



OTTER CREEK BASIN

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2026-01-28 Otter Creek Basin Water Quality Council Agenda

Otter Creek BWQC

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1. Amendments to the Agenda
2. Approve [Minutes](#) of October meeting
3. Review New Project Proposals
 - a. OCNRCD – Corcoran
 - b. OCNRCD – Roleau
 - c. ACRWC – Sheldon
4. Update budget for Middlebury College project
5. Change April meeting date
6. Funded Projects Status update
7. Next Meeting – TBD April



MEMO

TO: Otter Creek BWQC

FROM: Otter Creek CWSP Staff

DATE: January 14, 2026

RE: Round 7 Proposals Received

The Round 7 call for project proposals for the Otter Creek CWSP closed on Friday December 19, 2025. We received three proposals. Two proposals came from Otter Creek Natural Resources Conservation District (OCNRCD), and one from the Addison County River Watch Collaborative (ACRWC). The projects will be reviewed and voted on at our BWQC meeting on January 28th. DEC has confirmed that projects are eligible for funding via email on 1/09/2026. ACRWC requested confirmation of eligibility from the Agency of Agriculture on 1/6. The review process was underway at the time this memo was distributed, but had not yet been completed. The rest of this memo will provide background information on each of the proposals, links to more information on the proposals, and a status update on CWSP funding.

OCNRCD - Corcoran: OCNRCD has requested \$9,145.80 for a riparian planting of 4.17 acres at a farm owned by Donna Corcoran on Mud Creek in New Haven (access from Waltham) in the Little Otter Creek drainage. The land is currently rented by Four Hills Farm out of Bristol. It was conserved by the Vermont Land Trust (VLT) in 2024. The DEC Floodplain Manager determined that the project meets the criteria of non-reporting activity in an email on 1/6/2025. The District Wetland Ecologist determined that “the described activities are allowed uses and do not require a permit” via email on 12/22/2025. The Fish and Wildlife Department indicated via email on 1/12/2026 that no Endangered Species permits were required. The project has been assigned WPD-ID # 14575. When completed, the project would lead to an estimated phosphorus reduction of 10.65 kg/yr. [Draft Score: 81](#)

The CWSP recommends funding this project as presented.

OCNRCD - Roleau: OCNRCD has requested \$9,591.80 for a riparian planting of 3.2 acres at Gateway Farm on Baldwin Creek in Bristol. The property was conserved by VLT in 2014 and is currently in diversified agriculture. Baldwin Creek is extremely active in the area. The DEC Floodplain Manager determined that the project meets the criteria



of non-reporting activity in an email on 1/6/2025. The District Wetland Ecologist determined that “the described activities are allowed uses and do not require a permit” via email on 12/22/2025. The Fish and Wildlife Department indicated via email on 1/12/2026 that no Endangered Species permits were required. The project has been assigned WPD-ID # 14576. When completed, the project would lead to an estimated phosphorus reduction of 5.97 kg/yr. [Draft Score: 79.](#)

The CWSP recommends supporting the project as presented.

ACRWC: ACRWC has requested \$6,219 for a riparian planting of approximately 0.5 acres at a private residence along the Otter Creek in Weybridge. The DEC Floodplain Manager in an email on 1/6/2025 suggested checking with the Town of Weybridge Zoning Administrator to confirm that the project was exempt from permitting. The District Wetland Ecologist approved the project via email on 12/04/2025 and determined it would not require a permit. The Fish and Wildlife Department indicated via email on 1/12/2026 that no Endangered Species permits were required. The project has been assigned WPD-ID # 14584. Successful completion of the project would lead to an estimated reduction of 0.92 kgP/yr. [Draft Score: 80.](#)

The CWSP recommends funding this project as presented.



TABLE 1: Summary of proposed round 7 projects, December 2025.

Project Sponsor	Project Name	Funding Request	P Reduc.	\$/kgP	P Score	Likelihood Success	Co-Ben.	Score
OCNRCD	Corcoran	\$9,146	10.65	\$859	65	15	1	81
OCNRCD	Roleau	\$9,592	5.97	\$1,607	65	12	2	79
LDFLA	Sheldon	\$6,219	0.92	\$6,760	65	14	1	80
Total Round		\$24,957	17.54					



TABLE 2: Status of CWSP funding and P load reductions (not including Round 7 projects). The P reduction target for the CWSP is 158.1 kg/yr as of FY26

Project Stage	# Projects Funded	# Projects Completed	# of Projects Terminated	Amount Obligated	Estimated P Reductions at Funding (kg/yr)	Adjustments in P reductions from funded estimate
Identification & Development	5	1	1	\$85,900	na	na
Preliminary Design	3	2	0	\$62,996	73.5	-9.01
Final Design	4	1	0	\$88,998	85.37	+2.12
					Estimated / Earned by completed projects	
Implementation	17	7	1	\$787,095	162.97 / 93.91	+46.65

To date, the CWSP has obligated \$787,095 but only paid out invoices of \$319,799. Our largest project, the Youngs Brook Dam removal, budgeted at \$304,000 has not yet invoiced the CWSP, but the work has been completed.