

Figure 34: Summary of Restoration and Management Strategic Actions		
Strategy	Lead	Priority
1. Focus new DNREC Division of Fish & Wildlife landowner incentive program funds to priority areas in the Corridor for building forest interior through reforestation, forest stand improvement/management, and creation/improvement of coastal plain pond, riparian, and tidal wetland buffers.	DNREC FW, Landowners	High
<i>Action Steps:</i> Conduct outreach to priority parcels in the Corridor, with a particular focus on farmettes/large lots ("riding mower" crowd) and areas where there are already covenants preventing additional development	DNREC FW, Landowners	
2. Increase and/or consolidate capacity to conduct an active landowner outreach program for restoration (reforestation, buffer creation, invasive species control) and Best Management Practices that incorporate information from a variety of programs.	NRCS, DNRECFW	High
<i>Action Steps:</i> Develop a proposal for Conservation Partnership Initiative grant for planning (outreach) and using NRCS funds for implementation as match.	TNC, NCCCD	
Complete a demonstration map of a property in the Corridor showing all landowner incentive program opportunities.	DNRECFW, landowners	
Hold a conservation options workshop in the Corridor to disseminate information about the various programs/resources available to landowners for restoration/protection.	TNC, landowners	
Explore ways of prioritizing Corridor for NRCS programs/outreach (via "wildlife zones" to be used/incorporated in ranking, or other mechanisms.)	NRCS, landowners	
Increase advertising/publicity of programs; include landowner of record in mailings/announcements.	NRCS	2005-6
Deliver information and expertise on all existing landowner incentives/assistance programs through the outreach/education efforts of the new DNREC FW landowner incentive program.	DNREC FW, landowners	
3. Provide technical and cost-sharing assistance to restore riparian, tidal wetland, and coastal plain pond buffers on private properties.	TNC	High
<i>Action Steps:</i> Explore (and incorporate as feasible) mechanisms for providing cost-share assistance in the form of a rental payment (versus one-time payments) to assist landowners with long-term management costs.	TNC, landowners	
4. Develop and pilot a program for aggressive and coordinated invasive species control on state and private lands.	DNRECFW	High
<i>Action Steps:</i> Develop and circulate a list of invasive species that every state agency/department will commit to not using or recommending.	DDA	2005-6
Create an invasives control team and program led by a state-employed coordinator and composed of AmeriCorp volunteers dedicated to eliminating invasives in the Corridor; use DNREC PR and/or National Park Service programs as models and existing resources (such as TNC index of invasive species info, Cooperative Extension program resources, and Master Naturalist Program resources.)	DNRECFW	2005-6
Provide information, training, and technical assistance program (via the "team") to assist landowners in identifying and controlling invasives on private lands, especially where reforestation efforts and management of development lands present challenges.	DNRECFW, landowners	
5. Maximize the applicability and use of existing programs that provide technical and financial assistance to landowners.	NRCS	Medium
<i>Action Steps:</i> Explore/modify programs to provide assistance for long-term maintenance/management of reforested buffer areas (including WHIP for invasive species control only.)	NRCS	
Explore ways to allow CRP funding to be used for reforestation/management of coastal plain pond cluster buffers beyond 100/150 feet (MD/DE?) and up to 500 feet (and/or develop a supplementary funds.)	FSA/NRCS, Landowners	
Increase/focus outreach for use of Wetland Restoration Program funds for coastal plain pond restoration (and even protection) where hydrology has been altered (ditched/drainage) and where there is good species diversity (especially in MD, where haven't been used much.)	NRCS, TNC, Landowners	
Develop a list of (and training for) knowledgeable contractors for doing stream restoration and management work.	DNRECSW	
Evaluate the effectiveness of 15-year Conservation Reserve Enhancement Programs (CREP) and encourage renewal in the Corridor after 15 years.	FSA/NRCS	
6. Convert unforested areas on publicly-owned lands where such lands are in priority areas for reforestation and where feasible.	DDAF, MD DNR	
