

EFFECTIVE FEDERAL GRANT WRITING

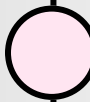
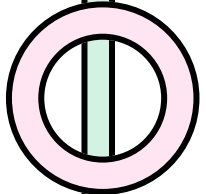


A WEBINAR SERIES FOR
MUNICIPALITIES

**PART THREE - PROJECT
SCOPING FOR FUNDING**



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○ Introduction

- Alison Nichols
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○ Webinar 3: Project Scoping for Funding

Objectives

- Learn how to match your project to the most effective source of grant funding.
- Matching project goals with funding agency goals.
- Evaluating Federal grants for suitability for your project.
- Understanding how to segment or phase your project.



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○ Seeking Federal Funding Sources

- Completed Project Portfolio
 - Title
 - Project Description
 - Problem Description
 - Improvements from Project
 - Project Cost
 - Who Benefits from the Project
 - Who Supports the Project



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○ Seeking Federal Funding Sources

- Completed Project Portfolio “Extras”
 - Project Opposition
 - Previous Work on the Project
 - Property; Easements; Permits Status
 - Community Compliance Audit
 - Fiscal; Regulatory
 - Project Compliance Audit
 - O&M; Regulatory



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○ Where are the Grant Funds?

- There are two general categories of federal grant aid.
 - Block-Style Grant
 - Funds provided to State or Agency.
 - Fund distribution directed by receiving agency.
 - Broad focus.
 - Project Categorical Grant
 - Funds provided by Agency.
 - Documented Competitive Application Process.
 - Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)
 - Specific focus.





○ Seeking Federal Funding Sources

- Block-Style Grants
 - Agency Staff
 - State Agency Websites
 - Federal Agency Websites
- Project Categorical Grants
 - NOFOs
 - <https://www.grants.gov/>
 - <https://sam.gov/content/assistance-listings>



Seeking Federal Funding Sources



GRANTS.GOV
FIND. APPLY. SUCCEED.™

SEARCH: Grant Opportunities ▾ Enter Keyword... **GO**

HOME LEARN GRANTS ▾ **SEARCH GRANTS** APPLICANTS ▾ GRANTORS ▾ SYSTEM-TO-SYSTEM ▾ FORMS ▾ CONNECT ▾ SUPPORT ▾

GRANTS.GOV > Search Grants

SEARCH GRANTS

BASIC SEARCH CRITERIA:
Keyword(s):
Opportunity Number:
CFDA:
SEARCH

OPPORTUNITY STATUS:
 Forecasted (2)
 Posted (130)
 Closed (825)
 Archived (18,611)

FUNDING INSTRUMENT TYPE:

ELIGIBILITY:

CATEGORY:

AGENCY:
 All Department of Labor [DOL] (13)
 All Department of State [DOS] (275)
 All Department of the Interior [DOI] (132)

AGENCY: [X] All Department of the Interior

Search Tips | Export Detailed Data | **Save Search >**

SORT BY: Posted Date (Descending) ▾ **Update Sort** **DATE RANGE:** All Available ▾ **Update Date Range**

1 - 25 OF 132 MATCHING RESULTS: < Previous 1 2 3 4 5 6 Next >

Opportunity Number	Opportunity Title	Agency	Opportunity Status	Posted Date ↓	Close Date
G22AS00324	Cooperative Agreement for CESU-affiliated Partner with with Colorado Plateau Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit	DOI-USGS1	Posted	04/25/2022	05/21/2022
G22AS00325	Cooperative Agreement for CESU-affiliated Partner with Pacific Northwest Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit	DOI-USGS1	Posted	04/25/2022	05/25/2022
M22AS00297	AK-19-02: Alaska Coastal Marine Institute (CMI) - 2022	DOI-BOEM	Posted	04/21/2022	05/23/2022
M22AS00274	AT-22-08: Sediment-borne Wave Disturbances and Propagation and Potential Effects on Benthic Fauna	DOI-BOEM	Posted	04/21/2022	05/23/2022
L22AS00313	Bureau of Land Management Montana/Dakotas Youth Conservation Opportunities on Public Lands	DOI-BLM	Posted	04/18/2022	08/31/2022
L22AS00232	The Bureau of Land Management California Youth Conservation Opportunities on Public Lands	DOI-BLM	Posted	04/18/2022	05/18/2022
G22AS00314	Cooperative Agreement for affiliated Partner with Great Lake – Northern Forest Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (CESU)	DOI-USGS1	Posted	04/14/2022	05/14/2022
G22AS00300	Zoonotic Disease Initiative - Tuberculosis	DOI-FWS	Posted	04/13/2022	05/13/2022



