

Q & A for the Region 10 Wetland Program Development Grants-Mini Competition 2022

Common Questions and Answers:

1. ***Why is this grant solicitation now called a Request for Application (RFA) instead of a Request for Proposal (RFP), and is there a difference?***

All EPA competitive funding solicitations, except in limited circumstances, issued on or after October 1, 2018 now require **full grant applications** to be submitted with the initial proposal. The details of what forms are required are described in Section IV of the RFA and will now be included as “mandatory” in the Grants.gov funding package associated with the solicitation. This change from an RFP to RFA primarily involves submission of some additional forms. The list of required forms is as follows:

- SF-424
- SF-424A
- SF-424B
- EPA Key Contacts Form
- EPA Form 4700-4
- Project Narrative Attachment Form (for competitive applications)

2. ***How is this RFA coming out from the Region different than the one that came out in June 2021?***

This FY22 RFA is a readvertisement of the FY21/22 RFA with some modifications. The Region did not expend the full allotment of their FY21/22 WPDG funds on selected high-quality applications. Therefore, the Region has elected to readvertise for new or revised applications from eligible State/Tribal or Local governments proposals that will build the capacity of their aquatic resource programs. The same projects that were eligible under the June 2021 RFA are eligible for submission under this RFA. However, under this solicitation, the Region has a smaller pool of funds to work with (no more than \$600,000) so expects to make smaller and fewer awards under this funding opportunity.

3. ***I am a State or a Tribe and I am working on developing my WPP now, what Track do I apply to?***

If you are a State or Tribe and you do not have an EPA-approved Wetland Program Plan (WPP) and your grant proposal is not specifically to develop a WPP, you must apply under Track 2. If the grant proposal includes developing a WPP or proposes to address an activity identified in an EPA approved WPP, apply under Track 1.

4. ***Can one proposal be submitted for both Track One and Two?***

No. Each proposal will be evaluated under either Track One or Track Two.

5. ***If a proposal doesn't get selected, can they reapply in FY23?***

Yes, the Region expects to go out with a new solicitation in early FY23 for FY23/24 funding.

6. ***Will they rank/score higher if they have an EPA-approved WPP in place?***

There are no additional points for having an EPA-approved WPP. However, Wetland Program development is the national priority for WPDGs and therefore more funds are made available under Track One to accommodate this priority. Note that the Region has discretion to move funds between the two tracks, if necessary.

7. ***How soon should we expect to receive a Grant award from EPA?***

Due to the timing of this grant announcement, Region 10 doesn't expect to make grant awards until after May 1, 2022. Therefore, grant awardees should factor this in their workplan and budget schedules as part of their application submission.

8. ***Will we accept proposal for 1 year funding only?***

Yes. We will accept proposals for 1 year funding. However, the next Region 10 WPDG Request for Applications will not be announced again until FY23.

9. ***If we get awarded can we put our funds in a PPG? Can we have a multi-year PPG?***

Yes. If awarded, eligible applicants can put funds into their PPG if they choose. The PPG will be amended to accommodate the two year funding. Each applicant will be assessed as to the validity of using their PPG as the funding vehicle. Effective as of October 1, 2021 EPA has provided a class exception from our 40 CFR 35.536 requirements. This class exception waives the required cost share from tribal and intertribal consortia PPGs. Elimination of cost share requirements will ensure equitable financial assistance to tribes, foster partnerships, and increase the ability for EPA and tribes to work together to address mutual priorities such as climate change and environmental justice. [RAIN-2022-G01 | US EPA](#)

10. ***How do I link to the HUC in which the project takes place?***

Use the USGS website (http://water.usgs.gov/wsc/map_index.html) to navigate to the 8-12 digit HUC in which the project will take place and copy that link into the proposal.

11. ***How do I find the link to Grant announcement?***

Use the EPA Wetland Program Development Grant website (<https://www.epa.gov/wetlands/region-10-wetland-program-development-grant-request-applications>) to where the announcement is located. Or you can find the solicitation in Grants.gov (<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=336919>).