



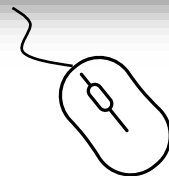
WILDLIFE ACTION MAP

USER GUIDE:

*Conservation Opportunity Area (COA) Tool and
Conservation Action Tracker (CAT)*



Version 2025-08-18



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Credits: The Conservation Opportunity Area (COA) Tool and Conservation Action Tracker (CAT), collectively known as the Wildlife Action Map (WAM), and this document were developed by the Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC) and Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) with support from State Wildlife Grant funds administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Conservation Investment, Northeast Regional Office, Hadley, MA.

Developmental technical support was provided by Western Pennsylvania Conservancy (WPC), Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (PA DCNR), and NatureServe.



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Suggested Citation: PGC-PFBC (Pennsylvania Game Commission and Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission). 2025. Pennsylvania Wildlife Action Map (WAM) User Guide: Conservation Opportunity Area Tool and Conservation Action Tracker (Version 2025.08.18). C. D. Haffner and D. M. Day, editors. Harrisburg, PA. 38 pages.

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ABBREVIATIONS & TERMS

AOI	Area of Interest
CAT	Conservation Action Tracker
COA Tool	Conservation Opportunity Area Tool
HUC	Hydrologic Unit Code
PACE	Pennsylvania (PA) Conservation Explorer
PA WAP	Pennsylvania (PA) Wildlife Action Plan
PFBC	Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission
PGC	Pennsylvania Game Commission
SGCN	Species of Greatest Conservation Need
WAM	Wildlife Action Map

GETTING STARTED

This document provides basic instruction for how to register and use the *Pennsylvania Wildlife Action Map (WAM)*, which includes the *Conservation Opportunity Area (COA) Tool* and *Conservation Action Tracker (CAT)*.

Understandably, you are anxious to explore the tool; however, we encourage first-time users to read the Home Page material for a brief overview. The steps below illustrate basic features and functions allowing users to:

- access the tool,
- use the COA Tool to draw an Area of Interest (AOI),
- use the CAT to track a conservation project (Action Area),
- manage projects and groups,
- conduct a statewide search, and
- generate a report for each function.

Go to: <https://wildlifeactionmap.pa.gov/>

FEATURING TWO TOOLS

**CONSERVATION OPPORTUNITY
AREA TOOL (COA) - Planning**

Use the COA Tool to:

- Learn about SGCN in your area of interest
- Find SGCN habitat associations
- Discover conservation opportunities to help SGCN²
- View SGCN best practice references



PLAN

Info sharing, George Gress

**CONSERVATION ACTION
TRACKER (CAT) - Implementation**

Use the CAT to:

- Track your conservation actions for SGCN & their habitats
- Explore other actions supporting SGCN, statewide³
- Share project information with partners
- Contribute to a Conservation Impacts Dashboard



ACT

Riparian tree planting, PFBC



Wildlife Action Map




Home | Map | My Projects | Statewide Search | About
My account | Feedback | Log out

Welcome to the Pennsylvania Wildlife Action Plan

WILDLIFE ACTION MAP

PLAN • ACT • SHARE





37
Species
Benefited

25
Conservation
Projects

390
Acres
Impacted

33
Actions
Implemented

24
Research or
Survey Needs
Addressed

* Derived from Conservation Action Tracker entries, the Conservation Impacts Dashboard summarizes planned and implemented conservation projects, as well as research and survey needs supporting Species of Greatest Conservation Need. We encourage you to include your projects in this tool and see our collective conservation impacts!

IMPORTANT! This tool does **not** satisfy or replace regulatory review requirements and is **not** for Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) project screening. Refer to the [Pennsylvania Conservation Explorer Environmental Review Tool](#).

UPDATES Site last updated 12 March 2025. Refer to [About](#) > [Data](#) for data status. It is recommended to clear your browser cache to view updates.

▼ About this site

▼ Who should use these tools?

▼ Where do I start?

▼ Why were these tools developed?

▼ Help!




This site is funded by the federal State & Tribal Wildlife Grants Program administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Pennsylvania Game Commission, and Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission. See [About](#) > [The Team](#) for full acknowledgments.

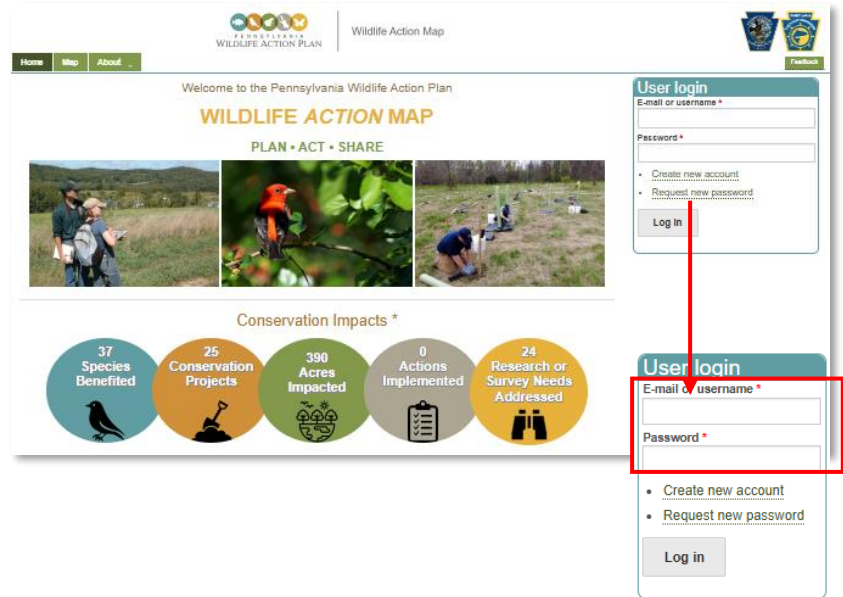
Wildlife Action Map Conservation Tool v2.0 | Terms of Use | Feedback | © 2025



CREATE AN ACCOUNT

STEP 1: Account Registration.

If not already registered for full access to the WAM, begin by creating a new account. Click “Create new account.” (See tip).



TIP: Registered users of the [Pennsylvania Conservation Explorer](#) (PACE) site can apply their PACE login credentials to use the WAM.

STEP 2: Contact Information.

Verify User

Enter your e-mail address.

Before creating a new account, we will check if you are already registered with the [PA Conservation Explorer](#)

E-mail address *

Enter a valid e-mail address.

Check E-mail

Users with a **PA Conservation Explorer (PACE) account** will receive this response.

Log in

Create new account Log in Request new password

You are registered on **PA Conservation Explorer**. Please login using those credentials.

Use your PACE credentials (email/username and password).

Congratulations! You are now logged-in and can start using the tool. Refer to the “**MAP**” section below.

E-mail or username *

Enter your e-mail address or username.

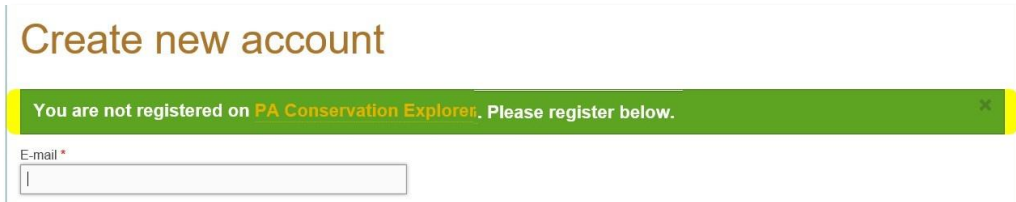
Password *

Enter the password that accompanies your e-mail.

Log in

Users without a PACE account will be instructed to register for a WAM account. Enter required (*) information, review and accept the Terms and Conditions of Use.

Instructions to set your password will be sent to the email address you entered. Open the email and follow the instructions.



TIP: Check your **junk** or **spam** mail folder for emails sent from this account.

STEP 3: Logging into the WAM.



When successfully registered, enter your username and password to access the site.

CONGRATULATIONS!!!!

You can begin exploring the site.

Basic tool functions and tips are found in the remainder of this document.

USING THE WAM

Primary Navigation Tabs



Home: Main landing page for the site.

Map: Multiple functions are included such as creating an AOI and Tracking Conservation Actions. Create AOI Report supports *planning* activities whereas Track Conservation Action supports *reporting* activities.

Statewide Search: Allows landscape-scale queries and reports at the county or watershed-Hydrologic Unit Code 8 (HUC 8) level. Searches can be made based on several criteria including county, HUC 8, taxonomic group, common name, scientific name, global rank, state rank, and primary habitat types.

My Projects: Library of your saved AOI and Action Tracker projects. Through this tab users can also access and manage user-created “Groups” for collaborating on Action Tracking projects. Note: Previously developed AOI projects can be used to delineate an Action Area.

About: In sub-menus, find out about data sources and updates (*Data*), materials supporting users with detailed function descriptions (*Assistance*), contributors to the site (*The Team*), and how to reach site administrators.

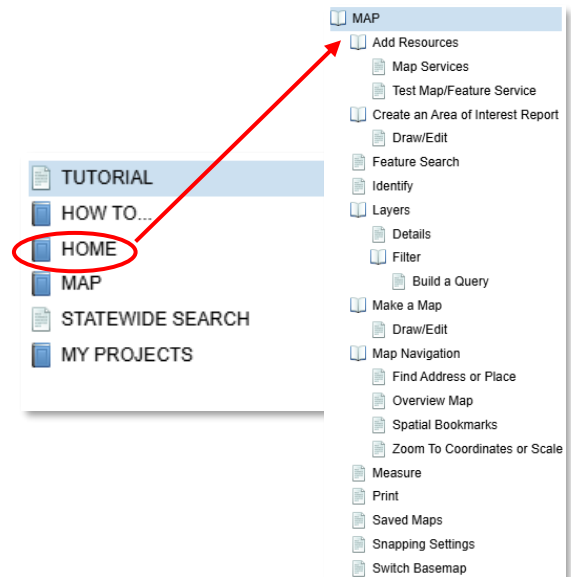
Additional Assistance: In the “About” tab, navigate to “Assistance” for detailed step-by-step procedures related to complex site functions which may not be discussed in this User Guide. For example, additional MAP functionality is available.

Note: The “Assistance” page opens in a new tab, accessible at the top of the screen. This allows users to toggle between Assistance material and Map view (or other views) without loss of information.

My account: User account information, which can be edited.

Feedback: A form to notify site administrators of problems or suggested enhancements.

Log out: To close the site session. This action will require re-entering your log-in credentials to access the site.



