

Federal Agency Name: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency/Office of Water/Office of Wetlands, Oceans, and Watersheds

Funding Opportunity Title: Fiscal Year 2022 Tribal Wetland Program Development Grants

Announcement Type: Request for Applications (RFA)

Funding Opportunity Number: EPA-OW-OWOW-22-03

Assistance Listing Number: 66.461

COVID-19 Update: EPA is providing flexibilities to applicants experiencing challenges related to COVID-19. Please see the **Flexibilities Available to Organizations Impacted by COVID-19** clause in Section IV of [EPA’s Solicitation Clauses](#).

Key Dates:

Application submission

All applications must be submitted electronically through Grants.gov as explained further in Section IV. Applications must be submitted by **October 7, 2022, at 11:59 P.M. Eastern Time (ET)**. Late applications will not be considered for funding.

Questions submission

Questions about this RFA must be submitted in writing via email and must be received by the Agency Contact identified in Section VII, AGENCY CONTACTS, before **September 20, 2022**.

Written responses to questions will be posted on EPA’s website at: www.epa.gov/wetlands/wetland-program-development-grants.

Other dates

11/30/22 Anticipated date upon which EPA selects applications for awards.

01/01/23 Anticipated date upon which EPA awards grants to successful applicants.

The dates above (other than the application and question submission date) are anticipated dates only, are intended for planning purposes, and are subject to change. See Section IV for further information on submission methods and dates, submission through Grants.gov, and alternative submission methods if necessary and approved.

Note to Applicants:

If you name subawardees and/or contractor(s) in your application to assist you with the proposed project, pay careful attention to the information in the CONTRACTS AND SUBAWARDS provisions found at <https://www.epa.gov/grants/epa-solicitation-clauses>.

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- Use one or more of the following “Core Elements” in order to achieve this goal.

Core Elements. With the work of many states and tribes, EPA has identified a set of core elements, actions, and example/suggested activities that together support a comprehensive wetland program. EPA has summarized these common core elements, actions, and activities in the [Core Elements of an Effective State and Tribal Wetland Program Framework](#), also called the *Core Elements Framework (CEF)*. The CEF describes in greater detail each of the four core elements that support an effective state/tribal wetland program. These four core elements are:

1. Monitoring and assessment.
2. Voluntary restoration and protection.
3. Regulatory approaches, including Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 401 certification.
4. Wetland-specific water quality standards.

The list of activities in the CEF is not meant to be an exhaustive list of all activities that can be carried out to develop a wetland program.

Only program development or refinement activities are eligible. Each of these four core elements consists of several broad “actions” that if collectively carried out would complete that core element. Of this broad array of actions, only some are program development actions (as opposed to implementation actions) that are eligible for funding under this RFA. Examples of actions eligible for funding are listed below as outputs. A larger list of examples of actions that are eligible for funding under this RFA can be found under the “Program Building Activities Menu” for each core element at <http://www.epa.gov/wetlands/wetland-program-development-grants-eligible-activities-0>.

Implementation projects are not eligible for funding under this announcement. A project that is accomplished through the performance of routine, traditional, or established practices, or a project that is simply intended to carry out a task rather than transfer information or advance the state of knowledge, however worthwhile the project might be, is not eligible for funding under this program.

Wetland mapping as part of a project to develop or refine a tribal government program(s) to research, investigate, experiment, train, demonstrate, survey, and study the causes, effects, extent, prevention, reduction, and elimination of pollution is eligible for funding under this announcement. Wetland mapping and monitoring projects are eligible for funding under this announcement as they are considered studies or investigations that develop or refine tribal programs.

Funds received through the WPDG competition cannot be used to fund application tasks to implement a wetland program, for fundraising, honorarium, or to fund the purchase of land or conservation easements. Tasks can only be for developing or refining wetland programs. Tasks that are or might be required by a previous or pending permit, e.g., CWA Section 404 permit, CWA Section 402 permit, CWA Section 401 certification, or tribal government regulatory requirement(s) are not eligible for funding because they are implementation tasks. Implementation of individual mitigation projects, mitigation banks, or in-lieu-fee mitigation programs are not eligible for funding. Wetland restoration training projects cannot include wetlands constructed only for the purposes of treating wastewater or stormwater.

