Targeted Runoff Management (TRM) Grant Application Instructions for Large-Scale Agricultural Projects

2028

Bureau of Watershed Management

Bureau of Community Financial Assistance

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Oct. 16, 2026

Applications must be postmarked and mailed by

April 15

(Or April 16/17, if April 15 falls on a Sunday/Saturday)

This document is intended solely as guidance and does not contain any mandatory requirements except where requirements found in statute or administrative rule are referenced. Any regulatory decisions made by the Department of Natural Resources in any matter addressed by this guidance will be made by applying the governing statutes and administrative rules to the relevant facts. EGAD #: 3800-2026-09

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General Information

The Targeted Runoff Management (TRM) Grant Program is a cost-share reimbursement grant program. The maximum cost-share rate is up to 70% of eligible expenses (up to 90% for economic

hardship), up to a maximum award of $600,000. Under the TRM grant program, cost-share reimbursement of eligible expenses follows the process illustrated in Figure 1.

Grant applications are reviewed and ranked via a competitive process. Figure 2, Large-Scale Agricultural Targeted Runoff Management Scoring System Flow Chart illustrates the evaluation process used in evaluating and ranking applications.

Large-Scale Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) projects are ranked separately from Large-Scale Non-TMDL projects. Applicants are notified of their application's rank and funding status in the fall of the calendar year that the application was submitted. The three-year grant period typically starts in January of the following year, although a delay in the adoption of state or federal budgets can delay this timetable.

Large-Scale TRM project funding has certain sideboards and limitations that potential applicants should consider when deciding whether to apply. These include:

- Compared to Small-Scale TRM projects, Large-Scale projects address water resources problems in larger geographic areas of subwatersheds, the equivalent of Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) 12. If the project is in a non-TMDL area, the size of the subwatershed is limited to between 8 and 39 square miles. Large-Scale projects receive more funding and have access to a broader array of funding sources that can help meet cropping practice and staffing needs.
- Projects must be completed in three years, with a possible extension to a fourth year if warranted.
- If a Large-Scale project grant is awarded, the applicant will not be eligible for any future TRM grant within that area until the Large-Scale project is completed.
- Grant funds may reimburse structural BMPs, cropping practices and local assistance. Funding (including structural BMPs, cropping practices and local assistance) is limited to $600,000 per Large-Scale project.
- The portion of the grant that can be used for local assistance activity may not exceed 40% of the grant amount (state share) allocated for BMPs. Local assistance reimbursement covers time spent by existing or added staff.
- Projects exceeding $400,000 may be funded in two installments: the first installment at the beginning of Year 1 and the remaining portion at the beginning of Year 3. The second installment may be reduced if the project is not proceeding as planned or if the state budget allocation is inadequate. The DNR will work with grantees to ensure that all commitments on cost-share agreements are met.
- The maximum cost-share is 70% for BMPs (90%) for economic hardship) and 70% for local assistance. Funds from the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) may not be used to fulfill the local share requirement of BMP installation. Local assistance reimbursement may not be made for staff hours being reimbursed by DATCP under its staffing grant to the county.

- The maximum amount of funding that a grantee may receive in multiple grant awards in any one year generally cannot exceed 20% of the available grant funds for a particular project category. Projects on the ranked list whose selection for funding would exceed 20% of available funds for a particular category are moved to the bottom of the list and funded only if funding remains after all other eligible projects have been funded.
- Federal and state funding sources are used for these projects. All projects are eligible to access the state funds. Some projects are eligible to access the federal funds. This includes projects that implement the goals and recommendations of an EPA-accepted watershed-based "nine key element" plan.
- Lake sediment treatments are not eligible practices in Large-Scale TRM grant projects. They are eligible in Small-Scale TMDL TRM grant projects.

- All WPDES permit activities are ineligible. Livestock operations that exceed 1,000 animal units at any time are required to obtain a WPDES permit under NR 243. These operations are ineligible for state cost-share funds.
  - Livestock operations with less than 1,000 animal units that have been issued a WPDES permit are ineligible for state cost-share funds.
  - Livestock operations that have or will have within 12 months at least 1,000 animal units are required to apply for a WPDES permit and are ineligible for state cost-share funds. If an operation receives funds and then expands within this 12-month time frame, the operation is required to repay all state cost-share funds received for the project.
  - Cropland included in a CAFO nutrient management plan is not eligible for cost-share funds.
- **Large-Scale Non-TMDL Projects** must improve degraded surface and ground waters or protect threatened surface and ground waters from degradation, by addressing noncompliance with Wisconsin's agricultural performance standards and prohibitions (PS&Ps).
- **Large-Scale TMDL Projects** must contribute to the removal of surface waters from the state's impaired waters list in a way that is consistent with TMDL reports and TMDL implementation plans. Details about TMDLs are provided in Part II-A of the instructions.
- Applicants are required to submit completed Governmental Responsibility Resolutions, citing which Responsible Government Official(s) is responsible for submitting the application and subsequent required forms (see this additional resource), as well as assuring that the local unit of government has budgeted a sum to complete the project. For join project applications (among multiple units of government), a draft Inter-governmental Agreement (IGA) must be submitted with the application (see this additional resource).

