

Attachment 1: Criteria for Use of NPS Projects Fund (\$2,850,000)

Criteria	Regional Board Approved Additional Criteria
Projects Fund shall be used to fund projects to reduce sediment, nutrients, pesticides and other pollutants	Projects must be able to demonstrate the ability to reduce contributions of sediment, nutrients, pesticides and/or other pollutants. Projects must estimate baseline condition and sediment savings if applicable
Projects must be consistent with the Regional Board's Toxic Hot Spots Cleanup Plan or Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary's Plan for Agriculture	
Projects shall focus on Elkhorn Slough or Moss Landing Harbor and watersheds tributary to the Slough and Harbor, including the Salinas River, Moro Cojo Slough and Tembladero Slough	
Projects Fund may also fund support for establishing new watershed working groups according to the Sanctuary Agriculture Plan or providing support for existing groups	Proponent must demonstrate ability to provide effective support for implementation projects. Support may include education and technical assistance in project design and installation. Project will be ranked higher if it provides support for watershed working groups
	Project will be ranked higher if it results in formation of new watershed working groups
	Project will be ranked higher if it targets historically under-served populations
	Project will be ranked higher if it assists in development and implementation of farm or ranch water quality management plans or other watershed management or conservation plans
Support may also include screening of applications for funding and assistance with and review of implementation of projects	Funds may be used to provide outreach about funds, solicit proposals, review and rank proposals, and oversee project implementation
Applicants will be ranked higher if they have completed a water quality management plan either through a UC short course or in conjunction with NRCS or the Monterey County RCD staff	Project will be ranked higher if the proponent has attended a UCCE Farm or Ranch Water Quality Planning short course and completed a water quality management plan
Proposal will be ranked higher if it implements management projects identified in a water quality management plan and recommendations made by the Regional Board, UC, NRCS and RCD	
Proposals shall contain a cost-share match	All projects must provide a cost-share match of at least 25%. Match may be cash or in-kind and must be above and beyond the normal course of business.
Proposals must be implemented within a date specified in the funding commitment	All fund recipients must agree to complete projects within a time frame specified in the funding agreement. All projects must provide progress reports on a schedule specified in the funding agreement. Projects must be maintained in functional condition after installation is completed.

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Regional Board Approval Application Criteria	Regional Board Approval Application Criteria
<p>Applicants must participate in the Regional Board's monitoring program for pollution reduction effectiveness as described in the Nonpoint Source Monitoring Fund</p>	<p>Projects must contain an evaluation component to demonstrate effectiveness and be consistent with the criteria of the NPS Monitoring Fund</p>
<p>Proposals will be ranked higher if the applicant is a member of an industry-led watershed working group as defined in the Sanctuary Agricultural Plan</p>	
<p>Funding will be disbursed in at least three installments to assure project completion (initial, midway and after completion)</p>	
<p>Applicants must allow Regional Board staff access to the project area for monitoring and inspection</p>	<p>Fund recipients must provide site access to Regional Board staff if applicable. All projects must be willing to function as demonstration sites if requested</p>
	<p>Project will be ranked higher if the proponent has participated in training on techniques for environmental protection, such as field days, workshops and conferences</p>
	<p>Preference under the NPS Projects Fund will be given to projects under \$50,000. Projects greater than \$50,000 will be reviewed by the RB at a public hearing</p>
	<p>Project will be ranked higher if it addresses the source of the problem rather than only the symptoms</p>
	<p>Proponents must secure necessary permits prior to receiving funds. Permit fees may be used for cost-share match</p>
	<p>Project will be ranked higher if it implements an integrated system of practices rather than relying on a single practice to solve the problem</p>
	<p>Project will be ranked higher if it is implementing a component of a watershed management plan or conservation plan identified in the water quality management plan and recommendations made by the RB, UC NRCS and RCD</p>
	<p>In awarding funds, consideration will be given to applicant's past performance if applicable.</p>