○ Seeking Federal Funding Sources



The screenshot shows the SAM.gov website's "Assistance Listings" page. At the top left is the SAM.gov logo. A navigation bar includes links for Home, Search, Data Bank, Data Services, and Help. The main heading is "Assistance Listings" with a "Legacy Website" link and a CFDA logo. Below this is a paragraph explaining that assistance listings are detailed public descriptions of federal programs. A link to grants.gov is provided for grant opportunities. At the bottom, there is a search bar with the text "e.g. 64.106, school lunches" and a search button, along with a link to "Advanced Search".





○ Seeking Federal Funding Sources

- Congressional Delegation
 - Senator Heinrich's Office
- Federal Agency Mailing Lists
- Professional Organizations
- Council of Governments (COGs)
 - Metropolitan or Rural Planning Organization (MPO/RPO)





○ Block-Style Grant Opportunities

- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
 - Drinking Water Revolving Fund (DWSRF)
 - Clean Water Revolving Fund (CWSRF)
- Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
 - Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
- Department of Transportation (DOT)
 - Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
 - Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)



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○ Block-Style Grant Opportunities

- Department of Agriculture (USDA)
 - Rural Development (RD)
 - Water & Wastewater Loans & Grants
 - Community Services Loans & Grants
 - Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)
 - Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations (WFPO)
 - Watershed Rehabilitation Program (REHAB)
- United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
 - Continuing Authorities Programs (CAP)
 - Environmental Infrastructure (Section 595)



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○ Categorical Grant Opportunities

- Department of Transportation (DOT)
 - TIGER Grants (RAISE)
- Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
 - Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
 - Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMAG)
- Department of Interior (DOI)
 - Bureau of Reclamation (BOR)
 - WaterSMART Programs
 - Land and Water Conservation Fund (LCWF)



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○ Notice Of Funding Opportunity

- Program Description
 - Authority
 - Funding Opportunity Number and Title
 - Background, Purpose, and Program Requirements
 - Notice of Funding Opportunity Objectives
- Award Information
 - Total Funding Available
 - Expected Award Amounts
 - Anticipated Announcement and Federal Award Date
 - Projected Number of Awards
 - Type of Award



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○ Notice Of Funding Opportunity



- Eligibility Information
 - Eligible Applicants
 - Applicant Eligibility Requirements
 - Other Eligibility Requirements
 - Cost Sharing Requirements
- Application and Submission
 - Content and Form of Application Submission
 - Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management
 - Submission Date and Time
 - Funding Restrictions for Indirect Costs



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○ Notice Of Funding Opportunity

- Application Review
 - Evaluation Criteria
 - Review and Selection Process
- Federal Award Process
 - Federal Award Notices
 - Administrative and National Policy Requirements
 - Reporting Requirements and Distribution
 - Monitoring and Oversight



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○ Notice Of Funding Opportunity

- Agency Contacts
 - Program Coordinator Contact
 - Financial Assistance Contact
 - Application System Technical Support
- Additional Information
 - Environmental and Cultural Resource Considerations
 - Period of Performance Extensions
 - Termination Provisions



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QUESTIONS?





○ Funding Puzzle

- Match up your project to the funding source
 - Time Comparison
 - When do you need it completed?
 - When do the funds expire?
 - Compare Project to Funding Source
 - Purpose of Funding Agency.
 - Identify Project Ranking Criteria.
 - Benefit Cost Analysis
 - Compare Request to Available Funds
 - Identify Min/Max Funding limits.
 - Don't be greedy.



