What is Fundable?

• Support of 106 is to support the prevention and reduction of surface and groundwater pollution from point & nonpoint sources
Developing Your Water Quality Program

EPA Region 6
Clean Water Act (CWA)
§106/319
What is fundable?

- Wide ranging fundable activities
  - Water quality planning
  - Assessments, studies
  - Ambient monitoring
  - Source water, surface water, groundwater, and wetland protection activities
  - Development and update of NPS control activities incl assessment & manage
  - Develop WQS
  - Develop TMDLS
  - Community outreach & education activities
  - Funds cannot be used for construction, operation, or maintenance of wastewater treatment plant
Fundable?

• Cannot duplicate any capacity building activities paid for under any other program (GAP, IHS, BIA)
Three approaches

• Non-regulatory
• Tribal Law
• EPA-approved
Non-regulatory Approach

• Focuses on voluntary programs
  – Nonpoint Source pollution prevention
  – Watershed-based approach to water quality management

• Emphasizes Non-Regulatory means for protecting and improving Water Quality
  – Does NOT require Water Quality Standards development, but can still use standards for evaluation of collected data
Tribal Law Approach

- Uses Tribal Standards, ordinances, and codes, recognized by the tribal government
  - Can be tribally enforced to protect water quality on tribal lands
- Intended for tribes not interested in pursuing federally-approved Water Quality Standards authority
Tribal Law Approach

- Gives tribes the option of developing standards and goals that can be adopted under tribal law
- Does not need EPA approval
EPA-Approved Approach

- Uses a regulatory framework based on Clean Water Act structure to control water quality
- Develops and establishes EPA-Approved Water Quality Standards
- Serves dual purpose of establishing the water quality goals for a specific water body AND serving as basis for establishment of water-quality based controls
EPA-Approved Approach

• Requires tribes to obtain a Water Quality Standards Eligibility Determination from EPA and obtain approval of Standards from EPA
• Most appropriate for mature programs
Getting started (fundamental programs)

- Identifying basic tribal water resources; streams, rivers, oceans, coasts, coastal waters
  - Lakes
  - Wetlands
  - Groundwater
Getting started with Planning!

• Identifying tribal water quality needs
  – What needs are the most important to your tribe?
  – How do the water needs relate to one another
  – Whether water needs pose a threat to public health, safety or the environment
  – What are expected benefits of addressing the need?
  – How much would it cost to address the need?
Think of your results first!

• Establishing output and outcome based activities (environmental results)
Getting started

• Identifying program objectives & goals
  – Goals are the desired outcomes of your program based on water quality needs
  – Objectives are the activities you undertake to achieve your goals.
Getting started

• Hiring staff
  – Identifying skills needed to develop a water quality program
  – Identifying available resources

• Training staff

• Using contractors as appropriate to your needs

• Developing program milestones
Getting started

• Submit workplans to EPA!

• Financial & performance reporting
  – To show you are doing something.

• Conducting program evaluations
  – Joint evaluation (cooperative agreement)
  – Self-evaluation

• Developing a multi-year plan
Getting started

• A fundamental sampling and monitoring program must include the Minimum Basic Parameters!
  – Dissolved oxygen
  – pH
  – Water Temperature
  – Turbidity

• DO, pH, and Temperature testing kits and multiparameter probes readily available on the market
IMPORTANT!

• QAPP must be approved prior to sampling
• Report Data Results for all parameters! (DO, pH, Temperature, Turbidity)
Intermediate Program

• Begin these activities AFTER completed fundamental activities
• Must maintain fundamental program activities
• Add Total Phosphorus and Total Nitrogen
• Seek other funding opportunities
• EPA opportunities:
  – 319, Wetlands, Drinking Water
Intermediate Program

• Begin to re-assess program objectives & goals
• Begin enhancing and focusing on tribal community education
• Conduct program evaluations (joint or self-evaluation)
Intermediate Program

• An intermediate sampling and monitoring program must include the Minimum Basic Parameters!
  – Dissolved oxygen
  – pH
  – Water Temperature
  – Turbidity
  – Phosphorus
  – Total Nitrogen
Mature Programs

• After completing Fundamental & Intermediate activities
Mature Program

• An intermediate sampling and monitoring program must include the Minimum Basic Parameters!
  – Dissolved oxygen
  – pH
  – Water Temperature
  – Turbidity
  – Phosphorus
  – Total Nitrogen
  – Macroinvertebrates
  – E. coli or Enterococci
  – Basic Habitat Information (streambank, hydrology, stream bottom characteristics, land use patterns)
Mature Program

- Conducting comprehensive community outreach
- Conduct program evaluations (joint- or self-)
- Mentoring other tribes and local governments
- Begin partnering with other environmental organizations
Reporting at All Levels

• Description of monitoring strategy
  – Can vary in length
  – Must describe a program that meets your data and information needs
Reporting at All Levels

• Water Quality Assessment
  – Types of water on the reservation
  – Total extent (acres or miles)
  – Total extent assessed
  – Range of parameters
  – Concentrations found
  – Designated Uses
Reporting at All Levels

• Submit electronic copies of all data in a STORET-compatible format
• Preferably, upload directly to STORET
QUESTIONS?
EPA Region 6 CWA §106/319
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