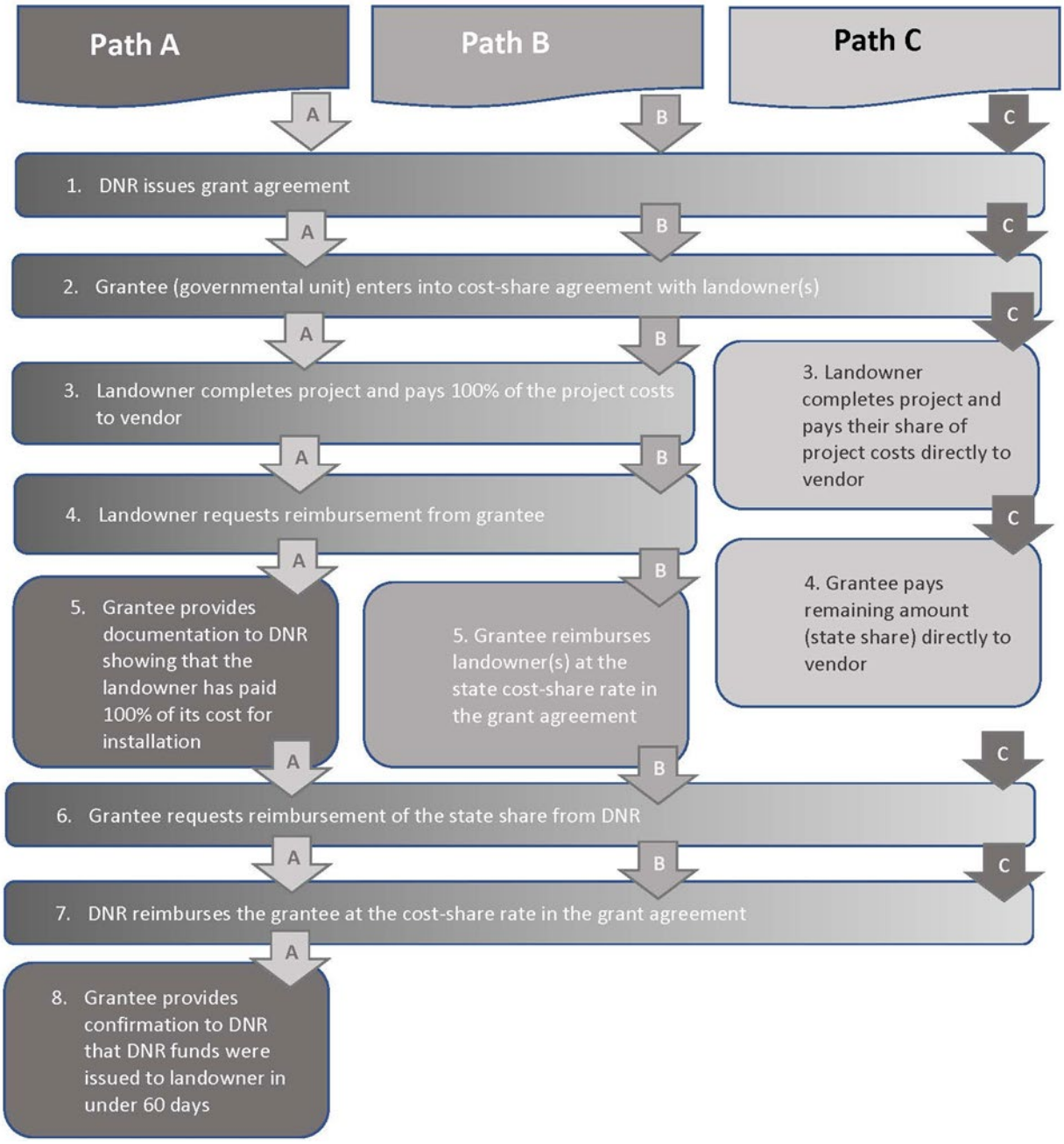


Figure 1. TRM Cost-Share Reimbursement Process

Grantee Responsibilities

- Grantees must request final reimbursement no later than 60 days after the end of the grant period.
- The applicant must apply separately for any DNR permits (*e. g.*, Chapter 30 or 31). DNR approvals issued under this grant program do not automatically meet the approval requirements of other DNR programs, such as chs. 30 or 31, Wis. Stats., permit(s).
- Grantees will be required to submit interim reports when requested and a final report using the DNR's BMP Implementation Tracking System (BITS) summarizing the results of the project, including before and after photos. Further details about the Final Report are provided in the grant agreement.

Special Information About DNR Funding for Nutrient Management Plans (NMPs)

Beginning in 2017, with the approval of the Bond Counsel, the DNR is able to reimburse grantees for NMPs using bond revenue **if** those NMPs are prepared in conjunction with manure storage or barnyard runoff control projects also funded with a DNR grant. Such NMPs will be used to demonstrate that acreage for manure spreading is insufficient and so manure storage is needed. Manure storage or barnyard runoff control projects are the only two BMPs where use of bond revenue for NMP reimbursement is possible. The amount of bond revenue that can be used for NMP reimbursement cannot exceed 20% of the total grant amount awarded by the DNR for structural practices. The DNR is required to reimburse all other NMPs using other, non-bond revenue, funding sources.

Special Information for Grantees Seeking Reimbursement from The DNR

With recent approval of the Bond Counsel (December 2017), grantees may now request reimbursement of bond-eligible practices from the DNR even if the grantee has not first reimbursed the landowner. It had been a long-established practice of this program that grantees must first reimburse a landowner the appropriate cost-share percentage before requesting reimbursement from the DNR. With this change in grant administration, the DNR will reimburse grantees so long as the grantee can show that the landowner has paid 100% of its costs for practice installation AND the grantee can confirm that funds received from the DNR have been issued to the landowner in under 60 days. The DNR understands that grantees have processes in place that often require Committee approval before payment to a landowner can be made by the grantee AND some local governments only issue payment checks two times per month. As a result, it is understood that grantees will likely deposit funds received from the DNR before payment is issued to the landowner. Funds received from the DNR must be placed in a separate account; grantees may not co-mingle funds received from the DNR with other grantee funds. Further, funds received from the DNR must be kept in a separate account that does not earn interest. Failure to comply with these requirements will harm the relationship the State of Wisconsin has with the Internal Revenue Service related to the use of bond revenue and may result in this funding flexibility being withdrawn by the Bond Counsel.

