

Questions and Answers
for
RFP EPA-R3-CBP-20-03
Accelerating Restoration of Pennsylvania's Chesapeake Bay Watershed
(Pennsylvania Most-Effective Basins)

09/03/2020

Q: In regards to the above-referenced RFA (Activity 1), I was wondering, when it comes to the evaluation criteria on page 22, it is more important the applicant has “skill and experience” in design, installation and implementation of agricultural BMPs (as described on page 8 under Activity 1) or in the development and administration of a subaward program (as described on page 9 in the list of example tasks)? It’s a little unclear whether EPA is looking for someone who can do the work themselves vs pass the funding through to other qualified entities.

A: The measure of importance is not weighted differently between whether the applicant can design, install, and implement agricultural BMPs themselves or if they can develop and administer a subaward program. Applicants will be evaluated on the strength of the skills and experience under either option.

Q: Can a 4R nutrient management implementation be part of the MEB application?

A: Yes, 4R nutrient management is an eligible BMP for this funding. It fits under the “Implementation of Nutrient Management practices such as precision agriculture practices that ensure the right rate, timing, and placement of nutrients on cropland to minimize nutrient losses” BMP listed under Activity 1 of the RFA.

Q: In the list of allowable BMPs, stream restoration (and associated BMPs/approaches like bank stabilization, legacy sediment removal, and floodplain reconnection) appear to be absent. I do note that floodplain wetlands restoration is included, which may address some potential ag stream restoration projects/approaches. Am I interpreting this list correctly and that this RFA is generally not looking to support stream restoration in ag landscapes?

A: Correct, this RFA is focused solely on the priority nitrogen-reducing agricultural practices listed in the RFA and does not directly address stream restoration efforts.

Q: Is the name for Watershed 6 correct in the RFA?

A: No, that is a typo. Watershed 6 listed in the table on page 7 of the RFA should be Chiques Creek.