

SF Bay Water Quality Improvement Fund

FY14 Request for Initial Proposals Overview

April 16, 2014

Dial-In Number(s): (866) 299-3188
Conference Code: 9723733#

Luisa Valiela
415-972-3400



Purpose of Webinar

- Help you develop competitive, well-written proposals for eligible projects that:
 - reduce polluted run-off
 - restore impaired waters
 - enhance aquatic habitat
- Focus on environmental results



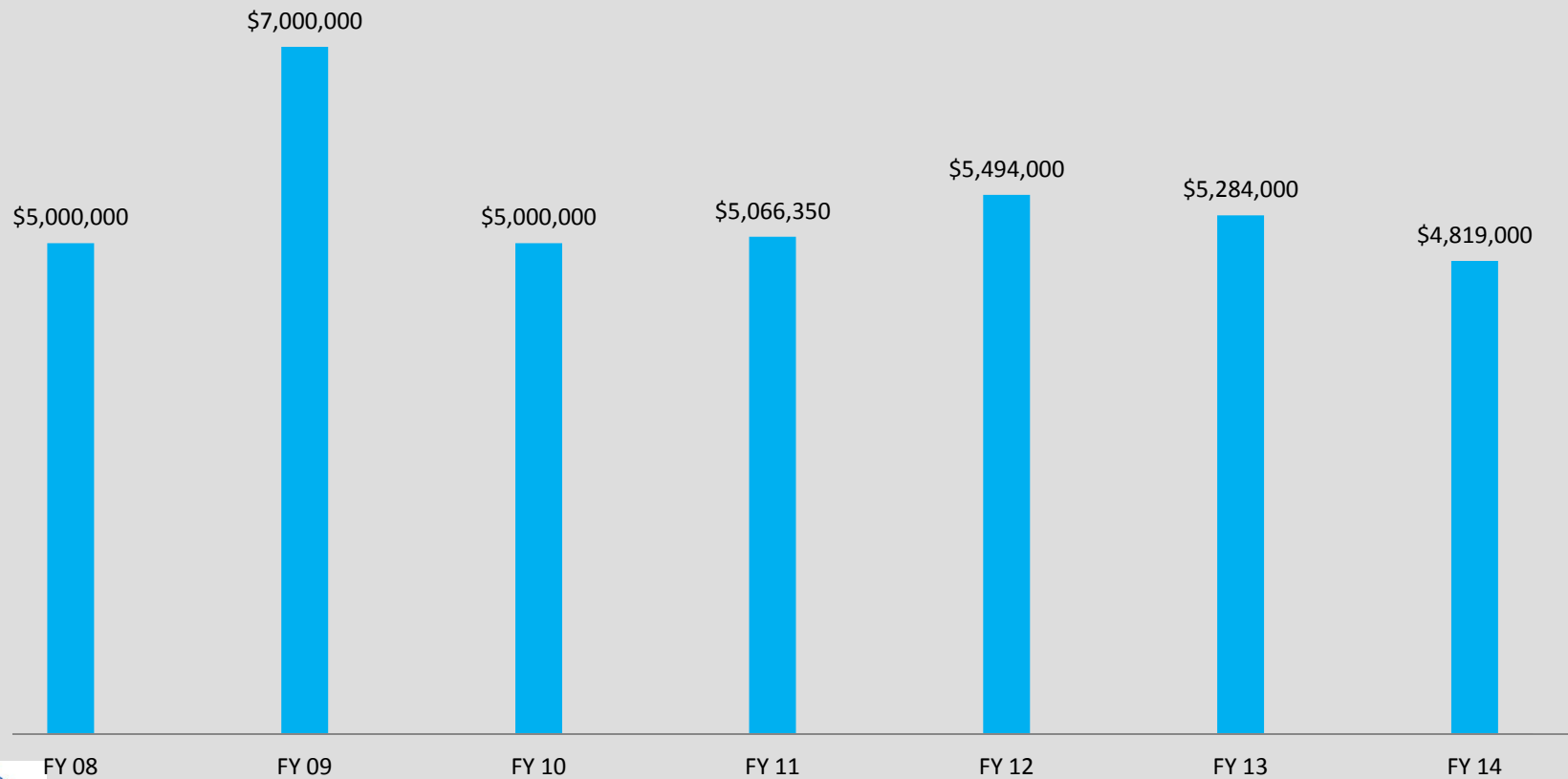
Topic Outline

- Program History
- Overview of FY 14 RFIP
- Important Dates
- Program Priorities
- Initial Proposal Submittal
- Initial Evaluation Criteria
- Selection Process
- Resources
- Questions and Answers