Purchase of vehicles (including boats, motor homes, etc.) and office furniture is not eligible for funding under this program. The lease of vehicles is eligible for funding under this program but must be described in the budget detail.

Additional details on ineligible activities are provided under Section III (D), “Ineligible Activities,” of this announcement.

Proposed projects must comply with all tribal and federal regulations applicable to the project area. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure compliance. Under the competition, each proposed project must be able to be completed within the project period.

Funds awarded under this announcement for wetland meetings/training workshops may be used by successful applicants to promote participation and to support the travel expenses of non-federal personnel. Assistance funds may be used by the successful applicant to defray transportation and subsistence expenses for non-federal attendees at training sessions, roundtables, or workgroup meetings. The successful applicants will select meeting locations, secure meeting facilities (e.g., meeting rooms, accommodations, audio-visual equipment, etc.), and develop meeting agendas and materials. The successful applicant will use its logos on any materials it provides; EPA will use its logos on any materials it provides. The successful applicant is solely responsible for determining a methodology for selecting and funding reimbursement requests and providing a report on how participating non-federal attendees benefited from the meetings. EPA will not participate in the selection or approval of individuals who receive travel assistance.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL RESULTS AND LINKAGE TO STRATEGIC PLAN

The activities to be funded under this solicitation support [EPA's FY 2022-2026 Strategic Plan](#). Awards made under this announcement will support Goal 5 - Ensure Clean and Safe Water for All Communities: Provide clean and safe water for all communities and protect our nation's waterbodies from degradation, Objective 5.2: Protect and Restore Waterbodies and Watersheds: Address sources of water pollution and ensure water quality standards are protective of the health and needs of all people and ecosystems. (available at <https://www.epa.gov/planandbudget/strategicplan.html>).

All proposed projects must demonstrate the linkage to the Strategic Plan and include specific statements describing the environmental results of the proposed project in terms of well-defined outputs, and, to the maximum extent practicable, well-defined outcomes that demonstrate how the project will contribute to the overall goal of restoring and protecting aquatic ecosystems. Additional information regarding EPA's Strategic Plan and discussion of environmental results can be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/grants/epa-order-57007a1-epas-policy-environmental-results-under-epa-assistance-agreements>.

Outputs (deliverables/products) refer to an environmental activity, effort, and/or associated work product related to an environmental goal or objective, that will be produced or provided over a period of time or by a specified date. Outputs may be quantitative or qualitative but must be measurable during the assistance agreement period of performance.

Examples of anticipated outputs with potential associated Core Element in parenthetical from the assistance agreements to be awarded under this announcement include, but are not limited to:

- Development of a tribal Wetland Program Plan (WPP) (described in Section I.C.1.a, Track One: WPP Applications) (All Core Elements).
- Development of training materials and tools (assessment criteria, protocols, etc.) to help tribal decision-makers integrate wetland protection and restoration into integrated watershed planning especially with regards to environmental justice¹, hazard mitigation/flood/drought planning and

¹ EPA defines "environmental justice" as the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. Fair treatment means that no one group of people, including racial, ethnic, or socioeconomic groups, should bear a disproportionate share of the negative environmental consequences resulting from industrial, municipal, and commercial operations or the execution of federal, state, local, and tribal environmental programs and policies. Meaningful involvement means that: (1) potentially affected community

adoption and application of laws and regulations and the active management of programs necessary to provide environmental protection.

