Part 1 – Preliminary Screening: Eligibility & Documentation

In each blank below, provide a “Y” for yes or “N” for no.

1. ___ Complete application submitted by deadline.

2. ___ Applicant is eligible entity per ORC § 164.23(A).

3. ___ All proposed activities will be completed within 2-years of grant agreement execution.

4. ___ NRAC funds are NOT to be used to cover administrative costs.

5. ___ Applicant, and/or collaborating partners, proposing to contribute ≥25% of project cost.

6. If land protection is being proposed.
   a. __ Includes a signed letter of intent or purchase agreement from the landowner, indicating willingness to sell, or execute a conservation easement on, the subject property, and that this land acquisition or easement acquisition will be completed within twelve (12) months of grant agreement execution.
   
   b. ____ Includes a certified appraisal report performed by an ODOT prequalified appraiser. This must either be submitted with the original application submission, or it may be submitted to the NRAC District 2 Liaison Officer within 21 calendar days following the application deadline. The certified appraisal must be no older than 12 months. NOTE: The independent appraisal may be ordered by any party involved with the project except for the seller of the property interest, a relative of the seller, or any individual with an association to the seller who may have any actual, perceived, or potential conflict of interest. Information on finding a ODOT prequalified appraisers can be found at this web page. For NRAC review purposes only, a restricted appraisal report will be accepted but must be followed up with a full appraisal report to OPWC before Approval to Proceed will be granted.
   
   c. ___ Includes a copy of the draft deed restrictions covering the property as they will be submitted to the State if said project is approved.

7. Applicant has provided the following documentation required for project eligibility and NRAC evaluation of the project:
   a. ____ All documentation requirements outlined in ORC § 164.23
   b. ____ All project-specific documentation requirements outlined in Parts 2, 3, & 4
      i. Please note: to obtain points for several of the scoring criteria below, the applicant is required to provide mapping of the proposed project area overlaying specified datasets using the NRAC2 Project Assessment Tool (NRAC2 Tool). Instructions on using the NRAC2 Tool to produce the mapping required to obtain points for specific scoring criteria below can be found at the District 2 NRAC website.
Part 2 – Eligible Project Emphases per ORC §164.22

For each eligible project emphasis that is addressed by the proposed project, mark the “___” with an “X”. The required documentation, specified below each project emphasis, must be provided to claim the points. If the required documentation is not provided, do not mark the “___”.

1.  ____ Support of comprehensive open space planning (ORC §164.22 A1)
2.  ____ Part of a stream corridor-wide, watershed-wide, or community plan (ORC §164.22 B2)
   a.  Points awarded: 3
   b.  Must submit a copy of the claimed plan.
3.  ____ Project located within an underserved community (ORC §164.22 A2)
   a.  Points awarded: 6
   b.  Must submit documentation from the NRAC2 Tool* showing ≥25% of the project area overlaps with one of the following data layers: “low Income population greater than 50% of the mean” or “minority population greater than 50% of the mean”.
4.  ____ Enhancement of educational opportunities and physical links to educational centers (ORC §164.22 A5)
5.  ____ Provision of multiple recreational, economic, and aesthetic benefits, including safe fishing, hunting, and trapping, in a manner that will preserve a balanced natural ecosystem (ORC §164.22 B3, A7)
   a.  Points awarded: 3
   b.  Must submit a letter or resolution from an authorized party committing to providing public access.
6.  ____ Protection of habitat for listed rare, threatened, and endangered species (ORC §164.22 A3)
   a.  Points awarded: 5
   b.  Must submit documentation from the NRAC2 Tool* showing overlap of the project area with a “Natural Heritage Database” colored grid or other documentation, from qualified professional, of listed species within 1-mile of the project area.
7.  ____ Restoration for the benefit of listed rare, threatened, and endangered species (ORC §164.22 A3)
   a.  Points awarded: 5
   b.  Must submit a 1) project concept map and description from a qualified professional AND, 2) documentation from the NRAC2 Tool* showing overlap of the project area with “Natural Heritage Database” colored grid OR other documentation, from qualified professional, of listed species within 1-mile of the project area.
Part 2 – Eligible Project Emphases per ORC §164.22 (continued)

8. Protection of existing wetlands (ORC §164.22 A4)
   a. Points awarded: 5
   b. Must submit documentation from the NRAC2 Tool showing substantial overlap of the project area with “the National Wetland Inventory” or documentation from qualified professional, of hydric soils, hydrophytic vegetation, AND hydrology indicators consistent with the appropriate U.S. Army Corp of Engineers regional supplement manual for wetland delineation.

9. Restoration or creation of wetlands (ORC §164.22 A7, B1, B4, B6)
   a. Points awarded: 5
   b. Must submit a project concept map and description from a qualified professional.

10. Protection of natural stream channels, and stream corridors/floodplains (ORC §164.22 A6)
    a. Points awarded: 11
    b. Must submit documentation from the NRAC2 Tool showing ≥500-linear feet of mapped streams located within the project area, or other documentation of ≥500-linear feet of on-site streams with photographs clearly showing the streams (including bed, banks, and landscape context).

