

SOLICITATION NOTICE

319 (h) NONPOINT SOURCE IMPLEMENTATION GRANT PROGRAM CONCEPT PROPOSAL APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY 5:00 P.M. ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2008.

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), Division of Financial Assistance is accepting applications for the Nonpoint Source Implementation Grant Program [Clean Water Act Section 319) NPS Grant Program] to support projects throughout the State to restore impaired surface waters through the control of nonpoint source (NPS) pollution. Funds for this grant program are appropriated by Congress under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act to restore waters impaired by nonpoint source pollution. These funds are made available via a grant agreement between the State Water Board and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

Project Eligibility

The purpose of the 319 (h) NPS Grant Program is to provide funds to projects that restore and protect the beneficial uses of water throughout the State through the control of NPS pollution consistent with completed Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) or TMDLs under substantial development.

It is critical that you contact the Regional Water Quality Control Board and/or USEPA representative in Attachment 2 as you develop your proposal to ensure it meets eligibility requirements and the program preferences listed below.

Funding Available

Approximately \$4.5 Million is available for this solicitation with a minimum grant amount of \$250,000 and a maximum grant amount of \$1,000,000 per project. A minimum match of 25% is required, but may be waived or reduced for projects that directly benefit a disadvantaged community.

Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicants include local public agencies, public agencies, public colleges, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations, Indian tribes, federal and state agencies. Eligibility requirements are detailed in Attachment 1 of this Solicitation Notice.

Projects which include activities required under a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit are not eligible for 319(h) NPS Grant Program funding.

Program Preferences

The 319 (h) NPS Grant Program seeks to fund projects that will serve as models for water quality improvement. Proposals most likely to receive funding must successfully demonstrate the following:

- Well planned and designed implementation activities that have a high likelihood of contributing to the desired water quality improvements based on data and information contained in TMDLs and watershed plans;
- Significant pollutant load reductions that contribute to the restoration of a nonpoint source impaired 303(d) listed water body. Restoration refers to the attainment of water quality objectives and beneficial uses, ultimately resulting in delisting;
- Achievement of water quality objectives and beneficial uses within a specified time-period. Projects demonstrating short-term results (e.g., 5 years) will be preferred, but longer-term results will also be supported.

Solicitation Process

The 2009 319 (h) NPS Grant Program will use the procedures established by the State Water Board in the 2005-06 Consolidated Grants Guidelines (*Guidelines*) to solicit applications, evaluate proposals, and award grants.

The 319 (h) NPS Grant Program Solicitation will be a two-step process. In the first step, applicants will submit brief Concept Proposals (CPs) using the State Water Board's on-line Financial Assistance Application Submittal Tool (FAAST). Applicants with the highest-ranking CPs will be invited to submit a Full Proposal. After a thorough review of all full proposals, a recommended funding list will be developed and presented at State Water Board meetings for public comment and adoption.

All applicants requesting funds from the 319 (h) NPS Grant Program must submit a complete electronic CP by **5:00 pm on Thursday, October 16, 2008** using the State Water Board's online Financial Assistance Application Submittal Tool (FAAST) system at <https://faast.waterboards.ca.gov>. **Late applications will not be accepted.**

To be considered complete, the submitted CP application must include all of the items in the checklist below. Applicants should use this checklist to verify all required information is submitted using the FAAST.

Eligibility and program requirements for the 319 (h) NPS Grant Program included in this Solicitation Notice are based on the *Guidelines*, which is available on-line at the State Water Board's website at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/consolidgrants0506/index.shtml.

Attachment 1 of this Solicitation Notice contains applicable excerpts from the *Guidelines* that apply to the 319 (h) NPS Grant Program.

Attachment 2 of this Solicitation Notice lists agencies applicants should contact if they have questions on funding priorities or eligibility requirements.