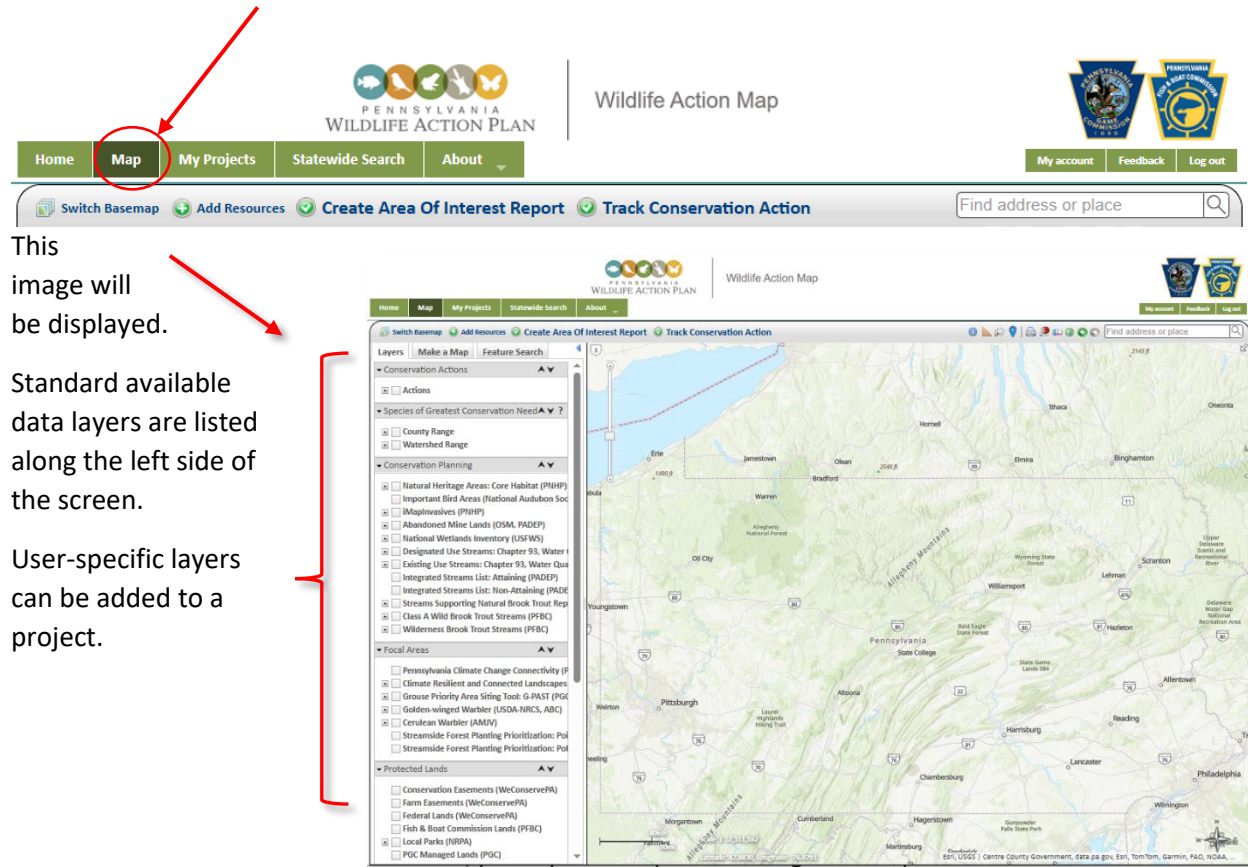
MAP FEATURE: CREATE AN “AREA OF INTEREST (AOI)” PROJECT AND REPORT

PURPOSE: This **COA Tool function** is used primarily for project planning and learning about species, habitats and other features for a defined Area of Interest (AOI).

To use the tool, basic steps include:

STEP 1: Select the “MAP” tab

At the top of the Home page, select the “MAP” tab.



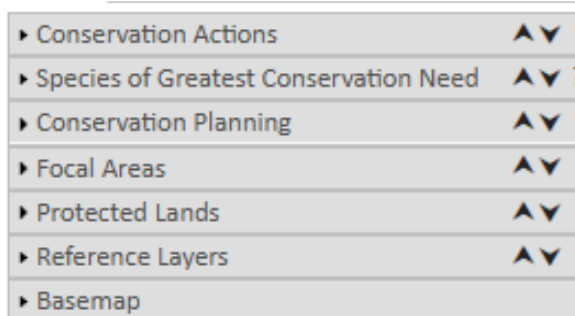
This image will be displayed.

Standard available data layers are listed along the left side of the screen.

User-specific layers can be added to a project.

Layer Groups

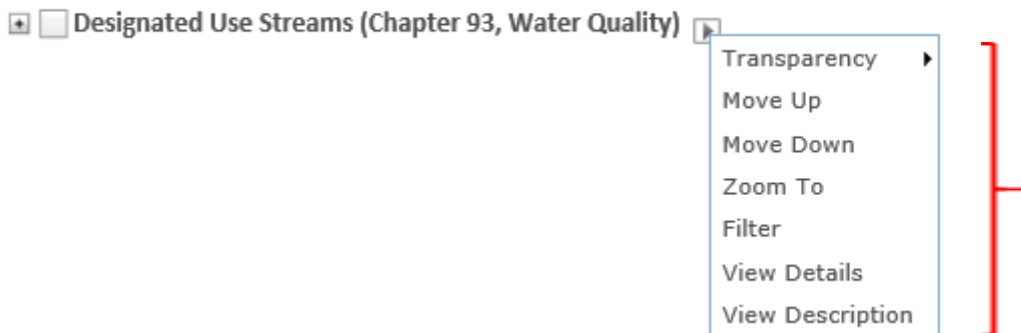
Multiple layers are found within these groups.



TIPS:

- Use the scrolling wheel on your mouse to zoom in/out.
- <Click> & hold the *left* mouse button to move the map.
- Layers may contain sub-layers. For each layer, <Click> the *left* mouse button on the  to expand the list or see the icon associated with the layer or sub-layers.
- <Click> the *left* mouse button to check ☒ the box and display the layers for each data set.
- The top layer must be checked to view sub-layers.
- For more layer features and information, place the mouse cursor over the layer name.
 - Move the mouse cursor to the right and <Click> the arrow which appears to the right of the layer name.

Example: Layer “Designated Use Streams (Chapter 93, Water Quality)”.



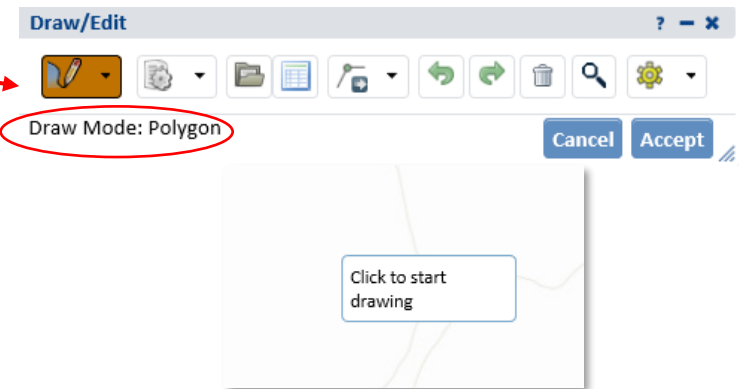
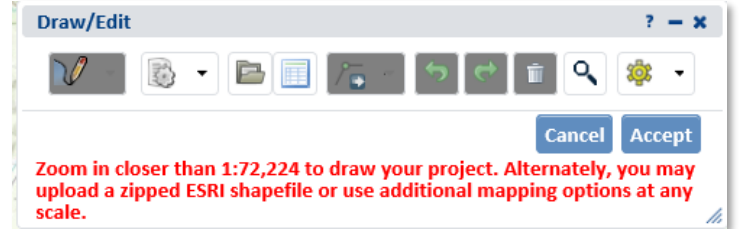
STEP 2: Create a user-defined “Area of Interest (AOI)” Report

<Click> the *left* mouse button on “Create Area of Interest Report”.



TIPS:

- To create an AOI, the map must be zoomed-in closer than 1:72,224. If it is not, this message will be displayed.
- When zoomed to a scale that allows drawing of an AOI, the Draw/Edit box will appear as to the right, with the "Draw Shape" box active and "Click to start drawing" box visible.

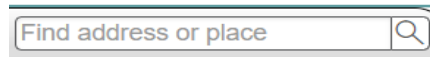


STEP 3: Find the locality for the Area of Interest

Hover the mouse cursor over the map in the target area. The message "Click to start drawing" will appear to the right of the cursor.

TIP

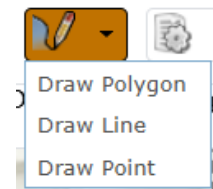
- To locate a place on the map, use also the search feature in the upper right tool bar (below the agency logos).



STEP 4: Draw an Area of Interest

<Click> the *left* mouse button to set the first waypoint. Then, without pressing the *left* mouse button, move the cursor to the next location and <Click> the *left* mouse button again. A straight line will appear between the two waypoints. Continue this process to until the AOI has been outlined.

An AOI can be a polygon, line or point. <Click> the left mouse button on the down arrow in the Draw Shape button to display these options. Default is a polygon.



TIP

- An AOI may contain multiple independent polygons. Example: Multiple parcels can be part of one AOI.

STEP 5: End Drawing

<Double-click> the *left* mouse button to end drawing the shape.

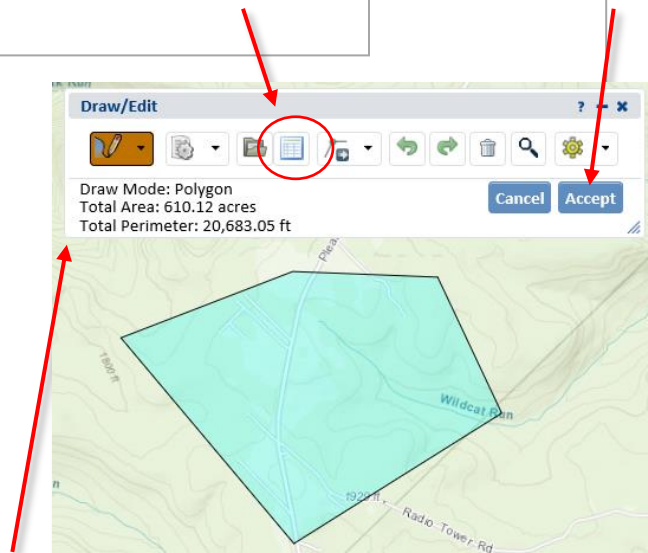
STEP 6: Accept or Cancel the Drawn Polygon.

Preview the Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) list
 Prior to printing a complete AOI Report, the list of SGCN in the AOI can be displayed. <Click> "Preview SGCN Results" button.

If the polygon is acceptable, <Click> the *left* mouse button "Accept".

The project area will then be validated. Next, enter project information. **(Step 7)**.

To redraw the polygon, <Click> "Cancel" and repeat **Steps 2-5** or <Click> the trash can icon.



TIP

- The Draw/Edit box will display the size of the AOI and the total length of the perimeter.

STEP 7: Enter a Project Title

Other required information is pre-populated from the account information. The Project Description and file attachments are for user reference. Though optional, they may be helpful when working with a large number of projects.

Fields marked with red asterisks are required fields.

Project Title *

Enter a descriptive and brief title for this project.

