

Information Session:

FY 2020 Request for Applications

CWA Section 319 Tribal Competitive Grants

Tuesday, November 12, 2019

3:00 – 4:30pm Eastern

Wednesday, November 20, 2019

3:00 – 4:30pm Eastern

Steve Epting, US EPA Headquarters



skype - tribal webinar (1 Participant)

PARTICIPANTS

Presenters (1)

● Epting, Steve

[Invite More People](#) [Participant Actions](#)

CONVERSATION

Tuesday, November 12, 2019

We saved this conversation. You'll see it soon in the Conversations tab in Skype for Business and in the Conversation History folder in Outlook.

9:53 AM

Welcome!

1 Participant

**Q&A Information Session.
Tribal Nonpoint Source (CWA
Section 319) FY 2020 RFA**

Tuesday, November 12, 2019
3:00 – 4:30pm Eastern

Wednesday, November 20, 2019
3:00 – 4:30pm Eastern

Steve Epting, US EPA Headquarters

Two attachments: (1) RFA, (2) FAQs

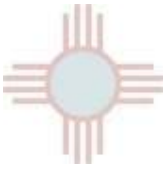
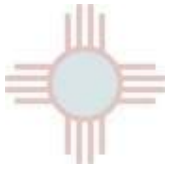
Someone added an attachment. Open...

Type questions here

Audio for webinar available via computer speakers OR phone:
Phone Call-in #: 202-991-0477
Participant Code: 4835571#

Webinar slides and Q&As posted at:

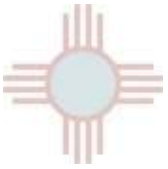
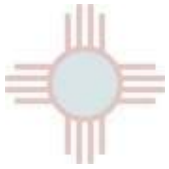
<http://www.epa.gov/nps/tribal> under the “Current Grant Info” tab



Before we get started...

A few quick poll questions





Webinar Agenda

- **What kind of work is EPA looking to fund?**
- **Who can apply?**
- **FY2020 Request for Applications (RFA)**
 - How to navigate the RFA
 - What's changed since last year?
 - How are applications evaluated?
 - Important Reminders & Key Dates
- **Question and Answer Segment**
 - Questions may be typed in at any time throughout the webinar



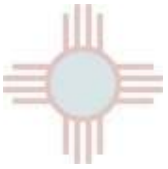
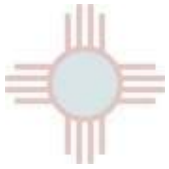


What kind of work is EPA looking to fund?

Projects that...

- will directly improve/protect water quality by implementing on-the-ground BMPs.
- are strategically targeted in the watershed to address a NPS pollution problem/threat.
- demonstrate a “readiness to proceed.”
 - Reasonable and achievable budget and project schedule.
 - Project team with clearly defined roles/responsibilities.





Who can apply?

- All tribes eligible to receive FY2020 319 grant funds.
 - i.e., eligible as of 10/11/19
 - see www.epa.gov/nps/tribal for list
- Tribes may apply for both base & competitive 319 funds in the same year





If you have a good idea, (Re)apply!

Year	# Applications scored	# Applications Awarded	% Applications Awarded
2014	44	25	57%
2015	46	31	67%
2016	43	29	67%
2017	43	29	67%
2018	41	29	71%
2019	46	28	61%





Application Package (see RFA pg. 16)

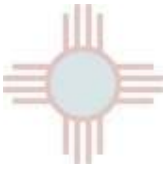
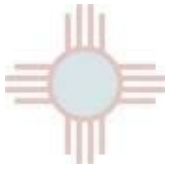
Mandatory documents:

- a. SF-424 – “Signed Application for Federal Assistance”
- b. SF-424A – “Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs”
- c. SF-424B – “Assurances for Non-Construction Programs”
- d. EPA Key Contacts Form 5700-54
- e. EPA Form 4700-4 – Preaward Compliance Review Report
- f. ***Project Narrative Work Plan (i.e., 15-page application)***

Optional documents:

- g. Supporting materials (e.g., photos, maps, figures)
- h. Negotiated indirect cost rate agreement, if applicable





Timing of Awards

- Projects selected for funding will be awarded in spring/summer 2020.
 - In most cases, competitive 319 grant funds awarded with your base 319 grant.
- So, your project schedule should not begin before fall 2020.



