

Watershed Implementation Project - Proposal Evaluation Criteria Matrix

Eligibility Requirements

Implementation projects that restore impaired waters through the implementation of watershed based plans (WBPs) and associated Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), if applicable. Typically, these projects construct on-the-ground best management practices (BMPs) to address nonpoint source impacts to water quality. They may include monitoring/assessment of implemented BMPs as long as that activity is part of the larger implementation project or effort and it is closely connected to on-the-ground watershed restoration.	(Y/N)
Project must be consistent with the 2012 Colorado Nonpoint Source Management Plan	(Y/N)
Non-federal matching funds equal to at least 40% of the total project cost are required. Match can be cash and/or in-kind	(Y/N)
The project includes public education and outreach task(s) and product(s)	(Y/N)
The project does not meet a discharge permit requirement(s), including discharge permit application requirements	(Y/N)
The project is not located within sites designated as Operable Units (OUs) by the EPA Superfund Program, unless Superfund has determined areas or specific sites they will not address (provide such determination in writing). The project may be located inside an OU if Superfund has already completed their work, are not starting remediation or enforcement activity and are just assessing.	(Y/N)
Animal Feeding Operation (AFO) project documents a current Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP) and shows commitment to implementing the CNMP.	(Y/N)
AFO project requesting funds to implement aspects of a CNMP documents a direct relationship to water quality.	(Y/N)
The current (FY15), correct application materials are used for the project type	(Y/N)
Implementation project application is no longer than 15 pages (excluding exhibits)	(Y/N)
A complete application is submitted, with a completed PIP form and Budget Table	(Y/N)
Application is submitted no later than January 7, 2015, 5:00 p.m. MST	(Y/N)
Application is submitted on-line following the instructions on the bulletin board at www.npscolorado.com	(Y/N)

Project Prioritization Criteria

Criteria for Each Project Implementation Plan Section	Point Assignments	Points
Section 1.0 - Summary Page - All required fields addressed; load reduction estimates are included and are based on acceptable methods.	Maximum 10 points	10
Section 2.0 - Statement of Need - Need clearly identified; anthropogenic nonpoint source impacts; project priority demonstrated in a Total Maximum Daily Load report and/or watershed plan; site-specific problems are well defined and supported by data (for example, water chemistry, macroinvertebrates, pebble counts); clear link between water quality issue(s) and proposed BMP.	Maximum 20 points	20
Section 3.0 - Project Description - Need identified in 2.0 addressed by proposed project; sources of pollution as well as impacts addressed; objectives, tasks and products are measurable; acceptable method(s) for measuring results is identified; all required task items are identified and addressed: evaluation and monitoring; data management; measurable results analysis; securing necessary permits and Biological Evaluation; and project administration.	Maximum 20 points if proposal description clearly addresses impaired segment	20
Section 4.0 - Coordination Plan - Sponsor and cooperators capable of implementing the project; roles and contributions are clear, including match accrual; supported by and coordinated with additional federal, state and local funding; local buy-in described; coordinated with other efforts in the area but not duplicative; project sustainability addressed.	Combined with section 7.0 for a maximum of 15 points	15
Section 5.0 - Evaluation and Monitoring - Template completed; strong evaluation approach; Sampling and Analysis Project Plan strategy well defined; commitment to submit data collected during NPS project implementation to EPA's national water quality database.	Maximum 15 points	15
Section 6.0 - Budget Table - Table completed, including the timelines; minimum match identified; reasonable allocation of funds to tasks; investment of funds in tasks addressing NPS problems; unit costs identified.	Maximum 20 points	20
Section 7.0 - Public Involvement - Clear process to engage the public or target audience in the water quality/nonpoint source efforts - public meetings, volunteer opportunities, website and social media, newspaper articles.	Combined with section 4.0	*
	Subtotal:	100

Target Basin and Project Prioritization Points

Target basin projects scoring 80 or above will receive 10 additional points	
Priority watershed projects scoring 80 or above will receive 10 additional points	
	Total: