



# TARGETED WATERSHEDS GRANTS

## *Encouraging Cooperative Conservation to Protect and Restore Water Resources*

**T**he Environmental Protection Agency will award up to \$16 million to support 9 - 20 of the nation's outstanding watershed coalitions as part of the Agency's fourth round of Targeted Watersheds Grants (TWG). These organizations will join 46 others that have been selected over the past three years to help protect and restore some of the nation's most highly valued watersheds.

***The Targeted Watersheds Grant Program*** is a competitive grant program that encourages the protection and restoration of the country's water resources through cooperative conservation. The program supports collaborative watershed partnerships that are ready to implement on-the-ground restoration and protection activities designed to achieve quick, measurable environmental results. The goal is to build on existing partnerships and coalitions that have evaluated and assessed their watershed, devised a technically sound watershed plan and are ready to embark on steps to implement their plans.

***Availability of Funds:*** EPA is now accepting nominations of proposals for watershed projects and activities. Up to \$16 million will be made available in grants to watershed-based restoration and protection projects aimed at improving water quality in areas throughout the country. Watershed project proposals selected for funding will be awarded for up to \$900,000 each over a three to five year period, for which EPA requires a 25% non-Federal match. You can find the solicitation and other information about the Targeted Watersheds Grant Program, including regional contacts, on the Internet at <http://www.grants.gov> or <http://www.epa.gov/twg>. The deadline for submitting nomination proposals is **November 15, 2006**.

***How to Get Nominated.*** Nominations must be submitted by a governor or tribal leader. This year however, EPA is lifting the restriction that only two intrastate/intratribal nominations may be submitted. Governors and Tribal leaders may nominate an unlimited number of meritorious proposals. States and tribes may solicit watershed proposals in a manner most appropriate to their state/tribe. Therefore, we advise watershed organizations interested in pursuing a Targeted Watersheds grant to contact their appropriate state or tribal water office as soon as possible to learn about their internal procedures.

***Project Proposals.*** EPA is looking to fund proposals submitted by watershed organizations who:



*"In our collaboration with the Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership, Targeted Watershed Grant funding has been critical to accomplish significant restoration work ...it has been thrilling to see the water flowing on the land, the fish returning to the tidal channels, and the return of native wetland vegetation (and many other species of wildlife) to sites that have been disconnected from the estuary for over 100 years."*

*Ian Sinks, Stewardship  
Columbia Land Trust  
Vancouver, WA*

Targeted Watersheds Grants



- have an in-depth knowledge of their watershed's ecology
- propose an innovative and sound approach for combating threats and impairments
- possess a clear set of performance measures with identified, measurable environmental indicators

**Criteria.** Watershed proposals will be reviewed, evaluated and scored based on these factors:

- quality of proposal (20 points)
- anticipated outputs and outcomes (15 points)
- environmental significance (5 points)
- broad support (10 points)
- peer outreach and information transfer (5 points)
- financial integrity (5 points)
- applicant qualifications (5 points)

### **Submission Checklist:**

#### **1. Package Components:**

- Nominating letter signed by the Governor or Tribal Leader
- Cover page
- 150-word abstract
- Proposal – Project Description
- Qualifications – Grant management experience
- Itemized budget form (SF 424A)
- Letter(s) signed by active partners
- Letter(s) committing matching funds
- Letters(s) supporting interjurisdictional nominations (if applicable)
- Map
- Application for Federal Assistance (SF 424)

#### **2. Format**

- 12 pages total (excluding letters and forms)

#### **3. Match Requirement**

- 25% Minimum match

#### **4. Submission:**

- 2 hard copies plus CD of all materials sent to EPA Headquarters, or
- Electronic copy sent to <http://www.grants.gov>



***For more information about EPA's Targeted Watersheds Program,  
please visit our web site at:  
<http://www.epa.gov/twg>***