Navigating the RFA

*The RFA looks very
similar to last year

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I. Funding Opportunity Description

- Describes the types of projects EPA is looking to fund
- Language about EPA's Strategic Plan, outputs and outcomes (see Criterion f)

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II. Award Information

- Funding available for competition (max \$100K/project)
- Funding is for grants and cooperative agreements

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III. Eligibility Information

- Who is eligible? CWA Section 319-eligible tribes.
- Cost-share/match info (40%, but less if hardship waiver or PPG).
- **Threshold Evaluation Criteria** (i.e., what EPA reviews to make sure you submitted a complete, eligible application before sending to the review committee).
- Funding restrictions on watershed planning, Admin costs, WQ monitoring, intertribal consortia.
- PPG info

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V. Application Review Information

- **Ranking Criteria (Section V.A):** point values, how each criterion will be evaluated.
- How EPA will review and select applications

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VI. Award Administration Information

- When EPA will notify applicants after **threshold** and **evaluation** reviews.
- What you'll need to include in final work plan, if selected.
- Reporting requirements during grant period.
- Additional requirements (e.g., Satisfactory Progress, O&M)
- Filing a dispute

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VII. Agency Contacts

- Who to contact at EPA (in most cases, tribal319grants@epa.gov)

VIII. Other Information

- QA/QC, data sharing

Appendices A and B

VIEW GRANT OPPORTUNITY



EPA-OW-OWOW-20-01

Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 Request for Applications from Indian Tribes and Intertribal Consortia for Nonpoint Source Management Grants Under Clean Water Act Section 319
Environmental Protection Agency

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SYNOPSIS | [VERSION HISTORY](#) | [RELATED DOCUMENTS](#) | [PACKAGE](#)

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General Information

Document Type: Grants Notice	Version: Synopsis 2
Funding Opportunity Number: EPA-OW-OWOW-20-01	Posted Date: Nov 05, 2019
Funding Opportunity Title: Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 Request for Applications from Indian Tribes and Intertribal Consortia for Nonpoint Source Management Grants Under Clean Water Act Section 319	Last Updated Date: Nov 05, 2019
Opportunity Category: Discretionary	Original Closing Date for Applications: Dec 20, 2019 Please see Section IV of the announcement for additional submission information.
Opportunity Category Explanation:	Current Closing Date for Applications: Dec 20, 2019 Please see Section IV of the announcement for additional submission information.
Funding Instrument Type: Cooperative Agreement Grant	Archive Date: Jan 19, 2020
Category of Funding Activity: Environment	Estimated Total Program Funding: \$2,500,000
Category Explanation:	Award Ceiling: \$100,000
Expected Number of Awards: 25	Award Floor: \$0
CFDA Number(s): 66.460 -- Nonpoint Source Implementation Grants	
Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement: Yes	

[Eligibility](#)



Grants.gov Resources



Support Center available 24/7 (closed on Federal holidays)

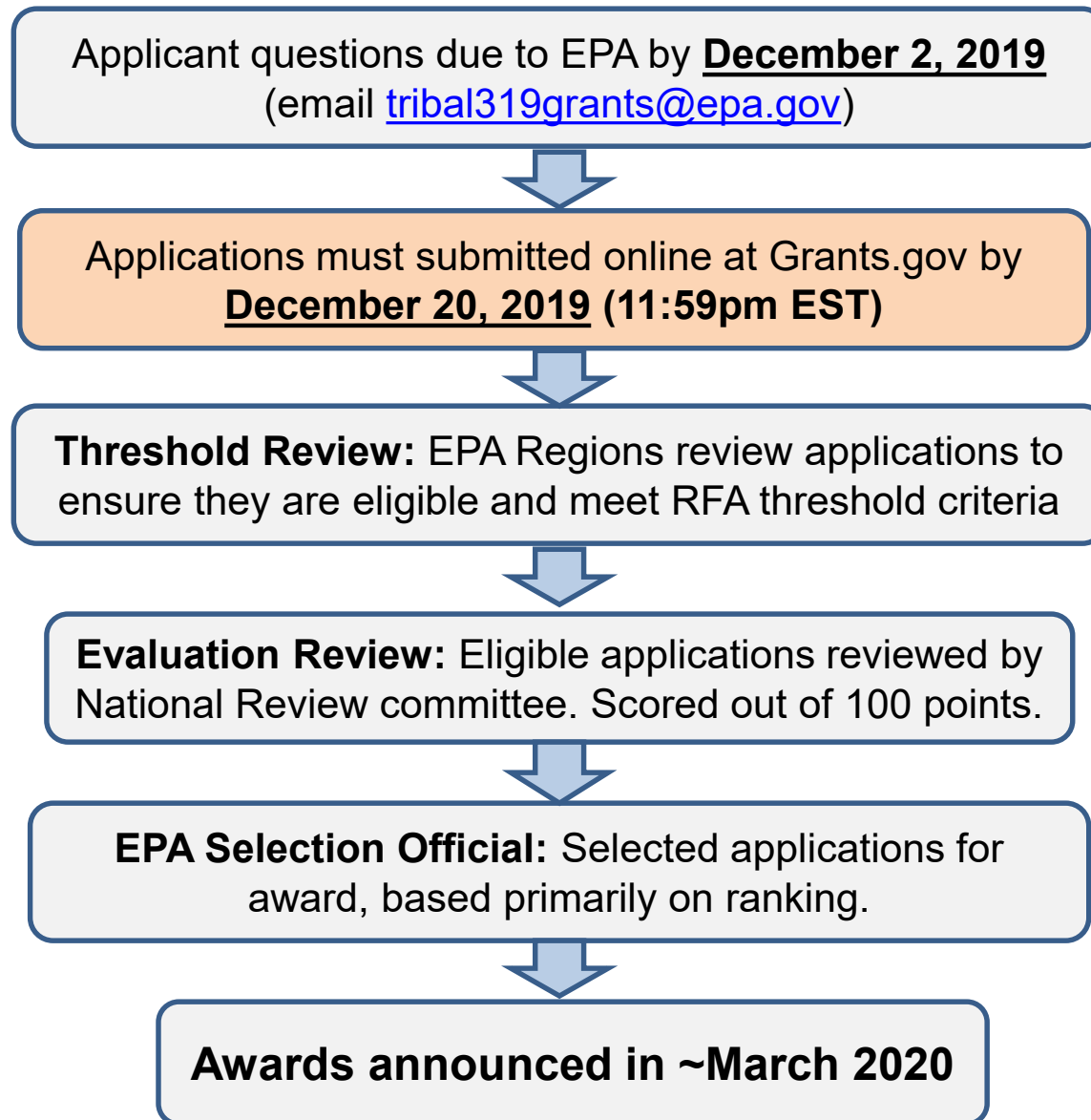
- Email: support@grants.gov
- Phone: 1-800-518-4726 (toll-free) | 1-606-545-5035 (international)