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○ Funding Puzzle

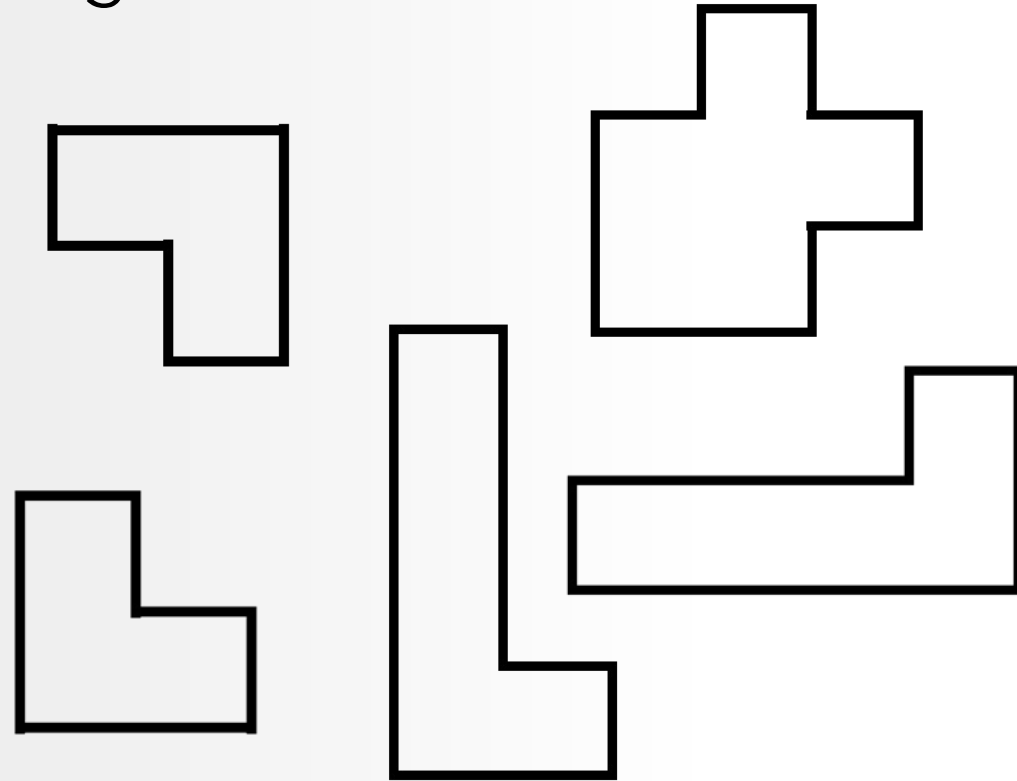
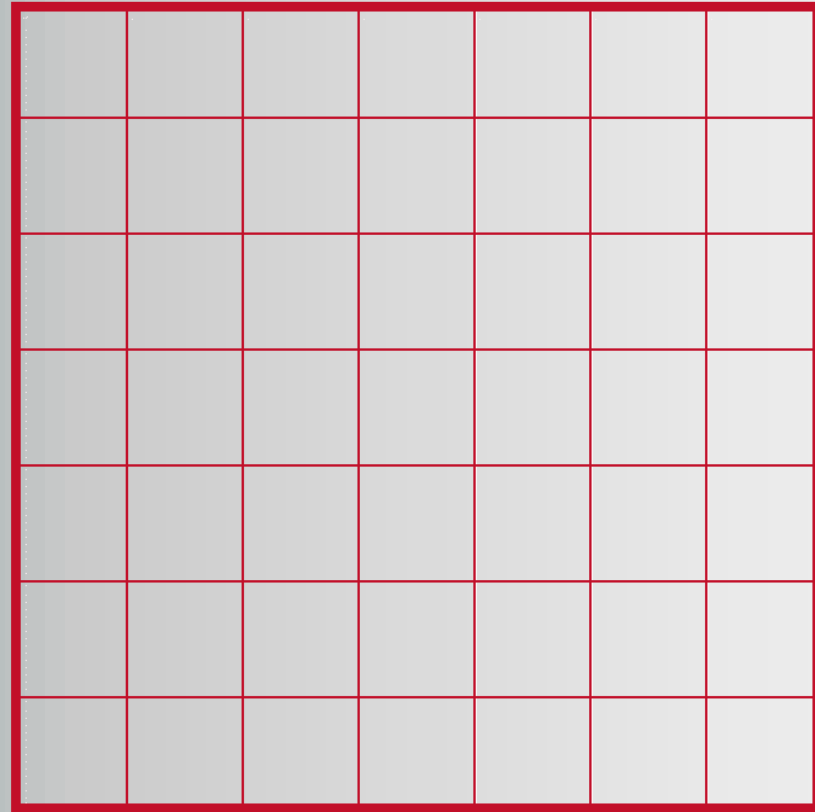
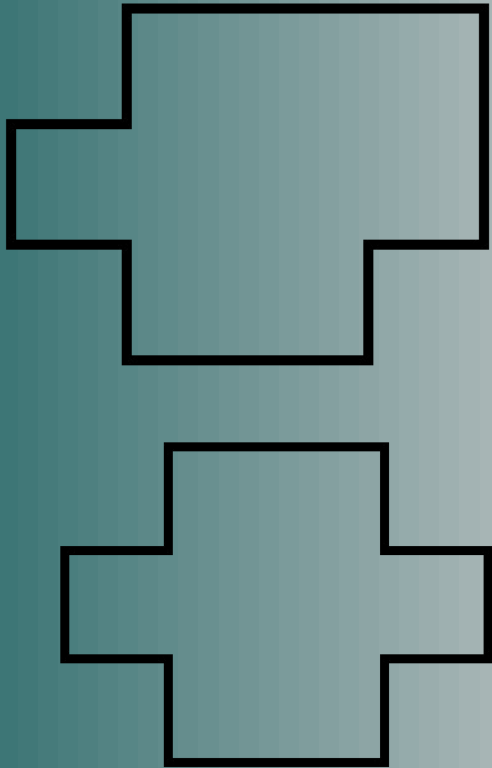
- Match up your project to the funding source
 - Identify Project Scope Components for funding.
 - Identify Scale/Modularity of Project.
 - Can be set based on the available funding.
 - Identify Unit Process of Project for Funding
 - ROW? Planning? Engineering? Construction?
 - Limiting the Unit Processes can be beneficial.
 - Can any work be completed in advance?
 - Survey or Environmental