11. Restoration of natural stream channels, stream corridors, and/or floodplains (ORC §164.22 A6, B4, B5)
    a. Points awarded: 11
    b. Must submit a project concept map and description from a qualified professional for a project proposing to restore ≥500-linear feet of stream corridor.

12. Protection of primary headwater (PHW) streams (ORC §164.22 B5)
    a. Points awarded: 3
    b. Must provide documentation, from qualified professional, of ≥500-linear feet of "Small Drainage Warm Water PHW" streams and/or "Spring Water PHW" streams based on appropriate Ohio EPA field methods.

13. Restoration of primary headwater (PHW) streams (ORC §164.22 B5)
    a. Points awarded: 3
    b. Must submit a project concept map and description from a qualified professional for a project proposing to restore ≥500-linear feet of "Small Drainage Warm Water PHW" streams and/or "Spring Water PHW" streams as defined by appropriate Ohio EPA field methods.

14. Protection of viable terrestrial habitat (not including work within a stream corridor/floodplain or wetland) (ORC §164.22 A3)
    a. Points awarded: 9
    b. Must submit documentation, including photographs, of existing vegetation communities present within the project area.
Part 2 – Eligible Project Emphases per ORC §164.22 (continued)

15. ____ Restoration of native terrestrial vegetation (not including work within a stream corridor/floodplain or wetland) (ORC §164.22 B1)
   a. **Points awarded: 4**
   b. Must submit a project-specific restoration plan.

16. ____ Reintroduction of native animal species (ORC §164.22 B6)
   a. **Points awarded: 5**
   b. Must submit a project concept map and description from a qualified professional.

* See Part 1, No. 6b for instructions on obtaining required documentation for the NRAC2 Tool.

** The term “substantial overlap” is open to District 2 NRAC interpretation at the time of project scoring.
Part 3 – Required Project Review Criteria per ORC §164.24(A)

1. Project emphasizes the factors specified in ORC §164.22 (see Part 2)

2. Enter the amount of funding requested in the “___” below:
   a. $____________

3. Amount of matching funds (mark the appropriate level of match below with an “X”):
   a. ___ > 40% (4pt.s)
   b. ___ >25 to 40% (2pt.s)
   c. ___ 25% (minimum)

4. Level of collaborative partnership – partnership means active involvement through funding or in-kind services as defined by the District 2 NRAC. (mark each applicable project partner category below with an “X”):
   a. (1pt for 1 or 2 of the partner types listed below; 2pts for 3 or more)
      i. ____ Local political subdivision
      ii. ____ Conservation organization
      iii. ____ Community organization
      iv. ____ Local business group
      v. _____ Federal agency
      vi. ____ State agency
      vii. ____ Project overlapping with a second NRAC District jurisdiction (ORC 164.24 A5)
   b. A letter of collaboration must be submitted for each project partner claimed above.

5. Level of coordination with other NRACs (see Part 3, 4vii)

6. Relative economic, social, and environmental benefits (see Parts 2 & 4)

7. Project incorporates more than one purpose as specified in ORC §164.22 (see Part 2)

8. General public access to the project area (see Part 2, No. 5)

9. Project compliance with ORC §164.20 through §164.27 (see Part 1)

10. Readiness of applicant to proceed with project (see Part 1)

11. Other factors relevant to the project (see Part 4)
Part 4 – Additional District 2 NRAC Criteria per ORC §164.24(A)(11)

1. Applicant submitted signed letter committing to actively remove non-native vegetation from a proposed native terrestrial vegetation restoration area annually for a minimum of three years (initial restoration plus 2 years).
   a. Points awarded: 2

2. Substantial coverage of “Erosion Prone Soils” within the project area.
   a. Points awarded: 5
   b. Must submit documentation from the NRAC2 Tool* showing substantial overlap** of the project area with the “Erosion Prone Soils” dataset.

3. Appropriate mapping (with labeled property boundaries) submitted demonstrating connectivity to another protected natural area.
   a. Abutting property lines
      i. Points awarded: 6
   b. Property lines separated by a road and/or a single parcel with a total linear separation of <200-feet.
      i. Points awarded: 4
   c. Project area within 0.25-mile of a “protected area” as shown on the NRAC2 Tool*.
      i. Points awarded: 2

4. Project represents an acquisition of, or easement on, a previously unprotected area <5-acres in size (see part one for documentation requirements).
   a. Points awarded: 3

* See Part 1, No. 6b for instructions on obtaining required documentation for the NRAC2 Tool.

** The term “substantial overlap” is open to District 2 NRAC interpretation at the time of project scoring.

Point Totals:

Subtotals:

Part 2 _________ Part 3 _________ Part 4 _________

Total Score: _________

Tie Break Methods (to be utilized in the listed order):

1. Committee vote
2. Project with the highest % of matching contributions

Note: Minimum score requirement of 20 points to be considered for funding.