Resources

- Workspace Overview:
<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/workspace-overview.html>
- YouTube Training & Webinar Videos:
<https://www.youtube.com/user/GrantsGovUS/featured>
- Online User Guide:
https://www.grants.gov/help/html/help/GetStarted/Get_Started.htm
- FAQs: <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/applicant-faqs.html>
- Grants.gov Self-Service Web Portal: <https://grants-portal.psc.gov>
- Blog: <https://blog.grants.gov/>



The Competitive Grant Process





Difference between Threshold Criteria and Ranking Criteria



Threshold Criteria (Section III.D)

- EPA Regional review
- Must substantially comply with Section IV.C
- No score

*Is the proposed work eligible?

*Does the application include necessary information?

Ranking Criteria (Section V.A)

- National Committee review
- Applications evaluated, scored, then ranked
- Maximum score of 100 points





Nine Ranking Criteria

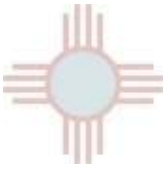
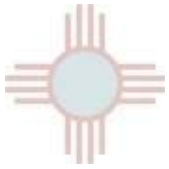
Section V.A. of RFA



Application Tips

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Ranking Criterion (a)

Subcategories of NPS pollution (10 points total)

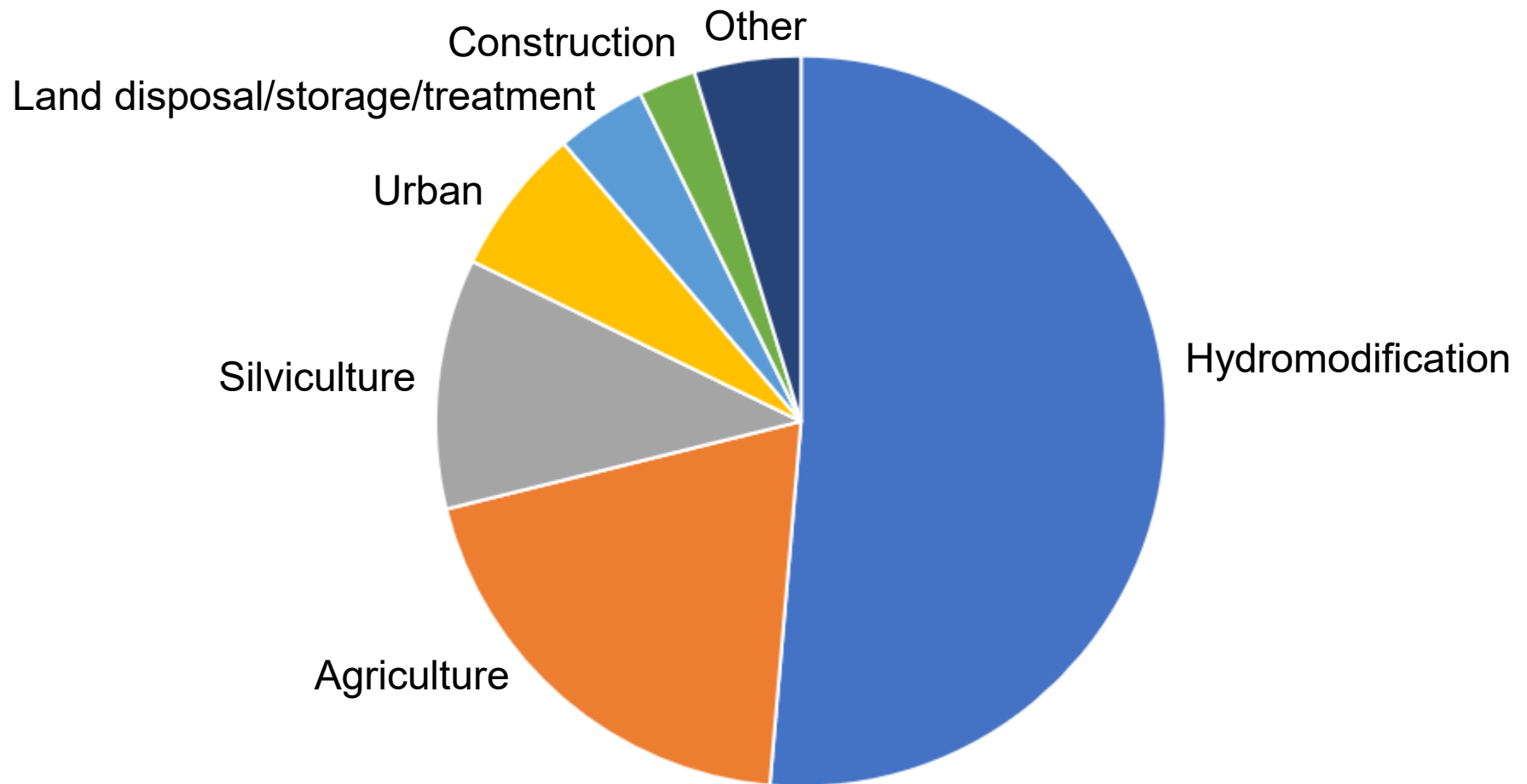
- Identify and describe each subcategory of NPS pollution contributing to water quality problem/threat, and specific subcategories to be addressed through application (5 points)
- Describe extent to which these subcategories are present in the watershed (5 points)

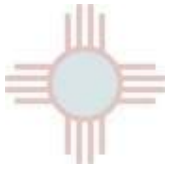
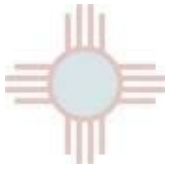
***See Appendix B** of RFA for list of example NPS pollution categories/subcategories

- Describe sources at both watershed and site-scale.
- Focus primarily on sources you will be addressing in project.
- Quantify sources, when possible.



NPS pollution sources addressed by past competitive 319 projects (FY13-18)





Ranking Criterion (b)

Water Quality Problem/Threat (10 points)

