

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
I. GRANT APPLICATION FORM	
II. PROJECT SUMMARY AND SCOPE OF WORK	
A. PROJECT SUMMARY	1
B. SCOPE OF WORK INTRODUCTION.	2
C. PROJECT JUSTIFICATION	4
D. COST ESTIMATE	4
III. PROJECT LOCATION MAP	
IV. LETTER OF ACKNOWLEDGMENT	

LIST OF TABLES

<u>Table No.</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Page</u>
1	Project Schedule	3
2	Previous Projects Completed by the BCWA and Its Partners ...	4

A. PROJECT SUMMARY

The Blacklegs Creek Watershed Association (BCWA) was established on February 13, 1986 by a number of concerned citizens, private corporations, and government agency personnel. Originally, the group was organized by sportsmen and women in an attempt to get Blacklegs Creek on the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission's (PFBC) approved trout waters list. This was a difficult task due to the Blacklegs watershed being severely degraded by abandoned mine drainage (AMD). The groups efforts led to the establishment of a PFBC cooperative trout nursery, and the beginning of the Blacklegs Trout Nursery club (See Appendix A). Eventually the PFBC designated a very small section of the stream as approved for trout stocking. This was a big victory for our organization in that our original goals were being accomplished.

The small section of stocked trout water on Blacklegs Creek was a start to the overall goal of the group. That goal is to restore the entire Blacklegs Creek watershed, to the extent possible, to a condition that allows for the entire length of Blacklegs Creek to be stocked with trout by the PFBC. The association still maintains the Blacklegs Trout Nursery, but in recent years our efforts have shifted toward the remediation of several AMD's throughout the watershed.

Our organization is working to:

Improve water quality in the watershed's streams by finding innovative and cost effective ways to manipulate abandoned mine drainage discharge sites; encourage re-mining and/or reclamation of abandoned strip mine sites; complete stream-side stabilization and/or stream-side fencing of affected stream segments; and encourage better use of erosion and sedimentation control practices by contractors and local communities.

Protect the recreational opportunities offered by the watershed by encouraging municipalities to utilize sound planning practices as the communities in the watershed begin to grow

Reduce negative and improve positive socioeconomic impacts. With the reduction of negative impacts and increasing improvements to the resources, the environmental condition along with the socioeconomic condition of the watershed will continually improve.

These goals both support and complement other conservation and environmental needs of the region. Our organization has actively participated in numerous abandoned mine drainage (AMD) and water quality improvement activities held in the Appalachia Region for many years and is prepared to complete several AMD remediation projects in the watershed.

The majority of the watershed is located in southern Indiana County (Young, Armstrong and Connemaugh Townships) and extends northward into a small portion of Armstrong County (Kiskiminetis and South Bend Townships). This region is depicted on the attached watershed location map.

B. SCOPE OF WORK

The BCWA has been operated strictly by volunteers since its beginning as the Blacklegs Trout Nursery Club. When the organization's main goal was to raise trout for the eventual stocking of Blacklegs Creek, operating with volunteers was acceptable. Now that the groups goals have shifted to watershed restoration, our organization is in need of start-up funds in order to best manage our several projects.

In order for our current and proposed remediation projects to be successful, our organization must grow and gain support from other clubs, municipalities, businesses and the residents of the watershed community. Additionally, the overall administration of the association and funded projects must be conducted. This would be most effectively accomplished by a part-time watershed coordinator. The BCWA proposes to hire a part-time watershed coordinator and purchase materials for the promotion of the organization.

It is the belief of the BCWA that if a coordinator position could be funded for a two-year period, the organization would be able to continue the position in the following years utilizing funds largely from donations. For the group to gain the recognition and support for this to happen, initial funds must be secured. Also, the BCWA proposes to complete a quarterly newsletter, develop brochures and flyers, and maintain a web-site where information will be continually updated. The watershed coordinator would also plan community days and watershed clean-up projects. Positive working relationships with landowners within the watershed will also be developed. All conferences and meetings

regarding watershed issues within the region will be attended as well. Additionally, a continuing water sampling program will be conducted and directed with the assistance of EASI. The individual hired to fill this position would report to and be directed by the BCWA. The position will be housed at the Saltsburg Sportsmen’s Club, which is located at the heart of the watershed.

The project schedule is listed below in Table 1.

**TABLE 1
PROJECT SCHEDULE**

TASK	TIME FRAME	RESPONSIBLE PARTY
Advertise for a watershed coordinator	Summer 2000	BCWA
Hire watershed coordinator	Summer/Fall 2000	BCWA
Purchase of materials for promotion of the organization	Winter 2000	BCWA
First quarterly newsletter published	Winter 2000	BCWA
Website developed	Winter 2000	BCWA
Public awareness programs developed and coordinated	Winter 2000	BCWA
Above activities will continue throughout the life of the grant	-	BCWA

C. PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

Hiring a part-time watershed coordinator is a necessary step in the overall

restoration process. It is not feasible to attempt the overall administration of the association with volunteers alone. Although the funds our organization are applying for are minimal, they would provide a tremendous boost to our efforts. Previous projects completed by the BCWA are described below in Table 2.

**TABLE 2
PREVIOUS PROJECTS COMPLETED BY THE BCWA AND ITS PARTNERS**

PROJECT	PARTICIPANTS/SPONSORS
Construction of cooperative trout nursery	BCWA, Rochester and Pittsburgh Coal Company, Saltsburg Sportsmen Club, PFBC
Water sampling and analysis program	BCWA, Saltsburg Sportsmen Club, EASI
1974 Scarlift Study	PADER (now DEP)
Sponsorship of several stream clean-up and kids fishing days	BCWA
Kolb discharge treatment facility	BCWA, WPCAMR, Indiana County Conservation District, NRCS
Handicapped fishing access	BCWA, PFBC

E. COST ESTIMATE

Salary for Part-Time Watershed Coordinator

Description of Tasks

- 1. Salary for year 1 (based on \$10 per hour for 20 hours/week.....\$10,400.00
- 2. Salary for year 2 (based on \$10.50 per hour for 20 hours/week.....\$10,920.00
- Total for coordinator salary over two years.....\$21,320.00*

Publications and Watershed Promotion

Description of Tasks

- 1. Quarterly newsletter (6 total).....\$1,500.00

2. Website development and posting.....\$1,500.00
Total for publications and watershed promotion.....\$3,000.00

Matching Funds/Services Provided

Description of Tasks

1. All administrative materials provided.....\$1,500.00
 2. Mileage reimbursement for coordinator.....\$500.00
Total for matching funds and services for the project.....\$2,000.00

TOTAL PROJECT COSTS INCLUDING MATCH.....\$26,000.00

TOTAL MATCH BEING PROVIDED.....-\$2,000.00

TOTAL FUNDS REQUESTED BY PROPOSAL.....\$24,000.00

