

## DRAFT

### 2005-06 CONSOLIDATED GRANTS PROGRAM PROPOSED EVALUATION PROCESS FOR CONCEPT PROPOSALS

1. Concept Proposals (CPs) arrive in the Financial Assistance Application Submittal Tool (FAAST) system by the posted deadline. As the proposals arrive they will be assigned to State Water Board staff for Eligibility Review.
2. During the Eligibility Review State Water Board staff will recommend the agencies that will review and score the CPs. At least three reviewers will be assigned to each eligible CP. The reviewer assignments will be made as follows:
  - a. Regional Water Board staff will be assigned to review CPs for all projects located in their region. If a project encompasses multiple regions, staff in all the corresponding Regional Water Boards will be assigned to review the CP.
  - b. CALFED will be assigned to review every CP that applies for CALFED funding sources.
  - c. United States Environmental Protection Agency will be assigned to review every CP that applies for Non-Point Source Implementation Program (Clean Water Act, Section 319(h)) funding or total maximum daily load (TMDL) implementation projects.
  - d. CPs received for the Integrated Watershed Management Program (IWMP) will be assigned to the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Watersheds at the Resources Agency, who will distribute the CPs to the applicable resource agency for review.
  - e. Coastal Commission will be assigned to review every CP that applies for Coastal Non-Point Source Pollution Control Program funding and for all projects located in costal areas.
  - f. Coastal Conservancy will be assigned to review every CP that addresses an Ocean Protection Council priority.
  - g. Other reviews will be accommodated if a request is made with sufficient notice.
3. Designated reviewers will score their assigned CPs using the CP Evaluation Scoring Criteria. The CP scoring will be completed and submitted using the FAAST system.
4. The CP scores will be averaged in FAAST. State Water Board staff will review scores for consistency. Where inconsistencies are identified, State Water Board staff may adjust the scores based on individual reviewer comments.
5. Once the scores have been averaged, State Water Board staff will generate a list for each funding program (8 lists total), which will sort the CPs from high to low based on the scores.
6. State Water Board staff will divide the CPs on each of the 8 lists into three categories: 1) Invite Applicant Back to Submit Full Proposal; 2) Applicant Not Invited to Submit Full Proposal (i.e., CP did not score high enough); and 3) Not Eligible.
7. These lists will be distributed to the Regional Water Boards and Partner Agencies for review.
8. All eight lists will be posted on the Division of Financial Assistance website so applicants can see how competitive their CP was relative to other CPs.