○ Funding Puzzle



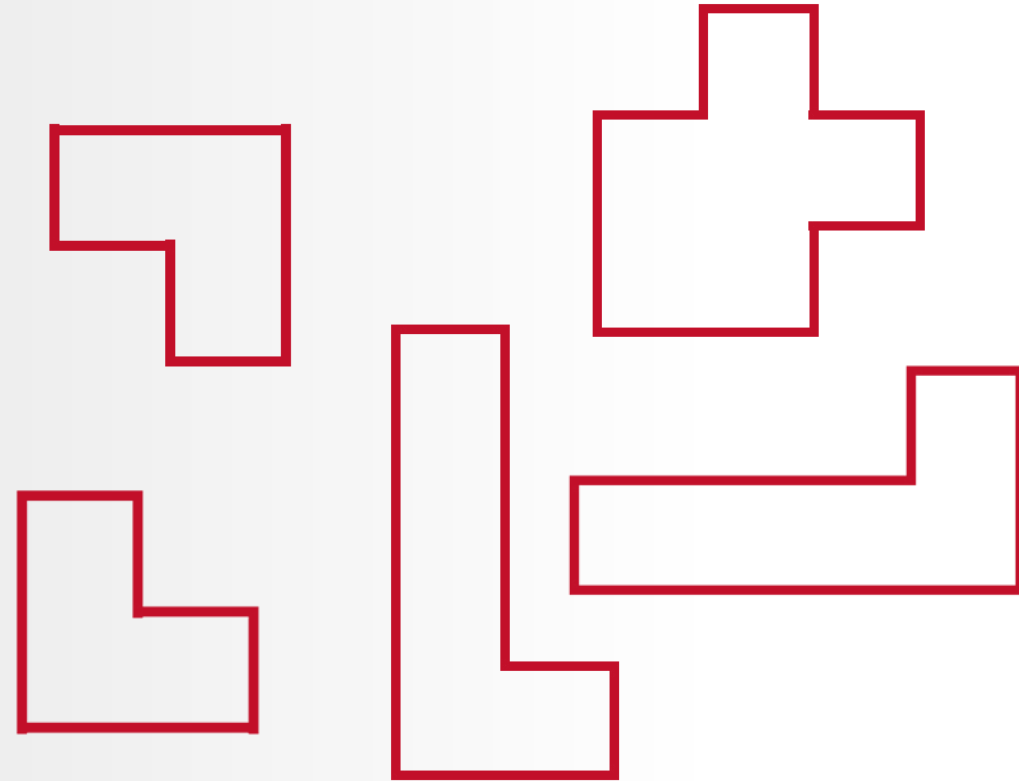
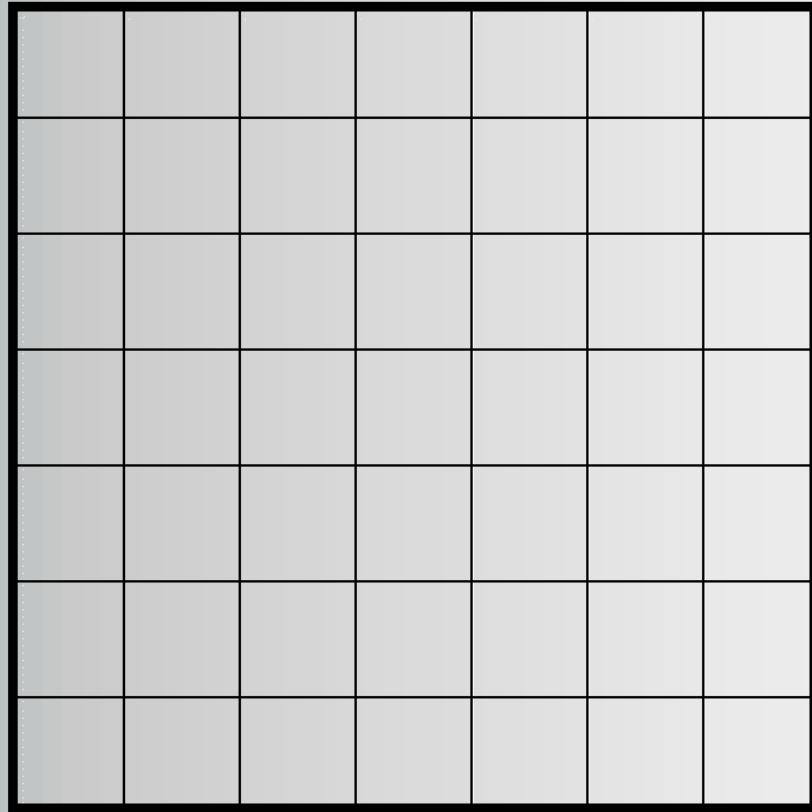
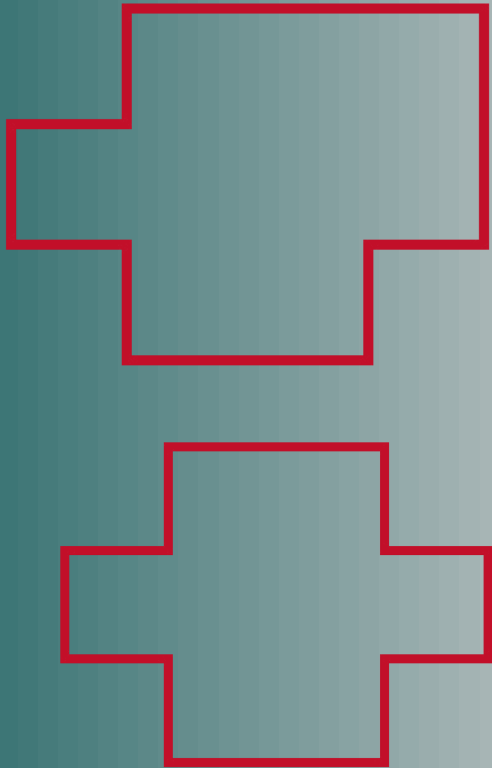
- The red highlighted board is the Funding Source.



○ Funding Puzzle



- The red pieces are parts of your Project.