Outcomes must be quantitative and may not necessarily be achieved within an assistance agreement funding period. Outcomes may be short-term (changes in learning, knowledge, attitude, or skills), intermediate (changes in behavior, practice, or decisions), or long-term (changes in condition of the natural resource). Examples of anticipated outcomes from the assistance agreements to be awarded under this announcement include, but are not limited to:

- Increased quantity of wetlands.
- Increased quality of wetlands.
- Improved wetland protection efforts.
- Increased stakeholder and decision-maker understanding of a wetland’s condition for a variety of “uses” including traditional and cultural uses.
- Increased stakeholder and decision-maker understanding of wetland ecologic condition and/or function at population scales (i.e., tribal or regional).
- Increased stakeholder and decision-maker understanding of the impacts of increased flooding/drought and/or climate resilience on wetlands especially on traditional and cultural uses.
- Improved wetland inventories and baseline condition assessments to address hazard mitigation/flood/drought effects and climate adaptation.
- Improved data to use in modeling potential hydrologic change, ecosystem/biogeographic shifts, wetland losses, or wetland increases on the landscape that can be used to inform stakeholders and decision-makers.
- Increased stakeholder and decision-maker understanding of how to develop a CWA Section 404 or tribal regulatory program.
- Increased stakeholder and decisionmaker knowledge through training and outreach for tribal members, wetland staff, the public, at risk communities, and/or other partners.
- Improved baseline information on wetland extent, condition, and performance to inform tribal regulatory programs.
- Increased stakeholder and decision-maker understanding of the ecological success of compensatory mitigation and use to inform stakeholders and decisionmakers.

As part of the application, applicants must describe how the project will result in the protection of wetland resources and link the anticipated outputs and outcomes to the Agency’s Strategic Plan. Further information is in Section IV.C, CONTENT OF APPLICATION SUBMISSION, of this RFA. Additional information regarding EPA’s definition of environmental results in terms of outputs and outcomes can be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/grants/epa-order-57007a1-epas-policy-environmental-results-under-epa-assistance-agreements>.

C. TRACK CONCEPT AND PRIORITY AREAS

EPA is soliciting applications from eligible applicants to develop or refine tribal wetland programs. Comprehensive wetland programs help enable tribes to more effectively protect, restore, and manage their wetland resources.

Under this announcement, EPA will have two separate applicant tracks for eligible applicants.

- **Tribes** can apply under *Track One: WPP and/or Track Two: Non-WPP*.
- **Intertribal consortia** can apply under *Track Two: Non-WPP only*.

Applicants may submit more than one application under this RFA. Each application must be separately submitted, be for a different project, and will be separately evaluated. In addition, tribal government

D. THRESHOLD ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

All applications will be reviewed for eligibility and must meet the eligibility requirements described in Sections III.A., B., and C. to be considered eligible. Applicants deemed ineligible for funding consideration as a result of the threshold eligibility review will be notified within 15 calendar days of the ineligibility determination.

1. Applicants must meet the eligibility requirements in Section III.A, ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS, of this announcement.
2. Applicants must demonstrate in their application how they will meet the applicable cost share/match requirements in Section III.B, of this announcement. If the applicant has any question about the appropriate cost share/match requirements for their project, please contact the point of contact listed in Section VIII. If a tribe or intertribal consortium intends to include a grant awarded under this solicitation in a PPG they must include a statement to that effect.
3. Applications must **substantially** comply with the application submission instructions and requirements set forth in Section IV, APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION, of this announcement, or else they will be rejected. However, where a page limit is expressed in Section IV with respect to the application, or parts thereof, pages in excess of the page limitation will not be reviewed. Applicants are advised that readability is of paramount importance and should take precedence in application format, including selecting a legible font type and size for use in the application.
4. All applications submitted under this RFA, regardless of track, must be for projects that develop or refine tribal wetland programs. Accordingly, all applicants must demonstrate in their application how their proposed project will develop or refine a tribal wetland program as follows:
 - a. For **Track One: WPP Applicants**, by demonstrating how they will develop/update a Wetland Program Plan, or by referencing one or more grant-eligible action(s) from an EPA-approved WPP they plan to undertake as part of the proposed project, **or**
 - b. For **Track Two: Non-WPP Applicants**, by demonstrating which core element(s) and one or more actions under a core element(s) from the CEF at <http://www.epa.gov/wetlands/wetland-program-development-grants-eligible-activities-0> their application is developing or refining, or, if they are an intertribal consortium, by referencing one or more grant-eligible action(s) from an EPA-approved Wetland Program Plan they plan to undertake as part of the proposed project.
5. All applications submitted under this solicitation must conduct or promote the coordination and acceleration of research, investigations, experiments, training, demonstrations, surveys, and studies relating to the causes, effects (including health and welfare effects), extent, prevention, reduction, and elimination of water pollution as described in Section I. of this announcement.
6. **Demonstration projects** must involve new or experimental technologies, methods, or approaches, where the results of the project will be disseminated so that others can benefit from the knowledge gained in the demonstration project. A project that is accomplished through the performance of routine, traditional, or established practices, or a project that is simply intended to carry out a task rather than transfer information or advance the state of knowledge, however worthwhile the project might be, is not a demonstration and all or parts of the application will be eliminated from consideration. Such projects are implementation projects and are not eligible for funding under this announcement. Individual project tasks that are for program implementation are not eligible for funding. See Section III.E., below, on ineligible activities.
7. Initial applications must be submitted through [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) as stated in Section IV, APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION, of this announcement (except in the