SF Bay Grant Program History

SFBWQIF Grant Funding by Fiscal Year (Total = ~\$38 mil)



FY 14 RFIP

Available Funds	~ \$5 million
Funding Range for Projects	\$800,000 to \$2,000,000
Match (statutory authority)	50%
Project Period	~4 Years
Evaluation Criteria - <u>Initial Proposals</u> (100 pts)	<p>Scope/Approach (45 pts)</p> <p>Environmental Results (45 pts)</p> <p>Budget Summary (10 pts)</p>
Evaluation Criteria - <u>Full Proposals</u> (100 pts)	<p>Partnerships (35 pts)</p> <p>Budget Detail (40 pts)</p> <p>Programmatic Capability and Past Performance (20 pts)</p> <p>Expenditure of Awarded Grant Funds (5 pts)</p>



Important Dates

April 30, 2014 - Due Date for Initial Proposals -> EPA via Grants.gov, mail, overnight delivery, hand delivery, or courier service by 5pm Pacific Standard Time (no e-mail or fax deliveries).

May 30, 2014* -> EPA notifies successful applicants to prepare full proposals.

July 11, 2014* -> Due Date for Full Proposals -> EPA via email or mail by 5pm Pacific Standard Time. (*Note: no submittal through Grants.gov for full proposals*)

September 2014* Awards made.

**Subject to change.*



Program Priorities

- Emphasis on wetlands and restoration of impaired waters, and other project types are encouraged
- Projects based on existing analysis and plans (e.g. TMDL implementation plans) are more likely to be selected as better investments
- Planning projects eligible, but to be competitive, describe how it will be implemented and describe expected environmental results
- Plus
 - Proposal should describe climate change considerations
 - Projects encouraged in areas not previously funded



Your Initial Proposal Submission

- Six page narrative
 - Include paragraph-sized abstract or project summary
 - Project Description including project activities, timeframes, QAPP needs, and any related climate change considerations
 - Environmental Results (complete suggested table)
 - List CCMP Objectives to be implemented (see Attachment A of RFIP)

Not included in 6-page limit:

- Standard form (SF) 424
- SF 424 A – Budget Summary
- Map of the watershed and/or proposed project area



Initial Evaluation Criteria:

1. Scope/Approach (45 pts)

- a technically/scientifically sound approach for the specific water quality and environmental problems to be addressed by the project activities, including appropriate considerations for anticipated climate change effects. (20 pts)
- a description of the environmental significance of the project. (15 pts)
- activities based on existing plans and assessments, such as watershed plans and TMDLs and/or associated analysis; or for proposed planning and assessment activities the likelihood of subsequent implementation. (10 pts)



Appropriate Considerations for Anticipated Climate Change Effects

For example:

- Tidal wetlands restoration projects should describe how they incorporated sea level rise predictions
- Green infrastructure projects should discuss adapting to changing rainfall patterns



Initial Evaluation Criteria:

2. Environmental Results (45 pts)

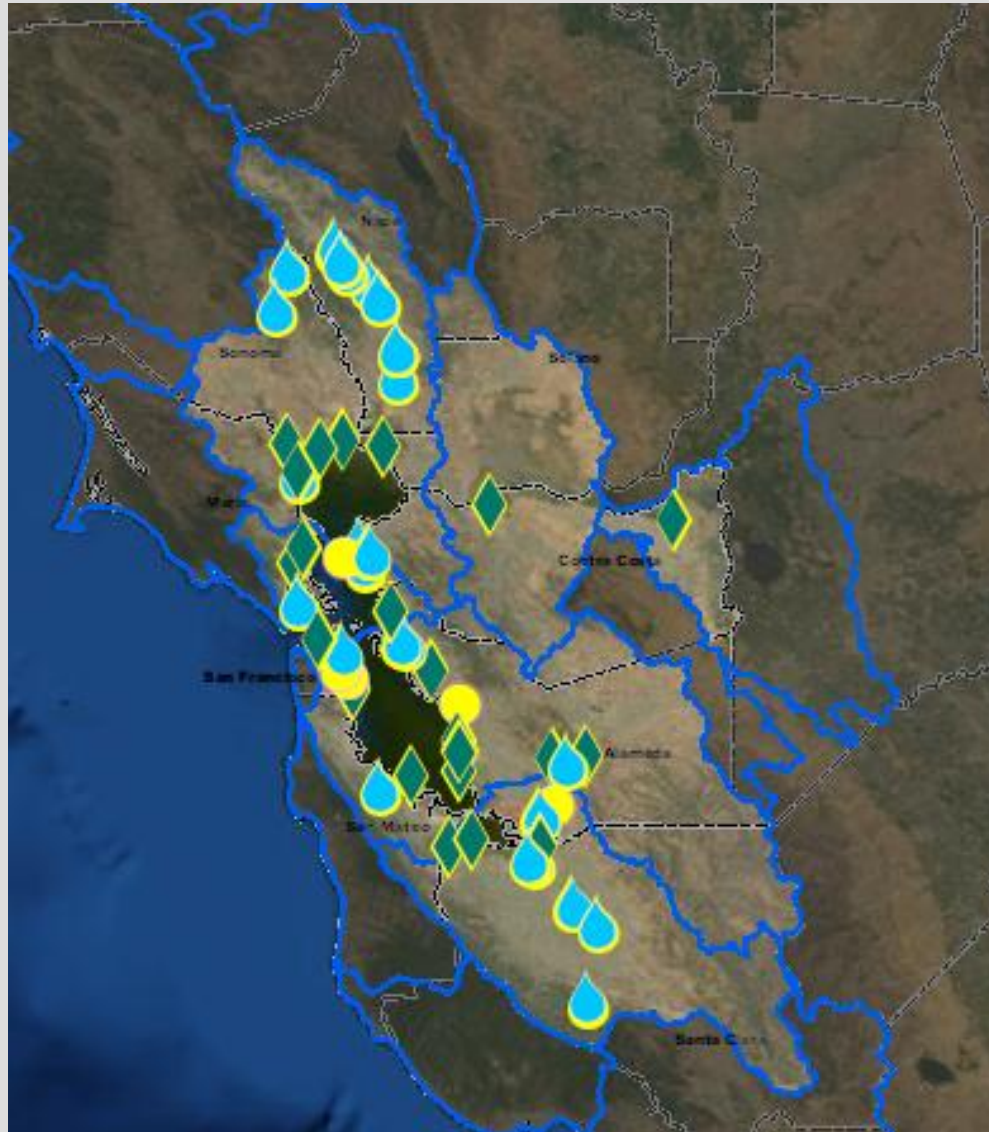
- well defined outputs throughout the project timeframe. **(5 pts)**
- that significant environmental results (outcomes), such as specific (quantitative) water quality and aquatic habitat results, will be achieved by the project. **(20 pts)**
- an effective plan for tracking and measuring progress toward achieving expected project outputs and outcomes, including those identified in Section I. **(10 pts)**

NEW:

- the extent to which significant environmental results will be achieved by the project in a geographic area that has not yet received SFBWQIF funding. **(10 pts)**



SFBWQIF Project Locations



Environmental Results: Outputs & Outcomes

- Outputs = activities and/or deliverables
- Outcomes = consequences/results from your project
- Quantify anticipated outcomes
- Projects with clear and quantifiable environmental outcomes & a plan for tracking progress towards achieving those goals **will be more competitive.**