2008 319 (h) NPS Grant Program

CONCEPT PROPOSAL SOLICITATION NOTICE AUGUST 8, 2008

Table 1: Checklist for Completing the Online Concept Application

Within the FFAST, the following SECTIONS must be completed and submitted:			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>General Information (For the project location information requested in this section, specify the latitude and longitude values that are representative of the project. For large areas of land, specify the mid-point of the area. For a waterbody, specify the mid-point of the waterbody stretch.)</p>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Funding Programs Check the box next to the “319 (h) NPS Grant Program”. Consult with the contacts listed in Attachment 2 of this notice for questions regarding applicant eligibility, project eligibility, and program priorities.</p>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Project Management Please indicate the Project Director and the Project Manager from the applicant’s organization.</p>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Legislative Information Enter the State assembly, State senate, and U.S. congressional districts where the region is located. For regions that include more than one district, please enter each district. Look at the tables provided in FFAST to assist with determining the appropriate districts.</p>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Agency Contacts This section must include all agency contacts (Regional Water Board, United States Environmental Protection Agency, etc.) that assisted in the development of the project proposal. You may enter more than one agency contact.</p>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Cooperating Entities List the organizations that will assist the applicant in implementing the project, including partner organizations, consultants, and volunteers. You may enter more than one cooperating entity. We may contact cooperating agencies as part of the application review process.</p>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Application Questionnaire The concept proposal questions are shown beginning on Page 32 of Attachment 1 of this Solicitation Notice.</p>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><u>Required Attachment:</u> Attachment A- up to 4 pages to complete your answers for Question 6. Include the Word “Attachment A” as the header and Label each section that you are answering as shown in Question 6.</p> <p><u>Optional Attachment:</u> Only if needed, up to two (2) pages to complete your answers to any application questions. Please reference the question number(s) you are responding to. Attachments longer than two (2) pages will not be reviewed.</p> </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p>The Required and optional attachments <u>must</u> conform to the following formatting requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meets the maximum of number of pages in length; • PDF format • Letter (8.5” x 11”) size paper; • Single-spaced or wider; • Times New Roman font - Size 11 or larger; and • One inch (1-inch) margins. </td> </tr> </table>	<p><u>Required Attachment:</u> Attachment A- up to 4 pages to complete your answers for Question 6. Include the Word “Attachment A” as the header and Label each section that you are answering as shown in Question 6.</p> <p><u>Optional Attachment:</u> Only if needed, up to two (2) pages to complete your answers to any application questions. Please reference the question number(s) you are responding to. Attachments longer than two (2) pages will not be reviewed.</p>	<p>The Required and optional attachments <u>must</u> conform to the following formatting requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meets the maximum of number of pages in length; • PDF format • Letter (8.5” x 11”) size paper; • Single-spaced or wider; • Times New Roman font - Size 11 or larger; and • One inch (1-inch) margins.
<p><u>Required Attachment:</u> Attachment A- up to 4 pages to complete your answers for Question 6. Include the Word “Attachment A” as the header and Label each section that you are answering as shown in Question 6.</p> <p><u>Optional Attachment:</u> Only if needed, up to two (2) pages to complete your answers to any application questions. Please reference the question number(s) you are responding to. Attachments longer than two (2) pages will not be reviewed.</p>	<p>The Required and optional attachments <u>must</u> conform to the following formatting requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meets the maximum of number of pages in length; • PDF format • Letter (8.5” x 11”) size paper; • Single-spaced or wider; • Times New Roman font - Size 11 or larger; and • One inch (1-inch) margins. 		

For further assistance on the 319 (h) NPS Grant Program, please contact Ms. Julé Rizzardo, of the Division of Financial Assistance, at (916) 341-5822 or jrizzardo@waterboards.ca.gov. You may also contact Mr. Mark Magtoto of the Division of Financial Assistance, at (916) 341-5481 or mmagtoto@waterboards.ca.gov.

For questions about the State Water Board's Financial Assistance Application Submittal Tool (FAAST), please contact FAAST staff by phone at (866) 434-1083, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., or by email at faast_admin@waterboards.ca.gov.

Table 2: 2009 NPS Implementation Grant Schedule	
DATES SHOWN IN ITALICS ARE TENTATIVE DATES	
MILESTONE OR ACTIVITY	SCHEDULE
Solicitation Notice Released	August 8, 2008
Concept Proposal applications must be submitted to the State Water Board by 5:00 p.m. Applications submitted after 5:00 p.m. on the due date will not be reviewed or considered for funding.	October 16, 2008
Invite selected applicants to submit Full Proposal applications.	<i>November 20, 2008</i>
Full Proposal applications must be submitted to the State Water Board by 5:00 p.m. Applications submitted after 5:00 p.m. on the due date will not be reviewed or considered for funding.	<i>February 12, 2009</i>
The State Water Board approval of final grant awards	<i>April 2009</i>