9. **Partnership Information** – List proposed partner entities, and describe their roles, and whether they will participate as subawardees. Describe the agencies/organizations who will partner with you as appropriate and necessary to successfully conduct the project, to help accomplish outputs/products and to achieve the objectives/outcomes for improving tribal wetland protection programs. Provide a clear description of the roles and responsibilities of specific partners in the project’s components/tasks, and how these partnerships will contribute to developing a tribe’s wetland program. If an applicant is in the process of engaging a partner, applications should describe how the applicant plans to engage that partner and establish a working relationship to successfully complete the project.

A **tribal** government applicant may also describe how they will partner within their organization, or if appropriate, describe how having no partners is the best or only reasonable approach. If the applicant is an **intertribal consortium**, they should describe how they have already and/or will continue to partner (during the project) with the appropriate tribe(s) in which the project is physically located, or where the results of the project are intended to be used. You may attach optional letters of commitment from intended partners to your application as supporting documents and they will not be counted in the 22-page limit for the Project Narrative. The letters should be submitted on the organization’s letterhead and should be addressed to the applicant. For more discussion of letters of commitment, see Section IV.C.5.F, below. Applicants may also describe how having no partners is the best approach and they will be evaluated based on that approach.

Groups of two or more eligible applicants may choose to form a coalition and submit a single application under this RFA; however, one entity must be responsible for the grant. Coalitions must identify which eligible organization will be the recipient of the grant and which eligible organization(s) will be subrecipients of the recipient (the “pass-through entity”). Subawards must be consistent with the definition of that term in 2 CFR 200.1 and comply with [EPA’s Subaward Policy](#). The pass-through entity that administers the grant and subawards will be accountable to EPA for proper expenditure of the funds and reporting and will be the point of contact for the coalition. As provided in 2 CFR 200.332, subrecipients are accountable to the pass-through entity for proper use of EPA funding.

For-profit organizations are not eligible for subawards under this grant program but may receive procurement contracts. Any contracts for services or products funded with EPA financial assistance must be awarded under the competitive procurement procedures of 2 CFR Part 200 and/or 2 CFR Part 1500, as applicable. The regulations at 2 CFR 1500.10 contain limitations on the extent to which EPA funds may be used to compensate individual consultants. Refer to [the Best Practice Guide for Procuring Services, Supplies, and Equipment Under EPA Assistance Agreements](#) for guidance on competitive procurement requirements and consultant compensation. Do not name a procurement contractor (including a consultant) as a “partner” or otherwise in your application unless the contractor has been selected in compliance with competitive procurement requirements.

