



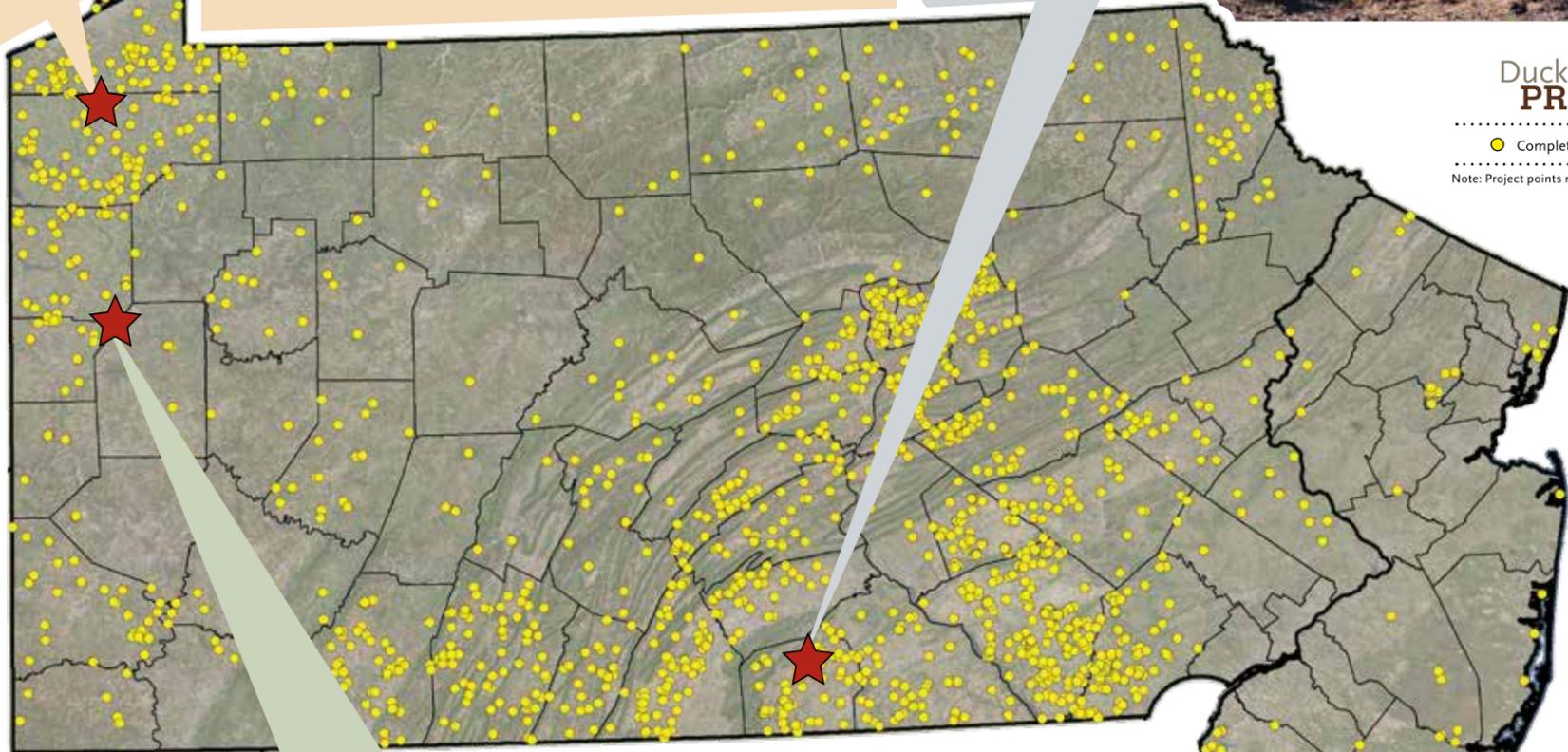
WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA PROPERTY PROTECTED FOR BIRDS

Ducks Unlimited, the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, a private landowner and the National Wild Turkey Federation were awarded a \$75,000 NAWCA grant (including \$102,346 in partner matching funds) to acquire a 120-acre property in Crawford County, northwestern Pennsylvania. The property is in one of DU's conservation priority areas along Cussewago Creek, a major tributary to French Creek, both of which have the greatest level of aquatic biodiversity of any stream of their size in Pennsylvania. The property is part of the French Creek Landscape Conservation Area, a region which harbors nearly 200 species of breeding, migrating, and wintering birds including more than 24 species of waterfowl.

