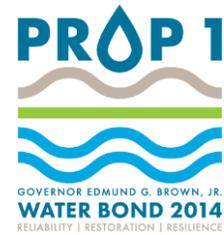




Frequently Asked Questions  
2021 Proposition 1 Proposal Solicitation Notice  
January 11, 2021  
Updated February 2, 2021



Here is a list of frequently asked questions and their answers. This list may be updated periodically during the open solicitation.

**Q1: How can indirect costs be calculated within the proposed budget?**

A1: Indirect costs may be calculated on personnel, general operating expenses, and the first \$25,000 of each subcontract. Equipment and some cost associated with acquisitions are not eligible. More information on Indirect Costs can be found within the [Proposition 1 Project Solicitation and Evaluation Guidelines](#).

**Q2: What is the Prop 1 \$15 million solicitation to be released later in 2021?**

A2: The \$15 million Proposition 1 Grant Program Solicitation (tentatively scheduled for Summer 2021) is part of CDFW's Cutting the Green Tape (CGT) initiative. The PSN will be targeted to specific North Coast Salmon Project watersheds within Humboldt, Mendocino, Sonoma, and Marin Counties. More information and dates for that Solicitation will be available through CDFW's [Proposition 1 Restoration Grant Program website](#) as it becomes available.

**Q3: Does each priority (post-fire, wetlands etc.) have an allocated amount from the overall \$33M?**

A3: No. Each priority does not have a predetermined allocated amount.

**Q4: Can federal agencies apply to this Prop 1 funds?**

A4: No, Federal agencies are ineligible to apply for this Proposition 1 grants per CWC §79712[a]. However, Federal entities can work as subcontractors to a grantee under a Proposition 1 funded grant project.

**Q5: For the headwaters priority, does the headwaters priority include projects in geographies outside of sierra and cascade or is it restricted to those regions?**

A5: The California Water Action Plan (CWAP) 2016 Update, Action 4. Protect and restore important ecosystems, specified that we manage headwaters for multiple benefits. Specifically, CWAP stated that "Watersheds in the Cascades, Sierra Nevada and other forested areas of the state are the places of origin for more than two-thirds of the state's developed water supply.

Therefore, we will consider projects outside of the Sierra Nevada and Cascades that contribute to the state's water supply.

**Q6. Will any sort of match funding be required?**

A6. No match funding is required.

**Q7: Is an authorizing resolution required to apply for the grant program?**

A7: An authorizing resolution is not required when submitting an application. However, if awarded, a resolution (or order, motion, ordinance, or other similar document) from the governing body authorizing execution of the agreement will be required prior to grant execution.

**Q8: Can Planning and Implementation projects be combined into one application?**

A8: No, Planning projects are intended to ready a project for Implementation. Implementation projects must be ready to proceed with on-the-ground activities, including completion of CEQA.

**Q9: Do projects have to be regional or will local habitat restoration projects be considered competitive?**

A9: Regional and local projects are considered equally.

**Q10: Does the inclusion of implementation acres help incentive planning needs for landscape scale projects?**

A10: Please include the acreage that are covered by your planning project, this information may support future landscape scale projects and will help us evaluate your project.

**Q11: Should acquisition proposals request the costs for DGS review.**

A11: Yes, we recommend budgeting \$10,000 for DGS appraisal review.

**Q12: If an implementation project does not have CEQA currently, could we get CEQA costs paid for through the implementation or would CEQA and the costs need to happen before application?**

A12: For implantation projects CEQA must be completed by May 7, 2021. Typically, you can have a planning project that completes the CEQA.

**Q13: If SB901 is re-certified by the Secretary, can SB901 cover the CEQA requirements of a project we already have NEPA approval for?**

A13: Consistent with Section 3.11.2 of CDFW's Proposition 1 Guidelines, CDFW will exercise its independent judgment to decide whether a project qualifies for a statutory or categorical CEQA exemption, including the statutory CEQA exemption in SB 901. Applicants are welcome to

explain and document in their proposals why they think their project qualifies for a statutory or categorical CEQA exemption.

**Q14: There are a handful of priorities listed in the guidelines. Is any one priority a larger priority over another?**

A14: No, all priorities are considered equally.

**Q15: Are Resource Conservation Districts eligible entities?**

A15: Yes, Resource Conservation Districts are eligible. Proposition 1 defines 'eligible applicants' as "public agencies, nonprofit organization, public utilities, federally recognized Indian tribes, state Indian tribes listed on the Native American Heritage Commission's California Tribal Consultation List, and mutual water companies" (California Water Code [CWC] §79712[a]). 'Public agency' is further defined as 'a state agency or department, special district, joint powers authority, city, count, city and count, or other political subdivision of the state" (CWC §79702[s]).

**Q16: Is there a maximum or minimum dollar amount a proposal can request for funding?**

A16: No, there is no maximum or minimum grant amount that can be requested by an applicant. Under the 2021 Proposition 1 solicitation we have \$33 million available for the Proposition 1 Watershed Restoration Grant Program, and \$7 million available for the Proposition 1 Delta Water Quality and Ecosystem Restoration Grant Program.