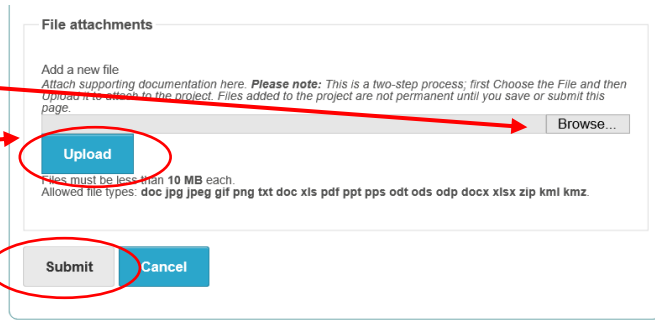
Project Description

STEP 8: Upload Attachments

Optionally, users can upload relevant files (e.g., reports). Use the “Browse” button to access the file. Then <Click> “Upload”.

STEP 9: Submit a Project.

When ready, <Click>the *left* mouse button “Submit”.



File attachments

Add a new file
Attach supporting documentation here. **Please note:** This is a two-step process; first Choose the File and then Upload it is added to the project. Files added to the project are not permanent until you save or submit this page.

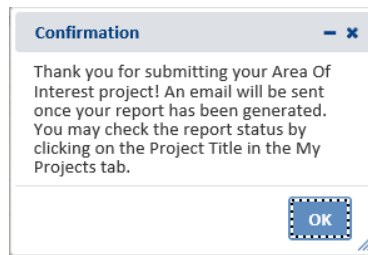
Browse...

Upload

Files must be less than 10 MB each.
Allowed file types: doc jpeg jpeg gif png txt doc xls pdf ppt pps odt ods odp docx xlsx zip kmz.

Submit Cancel

A confirmation notice will then be displayed and an email sent to the email address identified in the account.



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ACCESS AN “AREA OF INTEREST (AOI)” REPORT

To access the report created above,

STEP 10: Click the “My Projects” tab

Projects developed will be listed on this page. Search features are available.



STEP 11: Project View or Edit

Find the titled project in the My Projects list. In the field “Type” projects will be listed as either “AOI Project” or “Action” depending upon the Map function used to develop the project. <Click> the *left* mouse button on the project title to view the report.

AREA OF INTEREST (AOI) REPORT

Access the AOI report at:

1. “My Projects”. Then, in the project list,
2. <Double-click> the *left* mouse button on the selected AOI project name.
3. A list of one or more reports generated will appear.

■	Type	Name	Date Submitted	Description	Named Land or Water
☐	AOI Project	Test-Seven Valleys	2025-07-23 1:33	Test	
☐	Action	John Heinz Refuge Test	2025-04-14 2:49	Aquatic invasive species control	John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge At Tinicum - Federal Lands (WeConservePA), Montgomery Park - Local Parks (NRPA)

4. <Double-click> on the “Project Report (PDF)” to open the report.

AOI Reporting Results

Revision date	Report Status	Report File	Boundary Shapefile	Tabular Results File	Delete
7/23/2025 01:33:26 PM	Generated	AOI Report (PDF)	Shapefile (ZIP)	Tabular Results (CSV)	delete

TIPS: Project Results

For use elsewhere, a vector file of the drawn polygon (without attributes) can be downloaded using Shapefile (ZIP).

- Tabular results are available in a Comma Separated Values (CSV) file format accessible with Microsoft® Excel or similar software.

TIPS: Generating an AOI Report

- **Screen Refresh:** When waiting for a project to become available, the Report Status will be either “Pending” or “Processing”. Use the <F5> (refresh) key to review the current status. Processing time depends upon project size, complexity of the AOI, and internet connectivity.
- **Confirmation Message:** The confirmation message also has a link to the report. Emails may also be found in the junk/spam email folder.

When accessing the project, optional functions include:

View	Edit Details	Edit/View Shape	Update Report	Notes	Create Conservation Action for this Area of Interest
-------------	---------------------	------------------------	----------------------	--------------	---

1. **Edit Details:** Use this button to edit information about the project (e.g., title, description).
2. **Edit/View Shape:** Adjust the AOI polygon, line or point.
3. **Update Report:** If changes are made to the Details or AOI shape, use this function to update information in the report.
4. **Notes:** Add notes for reference (optional).
5. **Create Conservation Actions for this Area of Interest:** Use this function to create a tracking project for this AOI. (Discussed next).

MAP FEATURE: “TRACK CONSERVATION ACTION” PROJECT AND REPORT

PURPOSE: The Conservation Action Tracker (CAT) is used to track planning and implementation projects.

Initial steps to delineate an Action Area are similar to the COA Tool but differ in the information required for the “Action Area”.

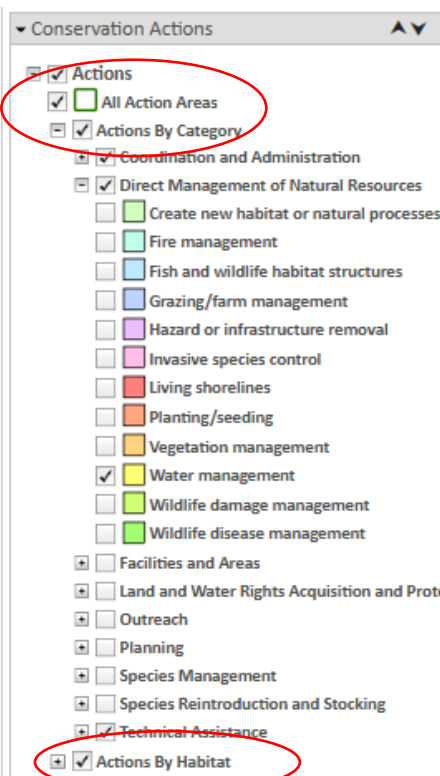
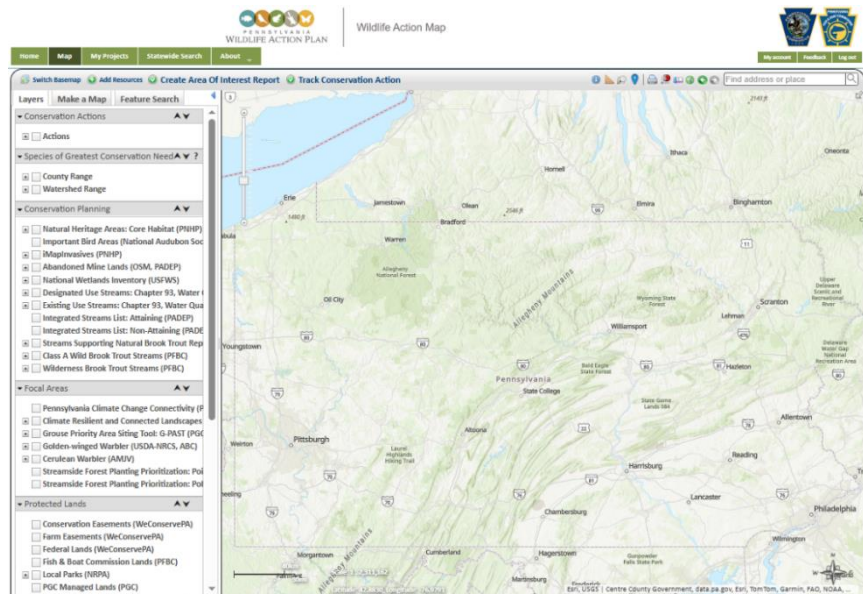
STEP 1: Select the “MAP” tab

In the tabs at the top of the page, select the “MAP” tab.



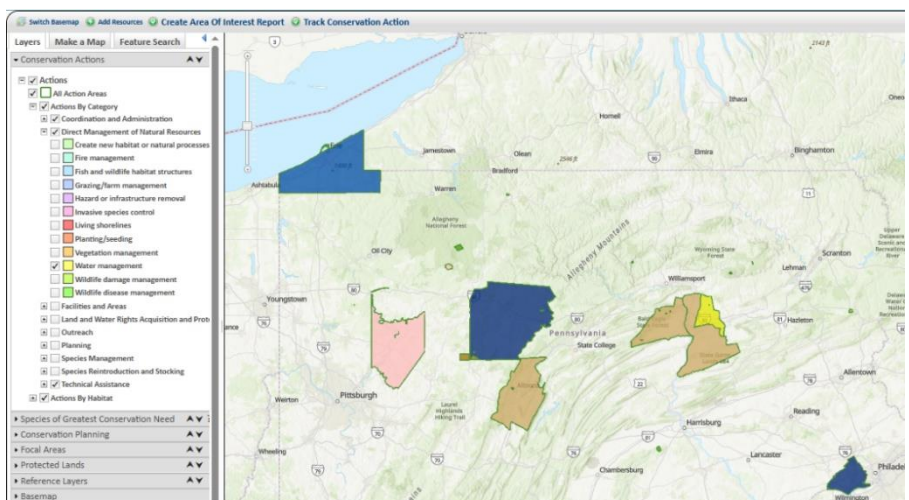
This image will be displayed.

Standard available data layers are listed along the left side of the screen.



The *Conservation Actions Layer Group* allows viewing of “Actions by Category” and “Actions By Habitat”.

At the user-authorized scale (e.g., site, county, HUC8), visible projects can be displayed collectively, or by each Action Category or Habitat Type for which projects have been developed.



STEP 2: Track Conservation Actions

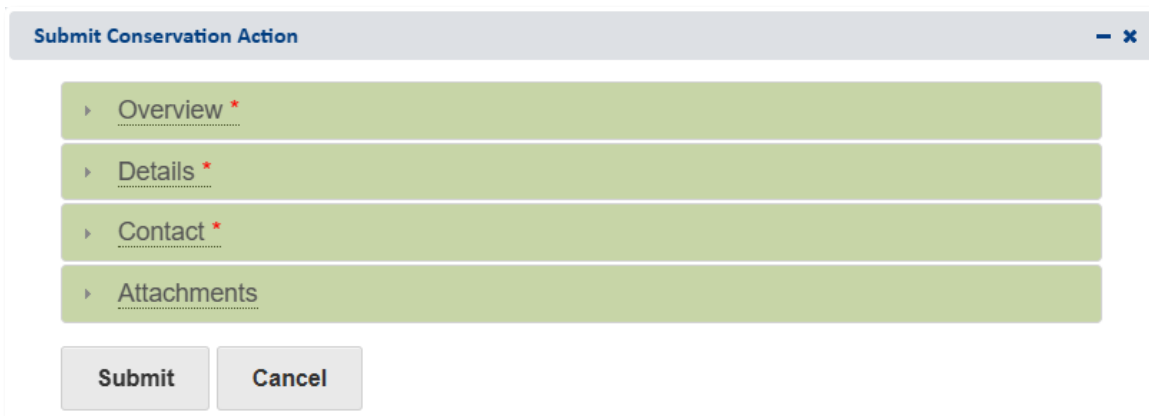
<Click> the *left* mouse button on “Track Conservation Action” to create an Action Area.



STEP 3: Draw an Action Area

To draw an Action Area, see above [Conservation Opportunity Area Tool Steps 2-5](#).

After an “Action Area” polygon has been submitted, four forms will appear. Within each form, required information is denoted as “*”. <Click> the *left* mouse button on each bar to expand the form.



The screenshot shows a form titled 'Submit Conservation Action'. It contains four expandable sections, each with a right-pointing arrow and a red asterisk indicating required information: Overview, Details, Contact, and Attachments. Below these sections are two buttons: Submit and Cancel.

