

2014 FRGP PSN
APPENDIX J
REVIEW PROCESS

The Review Process

Each proposal received by the due date goes through a rigorous review process by the Fisheries Restoration Grant Program (FRGP) Technical Review Team (TRT), the FRGP Peer Review Committee (PRC), and the Director of California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). Through this process, proposals are evaluated and scored based on technical merit, biological soundness, and cost effectiveness, as well as CDFW and NOAA Fisheries coast wide and regional goals and objectives. In brief, the review process is as follows:

1. **Administrative Review:** The administrative review will determine if the proposal package is complete and meets all the requirements for submission. If the proposal does not pass the administrative review, the proposal will not be considered further for funding this cycle. This is done by CDFW staff if a paper application is submitted. This is done by the computer as part of the online application process.
2. **Technical Review**
 - A) The TRT includes CDFW staff (both biological and engineering) and NOAA Fisheries staff. The TRT first meets to conduct an initial review of all eligible proposals using criteria described in the PSN.
 - B) **Field Review:** Field reviews are conducted by a local team of appropriate CDFW and NOAA staff. Each team of field reviewers evaluate the proposals in more detail for technical and biological soundness, and cost effectiveness. Please note that additional clarifying information/material may only be requested from the applicants by the field evaluators. No unsolicited materials will be accepted after the due date. Reviews from field evaluators are compiled and are forwarded to the TRT.
 - C) The TRT reconvenes to review scores and comments provided by the field review, and assess how proposals meet CDFW and NOAA Fisheries goals and objectives. The Final TRT scores and comments are forwarded to the PRC.
3. **Peer Review:** The PRC is composed of members appointed by the Director of Fish and Wildlife who represent the California Advisory Committee on Salmon and Steelhead Trout, the agriculture industry, the timber industry, public water agencies, academia, and county supervisors. The PRC scores each proposal and provides recommendations on priorities for grant funding.
4. **Director of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife:** The Director reviews the Department, TRT, and PRC recommendations and makes the final funding decision in early 2015.