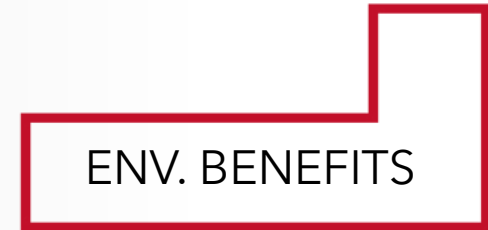
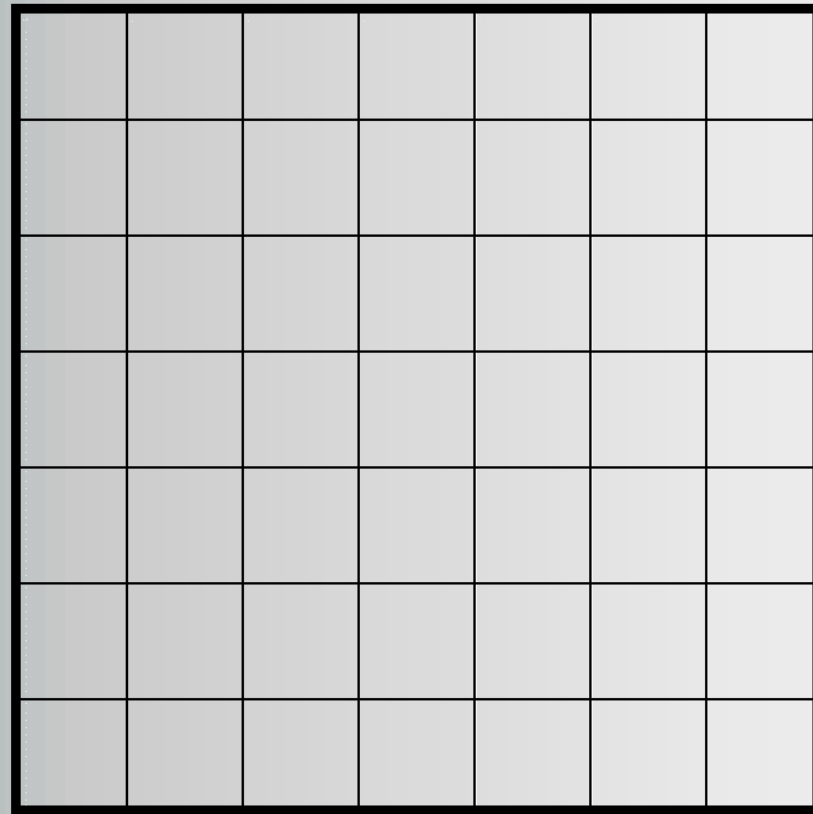
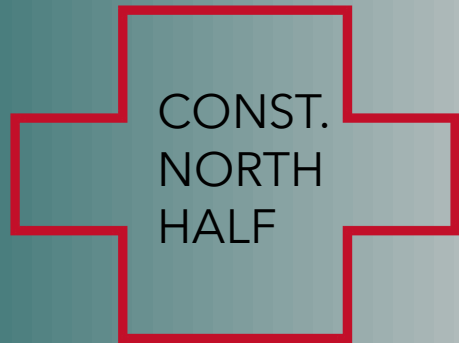


Funding Puzzle

PROJECT DESIGN



- Identify the "Best Fit" pieces of your project.



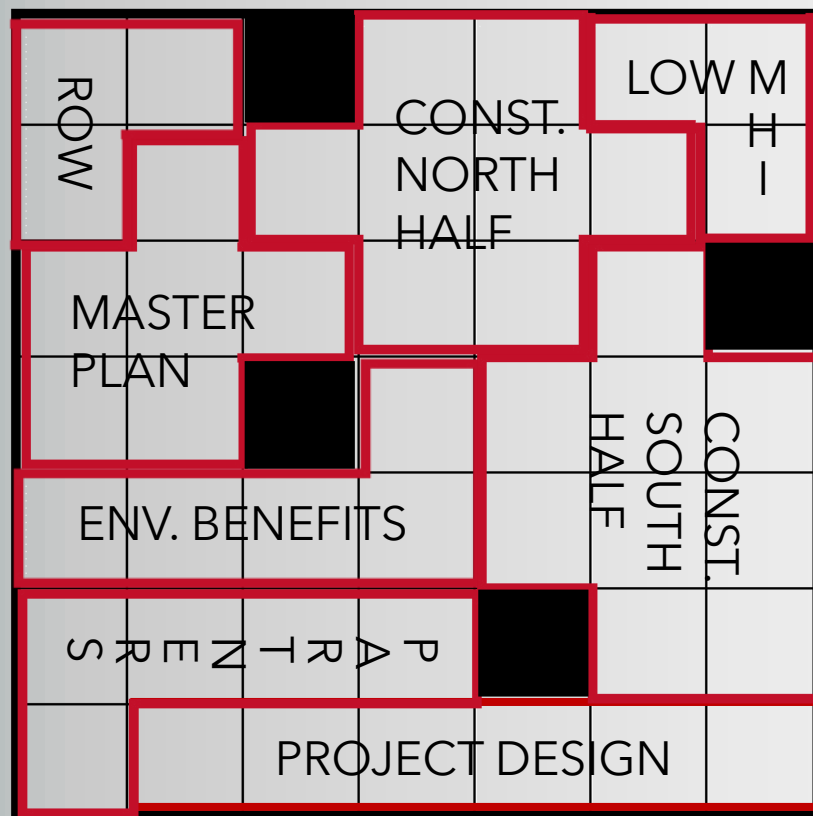
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○ Funding Puzzle