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STEP 4: Overview

Complete basic information about the project. Four (4) fields are required. *

Primary Organization *

Begin typing. If the letter(s) within the name of an organization has/have been previously entered, a selectable list will appear. If the name does not appear, enter the new name (without abbreviations using the similar format).

Collaborators

(Optional) Acknowledge other participants in the project.

Anticipated Action Outcome

A brief description of the anticipated outcome (e.g., Increased SGCN abundance and enhanced habitat quality).

Start Year *

Year project started.

Notes:

- If Action Status is "Completed", users will be prompted to enter the year completed.
- No year will be displayed for "Interested" Actions.

Overview *

Primary Organization or Individual *

Start typing an organization name for this conservation action and then either select an existing organization name or enter a new name without abbreviations.

Collaborators

Include any individuals, organizations, or acknowledgements supporting this conservation action.

Action Description *

Describe the specific action implemented.

Anticipated Action Outcome(s)

Describe the expected accomplishment from this action.

Action Status *

☐ Interested - the action is not yet planned, but of interest to pursue.
 ☒ Planned - the action will likely be initiated in the near future.
 ☐ Initiated - action implementation has begun to be implemented.
 ☐ Completed - action implementation has been accomplished.
 ☐ Continuous - the action is ongoing.

Start Year *

2025

Format: YYYY

Is this a State Wildlife Grant-funded project? *

☒ No
 ☐ Yes

Action Description *

A brief description of the specific action(s) taken (e.g., In a riparian buffer, remove invasive plant species and plant native trees and shrubs).

Action Status *

Development stage of the Action.

State Wildlife Grant-funded Projects?

Indicate if a project is funded by State Wildlife Grants.

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TIPS

- **Species Focused:** Action intends to benefit specific Species of Greatest Conservation Need. Habitat management activities are species-focused if the work is expressly conducted to benefit species; for example, forest management for ruffed grouse or golden-winged warbler.
- **Habitat Focused:** Action intends to create or restore habitat conditions favorable to many Species of Greatest Conservation Need rather than a specific species.

STEP 5: Details (Species Focused)

Purpose: This section requests specific information about the project conservation actions. Users will be prompted to select if the project is “Species” or “Habitat” focused. Four (4) fields are required. *

Action Title*

Enter a descriptive title for the work to be conducted. Begin typing. A selectable list will appear if an action title has been previously entered with the same initial letters.

Action Focus*

Specify if the action “Species Focused” or specifically to benefit one or more species, “Habitat Focused”.

Species Focus

<Click> the *left* mouse button on the space “Click to select options”. A list of all SGCN within the Action Area will appear.

<Click> the *left* mouse button on a species to add it to the list.
<Click> the *left* mouse button back on the space to have the list reappear and continue selection.

Details *

Action Title *

Enter a brief title for this action (e.g., Streamside tree planting).

Named Lands or Waters

These are automatically derived from geographic features that intersect with this action. The names are labeled with the feature display name and the layer name in which they are found.

John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge At Tinicum - Federal Lands (WeConservePA)

Montgomery Park - Local Parks (NRPA)

Action Focus *

Species Focused: Action intends to benefit specific Species of Greatest Conservation Need. Habitat management activities are species-focused if the work is expressly conducted to benefit species; for example, forest management for ruffed grouse or golden-winged warbler.

Habitat Focused: Action intends to create or restore habitat conditions favorable to many Species of Greatest Conservation Need rather than a specific species.

☒ Species Focused

☐ Habitat Focused

Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN)

Select focal SGCNs from the dropdown list below or start typing to find a species.

- SGCNs are derived from known or likely occurrence records within the drawn action area.
- SGCNs selected here will populate the **Habitats** and **Actions** sections below.
- SGCN seasons: (b) breeding season; (m) migratory season; (w) wintering season; (y) year-round

Click to select options

Select additional SGCNs, if not included in the list above.

Not finding the SGCN of interest? Select SGCN(s) from the dropdown list below or start typing to find a species. Selected species are not linked to other data or sections.

Click to select options

Habitats

Habitats are derived from the selected SGCNs. For species-focused actions, all **Habitats** are automatically selected.

Action Focus *

Species Focused: Action intends to benefit specific Species of Greatest Conservation Need. Habitat management activities are species-focused if the work is expressly conducted to benefit species; for example, forest management for ruffed grouse or golden-winged warbler.

Habitat Focused: Action intends to create or restore habitat conditions favorable to many Species of Greatest Conservation Need rather than a specific species.

☒ Species Focused

☐ Habitat Focused

Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN)

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- SGCNs selected here will populate the **Habitats** and **Actions** sections below.
- SGCN seasons: (b) breeding season; (m) migratory season; (w) wintering season; (y) year-round

Bird - American Black Duck (b)

Bird - American Black Duck (m)

Bird - American Black Duck (w)

Bird - American Kestrel (b)

Bird - Bald Eagle (w)

Bird - Black-crowned Night-Heron (b)

Bird - Blackburnian Warbler (m)

Bird - Cerulean Warbler (b)

Bird - Grasshopper Sparrow (b)

Bird - Gray Catbird (h)

Named Lands or Waters

Automatically generated is a list of geographic features within the specified Action Area. This list cannot be edited.

TIPS

- Each species in a “Species Focused” project, must be individually selected. <Click> on the bar to display the species list. At this time, no multi-select option is available.

For a “**Species Focused**” action, habitats are automatically displayed based on the species-habitat associations identified in the PA WAP. In the example below, Cerulean Warbler and Wood Thrush are the species selected to be addressed in this Action Area, and habitats for these species within the delineated Action Area are listed (not editable). If additional species were identified, habitats of those species would also be listed.

Action Focus *

Species Focused: Action intends to benefit specific Species of Greatest Conservation Need. Habitat management activities are species-focused if the work is expressly conducted to benefit species; for example, forest management for ruffed grouse or golden-winged warbler.

Habitat Focused: Action intends to create or restore habitat conditions favorable to many Species of Greatest Conservation Need rather than a specific species.

☒ Species Focused
☐ Habitat Focused

Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN)

Select focal SGCNs from the dropdown list below or start typing to find a species.

- SGCNs are derived from known or likely occurrence records within the drawn action area.
- SGCNs selected here will populate the **Habitats** and **Actions** sections below.
- SGCN seasons: (b) breeding season; (m) migratory season; (w) wintering season; (y) year-round

Bird - Black-crowned Night-Heron (b) x Bird - Blackburnian Warbler (m) x

Select additional SGCNs, if not included in the list above.

Not finding the SGCN of interest? Select SGCN(s) from the dropdown list below or start typing to find a species. Selected species are not linked to other data or sections.

[Click to select options](#)

Habitats

Habitats are derived from the selected SGCNs. For species-focused actions, all Habitats are automatically selected.

Central Oak-Pine
North Atlantic Coastal Plain Hardwood Forest

Select additional SGCNs.

If target species for the Action Area do not display in the above generated list, include them here.

Note: These species are not linked to other data or sections and will not appear in the Home Page dashboard.

Actions Implemented

Select **Actions** within each Action Category. Use Ctrl+Left-mouse-click to select or unselect multiple Actions. Use the scroll button on the right side of the box to view selectable actions. Displayed Actions are based on selected SGCNs. Selected Actions will determine relevant Threats. Cannot be edited.

Remove or manage invasive and non-native species.

Land use planning

Cluster development, utilities, and associated infrastructure to reduce impacts to species.

Partner/stakeholder engagement

Work with partners to increase knowledge of this species importance and management needs.

Private Sector Standards and Codes

Increase awareness of bird-window collision threat and mitigating solutions.

Promote “lights out” programs in cities during migration.

Restore or enhance natural habitat in areas that are heavily used during migration

Threats Addressed

Threats are derived from the selected Actions. All Threats are automatically selected.

Residential and Commercial Development

Loss and degradation of habitat due to urbanization and development.

Select Actions

From the species selected, potential Actions to be implemented will appear here, based on species account Specific Actions in the PA WAP.

In this example, for the Level 2 Action category, “Private Sector Standards and Codes”, the Specific Action has been highlighted- “Restore or enhance natural habitat in areas.....”.

Use Ctrl-Select to select or unselect multiple Actions.

Threats Addressed cannot be edited; auto-generated based on selected Actions.

As specified in the PA WAP, **Research** and **Survey** Needs are listed for each selected species. This example lists Research and Survey Needs for Cerulean Warbler and Louisiana Waterthrush. Using the same selection process for Actions, select **Research** and **Survey** Needs if part of the project.

Research Needs Addressed

Use Ctrl+Left-mouse-click to select or unselect multiple Research Needs addressed. Use the scroll button on the right side of the box to view selectable actions. Research Needs options are derived from the selected SGCNs. Cannot be edited.

Bird - Black-crowned Night-Heron (b)

Observation and quantification of diet composition, foraging behavior, distances traveled to foraging sites, productivity levels, and adult survival at colony sites other than Wade Island.

Effectiveness of Wade Island double-crested cormorant culling on double-crested cormorant productivity.
Identify migratory stopover sites used regularly in Pennsylvania.

Bird - Blackburnian Warbler (m)

What stopover habitats do migrant blackburnians use?
Where are the breeding grounds of blackburnian warblers that pass through Pennsylvania?
Does the loss of hemlock have a negative effect on blackburnian warbler reproduction?

Research & Survey Needs

As needed, select Research and Survey needs to be addressed as part of this project.

Survey Needs Addressed

Use Ctrl+Left-mouse-click to select or unselect multiple Survey Needs addressed. Use the scroll button on the right side of the box to view selectable actions. Survey Needs options are derived from the selected SGCNs. Cannot be edited.

Bird - Black-crowned Night-Heron (b)

Annual surveys of all known colonies in state.

Survey Wade Island in early/mid June, in addition to late April/early May, and compare numbers to late April/early May nest counts.

Regularly search for new colonies and learn more about foraging range of nesting birds using satellite telemetry.

Bird - Blackburnian Warbler (m)

Conduct off-road point count surveys and spot-mapping for forest interior birds to determine habitat requirements and association with current forest management practices.

Conduct mist netting and banding at heavily used migration sites to monitor frequency of this species and others.

Additional Details

Include additional information about SGCN, Habitats, Threats, Actions, Research or Survey activities not included in the other fields.

Additional Details

Please include any other details for this action related to SGCN, Habitats, Threats, or Actions not covered in the options above.

We saw several SGCN Mussels including Brook Floater and Alewife Floater.

Project Visibility *

Select the visibility scale for the area of interest.

- ☐ Public: the precise action area of interest can be visible to the public
- ☒ County: the action area of interest should be visible to the public only by county
- ☐ Watershed: the action area of interest should be visible to the public only by watershed (HUC8)
- ☐ Private: the action area of interest should not be visible to the public

Related Area Of Interest Projects

Select your Conservation Opportunity Area Tool Area of Interest report(s) related to this conservation action, as applicable.

Click to select options

Project Visibility

Select project visibility based on the 4 categories: Public, County, Watershed, or Private.

Related AOI Projects

<Click> the *left* mouse button to see a list your AOI projects. Select any related projects (*Optional*).

