## **Grant Agreement Information**

Although the State Water Board oversees the grant solicitation and the selection process, both State and Regional Water Board staff will coordinate on grant agreement development and grant project oversight. This will be coordinated between the State Water Board and the Regional Water Boards depending on the scope of the grant project.

After awarding funds, the State Water Board will execute a grant agreement with the grantee. Final grant agreements are not executed until signed by authorized representatives of the grantee and the State Water Board. A copy of a Grant Agreement Template will be available on the State Water Board website at the <a href="NPS Grant Program Solicitation">NPS Grant Program Solicitation</a> webpage.

The State Water Board encourages stakeholder collaboration in all phases of the grant project process from initial development through implementation. Parties that wish to collaborate on a proposal may elect to use a contractor-subcontractor relationship, a joint venture, a joint powers authority, or other appropriate mechanism. Grant agreements will be executed with only one eligible grantee per project type (Implementation and/or Planning/Assessment). State Board staff and the Regional Board grant manager will be work with the grantee on the development of the grant agreement. If the grantee subcontracts any of the project tasks, the grantee is still ultimately responsible for ensuring that all project tasks are completed consistent with the grant agreement. The grant funding and the implementation responsibilities will be the province of the grantee. The State Water Board will not have a funding relationship with collaborators.

Lack of responsiveness of grant recipients during both the development of the grant agreement has been an issue in the past. Such non-responsiveness slows down the funding process. This has resulted in grant funds being left unused for a substantial and unwarranted amount of time and has led to the termination of grant agreements. For this reason, lack of responsiveness prior to finalizing and executing a grant agreement may result in withdrawal of the grant award. These funds will be made available to unfunded competitive projects at the discretion of the State Water Board.