- Describe water quality problem(s) or threat(s) to be addressed caused by the subcategories of NPS pollution identified in the work plan
- Incorporate specific descriptions of water quality problems or threats, for example, in relation to impairments to water quality standards or other parameters that indicate waterbody health (e.g., decreases in fish or macroinvertebrate counts).

- Focus primarily on problem/threat you will be addressing in project.
- If including water quality data...
 - Where were data collected?
 - What are graphs showing?

25



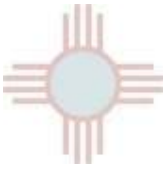
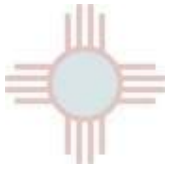
Show the water quality threat or problem.



Failing septic system



Eroding streambank



Ranking Criterion (c)

Project goals and objectives, work plan components, specific NPS BMPs and eligible project activities to be implemented, project location (30 points total)

- The goal(s) and objective(s) of the project (3 points)
- The work plan components, which includes an outline of all activities to be implemented (11 points)
- The level of detail provided in relation to specific NPS BMPs and eligible project activities to be implemented (11 points)
- Specificity in identifying where NPS project will take place in relation to waterbody affected by NPS pollutants (5 points)

- Break down work plan into specific tasks (could a new staff person pick up work plan and complete project?)
- Provide detailed info on BMPs including planned or conceptual design, when applicable.



Example Goals, Objectives, and Proposed Activities

Goal 1:

Decrease sediment and bacteria loading to meet water quality targets to support designated beneficial uses in Oak Creek.

Objective 1:

Remove livestock access to Oak Creek.

Management Actions:

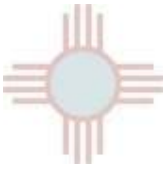
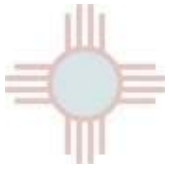
1. Install livestock exclusion fencing
2. Install off-site water supply for livestock

Objective 2:

Stabilize eroding streambank and restore riparian area at former livestock access point.