<i>Action Steps:</i> Identify priority areas for reforestation on DDAF lands based on Corridor priorities; when 5-year lease is up for those areas, remove from lease (but allow non-priority areas to continue to be leased for farming.)	DDAF	
Identify funding alternatives (in addition to CREP) for reforestation and lost lease revenues.	DDAF	
7. To help develop and protect mature healthy hardwood forests, utilize Delaware Forest Service and Millington Wildlife Management Area programs/efforts to the full extent possible to achieve forest management and protection objectives in the Corridor.	DDAF, MD DNR	
<i>Action Steps:</i> Identify key areas of Blackbird State Forest and MWMA where mature forest habitats exist and/or where favorable conditions exist for cultivating mature forest habitat through management (including the seven previously designated nature preserves in BSF) and manage to help achieve Corridor objectives; incorporate management for mature forest habitat in key designated areas in management plans.	DDAF, MWMA	
Present and describe forest management for biodiversity conservation as an option in all forestry educational materials and outreach efforts.	DDAF, MD DNR	
Include forest management for biodiversity conservation measures in Forest Management Plans for private landowners whenever feasible. (In Maryland, encourage protection of Corridor priority areas in review of management plans.)	DDAF, Landowners	
Make forest management for biodiversity conservation measures eligible (or even a priority) in cost share programs for landowners.	DDAF, MD DNR	
8. Combat non-native Phragmites invasion by maintaining or strengthening the State of Delaware's Phragmites control program.	DNRECFW	Medium
<i>Action Steps:</i> Identify priority parcels for phragmites control and contact those landowners with information about the program (no 200-acre maximum for state spraying when funding available; NRCS and/or USFWS can cover 25% of costs.)	DNRECFW, NRCS, Landowners	
Cover the landowner portion of cost-share (currently \$4/acre) in the rare instance that NRCS and USFW cannot.	TNC	
Maintain strong legislative support for annual funding and a regular funding stream for phragmites control.	TNC, Community	
9. To achieve the greatest possible restoration results, focus all available public land restoration and management funding and efforts on Corridor priorities.	Various	High
<i>Action Steps:</i> Share/present information/maps on Corridor within programs that provide funding for land conservation (protection and restoration), including but not limited to: Delaware Open Space Program, Green Infrastructure program (Governor's Office), State Natural Areas program, NOAA, NRCS landowner incentive programs (Conservation Reserve and Reserve Enhancement Programs, Wetland Reserve Program, Environmental Quality Incentives Program), Army Corp of Engineers Estuary Restoration and Protection Plan, State PLUS site suitability index program (DOSPC), Nutrient Management Commission, Fish & Wildlife Service (US and DNREC) landowner incentive programs.	TNC	2005
Incorporate and prioritize (where feasible) Corridor priorities as eligible for existing funding mechanisms/programs (per the prior action item.)	State of DE, USFWS, NRCS/FSA, State of MD, Counties	
Explore opportunities for including Corridor priorities as an eligible funding area for existing or future land protection funding in Maryland, including the possibility of a Forest Legacy area in MD that builds on the existing Blackbird Forest Legacy area in Delaware (See PROTECTION Strategy 5).	ESLC, DNR	
10. Secure new funds for restoration work, especially in key areas along riparian corridors, via an EPA 319 grant or other mechanisms.	NCCCD	Medium
<i>Action Steps:</i> Obtain proposal guidelines and develop proposal concept designed to focus on area of most need (places where CRP and EQIP funds are not available) and meet 40% match (potentially by using Forest Service staff salaries as match.)	TNC	Spring 2005
Create and submit proposal for funding	NCCCD, MD DNR	Fall 2005
ABBREVIATIONS:		
DNREC FW : DNREC Div. of Fish & Wildlife	MWMA: Millington Wildlife Management Area	
NRCS: Natural Resource Conservation Service	USFWS: US Fish and Wildlife Service	
TNC: The Nature Conservancy	ESLC: Eastern Shore Land Conservancy	
NCCCD: New Castle County Conservation District		
DDA: Delaware Department of Agriculture Forestry & Ag Pres		
FSA/NRCS: Farm Service Agency/Natural Resource Conservation Service		
DNRECSW: DNREC Soil & Water Conservation		
DDAF: Delaware Dept. of Agriculture, Forest Service		
MD DNR: Maryland Department of Natural Resources		