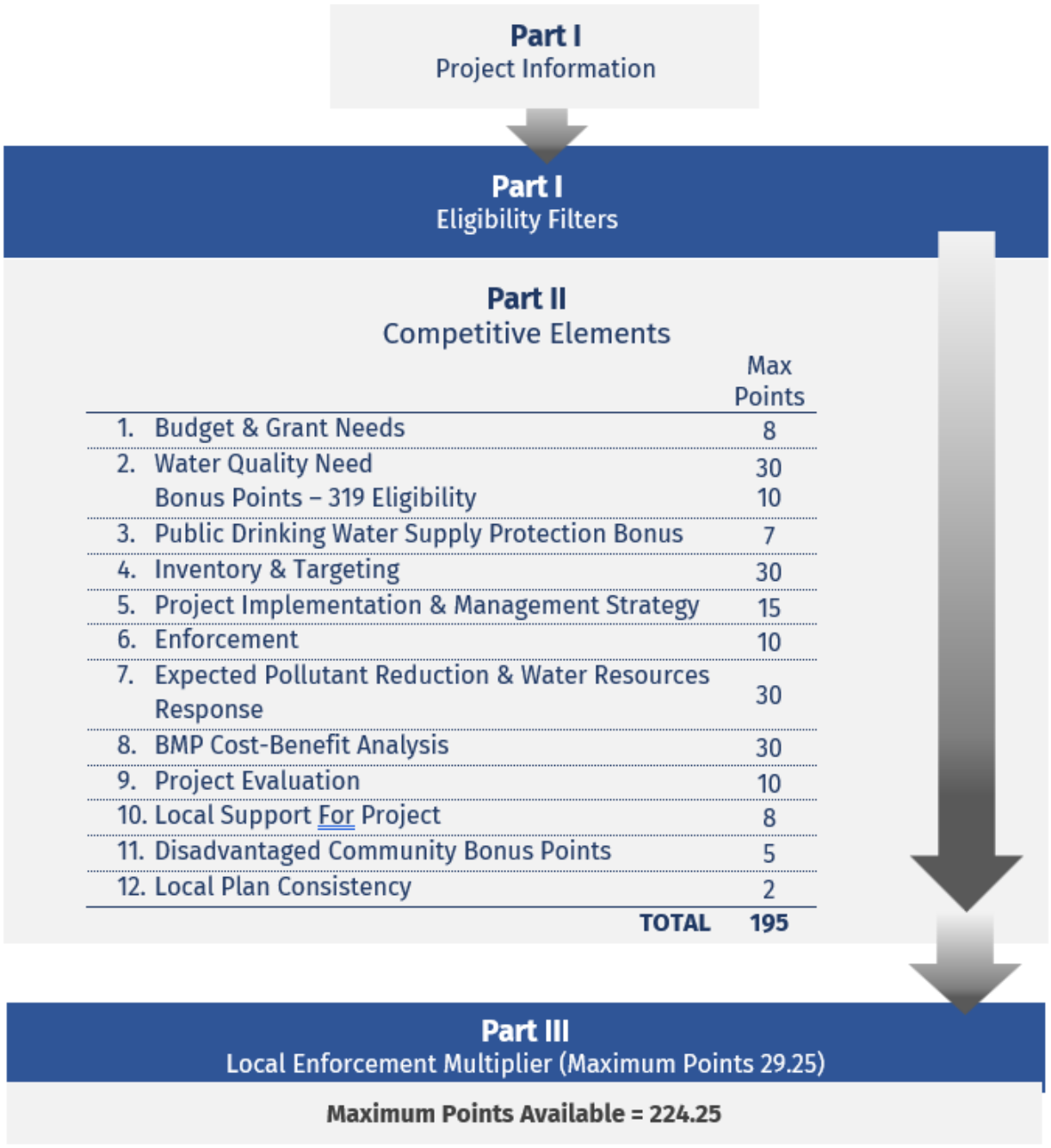


Figure 2 Large-Scale TRM Screening & Scoring Process

Completing Your TRM Application

Instructions for Completing Form 8700-333

- Contact your local DNR Nonpoint Source Coordinator to discuss the proposed project, including each of the following:
  - Field Evaluation Monitoring
  - Project eligibility
  - Proposed BMP selection/sizing
  - Required permits and other feasibility issues
  - Water quality need
  - Watershed plan if non-TMDL
  - 9E Plan in place of TMDL

Applicants are **required** to contact their local NPS coordinator prior to application submittal, for their application to be eligible for funding consideration. Find your local Nonpoint Source Coordinator at: https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/nonpoint/ NPScontacts.html.

If the applicant is using a 9E Plan in place of a TMDL, prior approval from the department is required.

- Draft a Governmental Responsibility Resolution (GRR) that identifies and authorizes a responsible Governmental Representative(s) to submit the application and subsequent required forms on behalf of the applicant/local unit of government.
- Get approval/execution of the draft GRR on the agenda of the next local government board/committee meeting before the application due date.

Applicants are required to attach an executed GRR (GRR Template) to their application that identifies and authorizes a Responsible Governmental Representative(s) (or authorized government official position title) to submit the application and subsequent required forms on behalf of applicant/local unit of government. The signature on the application must be consistent with the Governmental Responsibility Resolution.

Depending on the schedule and frequency of local meetings, and timing of agenda postings, this often requires significant lead time.

- Save the current version of Form 8700-333 Targeted Runoff Management (TRM) Grant Program Large-Scale Agricultural Application onto your hard drive. (“Save as” your chosen file name.)
- Fill the form in electronically. Use the “Tab” key to move to the next field or link. Otherwise, use the “Enter” key to update a field and click in the next fillable field. Provide all applicable information required by the application.

The Large Scale TRM application form and instructions are posted on the DNR website https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/aid/TargetedRunoff.html in January of each calendar year.

Under the authority granted by Wisconsin Administrative Code, the DNR may deny consideration of submittals that are incomplete. This includes applications missing required information and

projects that may be significantly delayed by DNR review to determine compliance of the project with other state laws, such as Chapter 30, Wis. Stats. (unless otherwise noted, all citations refer to Wisconsin Administrative Code).

Assembling & Submitting Your TRM Application

1. Assemble one complete application (current version of DNR Form 8700-333), including all attachments, with a signature by the Authorized Responsible Government Official listed in the GRR.

2. The assembled application must conform to the following:
   - All pages in the application, including maps, must be 8.5 x 11 inches in size.
   - Each page must be numbered.
   - All attachments must clearly identify the associated question number and description.

3. The signed application and attachments should be saved in at least two separate PDF files (e.g. GranteeName_ProjectName_LS_TRM_Application, GranteeName_ProjectName_LS_TRM_Attachments).

4. Email the application files or a link to the files on a different FTP site to DNRCFANonpointGrants@wisconsin.gov. Send multiple emails and break up the files if they exceed 25 MB. The subject line of the email should include the Application Type, Project Name and Applicant Name.

5. If the application was signed by hand by the Authorized Responsible Government Official (ARGO) and scanned, the application could be submitted by the local contact, consultant or other staff person. If the application is signed electronically, the application must be submitted by the ARGO directly via email. If the ARGO cannot submit the application directly, the ARGO may send an email stating their approval of the grant submission. This email will be kept with the grant file.

6. Application submittals must be emailed no later than April 15 (April 16/17, if April 15 falls on a Sunday or Saturday).

Attachment Checklist

Required with all applications

- GRR (if not attached, date for submission should be provided – required prior to grant award)
- An 8.5 x 11-inch map from USGS or the DNR data/map viewers, showing the project location
- Aerial photo maps and project area photos

Required with some applications

Not all the attachments listed below will apply to every application. Use the instructions and application form to determine which attachments to include.

- Part I Question C: Attach more information for project summary, if needed.
- Part I Questions F5 & 6: If web link is not provided, attach pages to show consistency with LWRMP.
- Part I Question F12: If there is a joint application among local units of government, attach a draft Inter Governmental Agreement.
- Part I Question F11: If project is at a livestock facility, attach an Animal Units Calculation Worksheet (Form 3400-25a) for current and future animal numbers for all animal feeding operations that constitute a single animal feeding operation associated with the project site, including main/home farm and satellite operations.
- Part II Question C: Attach detailed construction components and costs, if available, to support question score. Attach design, bid, and estimate documentation to receive points.
- Part II Question II: If the project evaluation strategy includes monitoring, attach a one-page summary of the supplemental strategy that is signed by a DNR Water Quality Biologist.
- Part II 10: Attach letters of support to receive points.
- Part II Question 12: If a web link is not provided, attach pertinent pages of the plan(s).
- Part III: If a web link is not provided, attach an applicable ordinance.

Applicant Information

- Enter the calendar year that the grant award will start. The grant award year is the

- calendar year following this application year.

- Enter the project name. The project name should be a unique identifier of this particular project.

- Enter the name of the governmental unit applying.

- The applicant must be a governmental unit.

Governmental unit means any unit of government, including, but not limited to:

- a county, city, village, town, tribe, metropolitan sewerage district created under ss. 200.01-200.15 or 200.21-200.65, Wis. Stats.;
- town sanitary district, public inland lake protection and rehabilitation district, regional planning commission or drainage district operating under ch. 89, Wis. Stats. or ch. 88, Wis. Stats; and school districts.

- Enter the name and contact information of the applicant's "Responsible Government Official/Authorized Signatory." The Responsible Governmental Unit's Official / Authorized Signatory is the Government Official authorized to sign the grant application on behalf of the governmental unit.

The Governmental Unit's Official / Authorized Signatory must be consistent with the name or job title of the individual authorized by the Governmental Responsibility Resolution form attached to this application (See GRR Template).

The Authorized Signatory cannot be a consultant.

- Enter the name and contact information of the applicant's "Contact Person." The Grant Contact Person is the Government Official or staff person most directly involved in the implementation of this project.
- If the Grant Contact Person is the same as the Governmental Unit's Authorized Signatory, write same in the Contact Person box and leave the remaining fields on the right half of Part I blank.

The Grant Contact Person cannot be a consultant.

Part I: Project Information

A. PROJECT CATEGORY

Identify the project category.

- Select 1 - Non-TMDL Project if the proposed project is not located in an area covered by an EPA-approved TMDL, is designed to achieve attainment of agricultural performance standards and prohibitions established in Subchapter II, NR 151 AND if the water resource management goals are included in a final, approved watershed plan or strategy recognized by the DNR (see this additional resource).

- Select 2 - TMDL Project if the proposed project addresses nonpoint source pollution in a location(s) covered by a draft DNR-approved or EPA-approved TMDL or watershed-based plan that meets EPA's nine key elements, and the project addresses the most critical agricultural nonpoint pollutants and sources identified in the TMDL or nine key element plan document.

There are two types of large-scale agricultural TRM project categories: TMDL and non-TMDL.

For non-TMDL projects, the water resource management goals need to be included in a watershed plan or strategy. The ideal plan is a watershed plan that is consistent with EPA's nine key elements (https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Nonpoint/9keyElement). Other plans are acceptable if they contain the components listed in this additional resource. The designated sub-watershed area must be between 8 and 39 square miles. The project must be designed to control the most critical nonpoint source pollution sources that are determined to be significant based on their relative contribution to the water quality impairment and that can be cost-effectively controlled.

Section 303(d) of the federal Clean Water Act requires states to conduct water quality improvement analyses, called "Total Maximum Daily Loads" or TMDLs, for impaired water bodies that are not meeting water quality standards. The goal of a TMDL is to identify pollutant reduction levels to correct water quality impairments and achieve designated uses of water bodies through attainment of water quality standards. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) must approve each TMDL. The State is charged with ensuring the necessary actions are taken so that the loading of the pollutant of concern does not exceed the TMDL and associated load allocations. To ensure the reduction goals in the TMDLs are attained, BMPs should be implemented and maintained.

A list of Wisconsin's approved TMDL(s) is available on the DNR's website at: https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/TMDLs

- If 1-Non-TMDL Project is selected, complete additional questions.

- Provide the title of the watershed plan that the project implements and a link to the plan, if available.
- Identify the critical nonpoint source pollutants the project will control.

- If 2-TMDL Project is selected, complete additional questions.
  - Provide the title of the TMDL or plan document that the project implements and a link to the report, if available.
  - Identify the critical pollutants the project will address.