STEP 5: Details (Habitat Focused)

Purpose: An alternative to “Species Focused” conservation includes projects not targeting particular species, but directed to habitat enhancement (i.e., “Habitat Focused”). Required “Habitat Focused” project information is provided below. Complete the remaining fields as per “Species Focused” projects.

Habitat Focus
Specify if the action is directed at one or more habitats.

Select Habitat(s)
From within the Action Area, select one or more habitats in which work will be conducted.

In this example, Northeastern Interior Dry-Mesic Oak Forest is selected.

Details

Action Title *

Enter a brief title for this action (e.g., Streamside tree planting).

Named Lands or Waters

These are automatically derived from geographic features that intersect with this action. The names are labeled with the feature display name and the layer name in which they are found.

John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge At Tinicum - Federal Lands (WeConservePA)

Montgomery Park - Local Parks (NRPA)

Action Focus *

Species Focused: Action intends to benefit specific Species of Greatest Conservation Need. Habitat management activities are species-focused if the work is expressly conducted to benefit species; for example, forest management for ruffed grouse or golden-winged warbler. Habitat Focused: Action intends to create or restore habitat conditions favorable to many Species of Greatest Conservation Need rather than a specific species.

☐ Species Focused
 ☒ Habitat Focused

Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN)

The displayed SGCNs are derived from any project geographic information plus Habitat, Threat, and Action selections. For habitat-focused projects, all SGCNs are automatically selected.

Bird - Marsh Wren (b)

Bird - Sora (b)

Bird - Virginia Rail (b)

Invertebrate - Dragonflies and Damselflies - Big Bluet (y)

Select additional SGCNs, if not included in the list above.

Not finding the SGCN of interest? Select SGCN(s) from the dropdown list below or start typing to find a species. Selected species are not linked to other data or sections.

Click to select options

Habitats

Select Habitats from the list. Use Ctrl-Select to select or unselect multiple habitats. The displayed Habitats are based on any project geographic information and the primary habitat macrogroups of the SGCNs relevant to those geographies. In addition, the Habitats you select here will determine the relevant SGCNs and Actions.

Agricultural

Agriculture

Central Oak-Pine

North Atlantic Coastal Plain Hardwood Forest

Coastal Plain Swamp

North Atlantic Coastal Plain Basin Swamp and Wet Hardwood Forest

Emergent Marsh

Laurentian-Acadian Freshwater Marsh

Headwaters and Creeks

Select additional habitats, if not included in the list above.

Not finding the habitat of interest? Select Habitat(s) from the dropdown list below or start typing to find a habitat. Selected habitats are not linked to other data or sections.

Click to select options

SGCN listed
For Habitat-focused projects, SGCN in the Action Area for the selected habitats will be displayed. This list cannot be edited.

Additional Habitat(s)

Habitats not automatically listed in the Action Area, may be manually selected in this field. <Click> the *left* mouse button to see a full list of habitat types and then, <Click> the *left* mouse button on the habitat to add it to the list.

Note: These “additional” habitats are not linked to other data or sections and will not appear in the Home Page dashboard.

Actions Implemented

For selected habitats, the associated conservation actions from the PA WAP are listed in the “Actions Implemented” section. Threats specifically identified to be addressed by the action will appear in the “Threats Addressed” section.

Use the <Ctrl> the *left* mouse button to select multiple actions to be implemented.

Select additional habitats, if not included in the list above.

Not finding the habitat of interest? Select **Habitat(s)** from the dropdown list below or start typing to find a habitat. Selected habitats are not linked to other data or sections.

Click to select options

Actions Implemented

Select Actions within each Action Category. Use Ctrl+Left-mouse-click to select or unselect multiple Actions. Use the scroll button on the right side of the box to view selectable actions. Displayed Actions are based on selected SGCNs for the selected Habitats. Selected Actions will determine relevant Threats. Cannot be edited.

Private lands agreements

Proactive land conservation to prevent conversion to habitat that does not meet the species' habitat requirements.

Vegetation management

Remove non-native or invasive vegetation.

Water management

Conserve wetlands and manage water levels to provide optimal conditions for Species of Greatest Conservation Need.

Threats Addressed

The displayed Threats are derived from the selected Actions. All Threats are automatically selected.

Invasive and Other Problematic Species and Genes

Array of wetland plants including phragmites, purple loosestrife, and narrow-stemmed cattail

Invasive species in breeding sites provide inferior food and cover and may choke out open water areas necessary for breeding.

Marsh Wrens avoid otherwise suitable emergent wetlands that contain an abundance of purple loosestrife

Threats cannot be edited; auto-generated based on selected Actions.

Additional Details: Use this field for action information related to SGCN, Habitats, Threats, or Actions not displayed above (i.e., not in the PA WAP).

Additional Details

Please include any other details for this action related to SGCN, Habitats, Threats, or Actions not covered in the options above.

We saw several SGCN Mussels including Brook Floater and Alewife Floater.

Project Visibility *

Select the visibility scale for the area of interest.

- ☐ Public: the precise action area of interest can be visible to the public
- ☒ County: the action area of interest should be visible to the public only by county
- ☐ Watershed: the action area of interest should be visible to the public only by watershed (HUC8)
- ☐ Private: the action area of interest should not be visible to the public

Related Area Of Interest Projects

Select your Conservation Opportunity Area Tool Area of Interest report(s) related to this conservation action, as applicable.

Click to select options

Project Visibility

Select project visibility based on the 4 categories: Public, County, Watershed, or Private.

STEP 6: Contact

Verify or update the contact information.

Contact

Contact Name: Your Name

Contact Email: Your email@domain.etc

Contact Phone: ###-###-####

STEP 7: Attachments

OPTIONAL: Include additional information with attachments. Use “Choose File” and upload the file(s). As noted, files must be less than 2MB each. Formats include .doc; .jpg; .jpeg; .gif; .png; .txt; .xls; .pdf; .ppt; .odt; .odp; .docx; .xlsx; .zip; .kml; .kmz.

Attachments

File attachments

Add a new file

Attach supporting documentation here. **Please note:** Files added here are not permanent until you save or submit this page. For multiple attachments, this is a two-step process; first Choose the File and then Upload it to be able to select another file.

Choose File

No file chosen

Upload

Files must be less than **2 MB** each.
Allowed file types: **doc jpg jpeg gif png txt xls pdf ppt pps odt ods odp docx xlsx zip kml kmz**.

Submit Conservation Action

Overview *

Details *

Contact *

Attachments

Submit

Cancel

Confirmation

Thank you for submitting your conservation action area. You may review your submitted action areas at any time by visiting the My Projects tab.

OK

When finished, Select <Submit>. A confirmation notice will be displayed. Select <OK>.

MY PROJECTS

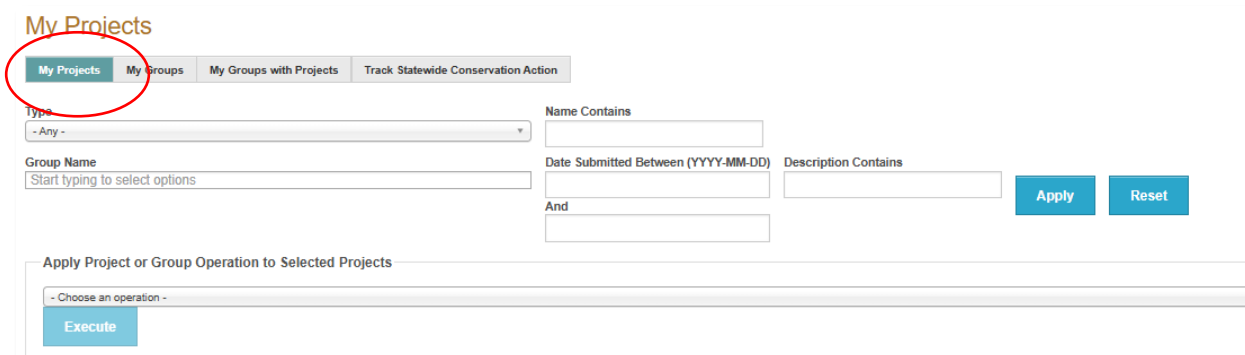
Purpose: Use the “My Projects” tab to:

- 1-view and manage *AOI* and Action projects,
- 2-develop and manage groups for sharing Action projects,
- 3-develop non-spatial action projects
- 4-use an *AOI* project to create an Action Project
- 5-include project notes



View and Manage *COA* (Area of Interest-AOI) and CAT (Action) Projects

The main screen of the “My Projects” tabs provides multiple functionality (described below).



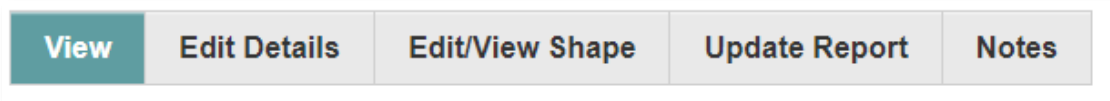
In the list of projects, <Click> the *left* mouse button on a project name to access the project report.

Type	Name	Date Submitted	Description	Named Land or Water
☐ AOI Project	Test-Penns Valley	2025-06-06 10:42	Example	
☐ Action	Test-Penns Valley Habitat Enhancement	2025-06-05 8:52	Instream and riparian habitat enhancements including: planting native shrubs and trees, streambank protection, instream habitat enhancement	Bald Eagle - State Forests (DCNR)

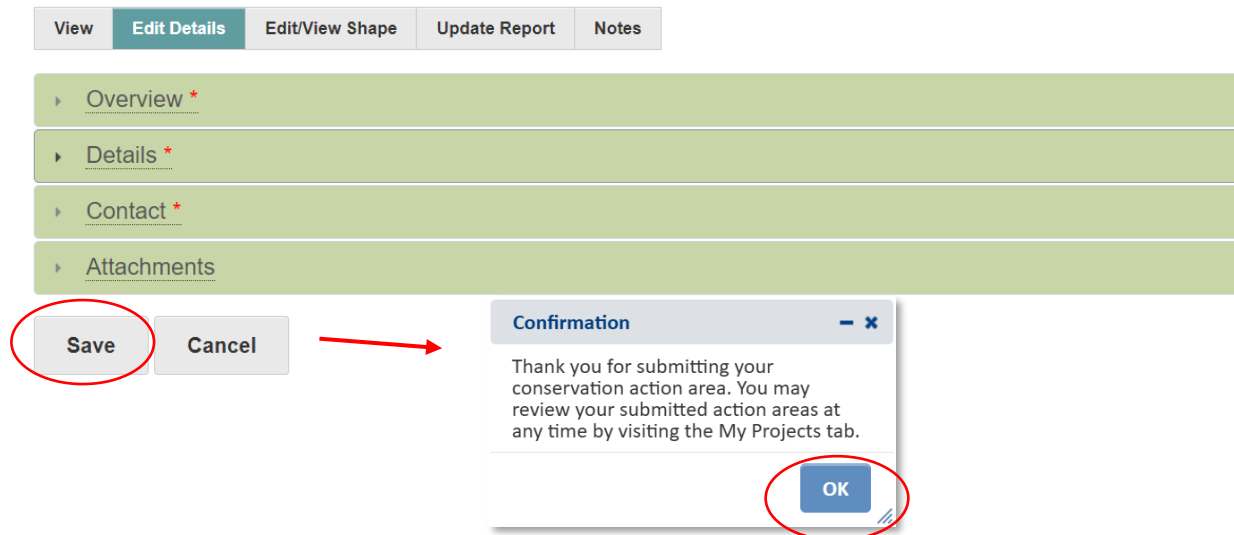
Note: The project “Type” indicates if the project was developed using the Conservation Opportunity Area Tool (AOI Project) for planning or the Conservation Action Tracker (Action) for implementation.