**Q17: Would it be consistent with the Bond guidelines to allow a 12 month "look-back" period for creditable match (for land acquisitions)?**

A17: The prop 1 guidelines state that eligible match requirements are allowed within the project performance period.

**Q18: Are projects in the grassland eligible for Prop 1 funding?**

A18: Yes, but they must demonstrate a connection to one of the priorities.

**Q19: May we ask questions about our proposal during the Solicitation?**

A19: CDFW Propositions 1 Restoration Grant Program staff can answer clarifying questions about the Solicitation process. Due to the competitive nature of the Solicitation, Program staff cannot help guide an applicant in writing a proposal. Questions can be emailed to [WatershedGrants@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:WatershedGrants@wildlife.ca.gov).

**Q20: May we schedule an individual consultation regarding our proposal?**

A20: We do not provide individual consultation while the Solicitation is open or being evaluated. After proposals submitted under this Solicitation have been awarded, you may request a debriefing in order to gain information about how your proposal was evaluated.

**Q21: Can an eligible applicant submit more than one proposal in response to the Solicitation?**

A21: Yes. Each submitted proposal will be evaluated based on its individual merit.

**Q22: Can a single proposal be submitted for more than one project category, e.g., both Planning and Implementation?**

A22: With one exception, proposals must be specific to a single project category. Refer to Section 2.3 – Project Categories of the Solicitation for additional information regarding eligible activities pertinent to each project category. In instances where the project’s lead agency has already completed a CEQA analysis that addresses the proposed Acquisition and Implementation activities, these two activities can be combined in a single proposal. Outside of those circumstances, proposals for acquisition projects must be standalone (i.e., not combined with another project category).

**Q23: How do we access reviewer comments on prior proposal submitted?**

A23: Please contact us at [WatershedGrants@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:WatershedGrants@wildlife.ca.gov) and request a meeting to discuss your prior proposal. Be sure to include which PSN you applied to, your Application Number, and the Project Title.

**Q24: Does the Wildfire Priority include wildfire prevention in areas that have not been previously affected by a wildfire?**

A24: No. The Wildfire Priority currently focuses on recovery of areas that were affected by a wildfire.

**Q25: Does a project have to be considered a Covered Action under the Delta Plan?**

A25: No. A project applying under the Delta Program does not have to be a Covered Action.

**Q26: How do I satisfy a land tenure requirement?**

A26: Submit written permission from the landowner that includes the following:

1. The parties involved (applicant and landowner)
2. Location information for the property
3. Allowed activities
4. The term of the land tenure, which must be at least 25 years

**Q28: What is the Basis of Design and do you provide a template for it?**

A28: The Basis of Design is a narrative that describes the engineering designs. No, we do not provide a template.

**Q29: The Project Team Biographical Sketches (Biosketches) only addresses publications. Can similar project development experience be used instead of a publication record?**

A29: Yes. You may use past project experience in place of publications in the Biosketches.

**Q30: Do we need to bid for subcontractors?**

A30: We do not recommend how subcontracts are selected, other than the costs should be reasonable. Applicants should have some process for selecting subcontractors set by their own organization. Unless you are a government agency, that has requirements about how subcontracts are awarded. Applicants are encouraged to name the subcontractors within the proposal, if known at the application time, as it helps our ability to rate the proposal. However, if the applicant does not have subcontractors selected, they can be listed as TBD. If a subcontractor is listed as TBD, the applicant should outline the requirements and expertise they will seek in the subcontract.

**Q31: Some state agencies use rates that include wages, fringe and overhead in a single rate. Can these rates be used for state agency subcontractors?**

A31: Yes. Please make sure to explain how you came to this rate in the Budget Justification Tab in the Budget Tables attachment.

**Q32: Can mapping be included as part of an Implementation?**

A32: Yes, it can if it is necessary to inform project implementation.

**Q33: Who should be listed as the Project Team? Should subcontractors and administrative staff (e.g., office manager, administrative assistant) be included?**

A33: The Project Team information is used to assess whether the listed individuals are qualified to work on the project. Please list the key personnel and subcontractors that will implement the project scope of work. This would include, but is not limited to, planning, permitting, surveys, construction, etc. You do not have to list administrative staff in the Project Team; however, they should be included in the Budget if they perform work for this project.

**Q34: The guidelines say “Anadromous salmonid habitat projects may be required to track a suite of standard performance measures for reporting to NOAA Fisheries.” Can those measures be provided?**

A34: The NOAA Fisheries standard performance measures are available [here](#).

**Q35: Who should register for WebGrants?**

A35: The applicant main contact and those who will complete the WebGrants application online should each have a WebGrants user account. If you have applied on WebGrants before, you do not need to register for a new account. Please use your existing user id and password. If you

need assistance registering or updating your account information, please refer to the [WebGrants User Guide](#) or email [CDFWebgrants@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:CDFWebgrants@wildlife.ca.gov).