Example Table: Outputs and Outcomes

Pond A17 of the South Bay Salt Ponds		
OUTPUTS (activity, effort, and/or work product during project period)	OUTCOMES (environmental results)	
	SHORT-TERM (1-5YRS)	LONG-TERM (5-20+YRS)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project permitting • QAPP approval • Site preparation including installing water control structures and fish screens • Levee lowering and breaching at Coyote Creek (October 31, 2012) • Quarterly Reporting 	<p>Full tidal inundation of 130 acres</p> <p>Creation of high tide refugia for birds and mammals</p> <p>Creation of 9 acres of fish habitat and low tide foraging habitat in tidal channels</p>	<p>Restore 130 acres of tidal marsh at Pond A17</p> <p>Enhance Habitat for endangered species (Clapper Rail and SMHM) and migratory birds</p> <p>Increased tidal flooding buffering and sediment trapping to keep pace with sea level rise</p> <p><i>(What's missing? 130 acres provides X% of tidal marsh goal of 10,000 acres by 2050)</i></p>



Initial Evaluation Criteria:

3. Budget Summary (10 pts)

- whether the budget as presented in Form 424(A) is reasonable given the project scope and environmental results proposed. **(10 pts)**



EXAMPLE Standard Form 424A

BUDGET INFORMATION - Non-Construction Programs

OMB Approval No. 0348-0044

SECTION A - BUDGET SUMMARY

Grant Program Function or Activity (a)	Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number (b)	Estimated Unobligated Funds		New or Revised Budget		Total (Project Cost) (g)
		Federal (c)	Non-Federal (d)	Federal (EPA) (e)	Non-Federal (f)	
1. SFBWQIF	66.126	\$	\$	Amount applying for: \$1,700,000	Put match here: \$1,700,000	\$3,400,000
2.						
3.						
4.						
5. TOTALS				\$800,000	\$800,000	\$1,600,000

SECTION B - BUDGET CATEGORIES

6. OBJECT CLASS CATEGORIES	GRANT PROGRAM, FUNCTION OR ACTIVITY				(5) Total
	(1) Federal (EPA)	(2) Match	(3)	(4)	
a. Personnel	\$200,000	\$100,000	\$	\$	\$300,000
b. Fringe Benefits	0	0			\$0
c. Travel	0	0			\$0
d. Equipment	0	0			\$0
e. Supplies	0	0			\$0
f. Contractual <i>(construction dollars typically go here)</i>	1,000,000	500,000			\$1,500,000
g. Construction	0	0	-	-	\$0
h. Other	500,000	1,100,000			\$1,600,000
i. Total Direct Charges (sum of 6a - 6h)	0	0			\$0
j. Indirect Charges	0	0			\$0
k. TOTALS (sum of 6i and 6j)	\$1,700,000	\$1,700,000			\$3,400,000

How do I calculate a 50% match?

If your total project cost is \$2,000,000, the formula below would result in \$1,000,000 as your match, and \$1,000,000 as your federal EPA grant portion.