B. Location of Project

- Enter the project location.
  - Enter the county name(s), state senate district number and state assembly district number where the project is located.
  - Enter the latitude (4-7 decimal places) and longitude (negative, West of the Prime Meridian and 4-7 decimal places) for the center point of the project area.

Use the Surface Water Data Viewer (SWDV) as needed to assist you in completing the project location information.

See this additional resource for assistance in using the Surface Water Data Viewer.

C. Watershed and Waterbody Information & Project Summary

- Enter the name of the targeted waterbody that will be impacted by the project.
- Identify the HUC 12 for the targeted waterbody using the HUC 12 layer in the Surface Water Data Viewer.

A watershed is the geographic area draining to a specific portion of a surface or groundwater resource. It is the area of land where all the water that is under it or drains off of it goes into the same place. Watersheds in the United States were delineated by the U.S. Geological Survey using a national standard hierarchical system known as “hydrologic units.” A hydrologic unit pertains to a surface water drainage area of a particular scale. Each hydrologic unit is identified by a unique hydrologic unit code (HUC).

- Surface Water Projects:
  - Complete all boxes in sections 1 through 7. Use Attachment A for directions on obtaining information for boxes 1 through 4. Use county data to provide estimates for boxes 5 and 7. The DNR can provide you with the number of Concentrated Animal Feed Operations (CAFOs) for box 6

- Groundwater Projects:

- Leave box 1 blank. In box 2, enter “Groundwater Project.” Complete boxes 3-7 (see above).

TMDL Projects

Only surface water projects can apply in this category. Large-Scale TMDL surface water projects are not required to be a certain size. It is highly recommended that the size be restricted to a sub-watershed, however, so that efforts can be focused for greater impact on water quality.

Non-TMDL Surface Water Projects

For these projects, the hydrologic drainage area in and tributary to the project area must be not less than 8 square miles and not more than 39 square miles. This is typically a sub-watershed or HUC-12 area

- Add a summary of the project. The summary should communicate the essence of the project in a paragraph or two

This is a broad overview so the reviewer can immediately understand the fundamental nature of the project. Include nonpoint pollution sources this project will target, water quality need and the BMPs for which are requesting funding. If you want to provide additional information, include it as an attachment at the end of the application form and reference it here.

D. Maps & Photographs

- Create a topographic map and an aerial photo map (8.5 x 11-inch copies) of the project area. Both maps must show all the following:
  - project boundaries
  - perimeter of the project drainage area and 12-digit HUC
  - major roads, including road names, in the project area.
  - label all maps with the project name and include a north arrow.

Maps can be created using the DNR’s Surface Water Data Viewer.

See this additional resource for more information about the DNR’s Surface Water Data Viewer

Submittal of an aerial photo and on-site photos is required because it enhances the reviewer’s understanding of the project and its location. Aerial photos are available through the DNR’s Surface Water Data Viewer.

E. Contaminated Sites, Endangered & Threatened Resources, Historic Properties & Wetlands

Question 1 is required if the application is for a project that disturbs land and/or includes property acquisition.

- Check E.1 to certify that the applicant will follow through as necessary with all requirements regarding contaminated sites as identified in chs. NR 700 Series, endangered or threatened resources as identified in s. 29.604, Wis. Stats. and ch. NR 27, all requirements regarding archaeological sites, historical structures, burial sites, or other historic places identified in s. 44.45, Wis. Stats. and all requirements regarding wetlands as identified in s. 281.36, Wis. Stats. and NR 103 in the project area.

- Check E.2 if you are already aware that there are contaminated sites present in the project area.

For information on contaminated sites, use the Bureau of Remediation and Redevelopment RR Sites Map.

- Check E.3 if you are already aware that endangered or threatened resources are present in the project area.

Refer to the NHI Portal for assistance.

- Check E.4 if you are already aware that archaeological sites, historical structures, burial sites or other historic places identified in s. 44.45, Wis. Stats., in the project area.

- Check E.5 if wetlands or wetland indicators are present in the project area.

Use both the Wisconsin Wetland Inventory and Wetland Indicators layers to determine if wetlands or wetland indicators are present. Refer to this additional resource and https://dnrmaps.wi.gov/H5/?Viewer=SWDV&runWorkflow=Wetland

If wetlands are potentially present in the project area, the project must be reviewed by a DNR Water Management Specialist, as a wetland permit may be needed.

Part I: Eligibility Filters

F. Filter Questions

For project eligibility, questions 1 through 10, 13 and 15 must be answered "yes" and questions 11, 12 and 14 must be either "yes" or "N.A." All additional documentation as required from questions 2, 3, 5, 6, 10, 11 and 12 must be provided.

- Check "Yes" to 1 if the project will control agricultural runoff.

- Check "Yes" to 2 if the applicant certifies that funding from this grant will only be used for BMPs that bring existing cropland, existing livestock facilities and/or non-significant expansions of livestock operations into compliance with NR 151 performance standards or prohibitions.

Non-significant expansion

1. For operations with a base livestock population of less than 250 animal units, a non-significant expansion is one where the livestock population size is less than or equal to 300 animal units.
2. For operations with a base livestock population greater than 250 animal units but less than that required to apply for a Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (WPDES) permit, a non- significant expansion is one where livestock population does not exceed 120% of the base livestock population.

- Check "Yes" to 3 only if the applicant can certify that funding from this grant will not be used for BMPs to bring a livestock facility or cropland back into compliance with a performance standard or prohibition in NR 151 when such compliance had previously been achieved after the effective date of the standard or prohibition.

- Provide an explanation for how the determinations have been and/or will be made to meet the grant eligibility requirements of Filters 2 and 3.

- Check "Yes" to 4 if the applicant certifies that funding from this grant will not be used for BMP for which the DNR or local unit of government included a previous offer of cost sharing as part of a NR 151 notice or county notice that meets requirements of NR 151.09 or NR 151.095.

BMPs for which there has been a previous offer of cost sharing as part of a NR 151 notice or county notice that meets requirements of NR 151.09 or NR 151.095 are not eligible for TRM funding.