Management Actions:

1. Stabilize 100 ft. of streambank
2. Riparian planting on 0.25 acres



Ranking Criterion (c) - *continued*

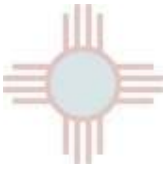
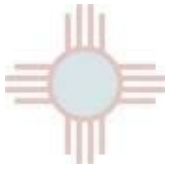
Project goals and objectives, work plan components, specific NPS BMPs and eligible project activities to be implemented, project location (30 points total)

CHOOSE ONE:

(WBP = watershed-based plan)

- (i) Develop/continue work on WBP and implement a WBP
- (ii) Develop/continue work on WBP and implement a watershed project (that does not implement a WBP)
- (iii) Implement a WBP.
- (iv) Implements a watershed project that is a significant step towards solving NPS impairments or threats on a watershed-wide basis.





Ranking Criterion (c) - *continued*

- Indicate the following:**
- ✓ Are you developing a watershed plan as part of this proposal?
 - ✓ Are you implementing an existing watershed plan?
- (i) (ii) (if No, your work is still eligible!)
- (iii) Implement a wBP.
- (iv) Implements a watershed project that is a significant step towards solving NPS impairments or threats on a watershed-wide basis.

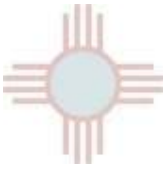
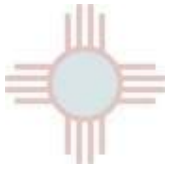




10 most common BMPs implemented by competitive 319 projects (FY13-18)

Best Management Practice	# Projects (FY13-18)
Streambank & Shoreline Protection	69
Wetland Restoration	44
Outreach And Education	40
Erosion and Sediment Control	35
Fencing	34
Riparian Planting/Restoration	30
Invasive Species/Noxious Weed Control	19
Stream Crossing Improvements	18
Riparian Forest Buffer	18
Road Ditch Creation/ Improvements	13





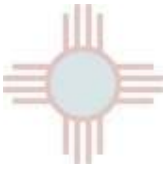
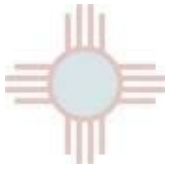
Ranking Criterion (d)

Link between work plan components and NPS pollution subcategories; Water quality benefits (10 points total)

- How proposed work will address NPS pollution subcategories contributing to problem/threat (5 points)
- Water quality benefits that will be achieved (may included quantitative or narrative descriptions) (5 points)

- Connect criteria A, B and C. How will proposed work address sources and problems outlined earlier?





Ranking Criterion (e)

Watershed Approach (10 points total)

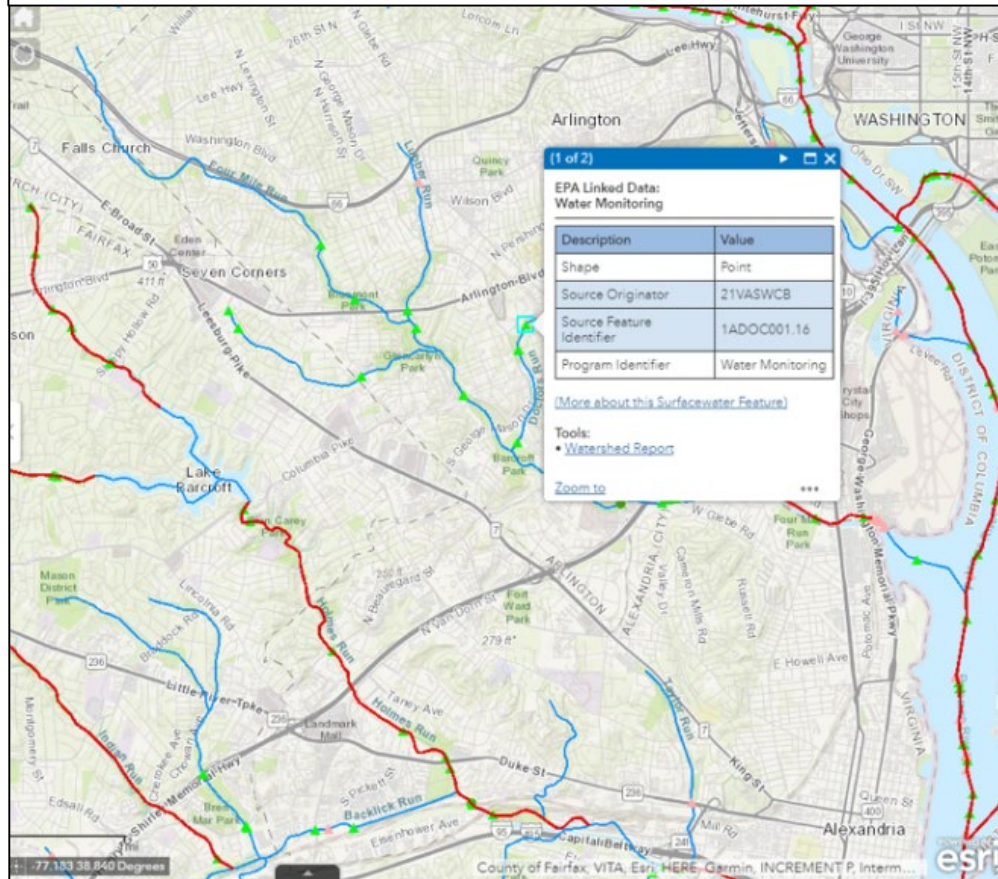
- Demonstrate how a watershed-based approach was adopted in developing proposed project (i.e., why is this proposed work a priority in the watershed?) (5 points)
- Demonstrate how project can be linked to or expanded upon in future. (5 points)