KEARNEY WETLAND RESTORATION HELPS NUMEROUS WATERFOWL SPECIES

Ducks Unlimited, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and The Nature Conservancy recently completed a 20-acre wetland restoration project in Adams County. The previously drained wetland was converted to a marginally producing agriculture field in the Upper Chesapeake Bay watershed of southern Pennsylvania. The region is an important wintering and migration area for waterfowl. Thousands of Canada geese, snow geese, ducks and tundra swans rest and feed on the Susquehanna River, nearby reservoirs and adjacent agricultural lands. Adjacent forested and emergent wetlands and associated uplands provide breeding habitat

for mallards, wood ducks and resident Canada geese. This area also supports breeding and migrating American black ducks.



Ducks Unlimited PROJECTS

● Completed ★ Featured

Note: Project points may represent more than one project.



PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC LANDS RESTORED FOR WILDLIFE, RECREATION

DU and the Pennsylvania Game Commission are preparing to restore critical wetland habitat on Pennsylvania's public lands. The partnership will restore three wetland areas totaling 361 acres on State Game Lands 66, 151 and 284 in Sullivan, Mercer and Lawrence counties, respectively. The project will restore the functions and values these degraded wetlands once provided and increase diversity of wetland dependent wildlife. The project will improve habitat for numerous threatened, endangered species. The projects will improve water quality and flood retention, and increase public access to the resource for hunting, fishing, wildlife watching and general study of wildlife.



NEW JERSEY COASTAL PROJECTS MOVE FORWARD

The Southeast New Jersey Coastal Initiative was established in 2013 to protect, restore and enhance critical coastal wetland habitat in Delaware Bayshore and the Atlantic Coast of New Jersey. Several projects are under way. At Tuckahoe Wildlife Management Area, new infrastructure will enhance 941 acres this year. In 2016, Ducks Unlimited helped the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection acquire a 125-acre tract in Atlantic County adjacent to Tuckahoe WMA. In 2017, Ducks Unlimited will help acquire two new properties. A 107-acre tract in Cumberland County adjacent to Dix Management Area will be acquired with the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife. A 474-acre tract in Cape May County with several partners will be acquired and added to Cape May National Wildlife Refuge.



NEW JERSEY & PENNSYLVANIA'S IMPORTANCE

Pennsylvania and New Jersey are uniquely positioned in the Atlantic Flyway as a critical connection point for waterfowl in all stages of their lifecycle. The states link waterfowl between Canadian breeding grounds and wintering grounds, between Lake Erie, Chesapeake Bay, Delaware Bay and the Atlantic Coast.

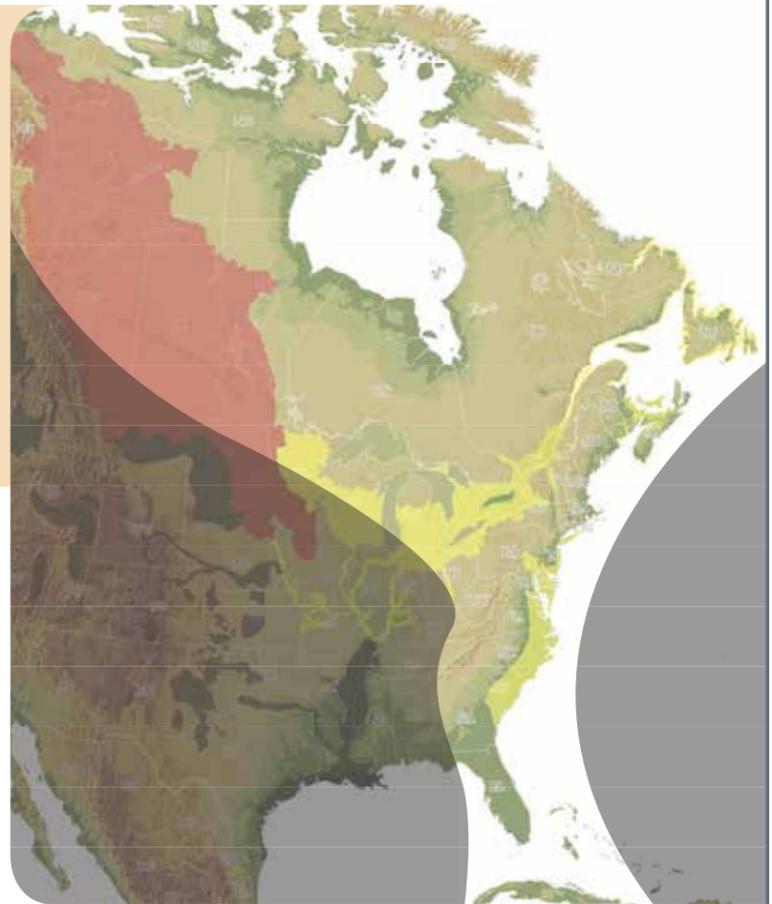
Thanks to support from members, donors and partners, Ducks Unlimited conservation staff in Pennsylvania and New Jersey continue to execute an ambitious wetland restoration and protection plan across a range of habitats. Priorities include enhancing existing managed wetlands and developing new managed wetlands where appropriate on public waterfowl areas. Conservation work also is done along the New Jersey Coast to enhance coastal wetlands via elimination of tidal restrictions and integrated marsh management.