- Check “Yes” to 5 if the county, in which the project resides, has a strategy in an approved county land & water resources management plan (LWRMP), an updated workplan, or an Inter-Governmental Agreement with the DNR to implement agricultural performance standards and prohibitions contained in NR 151.

- Check “Yes” to 6 if the project is consistent with the resource goals, objectives or activities identified in the LWRMP, plan amendment, or work plan under s. ATCP 50.12, Wis. Adm. Code. Provide page numbers and a URL or attach hard copy of the pages.

A qualifying strategy to implement state agricultural performance standards and prohibitions must include all the activities listed below.

  - Inform and educate landowners/operators required to comply with performance standards and prohibitions.
  - Conduct compliance status inventories based on records reviews and on-site visits.
  - Document inventory results and maintain compliance status records.
  - Report inventory results and continuing compliance requirements to landowners/operators.
  - Identify BMPs to achieve compliance.
  - Apply for grants from the DNR or work to secure grants from other state, federal or local sources to provide cost sharing to landowners/operators to achieve compliance with performance standards and prohibitions (PS&Ps).
  - Develop cost-share agreements and provide for technical assistance to landowners/operators to achieve compliance with PS&Ps.
  - Assist the DNR at its request in drafting NR 151 notices to landowners/operators.
  - Fulfill annual program reporting requirements.

- Check “Yes” to 7 if the project will be completed within 36 months of the start of the grant period.

- Check “Yes” to 8 if the staff and contractors designated to work on this project have adequate training, knowledge and experience to implement the proposed project.

- Check “Yes” to 9 if staff or contractual services, in addition to those funded by this grant, will be provided if needed.

- Check “Yes” to 10 if you have contacted the local DNR NPS Coordinator. Fill in the table with the name of each NPS Coordinator contacted and date of each contact. Do not check yes for leaving the NPS Coordinator a voicemail or sending them an email.

- Enter the topics discussed with the coordinator.

Item 10 requires the applicant to contact the local DNR NPS Coordinator and discuss the topics listed prior to submitting the application. Sending an email to an NPS Coordinator or leaving a voicemail does not qualify as discussing the project.

- Check "Yes" to 11 if the application is for one or more livestock facility (NR 243.03(33), Wis. Adm. Code) BMPs at an animal feeding operation (NR 243.03(4), Wis. Adm. Code).

The applicant certifies that funding will only be provided to eligible animal feeding operations. If this application is for one or more livestock facilities, and structural BMPs will be cost shared, an Animal Units Calculation Worksheet (Form 3400-25a) for current and future livestock numbers is attached or will be provided for each animal feeding operation. The AU Calculation Worksheet should be based on current/future livestock numbers at all animal feeding operations that constitute a single animal feeding operation associated with the project site (including main/home farms and/or satellite operations).

Form is available at https://dnr.wi.gov/files/PDF/forms/3400/3400-025A.pdf)

NOTE: Section NR 243.03(4), Wis. Adm. Code, defines two or more animal feeding operations under common ownership or common management as a single operation if at least one of the following is true:

- The operations are adjacent.
- The operations utilize common systems for the landspreading of manure or other wastes, including a nutrient management plan or landspreading acreage.
  - Note: While it is not the sole factor used to determine whether operations have a common system for landspreading, use of common land application equipment is one of the factors the department considers when determining if operations have a common system for landspreading.

Manure, barnyard runoff or other wastes are commingled in a common storage facility prior to landspreading.

- Check "Yes" to 12 if this is a joint application among local units of government

- Check "Yes" to 13 if the applicant certifies that this project site is not specifically listed in an approved Adaptive Management Plan under s. NR 217.18, Wis. Adm. Code or a water quality trading plan pursuant to s. 283.84, Wis. Stats. AND the resulting reductions will not be credited towards the achievement of any WPDES requirement or performance goal.

Activities requiring coverage under a WPDES permit are not eligible for cost-sharing. Refer to s. NR 153.15(2)(f) for details.

Part I: BMPs Requested

G. Best Management Practices (BMPs) for Which DNR Funding Is Requested

- Check all BMPs for which DNR funding is requested and include the estimate quantity of each that will be cost shared as part of the grant project. If a specific BMP is not listed, check the "other" box, and enter the BMP name in the space provided.

This step identifies which BMPs will be addressed by the TRM project.

Enter estimated quantity of each selected BMP with the units shown in parentheses.

For Large-Scale **Non-TMDL projects**, only BMPs that lead to compliance with a state standard or prohibition are eligible for reimbursement.

For Large-Scale **TMDL projects**, BMPs that address the pollutants or conditions for which the impaired water is listed are eligible for reimbursement. This should include state standards and prohibitions, where warranted but may also include BMPs needed to address other nonpoint sources identified in the TMDL report or implementation plan.

Part II: Competitive Elements

The questions in this section will help to determine the needs and quality of this project compared to other projects. The maximum number of points attainable in Part II for the initial project score is 197. Note: Any reference to a lengthy document (i.e., lake management plan), in the attachments or on a website, needs to be summarized with page numbers cited to be scored as part of the response.

1. Budget & Grant Needs - 8 Points

A&B. Activities, Timeline, Staffing & Budget – 3 Points

- Complete tables in question 1.A (8 points available) and 1.B (2 points available) to provide a timeline and budget information for local assistance and BMP activities.

- Use the table in question 1.A to identify the timing of project activities, identify the source(s) of funding to support key local assistance activities and identify source(s) of staff. Local assistance funds under the project may be used to cover work performed by existing staff as well as staff hired specifically for the project.

The dates entered should be more specific than a year to receive full points. The years listed should not be outside of the grant period.

- Complete the table in question 1.B to develop budgets for the BMPs checked in Part I G. of the application and the project activities listed in Table 1. A.

- Identify the estimated **total** eligible project costs for all BMP construction and installation.

- Enter BMP costs into column A, row 1 (cell A.1) and cell A.2, as applicable.

- If BMP Flat Rates will be used, calculate the amount to enter into Column A.

- If requesting local assistance, identify the total eligible costs associated with local assistance activities. Enter total local assistance costs into cell A4

See notes below for eligible and ineligible local assistance activities.