- A map of the watershed is helpful!
- How did you select this proposed project? (e.g., field survey; GIS tool)
- Can you build off this project for future work in watershed?



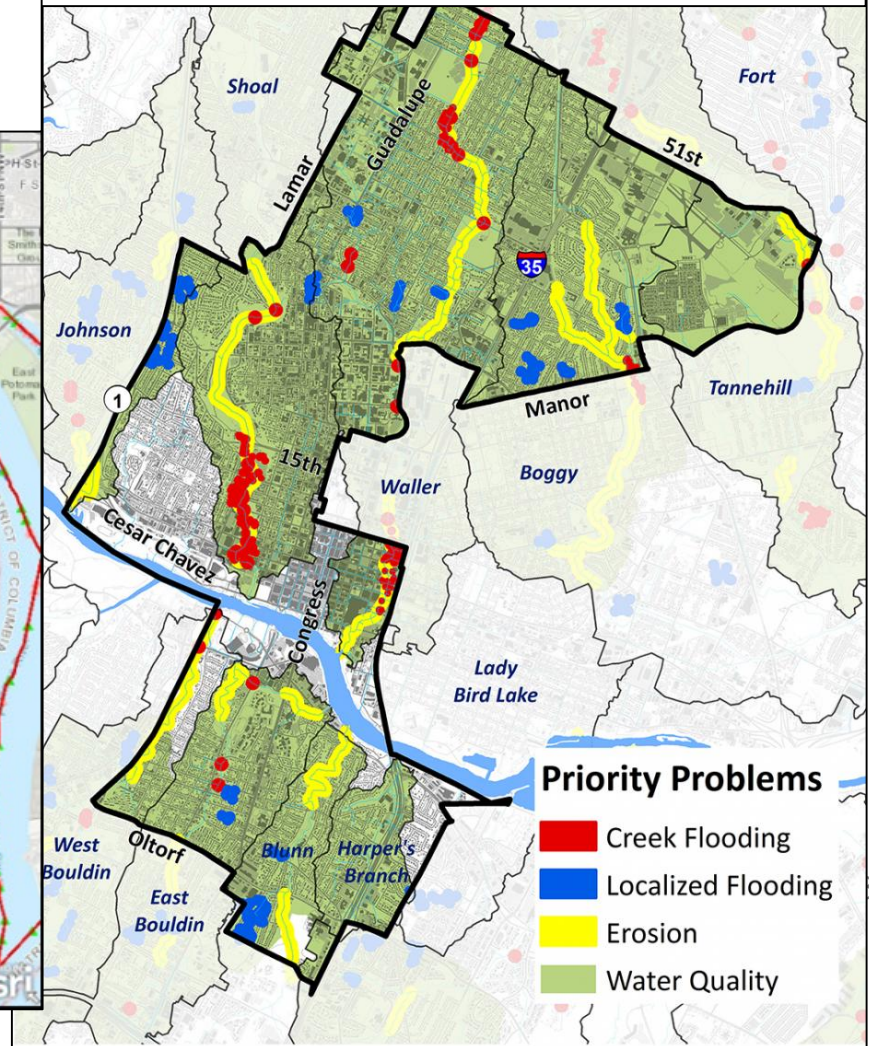
Examples of demonstrating a “watershed approach”

Linking water quality monitoring data to problem and proposed project location.



