



Regional Wetland Program Development Grants (WPDG)

**RUSS HUDDLESTON – EPA R9
WETLANDS AND OCEANS SECTION**

**PETRA SILVERMAN – BUENA VISTA RANCHERIA OF
ME-WUK INDIANS
ENVIRONMENTAL DIRECTOR**

**MATTHEW COGORNO – SANTA YNEZ BAND OF
CHUMASH INDIANS
ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST**

**SARVY MAHDAVI – EPA R9
REGION 9 WPDG PROGRAM COORDINATOR**

AGENDA



Overview of US EPA Wetland Program Development Grants

WPDG Presentations

Petra Silverman - Buena Vista Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians
Matthew Cogorno - Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians

Questions

EPA's Wetland Program

A blurred background image showing an aerial view of a wetland. The landscape is a mix of green land and blue water, with various green plants and trees scattered across the terrain.

The goal of the EPA's wetland program is to increase the quantity and quality of wetlands in the U.S. by:

- 1) Conserving and restoring wetlands
- 2) **Developing the capacity of all levels of government** to develop effective programs for wetland protection and management.

WPDG Background Basics

- Biennial competition
- Next competition: Summer 2025!
- Eligible: state, territories, Tribes, local governments, intertribal consortia, interstate agencies, state universities
- Total funding: \$3.0m to \$4.0m
- Project funding: \$70k - \$500k
- 25% nonfed match requirement (unless PPG)



Non-governmental organizations, non-profits, private consulting firms, private universities, are not eligible to apply for funding

What can be eligible?

- Developing or refining wetland program plans – 3-5 year tribal strategic wetland plans
- Mapping and Monitoring
- Identification and prioritization of management areas
- Development of training/outreach materials

What is not eligible?

- Wetland creation/construction that are not demonstration projects
- Tasks required by a pending permit (CWA 404, 402, 401)
- Purchasing vehicles, land or conservation easements

Core Elements

- Monitoring and assessment.
- Voluntary restoration and protection.
- Regulatory approaches including CWA 401 certification.
- Wetland-specific water quality standards.

Grant Applications

- Tell your story, how does this project build your program and improve aquatic resources?
- RFA details scored evaluation criteria for the application.
- Focus on national priorities and at least one of the four core elements.

What's Next?

**WPDG Webinar –
June 17 & 18,
2025**

LOVE TO HAVE YOU THERE!!

Email Mahdavi.Sarvy@epa.gov