For an “Action” Project, use relevant functions to change information:

- **Edit details:** Revise information in one or more sections.
- **View/edit shape:** View or revise the geometry of the Action Area polygon
- **Update report:** Use this function especially following data updates.
- **Notes:** Add notes about the file.
- **Select <Save>** when finished editing.



<Click> on each bar to see the entered information.



TIP

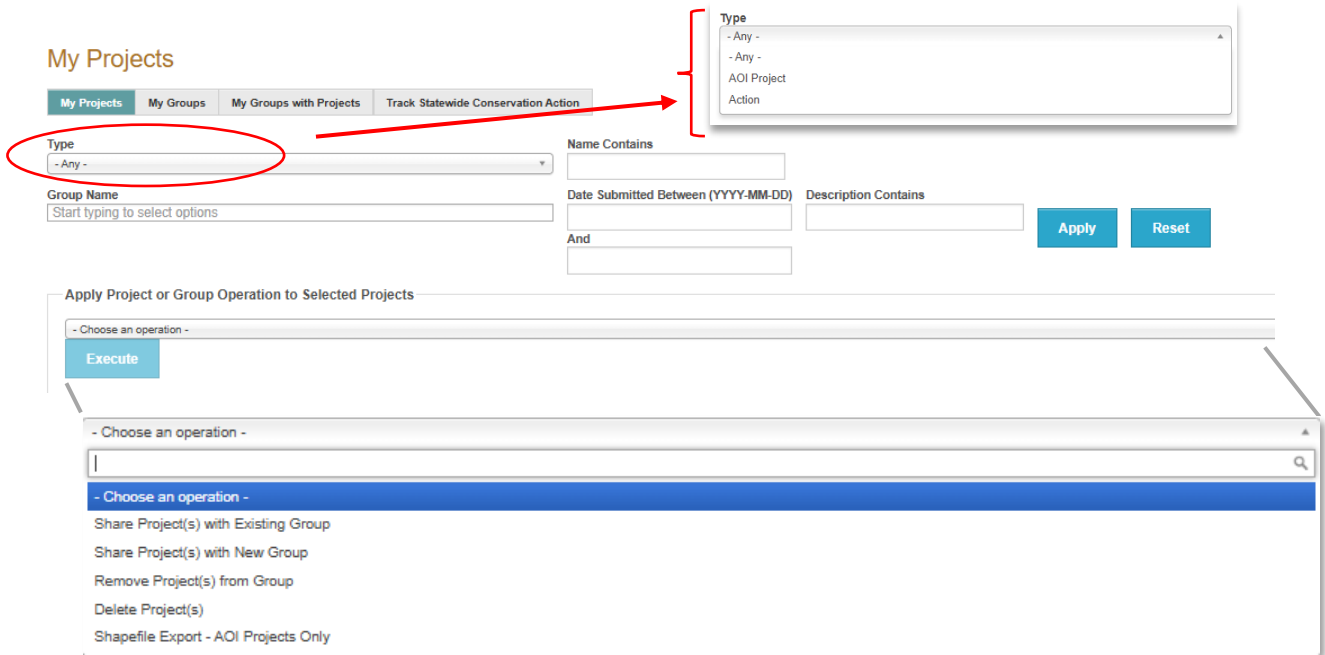
To sort projects in the My Projects tab <Click> the *left* mouse button on the header field titles.

For example, clicking on “Type” will sort projects by AOI Project and Action.

Type	Name	Group Name	Date Submitted	Description	Named Land or Water
☐ AOI Project	Test-Penns Valley	Test Group Name 2	2025-06-06 10:42	Example	
☐ Action	Test-Penns Valley Habitat Enhancement	Test Group Name 1	2025-06-05 8:52	Instream and riparian habitat enhancements including: planting native shrubs and trees, streambank protection, instream habitat enhancement	Bald Eagle - State Forests (DCNR)

Create and Manage Groups for Sharing Projects

Purpose: Use Groups to allow other users access to an *AOI* or Action project.



The screenshot shows the 'My Projects' interface with the 'My Groups' tab selected. A red circle highlights the 'Type' dropdown menu, which is currently set to '- Any -'. A red arrow points from this dropdown to a larger, expanded view of the dropdown menu. The expanded menu shows the following options: '- Any -', '- Any -', 'AOI Project', and 'Action'. Below the dropdown, there are search filters for 'Name Contains', 'Date Submitted Between (YYYY-MM-DD)', and 'Description Contains'. There are also 'Apply' and 'Reset' buttons. At the bottom, there is a section titled 'Apply Project or Group Operation to Selected Projects' with a dropdown menu and an 'Execute' button. The dropdown menu is open, showing options: '- Choose an operation -', 'Share Project(s) with Existing Group', 'Share Project(s) with New Group', 'Remove Project(s) from Group', 'Delete Project(s)', and 'Shapefile Export - AOI Projects Only'.

- Reference the above image, to create a group: Apply Project or Group Operations to Selected Projects. Choose an operation.
 - Share Project(s) with an Existing Group
 - Share Project(s) with a New Group
 - Project access can also be removed from a Group and a Project can be deleted.
- <Select> the "Type" of project to be shared. Default is an inclusive "any", but the user can select from either an *AOI* or Action Project.
 - Use one or more of the fields provided to search for groups to which you belong.
- <Select> one or more projects in the list of projects.

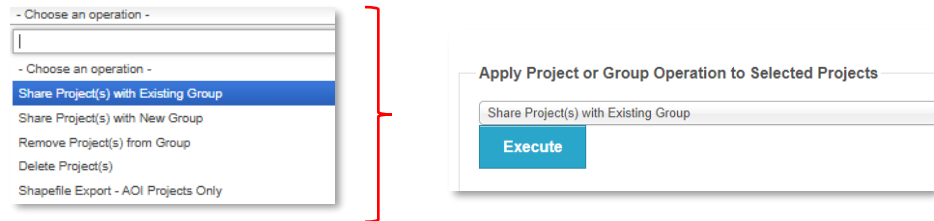
Type	Name	Date Submitted	Description	Named Land or Water
☒ Action	Test-Penns Valley Habitat Enhancement	2025-06-05 8:52	Instream and riparian habitat enhancements including: planting native shrubs and trees, streambank protection, instream habitat enhancement	Bald Eagle - State Forests (DCNR)

TIPS

- <Click> the box to the left of the project type to activate the "Execute" button.
- Only registered users can be added to a group.

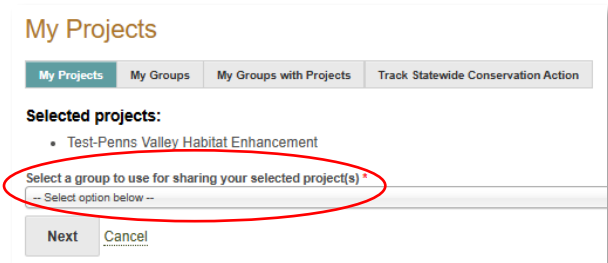
Existing Groups

- If sharing a project with an **“Existing Group”**, select that option from the pull-down menu in **Apply Project or Group Operation to Selected Projects** menu, then, <Execute>.



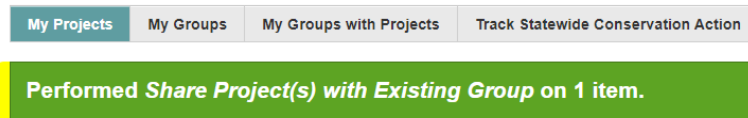
- The process will then be performed and the following command box will appear.

- Then, <Select> a group from the list of available groups and select <Next>.



- The process will be performed and a confirmation message “Performed Share Project(s) with Existing Group on 1 item” will be displayed.

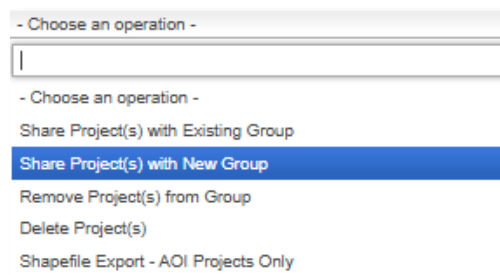
My Projects



New Groups

Projects can also be shared with a **“New Group”**. As above, in the list of projects, check the box next to project “Type”. More than one project can be checked.

- From the “My Projects” tab, <Select> the operation to “Share Project(s) with New Group”, then, <Execute>.



9. Then, when prompted enter a unique and brief group name.
<Select> Next.



Selected projects:

- Test-Riparian Buffer Reforestation

Group Name *
Enter a unique and brief group name to use for sharing your project(s).

Test Group Name 1

Next **Cancel**

10. A confirmation message will appear and, in the My Projects tab, <Click> on the Group Name field and the new group will appear.

My Projects My Groups My Groups with Projects Track Statewide Conservation Action

Performed Share Project(s) with New Group on 1 item.

Type
Action

Group Name
Test Group Name 1

TIPS

- A project may only be shared with one group.
- In the "Group Name" search for a Group Name by typing "/" then <backspace>. Any groups developed will be listed.

Adding Members to a Group

To add a registered user to your group, within the "My Projects" tab, go to "My Groups with Projects".

Home Map Statewide Search My Projects About

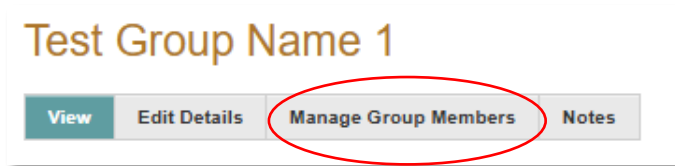
My Groups With Projects

My Projects My Groups **My Groups with Projects** Track Statewide Conservation Action

Then, in the list below, find the Group to which members are to be added.

Group	Group Originator	Group Created	Shared Projects		
Test Group Name 1	COA Tool Demo	2025-06-06 03:36 PM	Type	Name	Organization
			Action	Test-Penns Valley Habitat Enhancement	Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission
Test Group Name 2	COA Tool Demo	2025-06-09 11:02 AM	Type	Name	Organization
			AOI Project	Test-Penns Valley	PGC/PFBC

<Click> the *left* mouse button on the Group Name. Then, select “**Manage Group Members**” from the subsequent menu.



People in group Test Group Name 1

Group overview

- [Return to Group Main Page](#)
- Group manager: Group Manager's Name@address
- Total members: 1
- Total content: 1

Add Registered Site User To Group By Email Address

Operations

- Choose an operation -

Execute

Member Name	Member Organization	State	Roles	Member since

Next, from the screen above, <Click>

Add Registered Site User To Group By Email Address

Then, enter the email address of the registered user and <Click> “**Add User**”. The user will then be added to the group.