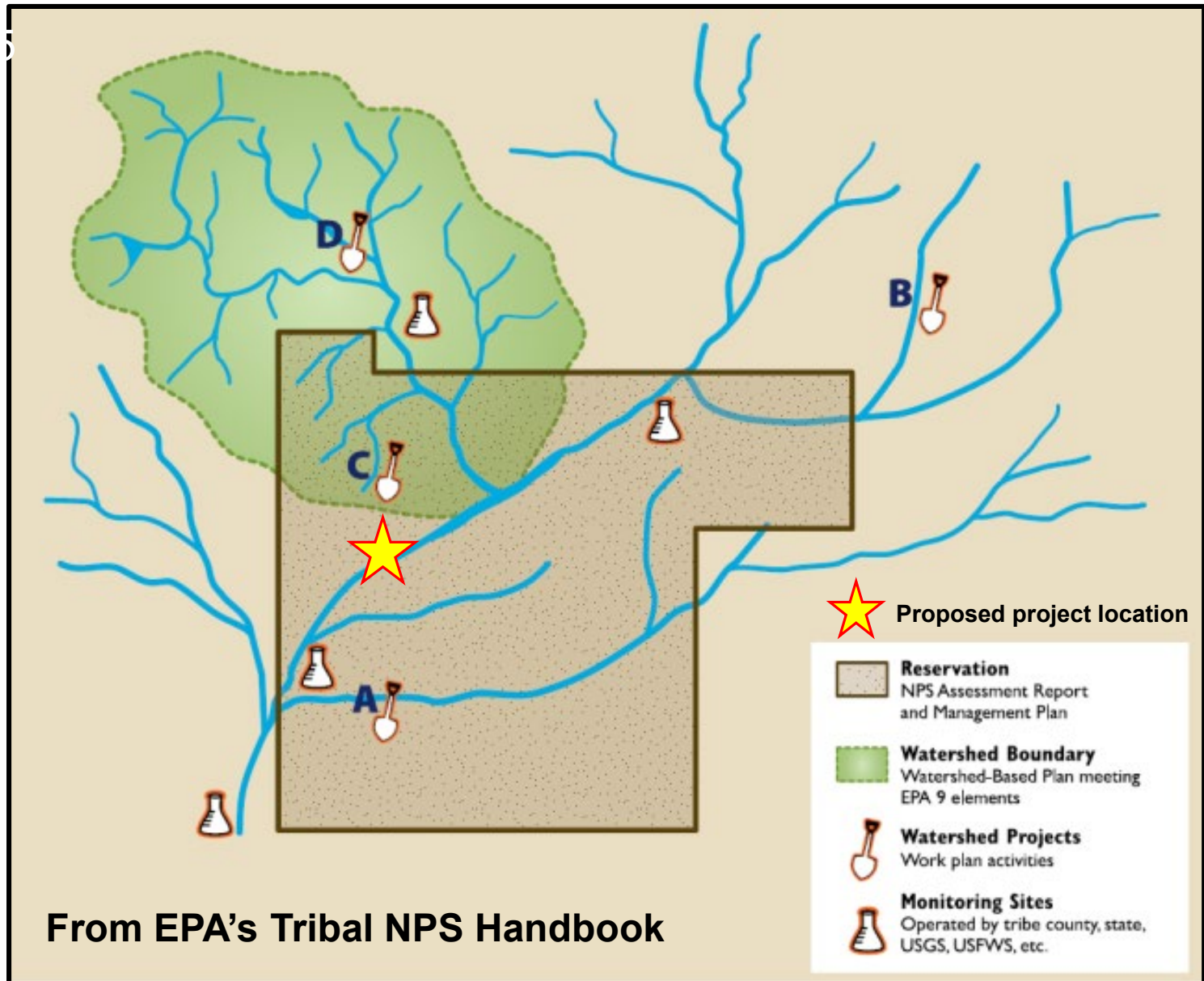
<https://www.epa.gov/waterdata/waters-geoviewer>

Prioritization of existing NPS problem areas (e.g., eroding streambanks)

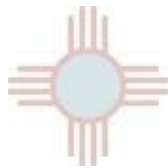
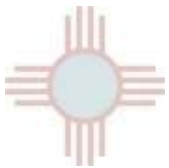


<http://www.austintexas.gov/page/district-9-watershed-profile>

Watershed Approach



From EPA's Tribal NPS Handbook



Ranking Criterion (f)

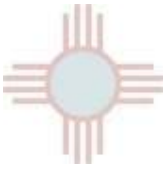
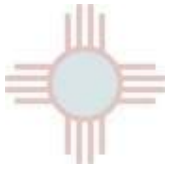
The extent and quality to which the application meets each of the following sub-criteria: (10 points total)

- Demonstrates potential environmental results, outputs and outcomes, and linked to EPA's Strategic Plan (3 points)
- Demonstrates a sound plan for measuring and tracking progress (3 points)
- Past (last 3 years) performance under the federally funded assistance agreements. (4 points)

- Outputs = deliverables you will achieve during the project period.
- Past performance – how did you track and report progress under previous grants?