- Identify the "Best Fit" pieces of your project.



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○ Clean Water State Revolving Fund



• Project Eligibility

Program Eligibilities (Including, but not limited to)

- Publicly owned centralized wastewater treatment works construction, repair or replacement;
- Implementation of a non-point source management plan;
- Decentralized systems treating municipal or domestic sewage;
- Measures reducing, treating, or managing stormwater;
- Measures reducing demand to publicly owned treatment works through conservation;
- Watershed projects;
- Reducing energy consumption at publicly owned treatment works;
- Projects for reusing or recycling wastewater or stormwater;
- Increasing security at publicly owned treatment works



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○ Clean Water State Revolving Fund



- Project Ranking Criteria

TOTAL SCORING

Scoring Factor	Points Available
Ground water quality improvement and permit compliance	200
Surface water quality improvement factor and permit compliance	200
Sustainability	150
Readiness to Proceed	100
Total	650



○ Clean Water State Revolving Fund



- Project Ranking Criteria

READINESS TO PROCEED

An important goal of the CWSRF program is to ensure the timely and expeditious use of funds. To achieve this goal, NMED will evaluate applications and the associated documents that provide a reasonable measure of how close an eligible applicant may be to starting the project. Points for Readiness to Proceed will be awarded as follows:

READINESS TO PROCEED 100 POINTS POSSIBLE

NMED will evaluate the following documents and corresponding approval status:

- Preliminary Engineering Report, Feasibility Study, or Technical Memorandum; 25 points
- Environmental Information Documents or Categorical Exclusion Request; 25 points
- Construction Plans and Specifications; 50 points



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○ RAISE Grant NOFO



- RAISE Grant award amount.

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Pub. L. 117-58, November 15, 2021, “Bipartisan Infrastructure Law,” or “BIL”) authorized and appropriated \$1.5 billion to be awarded by the Department of Transportation (“DOT”) for FY 2022 for Local and Regional Project Assistance Program Grants under National Infrastructure Investments. This Notice of Funding Opportunity

Appropriations Act”) appropriated an additional \$775 million for the FY 2022 RAISE Grant Program. Therefore, a total of \$2.275 billion in funding is now available for the FY 2022 RAISE Grant Program. Applicants should note that the two funding streams (BIL funding and FY 2022



○ RAISE Grant NOFO



- Planning and Design Options.

RAISE Grants are for capital investments in surface transportation that will have a significant local or regional impact. Per the BIL, in addition to capital awards, DOT will award at least \$113.75 million for eligible planning, preparation or design of projects eligible for RAISE Grants that do not result in construction with FY2022 RAISE funding; at least \$75 million will be awarded from the BIL funding and at least \$38.75 million will be awarded from the FY 2022 Appropriations Act funding.



○ RAISE Grant NOFO



- Local area considerations.

In addition, DOT will award at least \$35 million for projects located in areas of persistent poverty or historically disadvantaged communities; a minimum of \$15 million will be awarded from the BIL funding and a minimum of \$20 million will be awarded from the FY 2022 Appropriations Act funding.



○ RAISE Grant NOFO



- Other requirements.