10. **Past Performance** – Submit a list of federally and/or non-federally funded assistance agreements (assistance agreements include federal grants and cooperative agreements but not federal contracts) that your organization performed within the **last three years (no more than 5 assistance agreements**, and preferably EPA assistance agreements) and describe:
 - i. whether, and how, you were able to successfully complete and manage those assistance agreements.

- ii. your history of meeting the reporting requirements under those agreements, including whether you adequately and timely reported on your progress towards achieving the expected outputs and outcomes of those assistance agreements (and if not, explain why not) and whether you submitted acceptable final technical reports under the agreements.

Note: In evaluating applicants under these factors in Section V, EPA will consider the information provided by the applicant and may also consider relevant information from other sources, including information from EPA files and from current/prior grantors (e.g., to verify and/or supplement the information provided by the applicant). **If you do not have any relevant or available past performance or past reporting information, please indicate this in the application and you will receive a neutral score for these factors (a neutral score is half of the total points available in a subset of possible points). If you do not provide any response for these items, you may receive a score of 0 for these factors.**

- C. **Restoration Demonstration Project Information** - If you are proposing a restoration demonstration project (See definition in Section III.D.6.), describe the current environmental condition of the project site and the reason for restoration. Describe how the design and installation of your restoration demonstration project would take into account resiliency when considering your project’s long-term viability (i.e., sea level rise, increased storm event intensity, increased heat stress, increased potential for wildfire). Describe your post-installation monitoring program, and whether it will be funded as a part of this project or with another named funding source. If another funding source would be used, explain how you are confident that this work will be funded. Describe the regulatory authorities that you must comply with (e.g., CWA Section 404 permits, any applicable permits). You may need to comply with regulations in order to conduct, monitor, and/or maintain a proposed restoration demonstration project. If you are not proposing this type of project, do not provide any description for this section and state “N/A”.
- D. **Quality Assurance/Quality Control Statement** - If you plan to collect or use environmental data or information, explain how and when you will comply with the Quality Assurance/Quality Control requirements (see Section VIII.A, QUALITY ASSURANCE/QUALITY CONTROL, of this announcement for a definition of environmental data which includes more than the collection of new data and information and any additional information). At a minimum most grants will require a Quality Management Plan (QMP). A QMP is a document that describes an organization's quality system. It identifies the organizational structure, policy and procedures, functional responsibilities of management and staff, lines of authority, and its processes for planning, implementing, documenting, and assessing all activities conducted under the organization's quality system. If data will be collected using federal funds a QMP and/or Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) will be required before data collection can begin. To find out more about EPA’s QA/QC program go to <http://www.epa.gov/quality>.
- E. **Invasive Species Control** – If applicable, describe how you will ensure that your project does not facilitate the introduction or spread of invasive species. Explain how you would respond if an invasive species problem occurs in relation to your project including adding this information to your QA/QC documents. (See Section VIII.B, INVASIVE SPECIES CONTROL, of this announcement for further information).

among other Track Two: Non-WPP eligible applicants. Track One: WPP eligible applicants will only be ranked among other Track One: WPP eligible applicants. Track Two: Non-WPP eligible applicants will only be ranked among other Track Two: Non-WPP eligible applicants.