Add Member By Email Address

Add a new user to Test Group Name 1

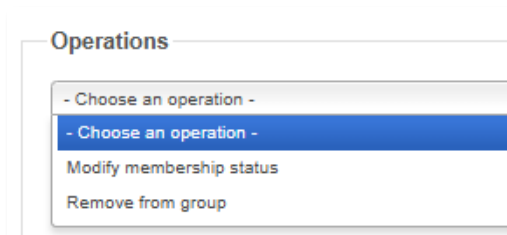
User email address *

Enter the email address of an already registered site user

Add User **Cancel**

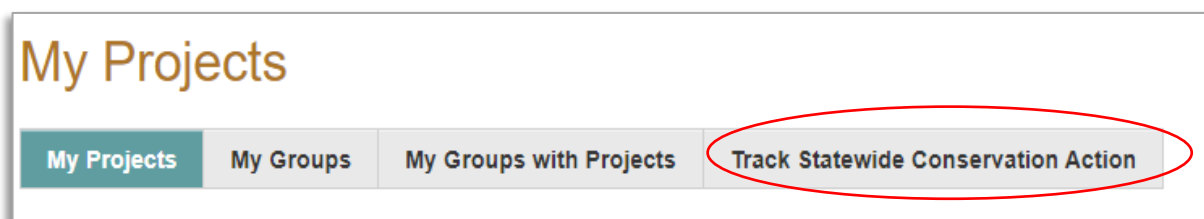
A group member's group status can be modified in "Operations".

Select the member from the list by checking the



Develop a Non-Spatial Action Project

Purpose: In the "My Projects" tab, use **Track Statewide Conservation Action** function to track non-spatial (i.e., statewide) projects.



Then, complete the forms for Overview*, Details*, Contact*, and Attachments (optional).

<Save> the information.

Create Action

Overview *

Details *

Contact *

Attachments

Save

Cancel

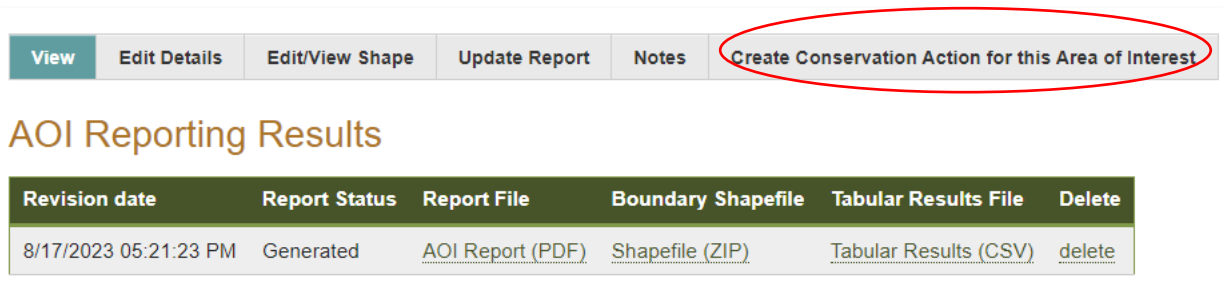
Use an AOI Project to Create a Spatial Action Project

Purpose: Use an area delineated as part of an AOI project to develop an Action Area for a spatial Track Conservation Action project.

Step 1. From the "My Projects" list <Click> the *left* mouse button on the selected AOI Project.

Step 2. Information about the project will be displayed.

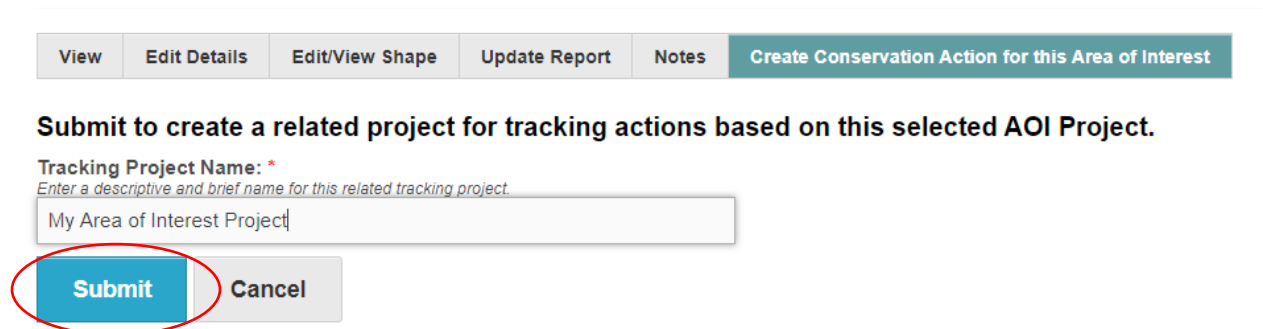
Step 3. <Select> the option “Create Conservation Action for this Area of Interest”.



The screenshot shows a navigation bar with the following buttons: View, Edit Details, Edit/View Shape, Update Report, Notes, and Create Conservation Action for this Area of Interest. The last button is circled in red. Below the navigation bar is a section titled 'AOI Reporting Results' which contains a table with the following data:

Revision date	Report Status	Report File	Boundary Shapefile	Tabular Results File	Delete
8/17/2023 05:21:23 PM	Generated	AOI Report (PDF)	Shapefile (ZIP)	Tabular Results (CSV)	delete

Step 4. The following screen will appear. The *AOI* project name will autofill the *Tracking Project Name* or type a different description. <Select> Submit.



The screenshot shows the same navigation bar as in Step 3, but the 'Create Conservation Action for this Area of Interest' button is now highlighted in blue. Below the navigation bar is a section titled 'Submit to create a related project for tracking actions based on this selected AOI Project.' which contains a form with the following fields:

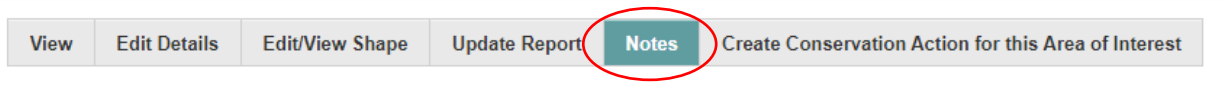
Tracking Project Name: *
Enter a descriptive and brief name for this related tracking project.

Below the form are two buttons: Submit (circled in red) and Cancel.

The result will be an Action Project using the shape from the *AOI* Project. Then, complete the information in the Overview, Details, and Contact sections.

Project Notes

From “My Projects” select a saved project. For both *AOI* and Action Projects, a “Notes” function will be available. <Select> this function and type the note. Notes can be edited or deleted after posting.



The screenshot shows the same navigation bar as in Step 3, but the 'Notes' button is now highlighted in blue and circled in red. The 'Create Conservation Action for this Area of Interest' button is still present to the right of the 'Notes' button.

CONSERVATION ACTION TRACKING REPORT

As with *AOI* projects, a Conservation Action Tracking report can be printed. Access the report at:

- “My Projects”. Then, in the project list,
- <Double-click> the *left* mouse button on the selected Action project name.
- A list of one or more reports generated will appear.
- <Double-click> on the “Project Report (PDF)” to open the report.

The Overview and Details section are based on information submitted during Action project data entry.

Test-Penns Valley Habitat Enhancement

View Edit Details Edit/View Shape Update Report Notes

Action Reports

Revision date	Report Status	Report File	Delete
6/6/2025 03:39:26 PM	Generated	Project Report (PDF)	delete
6/5/2025 11:39:26 AM	Generated	Project Report (PDF)	delete

STATEWIDE SEARCH

PURPOSE: The **Statewide Search** feature is used to develop a list of SGCN by watershed (HUC 8) or county. To get started....

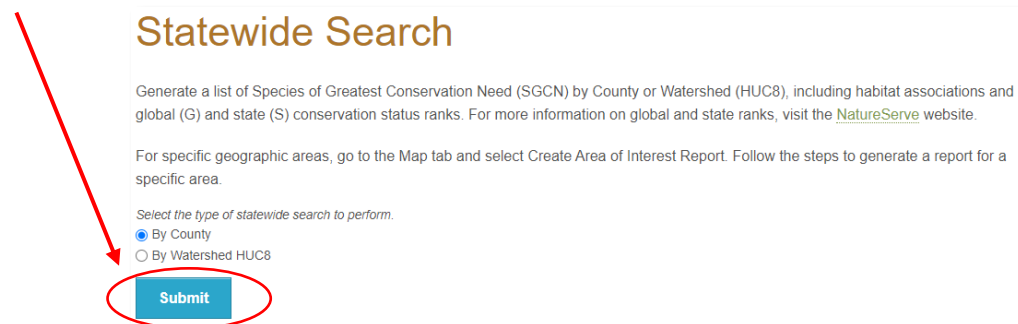
STEP 1: Select the tab “Statewide Search”.



Initial criterion required for selection is the geographic source for the information (i.e., County, Watershed).

STEP 2: Statewide Search by County or Watershed.

Select statewide search by County or Watershed (HUC 8), and <click> “Submit”.



Statewide Search

Generate a list of Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) by County or Watershed (HUC8), including habitat associations and global (G) and state (S) conservation status ranks. For more information on global and state ranks, visit the [NatureServe](#) website.

For specific geographic areas, go to the Map tab and select Create Area of Interest Report. Follow the steps to generate a report for a specific area.

Select the type of statewide search to perform.

☒ By County
☐ By Watershed HUC8

Submit

Searches can be made by selecting entries from one or more of the following lists.

- Taxonomic Group
- County
- Common Name
- Scientific Name
- Global Rank
- State Rank
- Primary Habitats (Macrogroup)
 - Forests
 - Grasslands, Marshes & Swamps
 - Streams & Lakes
 - Special Habitats

...or by typing either the:

- Common Name
- Scientific Name

Example (right): Search for Mountain Brook Lamprey.

Search
Reset

Attribute Search ✓

Taxonomic Group:

- Select All
- Bird
- Fish
- Frog
- Invertebrate - Bees
- Invertebrate - Beetles
- Invertebrate - Butterflies
- Invertebrate - Caddisflies
- Invertebrate - Cave Invertebrates
- Invertebrate - Craneflies

County:

- Select All
- ADAMS
- ALLEGHENY
- ARMSTRONG
- BEAVER
- BEDFORD
- BERKS
- BLAIR
- BRADFORD
- BUCKS

Enter all or part of a common or scientific name to retrieve a list of species containing those letters.

Common Name:

Scientific Name:

For specific SGCN, ranks, or habitats, select from the lists below. Hold the Ctrl-key for multiple selections.

Common Name:

- Moss Chrysalis Snail
- Mottled Darner
- Mottled Duskywing
- Mountain Brook Lamprey
- Mountain Chorus Frog
- Mountain Earth Snake
- Mountain Madtom
- Moustached Clubtail
- Mudpuppy
- Mulberry Wing

Scientific Name:

- Select All
- Abagrotis brunneipennis
- Accipiter gentilis
- Accipiter striatus
- Acipenser brevirostrum
- Acipenser fulvescens
- Acipenser oxyrinchus
- Acris crepitans
- Acroneuria internata
- Acronicta dolli

Global Rank:

- G1 - Critically imperiled
- G2 - Imperiled
- G3 - Vulnerable
- G4 - Apparently secure
- G5 - Secure

State Rank:

- S1 - Critically imperiled
- S2 - Imperiled
- S3 - Vulnerable
- S4 - Apparently secure
- S5 - Secure

Primary Habitats (Macrogroups)

Outputs are derived from "known" and "likely" (i.e., modeled) species distributions, and species-habitat associations, identified in the 2015 Pennsylvania Wildlife Action Plan. Because of modeled data, a record in the resulting report is not confirmation that the selected habitat is found in the county or watershed.

