

FY 2016 CWF Projects & Practices Application Questions

What organization will serve as the Fiscal Agent for this grant?

Did your organization receive CWF grant dollars in FY 2013, FY 2014 and/or FY 2015? If less than 50% of the total grant amount awarded from FY 2013, FY 2014 and FY 2015 grants have been spent, please explain your organization's capacity to effectively implement additional Clean Water Fund grant dollars.

Project Description: 1. (5 points) Identify the resource of concern for the proposed project. What nonpoint pollution problem(s) will be addressed with this project? Describe the public benefits of this project to the resource of concern from a local and state perspective, including how the resource of concern aligns with at least one of the statewide priorities referenced in the "Projects and Practices" section of the RFP.

Relationship to Plan: 2. (15 points) Describe how the resource of concern was prioritized. For the proposed project, identify the specific water management plan reference by plan organization, plan title, section and page number. In addition to the plan language, provide a brief narrative description of the impact of the action or objective cited. Provide web links to all referenced plans.

Targeting: 3. (18 points) Describe the methods and results of inventory and source targeting done to date or that will be completed prior to project implementation. How was this used to identify the root cause of the most critical pollution sources or threats to surface and/or groundwater quality?

Targeting: 4. (5 points) How does this application fit into an overall watershed protection and/or restoration strategy implemented by your organization and your partners in the watershed? Listing in a plan does not necessarily constitute an overall strategy. Describe activities other than those funded by this application that affect the resource of concern including but not limited to other financial assistance or incentive programs, easements, regulatory enforcement, or community engagement activities that are indirectly related to this proposal.

Targeting: 5. (2 points) Newsletters, signs and press releases are standard communication tools. Beyond those basics, describe any additional project activities that would be added to the grant work plan aimed at engaging your local community on the need, benefits and long term impacts of this project.

Measureable Outcomes: 6. (10 points) What is the pollutant(s) of concern, such as dissolved phosphorus, nitrogen, sediment, etc., that is specifically being addressed by this project? Has there been a specific pollutant reduction goal set in relation to the pollutant of concern or the resource of concern that is the subject of this application? If so, what is that goal and what process was used to set this goal? If no pollutant reduction goal has been set, describe the water quality trends or other management goals that have been established.

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Measureable Outcomes: 7. (15 points) Describe how this project directly addresses the pollutant(s) of concern and how effective the project will be in solving the pollution problem(s). Describe how this project addresses the root cause of the problem. What is the annual reduction in pollutant(s) that will be achieved for the resource of concern after this project is completed?

Measureable Outcomes: 8. (10 points) Will the overall project have additional specific secondary benefits, including but not limited to hydrologic benefits, enhancement of aquatic and terrestrial wildlife, drinking water protection, enhancement of pollinator populations, or protection of rare and/or native species? If so, please specifically describe, or quantify if possible, what those benefits will be.

Cost Effectiveness: 9. (5 points) What alternatives were considered to achieve the same type and amount of benefit outlined in the proposed project? Describe why the proposed management practice(s) are considered to be the most cost effective and reasonable means to attain water quality improvement or protection benefits. Consider such factors as, but not limited to BMP effectiveness, timing, site feasibility, practicality, and public acceptance.

Project Readiness: 10. (5 points) Describe steps and actions already taken to ensure that project implementation can begin soon after grant award. Also describe any preliminary discussions with landowners/occupiers, agreements/contracts, contingency plans, and other project development activities to date that will ensure a smooth start to the project and minimize administrative or other critical delays.

Project Readiness: 11. (5 points) List and provide the status of any permits (federal, state, or local) that may be required for this project (for example, NPDES construction permit applied for on January 1, 2015, archeological surveys, etc.). Describe any preliminary discussions with permitting authorities (if applicable).

BBR: 12. (5 points) Did your organization submit a Biennial Budget Request (BBR) to BWSR in 2014?

The Constitutional Amendment requires that Amendment funding must not substitute traditional state funding. Briefly describe how this project will provide water quality benefits to the State of Minnesota without substituting existing funding.