Ducks Unlimited's staff and volunteers in Pennsylvania and New Jersey support DU's Completing the Cycle Initiative. This initiative focuses on conserving wetlands in critical areas that offer the best opportunities for a sustainable future for waterfowl, as well as cleaner water.

LOOKING AHEAD

Ducks Unlimited plans to continue the Southeast New Jersey Coastal Initiative and submit a \$1 million NAWCA proposal to permanently protect 1,772 acres. Up to 70 percent of all tracts are comprised of wetlands that are in decline. Ducks Unlimited proposed two NAWCA projects in northwestern Pennsylvania and is expected to get confirmation in 2017.

- In the French Creek Landscape Conservation Area in Crawford County, DU and several partners plan to protect 173 acres of wetland and associated upland habitat to benefit waterfowl and other wetland species.
- Ducks Unlimited and several partners want to acquire 161 acres in Crawford County and add it to Western Pennsylvania Conservancy's Helen B. Katz Natural Area, making it one of WPC's largest, contiguous preserves in northwest Pennsylvania.



NJ/PA BY THE NUMBERS

2016

- \$450,104 invested
- 4 completed projects
- 316 acres conserved

HISTORICAL

- \$17.94 million invested
- 240 completed projects
- 42,235 total acres conserved

Learn more at www.ducks.org/pennsylvania or www.ducks.org/new-jersey



A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Ducks Unlimited is celebrating our 80th anniversary in 2017. As an organization, we can trumpet our accomplishments knowing how strongly equipped we are to improve the health of wetlands across North America for the next generation.

The 21-state Great Lakes/Atlantic Region is a diverse landscape of habitats ranging from prairie potholes in the upper Midwest to coastal estuaries in the Atlantic Flyway, with Great Lakes marshes and riverine wetlands in between. Our region had a tremendous impact in 2016. We used private donations and public funds to invest \$29,049,039 on conservation projects. That strong support enabled our biologists and engineers to deliver focused, effective habitat conservation on 15,616 acres of wetlands.

New Jersey and Pennsylvania are vital to the goals of our region and the country. The entire team in these states, including our volunteers, fundraising staff and conservation staff, has developed a winning strategy that helps waterfowl and anyone who enjoys clean water.

The work you see in this report is a snapshot of the conservation Ducks Unlimited achieves every day. We need and appreciate your support, as we build on this success for the next 80 years.

David Brakhage, GLARO Director of Operations

MEET YOUR NEW JERSEY & PENNSYLVANIA CONSERVATION STAFF

Jim Feaga has worked for Ducks Unlimited since 2014. Jim is a Pennsylvania native who earned a bachelor of science degree in wildlife and fisheries sciences in 2011 from Pennsylvania State University. While at Penn State, Jim performed undergraduate research as a Ronald E. McNair Scholar. In 2013, Jim received a master of science degree in wildlife fisheries and aquaculture from Mississippi State University. His expertise includes waterfowl and wetland ecology; monitoring and sampling wetland habitat; passerine, waterbird, and waterfowl surveys; delivery of management strategies for wetlands restoration and management; and passerine and waterfowl banding.

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Ducks Unlimited conserves, restores, and manages wetlands and associated habitats for North America's waterfowl. These habitats also benefit other wildlife and people.



GREAT LAKES & ATLANTIC REGION

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