Evaluation Criteria

Point Values	Evaluation Criteria
15 points	<p>1) Description of Need Under this criterion, applications will be evaluated based on how well the applicant demonstrates the need for the project as it pertains to developing or refining a tribal wetland program(s). The description should include: the threats affecting your wetlands/streams/aquatic resources; the need for the particular actions you are proposing; and how the deliverables will lead to an increase in the quality and quantity of wetlands.</p>
20 points	<p>2) Project Tasks Under this criterion, applications will be evaluated based on the extent and quality to which they demonstrate a description of the steps you will take to meet the project product/output(s) and objective(s) including a clear description of project tasks and associated products and whether the applicant's approach (methodology) or the steps they propose is sound.</p>
10 points	<p>3) Milestone Schedule Under this criterion, applications will be evaluated based on the extent and quality to which they provide a clearly articulated milestone schedule that covers each year of the entire project/budget period. This includes a breakout of the project tasks into phases with associated tasks and products and the anticipated dates for the start and completion of each task. In addition, including a clearly articulated approach to ensure that awarded funds will be expended in a timely and efficient manner will be evaluated.</p>
5 points	<p>4) Budget Under this criterion, applications will be evaluated based on the extent and quality to which they demonstrate the budget detail and whether the proposed costs are reasonable and allowable including whether the applicant identified the requested federal dollars and the total project cost for each component/task for each budget item from Form 424A and the if and how non-federal partners will provide cost share/match and demonstrated the cost-effectiveness and reasonableness of costs and the value of in-kind contributions.</p>
10 points	<p>5) Transfer of Results Under this criterion, applications will be evaluated based on the extent and quality to which they demonstrate the applicant's plan for active transfer of project results (outputs/outcomes), lessons learned, and/or methods to other tribes, intertribal consortia, and/or states, local governments agencies within and beyond their own organization, so that the others can better develop their wetland programs.</p>
15 points	<p>6) Environmental Results: Outputs, Outcomes and Tracking Under this criterion, applications will be evaluated based on the extend and quality to which they demonstrate each of the following elements:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Outputs and Outcomes– the extent and quality to which the applicant demonstrates potential environmental results, anticipated outputs and outcomes, and how the outcomes are linked to EPA’s Strategic Plan Goal 5 - Ensure Clean and Safe Water for All Communities: Provide clean and safe water for all communities and protect our nation’s waterbodies from degradation specifically Objective 5.2: Protect and Restore Waterbodies and Watersheds. This includes evaluating how the application will be a step towards the long-term goal of restoring, protecting, and increasing wetlands acres. (10 points) ii. Tracking – The extent and quality to which the applicant demonstrates a sound plan for tracking progress toward achieving the expected outputs and outcomes. (5 points)
7 points	<p>7) Programmatic Capability/Technical Experience/ Qualifications</p> <p>Under this criterion, applications will be evaluated based on the extent and quality to which they demonstrate the applicant’s ability to successfully manage and complete the proposed project taking into account their:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Organizational experience and plan for timely and successfully achieving the objectives of the proposed project. (3 points) ii. Staff experience/qualifications, staff knowledge, and resources, or the ability to obtain them, to successfully achieve the goals of the project. (4 points)
10 points	<p>8) Partnership Information</p> <p>Under this criterion, applications will be evaluated based on the extent and quality to which they demonstrate appropriate and necessary partnerships as described in Section IV.B.9, Partnership Information, to carry out the project. Alternatively, applicants may describe how having no partners is the best approach and they will be evaluated based on that approach.</p>
8 points	<p>9) Past Performance</p> <p>Under this criterion, applicants will be evaluated based on the extent and quality to which they demonstrate their ability to successfully complete and manage the proposed project taking into account their:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. past performance in successfully completing and managing the assistance agreements identified in response to Section IV.C of the solicitation. (4 points) ii. history of meeting the reporting requirements under the assistance agreements identified in response to Section IV.C of the solicitation including whether the applicant submitted acceptable final technical reports under those agreements and the extent to which the applicant adequately and timely reported on their progress towards achieving the expected outputs and outcomes under those agreements and if such progress was not being made whether the applicant adequately reported why not. (4 points) <p>Note: In evaluating applicants under these criteria, the Agency will consider the information provided by the applicant and may also consider</p>

	<p>relevant information from other sources including agency files and prior/current grantors (e.g., to verify and/or supplement the information supplied by the applicant). If you do not have any relevant or available past performance or past reporting information, please indicate this in the application and you will receive a neutral score for these subfactors (a neutral score is half of the total points available in a subset of possible points). If you do not provide any response for these items, you may receive a score of 0 for these factors.</p>
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B. REVIEW AND SELECTION PROCESS

All applications received by the submission deadline will first be screened by EPA staff against the threshold criteria in Section III of the announcement. Applications that do not pass the threshold review will not be evaluated further or considered for funding.