Forests:

- Central Oak-Pine
- Northern Hardwood & Conifer
- Northeastern Upland Forest

Grasslands, Marshes & Swamps:

- Coastal Plain Swamp
- Northern Swamp
- Tidal Swamp
- Emergent Marsh
- Wet Meadow / Shrub Marsh

Streams & Lakes:

- Headwaters and Creeks
- Small Rivers
- Medium Rivers
- Large Rivers
- Large Tidal Rivers

Special Habitats:

- Agricultural
- Cliff and Talus
- Subterranean
- Urban/Suburban Built

Select Operand:

☐ AND ☒ OR

Search
Reset

STEP 3: Submitting a Statewide Search

Make a selection then click “Search” above or below the search categories.

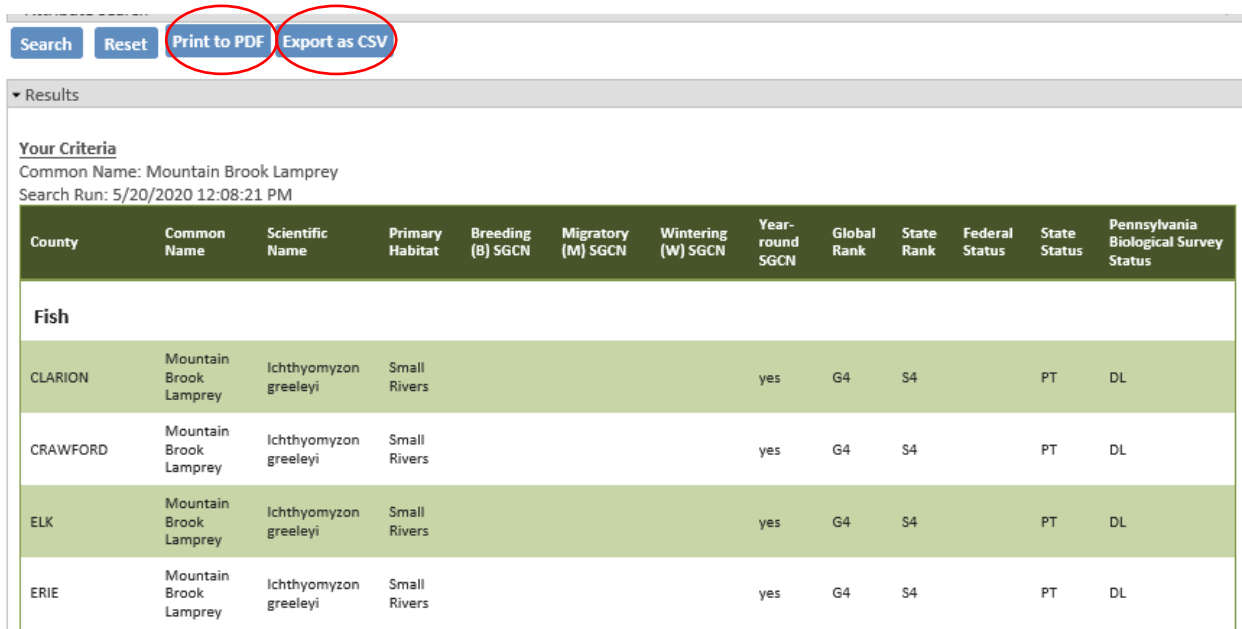


TIPS:

- Searches can be made on any of the criteria above.
- To clear the search, <Click> “Reset”.
- To select multiple species, press and hold the <Ctrl Key>.
- Global Rank definitions are found at: <http://explorer.natureserve.org/granks.htm>
- State ranks are similar to Global Ranks, but indicate the status of species in Pennsylvania.

The example search criterion (Mountain Brook Lamprey) yields the output below.

STEP 4: Save a Statewide Search in Adobe® pdf or CSV format.



County	Common Name	Scientific Name	Primary Habitat	Breeding (B) SGCN	Migratory (M) SGCN	Wintering (W) SGCN	Year-round SGCN	Global Rank	State Rank	Federal Status	State Status	Pennsylvania Biological Survey Status
Fish												
CLARION	Mountain Brook Lamprey	Ichthyomyzon greeleyi	Small Rivers				yes	G4	S4		PT	DL
CRAWFORD	Mountain Brook Lamprey	Ichthyomyzon greeleyi	Small Rivers				yes	G4	S4		PT	DL
ELK	Mountain Brook Lamprey	Ichthyomyzon greeleyi	Small Rivers				yes	G4	S4		PT	DL
ERIE	Mountain Brook Lamprey	Ichthyomyzon greeleyi	Small Rivers				yes	G4	S4		PT	DL

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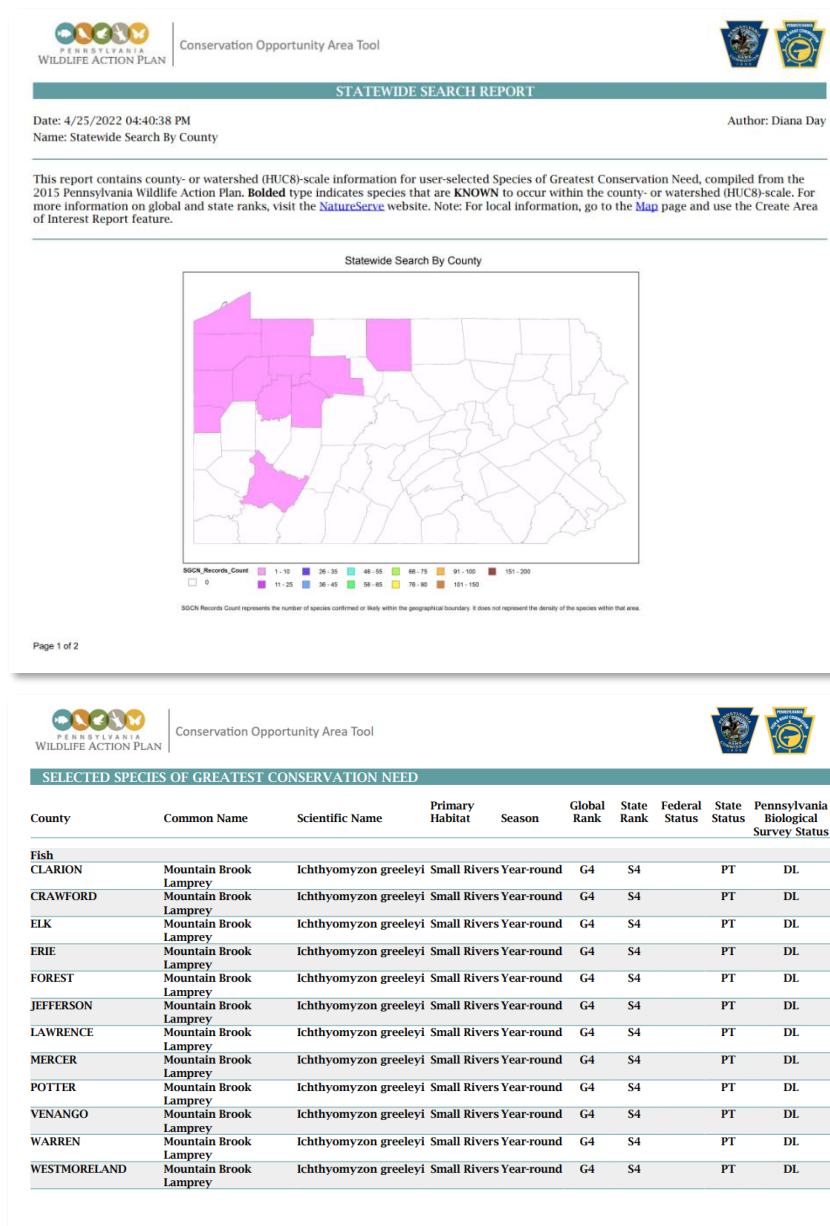
STEP 5: Clear search criteria.

To clear the search criteria <Click> “Reset”.

TIPS

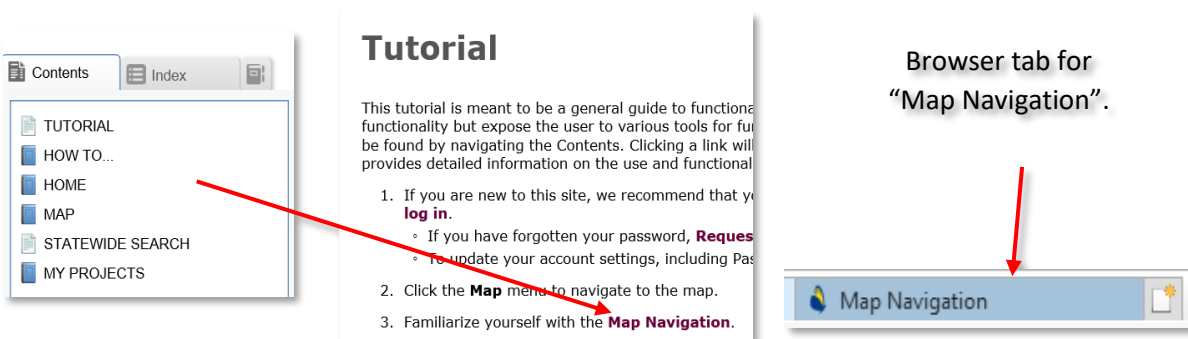
- Tabular results are available in a Comma Separated Values (CSV) file format which can be accessed with Microsoft® Excel.
- The “Print to PDF” function, produces a distribution map and list by county or watershed of the selected species.

A sample “Print to PDF” report for Mountain Brook Lamprey



ASSISTANCE

More Wildlife Action Map Features and Functions are available in “About” then, **Assistance**.



TIPS

- Going from the MAP tab (or other tab) to Assistance will result in a loss of user-input information in the MAP tab. So, first access Assistance to open a new browser tab at the top of the screen. <Click & hold> the *left* mouse button, on the new tab and drag to another part of the screen. This will allow the screen to be viewed for reference while working in another part of the tool.
 - Example: <Click> the *left* mouse button on “Map Navigation” in the Tutorial and a browser tab will appear at the top of the screen.

WE'RE HERE TO HELP!

Got questions or feedback? Reach us using the “Feedback” button (upper right of the tool screen) to specify a concern, enhancement, or question. This structured approach allows us to more quickly assess the issue.

Alternatively, email the Pennsylvania Game Commission and Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission WAM Project Leaders at:

- Pennsylvania Game Commission, Wildlife Recovery Conservation Planning Coordinator (PGCSWAP@pa.gov)
- Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, Conservation Coordinator (RA-FBSWAP@pa.gov).

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