The cost–share rate for local assistance activities may not exceed 70% of the eligible costs identified in this section, and the grant amount that may be requested for local assistance activities may be up to 40% of the grant amount allocated for BMPs, whichever is less.

The calculation is: $ Flat Rate/0.7 = Column A $ entry. Explain in Question 1.C. which BMPs and unit quantities that will be cost-shared under NR 154.03(1)(j) Flat Rates.

- Column B calculates 70% cost-share on BMP and local assistance totals.

- Enter the state share amount(s) being requested for BMPs under the grant into cells C.1 and C.2, as applicable. The maximum state cost share rate is 70% for BMPs. Contact the DNR if economic hardship consideration is necessary.

- Enter the state share amount being requested for local assistance under the grant into cell C.4.

Column C is a summary of the grant request. Keep in mind that the total of the amounts in cells C.1 + C.2 + C.4 must be less than or equal to $600,000. The total of the requested grant amounts you enter must not exceed the grant cap of $600,000

- Column D Local Share amounts are calculated by subtracting Column C from Column A.

NOTES:

Eligible Local Assistance Activities:

The following activities are eligible for local assistance funding when conducted in the project area:

- Identifying high priority nonpoint pollution sources for control.
- Contacting and informing landowners and land operators of conservation program opportunities and requirements, including those relating to state performance standards and prohibitions.
- Determining and documenting compliance of cropland practices and livestock facilities with performance standards and prohibitions.
- Identifying site–specific BMPs needed to achieve compliance with performance standards and prohibitions or to otherwise control nonpoint pollution sources.
  Developing and reviewing cost–share agreements with the cost–share recipient.
- Providing assistance to the department in developing and issuing notices under ss. NR 151.09 and 151.095 and developing and issuing comparable notices under local ordinances.
- Best management practice construction services, including construction management and verification of BMPs installation.
- Reviewing BMP operation and maintenance during the grant period.
- Developing and transmitting to the department information that identifies landowners and operators that do not comply with performance standards or prohibitions.
- Administration of property acquisition in accordance with s. NR 153.25.
- Fiscal management.
- Development of informational materials, including videos or brochures.

- Project evaluation activities identified in the project application and required by the runoff management grant agreement, including monitoring.
- Other activities approved by the department as being necessary to implement the project

The following staff support costs are eligible for cost sharing:

- The cost of testing materials for use in BMP design and installation.
- Travel expenses, including personal vehicle mileage charges, meals, lodging and other reasonable travel expenses necessary to the project.
- The cost of recording the cost–share agreement with the county register of deeds.
- Field equipment necessary to conduct or evaluate the project.
- Other direct costs necessary for the project and approved by the department

Ineligible Local Assistance Activities:

The following costs are not eligible for local assistance funding under this section:

- Direct costs for other items not listed above.
- Activities for which WPDES permit coverage is required.
- Best management practice design.
- Staff training.
- Ordinance development and administration.
- Promotional items except when used for educational purposes.
- Purchase or lease of motor vehicles.
- Indirect project costs that are not directly related to the output of a product or service or cannot be identified specifically with a single cost objective in an economically feasible manner.

Local Assistance (LA) Example Calculations:

Example 1: If LA is requested, the maximum amount of LA state share dollars within a total grant request of $600,000 (total grant cap) may be up to $171,428, leaving $428,570 to allocate to BMPs (state share). The total requested state share amount (BMPs + LA) for this application will be $599,998 ($171,428 + $428,570). To ultimately be reimbursed the maximum amount for LA ($171,428) for this grant, the applicant's actual expenses for LA work (total cost in cell A4) will have to amount to $244,897 or more, as the cost-share rate on LA is 70%. (70% * $244,897 = $171,428)

Example 2: If the BMP state share request totals $400,000 (total in cell C3), the maximum LA state share request in cell C4 may be up to $160,000 (40% of C3). The total requested state share amount (BMPs + LA) for this application will be $560,000. To ultimately be reimbursed the full

$160,000 in requested LA funding, the grantee needs to document actual expenses for LA work that total $228,571 or more because LA is reimbursed at a 70% cost-share rate (70% * $228,571 = $160,000).

Two criteria must be met: up to 70% of the Total LA actual cost and up to 40% of the BMP state share amount. The requested state share for LA must be less than or equal to the lesser of the two calculations.

EXAMPLE: Activities, Timeline, Funding & Source of Staff Table

Activities	Timeline	Funding Source		Source(s) of Staff
		*This Grant Local Assistance	Other	
1. Contacting farms	2/21	×	❑	County Land Conservation Department (LCD) Staff
2. Education/outreach	5/21-10/23	❑	×	County LCD staff
3. Inventory	4/21-7/21	×	×	County LCD staff, consultant
4. Targeting sources	8/21	×	❑	County LCD staff
5. CSA development	1/22	×	❑	County LCD staff
6. Design & installation	5/22-11/23	×	×	County LCD staff
7. Project management	6/21-12/22	×	❑	County LCD staff
8. Mid-term evaluation	10/22	×	❑	County LCD staff
9. Final reporting	12/23	×	×	County LCD staff
10. Enforcement	All 3 years	❑	×	County LCD staff & DNR
11. Other		❑	❑	
12. Other		❑	❑	

SCORING

1A. Timeline & Source of Staff Table

- Well-documented timeline and staffing plan, including a target completion date and source of staff for all basic milestones. **1 Point**
- Incomplete or inadequate timeline or failure to identify staff. **0 Points**

1B. Project Budget

- All fields are filled in correctly, and the project description matches the budget. **2 Points**
- All fields are filled in correctly, but the project description does not match the budget, or the budget table is incomplete or inadequate. **0-1 Point**

C. COST-ESTIMATE ACCURACY & COST-CONTAINMENT MEASURES - 5 Points

- Select the option that most closely describes how project cost estimates were derived.
- Attach required documentation as directed and check the box(es) that appear below your selected option indicates that required supporting documentation is attached.

Project costs based on similar and recent projects will score higher and be more accurate.