The Department also seeks to award projects under the RAISE Program that proactively address racial equity and barriers to opportunity, including automobile dependence as a form of barrier, or redress prior inequities and barriers to opportunity. Section E describes racial equity considerations that an applicant can undertake and the Department will consider during the review of applications. Projects that have not sufficiently considered racial equity in their planning, as determined by the Department, will be required to do so before receiving funds for construction. See Section F.2 of this NOFO for program requirements.





Water SMART Drought NOFO

- Drought Response Grant Program.

Recipient Cost Share: (See NOFO Sec. C.2)	50 percent or more of total project costs
Federal Funding Amount (See NOFO Sec. B.2)	Funding Group I: Up to \$500,000 per agreement for a project that can be completed within two years. Funding Group II: Up to \$2,000,000 per agreement for a project that can be completed within three years. Projects in this group may be funded on an annual basis. Funding for the second and third years of the project is contingent upon future appropriations. Funding Group III: Up to \$5,000,000 per agreement for a project that can be completed within three years. Projects in this group may be funded on an annual basis. Funding for the second and third years of the project is contingent upon future appropriations.
Estimated Number of Agreements to be Awarded: (See NOFO Sec. B)	Approximately 15 to 21 projects contingent upon available Federal appropriations.



○ Water SMART Drought NOFO



- Planning prioritization.

Projects carried out through Drought Resiliency Project Grants can increase water management flexibility—making our water supply more resilient. This helps to prepare for and address the impacts of drought. Proposals submitted under this NOFO must demonstrate that the proposed project is supported by an existing drought planning effort. It is a well-established principle that proactively identifying resiliency projects through drought planning, in advance of a crisis, is far more cost effective than emergency response. As stated on the National Drought Mitigation

Proposed projects that are supported by an existing drought plan are prioritized. This prioritization will help ensure that projects funded under this NOFO are well thought out, have public support, and have been identified as the best way to address vulnerabilities to drought.





○ Water SMART Drought NOFO

- Related funding options.

A.4. Other Related Funding Opportunities

For additional information on other WaterSMART funding opportunities, please see www.usbr.gov/watersmart. Please contact the Program Coordinator (identified in Section G. Agency Contact) with questions regarding which NOFO is the best fit for your project.

WaterSMART Drought Contingency Planning NOFO. Financial assistance is provided under the Drought Response Program, on a 50/50 cost share basis, to develop a drought contingency plan or to update an existing plan.





○ Water SMART Drought NOFO

- Drought Response Grant Program Goals.

To be eligible for funding under this NOFO, the proposed resiliency project should improve the ability of water managers to continue to deliver water and power during a drought. The proposed project should decrease vulnerabilities and costs of drought by giving water managers flexibility in times of low water supply. In addition, the proposed project must be beyond routine water management activities or activities required by state law for conservation and efficiency. The proposed resiliency project should also help avoid the need for emergency response actions, such as water hauling programs and temporary infrastructure. Projects funded under this NOFO must have ongoing benefits to build long-term resilience to drought, even if they also address an immediate drought concern.



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○ Water SMART Drought NOFO

- Drought Response Grant Program.

Wells funded under this NOFO are to be used for supplemental supplies during times of drought, to serve communities that are or are potentially facing a public health crisis due to a lack of potable water, or to recover previously recharged/stored water. This NOFO is not intended to provide funding for wells that are part of a long-term planning effort to support increased need due to population growth or increased irrigation demands. Projects may include, but are limited to following:

- Constructing wells to provide back-up water supplies during times of drought.
- Constructing extraction wells at groundwater banks or other recharge areas to improve extraction and return capabilities during dry years.





QUESTIONS?



Webinar Schedule



Grant Writing Webinar Series Schedule			
Day	Date	Time	Topic
Wednesday	9-Mar	10 - 11 AM	Introductory Session/Overview of Funding Sources
Wednesday	23-Mar	10 - 11 AM	#1. What Makes a Good Project?
Tuesday	5-Apr	10 - 11 AM	#2. Benefits/Limitations/Considerations of External Public Funding
Tuesday	26-Apr	10 - 11 AM	#3. Project Scoping for Funding
Tuesday	17-May	10 - 11 AM	#4. General Project Development
Thursday	9-Jun	10 - 11 AM	#5. Identifying Matching Funds & Partners
Tuesday	21-Jun	10 - 11 AM	#6. You Got the Money - Now What?



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○ Key Contacts



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