



Ecosystem Restoration and Water Quality Grant Program

FY17-18 Solicitation Frequently Asked Questions, Updated August 9, 2017

Q. At what point are applicants required to have completed 65% engineering design plans to submit proposal as a Category 2 implementation project?

A. *Category 2 projects are "shovel ready" projects that have advanced to the stage where planning and engineering design plans are near completion. Applicants must, at a minimum, have completed intermediate plans (i.e., design plans at least 65% level of development; see Appendix A: Glossary of Terms for a complete definition of project engineering design terms) by the time of submittal of a full application for a Category 2 project.*

Q. Can projects be located outside the Delta?

A. *Yes if the Board makes all of the findings described in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Reform Act of 2009, Sec. 32360.5. Please see Grant Guidelines pages 5 and 10 (also copied below) for additional criteria that apply for projects located outside the legal Delta and Suisun Marsh.*

B. Where Projects Can be Located

The Conservancy will fund projects within or benefitting the Delta and Suisun Marsh as defined in Public Resources Code Section 85058 (a map can be found at this link: <http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/docs/dsc-tabloid-size-map-legal-delta>).

C. Geographic Area of Focus

The Conservancy will fund projects within or benefitting the Delta and Suisun Marsh as defined in Public Resources Code Section 85058 (a map can be found at this link: <http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/docs/dsc-tabloid-size-map-legal-delta>).

The Conservancy may take or fund an action outside the Delta and Suisun Marsh if the Board makes all of the findings described in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Reform Act of 2009, Sec. 32360.5. Applicants applying for funds for projects outside of the Delta and Suisun Marsh must be prepared to address the following:

- *How the project implements the ecosystem goals of the Delta Plan.*

- *How the project is consistent with the requirements of any applicable State and federal permits.*
- *How the project will provide significant benefits to the Delta.*

In addition, funding recommendations and decisions will be based upon scores and the reasonableness of costs, as well as the diversity of the types of projects and their locations, which together will create the maximum benefit within the Delta as a whole (Grant Guidelines pages 16-17).

Q. Is there contact information for Department of General Services (DGS) Appraisers, a link for the specific DGS requirements, and/or an estimate of DGS appraisal costs?

A. *The link to the Department of General Services (DGS) Appraisal review page is <http://www.dgs.ca.gov/resd/AboutUs/AppraisalReview.aspx>.*

Based on the experience of other state agencies involved with DGS-approved appraisals, appraisals from DGS qualified appraisers typically cost between \$5K and \$10K with an additional \$2-5K for DGS appraisal review. Appraisals for more complex acquisitions were more than \$20K for appraisal and up to \$10K for DGS appraisal review. Costs of appraisals conducted by a DGS-qualified appraiser and the subsequent DGS appraisal review will vary significantly depending on the complexity of the acquisition.

Q. For information required as a condition of the Grant Agreement under the Appendix E, Acquisition Checklist, can they occur either before or during the Grant Agreement period?

A. *Yes, although only eligible expenses incurred during the Grant Funding Term may be reimbursed. Cost share may be used between the time that the full proposal is submitted to the Conservancy and the end of the Grant Funding Term.*

Q. Does the Delta Conservancy use the CDFW policy on mineral rights or does it use a different assessment procedure?

A. *The Delta Conservancy is currently working on its mineral rights assessment process.*