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Ranking Criterion (g)

Budget (10 points total)

- Reasonable and allowable budget with detailed estimated funding amounts for each work plan component/task. Total project costs must include both federal and the required cost share/match (non-federal) components. (8 points)
- Approach, procedures, and controls for ensuring that awarded grant funds will be expended in a timely and efficient manner (2 points)

- Match level of detail in Criterion C (i.e., provide cost estimate for each work plan component)
- Specify direct, indirect and match costs, when applicable.

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Example project budget table

Goal 1, Objective 1, Management Activities 1 and 2: Remove livestock access, stabilize streambank and restore riparian area along Oak Creek			
<i>Activity</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Cost</i>	<i>Total</i>
Fencing materials	0.5 miles	\$400/mile	\$200
Work crew to complete fencing and restoration	60 hours	\$80/hr	\$4,800
Livestock off-site watering structures	2 units	\$1,500 per unit	\$3,000
Bank stabilization materials	100 ft	\$20/ft	\$2,000
Native riparian plants	50 plantings	\$30/planting	\$1,500
Native grass seed mix	50 lbs	\$10/lb	\$500
Total			\$12,000



Calculating the Match

Federal Share	Non-Federal Match Percent	Federal Share Percent	Non-Federal Match	Total Project Cost
\$100,000	40%	60%	\$66,667	\$166,667
\$100,000	10%	90%	\$11,111	\$111,111
\$100,000	5%	95%	\$5,263	\$105,263

Example Calculation:

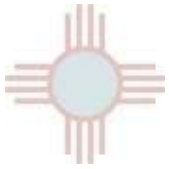
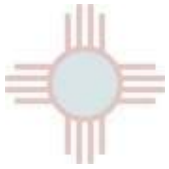
If you know the total project costs:

(1) Multiply the total project costs by the cost share/match % needed.

(2) The total is your cost share/ match amount.

*For example: If your total project cost = \$166,667 and you need 40% cost share/match, then
 $\$166,667 \times .40 = \$66,667$ (Cost Share/Match).*





Ranking Criterion (h)

Milestone Schedule (5 points)

- Detailed schedule with timeframes and major milestones to complete significant project tasks
- May include: a specific “start” and “end” date for each work plan component and task or activity; an estimate of the specific work years for each work plan component

- Match level of detail in Criterion C (i.e., provide timeline for each work plan component)
- Divide ‘heavy work periods’ into specific steps



Example Project Schedule

	2020				2021						
Task	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
1											
2											
3											
4											
5											
6											
7											
Final Report											

Task 1: Pre-project water quality monitoring

Task 2: Install livestock exclusion fencing

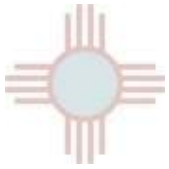
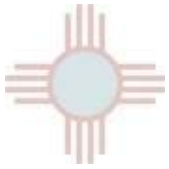
Task 3: Install off-site water supply for livestock

Task 4: Streambank stabilization design

Task 5: Streambank stabilization

Task 6: Riparian planting

Task 7: Post-project water quality monitoring



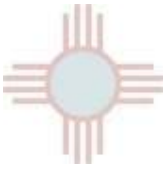
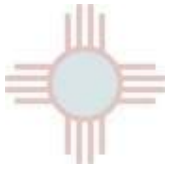
Ranking Criterion (i)

Roles and Responsibilities (5 points)

- **Roles and responsibilities of each responsible party in relation to each work plan component, including:**
 - Specific level of effort for each responsible party
 - Lead party for carrying out work plan component
 - Other programs, parties, and agencies that will provide additional technical and/or financial assistance.

- ID lead for each work plan component





Key Dates

- **October 11, 2019:** date by which your tribe must have obtained TAS for 319
- **December 2, 2019:** Last day to submit questions (tribal319grants@epa.gov)
- **December 20, 2019:** Submission deadline for applications
 - Submissions via Grants.gov – by 11:59pm EST
 - Late applications will not be considered for funding



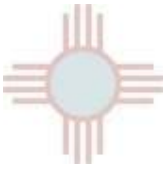
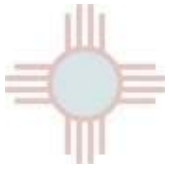


Important Reminders



- You must submit through Grants.gov.
- Maximum federal request amount: \$100,000
- 15-page (single-spaced) limit on the project narrative
 - Additional pages allowed for Supporting materials (maps, data graphs, site photos, etc.)
- Review committee can only evaluate application based on information provided. They will not have access to your NPS Assessment Report or NPS Management Program Plan





Questions?

tribal319grants@epa.gov

See the “Current Grant Info” tab at
www.epa.gov/nps/tribal
for more information about the FY2020
Competitive Grant.