A panel or panels of EPA staff will review all eligible applications using the evaluation criteria listed in Section V.A above, assign scores to each application, and develop a ranked list of the applications in each track (i.e., Track One: WPP and Two: Non-WPP) based on the evaluation scores. The ranking list for each track will be provided to the National Selection Official who makes final funding decisions. Final funding decisions will then be made by the National Selection Official based on the evaluation conducted by the review panel(s) and may also take into account the following factors:

1. Geographic distribution of funds.
2. Diversity of projects.
3. Availability of funds.
4. The distribution of awards between Track One: WPP and Track Two: Non-WPP.
5. The similarity of the project to other projects already being funded by EPA.

VI. AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

Note: Additional provisions that apply to this section can be found at [EPA Solicitation Clauses](#).

A. AWARD NOTICES

Following EPA’s evaluation of the applications, all applicants, including those who are not selected for funding, will be notified by email regarding their status. The notification will be made to the original signer of the SF 424, Application for Federal Assistance. The notification of recommendation for award is not an authorization to begin performance nor is it a guarantee that an award will be made. The official notification of an award will be made by the applicable EPA Regional Grant Management Office.

Applicants are cautioned that only an Award Official is authorized to bind the Government to the expenditure of funds; selection does not guarantee an award will be made. For example, statutory authorization, funding or other issues discovered during the award process may affect the ability of EPA to make an award to an applicant. The award notice, signed by an EPA Award Official, is the authorizing document and will be provided through electronic or postal mail. The successful applicant may need to prepare and submit additional documents and forms, which must be approved by EPA, before the grant can officially be awarded. **The time between notification of selection and award of a grant can take up to 90 days or longer.**

A list of the successful applications will be posted at EPA’s Wetland Grant Database (<https://wgd.epa.gov>).

B. COMBINING APPLICATIONS INTO ONE AWARD

If an applicant submits proposals for multiple tasks/activities under this competition, and is selected for multiple tasks/activities, EPA may award a single assistance agreement that combines separate proposals for different tasks/activities.

C. REQUIRED COMPONENTS OF FINAL WORKPLAN

EPA reserves the right to negotiate and/or adjust the final grant amount and workplan/narrative prior to award, as appropriate and consistent with Agency policy, including EPA's Competition Policy (EPA Order 5700.5A1). An approvable final narrative/workplan is required to include:

1. Project components to be funded under the assistance agreement.
2. Estimated work years and the estimated funding amounts for each component.
3. Commitments for each component and a timeframe for their accomplishment.
4. Performance evaluation process and reporting schedule in accordance with 40 CFR Part 35.115.
5. Roles and responsibilities of the successful applicant and EPA (for cooperative agreements only) in carrying out the commitments.
6. Project location information for any assistance agreement-funded project based on the geographic scale and intent of the project. and
7. Breakdown of federal funds by "project category". Project Categories can be found at: <http://www.epa.gov/wetlands/wetland-program-development-grants-category-definitions>.

D. ADMINISTRATIVE AND NATIONAL POLICY REQUIREMENTS

The general award and administration process for assistance agreements are governed by the regulations at 2 CFR Parts 200 and 1500, as applicable. A description of the Agency's substantial involvement in any cooperative agreements will be included in the final assistance agreement.

E. REPORTING

In general, recipients are responsible for managing the day-to-day operations and activities supported by the assistance funding, to assure compliance with applicable federal requirements, and for ensuring that established milestones and performance goals are being achieved. Performance reports and financial reports must be submitted at a minimum annually and are due 30 days after the reporting period. The final report is due 120 days after the assistance agreement has expired. Recipients will be required to report direct and indirect environmental results from the work accomplished through the award. In negotiating assistance agreements, EPA will work closely with the recipient to incorporate appropriate performance measures and reporting requirements in the workplan consistent with 2 CFR Part 200.329, Monitoring and Reporting Program Performance, and 40 CFR Part 35.

VII. AGENCY CONTACTS

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