**EPA (Requested Amount) + Match = Total
Project Cost**

\$1,000,000+ \$1,000,000 = \$2,000,000

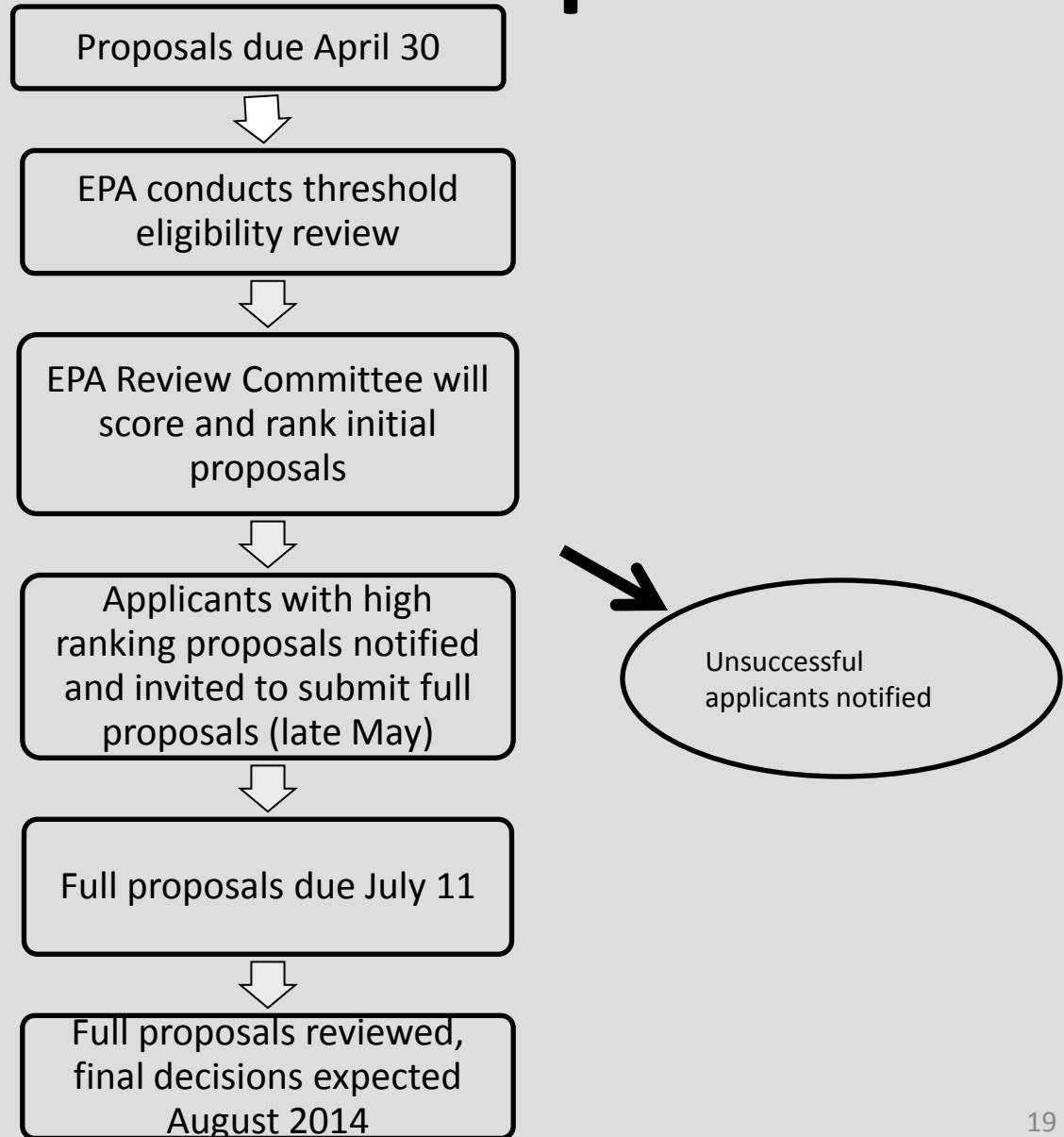


REMINDER: EPA HQ Website for grant solicitation provisions

- Please go to this website to see other requirements that apply to this RFIP
 - http://www.epa.gov/ogd/competition/solicitation_provisions.htm
- These provisions are important and applicants must review them when preparing proposals for this solicitation.



What is the selection process?



Resources

- **EPA Region 9 Grant Application Resources (SF 424, SF 424A)**
<http://www.epa.gov/ogd/AppKit/application.htm>
- **San Francisco Bay Water Quality Improvement Fund RFI, FAQ, Environmental Results, Project Info, Copy of webinar**
<http://www2.epa.gov/sfbay-delta/sf-bay-water-quality-improvement-fund>
- **SFEP Comprehensive Conservation & Management Plan**
<http://www.sfestuary.org/about-the-estuary/documents-reports/>



Key Points

- **Competitive process**
 - Succinct one paragraph project summary (abstract)
 - 6 page submittal – clearly describe your project and address the evaluation criteria
 - EPA will select best projects based on criteria
- **Read RFIP, especially Sections on:**
 - Program Priorities
 - Environmental Results
 - Initial Proposal Submission Content
 - Initial Proposal Evaluation Criteria
- **Good luck!**



Q & A

Contact: Luisa Valiela

Phone: (415) 972-3400

Email: valiela.luisa@epa.gov

Contact: Erica Yelensky

Phone: (415) 972-3021

Email: yelensky.eric@epa.gov

