Element Framework (Appendix A) if the applicable state/tribe does not have an existing WPP.
- If an applicant is a non-state, territory, or tribe they can carry out eligible actions from an existing WPP.



WPDGs – Helpful Lessons Learned in Competing for Selections

Project Need: How does the proposal meet priorities in a WPP or priorities for a state/tribal Wetland program where no WPP developed

Environmental Benefits/Outcomes: What are the measurable on-the-ground outcomes from the proposal

Project Tasks: Is there a good plan in place to execute quickly and timely.

Schedule/Budget: How is schedule and budget being managed well to keep indirect costs low and complete proposal on schedule.

Transferability: How is the proposal innovative that another state/tribe or location could learn from the action.



Wetland Program Development Grants Database

Wetland Grants Database Redesign Launched in Spring 2026

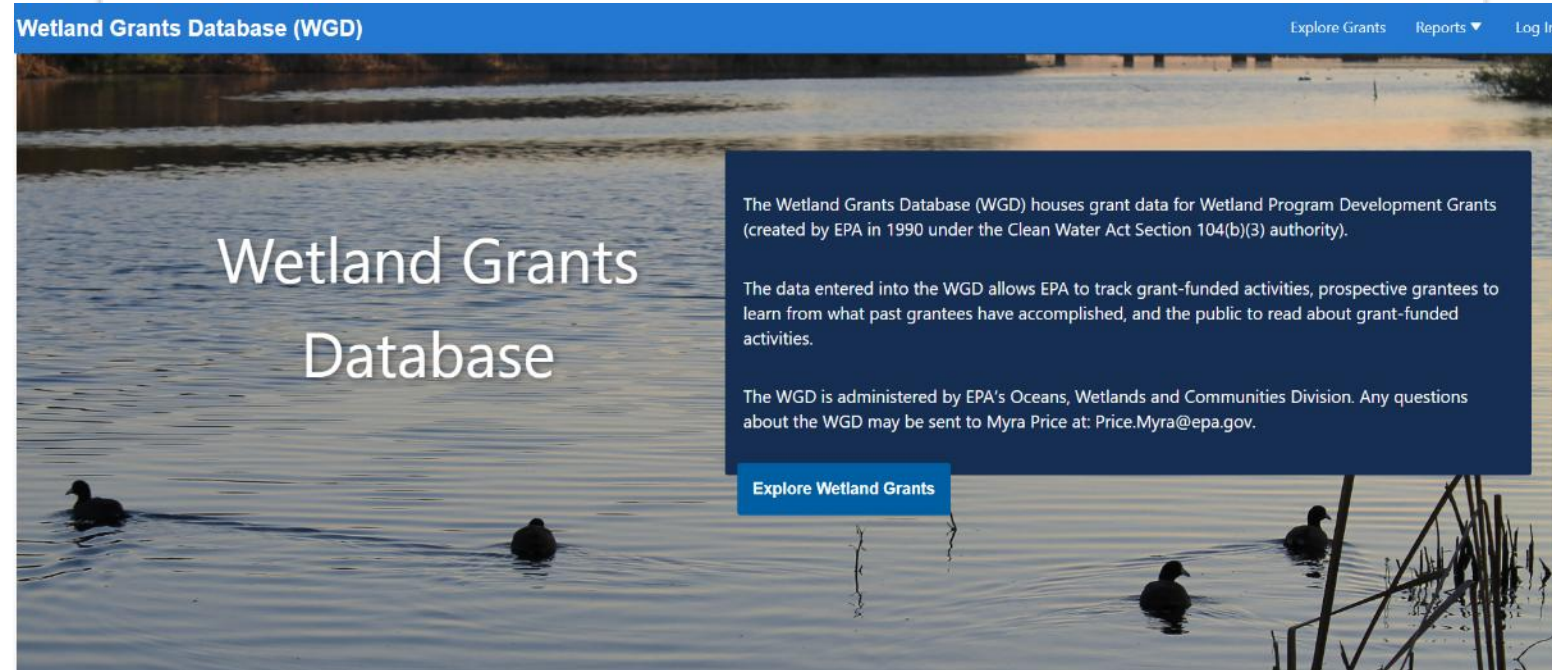
- Currently we have 2,251 grants in the Wetlands Grants Database.
- **Benefits to public:**
 - Increased efficiencies in scoping work, reviewing program history, and finding examples of what other states/tribes have done; and,
 - Up-to-date tracking for a given project – including funds.
 - Increases transparency on tracking funding.
 - Integration of Key Topics for easier filtering.
 - Updated Core Elements/Actions.



- **Benefits to EPA staff:**
 - Pulls most data directly from other systems so that manual data entry is minimized.
 - Integration of WPP document management within the WGD itself.
 - Integration of budget helps with grant management.
 - Standardized reporting and trend analysis on an annual/quarterly basis.

WGD Application Live Demo

- ▶ Public Application:
 - ▶ <https://ordspub.epa.gov/ords/wgd/f?p=200:1>
- ▶ Proposed Updates in FY27
 - ▶ Adding definitions for terms including “mousing” over definitions
 - ▶ Adding a tab for all grants
 - ▶ Other suggestions



Information on the WPDGs can be found at:

<https://www.epa.gov/wetlands/wetland-program-development-grants-and-epa-wetlands-grant-coordinators>

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A wide-angle photograph of a beach scene. In the foreground, the ocean's edge is visible with white foam from a wave washing onto the sand. The water is a vibrant turquoise color. In the middle ground, several more waves are breaking, creating white foam. The horizon line is straight and divides the image roughly in half. Above the horizon, the sky is a deep blue, filled with large, fluffy white clouds. The overall atmosphere is bright and sunny.

Questions and Comments