SCORING

1C. Cost-Estimate Accuracy & Cost-Containment Measures

Option a

- The proposed project and cost estimates are based on similar and recent projects and costs. **5 Points**

Option b

- The proposed project and the cost estimates are based on an average or a range of projects and costs **3-4 Points**

Option c

- Project and costs are less specific than choices above. **0-2 Points**

2. Water Quality Need - 30 Points

- Answer 2.A by identifying whether the primary water resource that will be addressed by the project is groundwater or surface water.

Projects may address water quality needs associated with restoration and/or protection of surface water or ground water.

- Answer question 2.B by selecting the primary pollutant(s) that will be addressed by the project.

- This question will be scored based on the location of the project and answers to 2.A and 2.B.

This question deals with the consistency of the project with DNR priorities and the water quality needs of the surface water or groundwater resource affected by the proposed project.

For more information on the Watershed Protection Priority, which is based on the Healthy Watersheds/High-Quality Waters Assessment:
https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/SurfaceWater/HQW.html

SCORING

Surface Water Categories

- EPA-Approved TMDL or DNR approved and submitted to EPA; Wisconsin Statewide Nutrient Reduction Strategy - Top Watershed for Phosphorus; Watershed Protection Priority. **30 Points**
- TMDL in Development; 303(d)/Impaired Water listed for Total Suspended Solids (TSS) or Total Phosphorus (TP), caused by nonpoint sources; Outstanding & Exceptional Water Resources (ORW/ERW). **25 Points**

- 303(d)/Impaired Water listed for pollutant other than TSS/TP, caused by nonpoint source; Other Areas of Special Natural Resource Interest (ASNRI). **20 Points**

- Surface Water Quality. **10 Points**

Groundwater Categories

- Exceeds Groundwater Enforcement Standard (ES); Statewide Nutrient Reduction Strategy - Top Watershed for Nitrates. **30 Points**

- Exceeds Groundwater Preventative Action Limit (PAL). **25 Points**

- Groundwater Susceptible to Contamination by Ag NPS Pollutants. 10 Points

Bonus Points: Federal NPS Program Watershed Project Funding Eligibility - 10 Points

Some TMDL and Non-TMDL projects may access Section 319 funds as part of the TRM grant. Projects that meet all the requirements listed below may be eligible for the federal funds. If the project is awarded with these funds, there may be certain additional requirements based on The Build America, Buy America (BABA) Act. BABA requires projects designated as federal equivalency, lead service line projects and emerging contaminants projects to use iron, steel, manufactured products and construction materials that are produced in the United States, see dnr.wi.gov/topic/aid/BABA.html.

This application will be given 10 points in this category if the project meets all the following criteria:

- The project addresses a nonpoint source impaired waterbody listed on the most current EPA-accepted Section 303(d) list of impaired waters or a nonpoint source threatened unimpaired/high-quality water.
- The project is located upstream of and in the same 12-digit hydrologic unit (sub-watershed) as the 303(d) listed water or the unimpaired/high quality water (refer to this additional resource and Surface Water Data Viewer for assistance).
- The project implements the goals and recommendations of an EPA-accepted watershed-based nine key element plan.
- The project controls the same NPS pollutants which are impairing the 303(d) listed waterbody or threatening the unimpaired/high quality water.

Nine key element plans cannot expire before the end of the proposed grant award for the project to be eligible to access Section 319 funds and receive the associated bonus points.

3. Drinking Water Bonus - 7 Points

A project with water quality goals relating to reducing nonpoint source contaminants in community and non-community public drinking water supplies may earn up to seven bonus points.

- Check yes to 3 if the project's water quality goals relate to the reduction of nonpoint source contaminants in community or non-community public drinking water supplies that draw from groundwater or surface water.

This information will be scored by the DNR Regional NPS Coordinator.

- If the project's water quality goal is groundwater protection, then the number of bonus points awarded is based on the project area's distance from certain types of public water supply wells in the vicinity of the project.

- Enter the known project site locations and their associated geographic coordinates.

Community and non-community public drinking water supplies include: Municipal water supplies (chs. NR 809 and 811); Other-Than-Municipal (OTM) water supplies (NR 809 and 811); Non-Transient water supplies (NR 809 and 812); and Transient water supplies (NR 809 and 812).

- If the project's water quality goal is surface water protection, then the number of bonus points awarded is based on the specific surface water drainage area where the project is located.

This additional resource contains a map that shows drainage areas for which bonus points can be awarded and the number of bonus points corresponding to each area.

SCORING

Drinking Water Bonus – Groundwater

- Wellhead protection area of a municipal well; Within 1,200 feet of a municipal well for which a wellhead protection area is not delineated; Within 1,200 feet of an "Other-Than-Municipal" water supply well; Within 1,200 feet of a non-transient water supply well. **7 Points**

- Within 200 feet of a transient water supply well. **3 Points**

- None of the above. 0 Points

Drinking Water Bonus – Public Drinking Water Supply Source Water Assessment Areas

- Lake Winnebago; Oak Creek; Root River; St. Louis and Nemadji rivers. **7 Points**

- Fish Creek; Menominee River; Milwaukee River; Sauk Creek; Sheboygan and Onion Rivers; Two Rivers. **6 Points**

- Pike River and Pike Creek. **5 Points**

- Kewaunee and Ahnapee rivers; and Manitowoc River. **3 Points**

4. Inventory & Targeting - 30 Points

The two components of Question 4 comprise a description of the project area and inventory of the critical pollution sources to date and additional assessment and inventory of critical pollution sources.

A. Project Area & Inventory of The Critical Pollution Sources To Date - 20 Points

1. Present the rationale for why you have delineated this particular project area.
2. Provide an estimate of the percent of assessment and inventory that has been completed to date in the project area.
3. Describe the results of the inventory of critical pollution sources to date. (Also mark the critical areas needing BMPs on an aerial photo/map and include it with this application.)
4. Describe previous BMP implementation in the project area, if applicable
5. Describe why the project area is (still) considered a significant contributor of pollutants or habitat impairments to the targeted waterbodies.

This question looks at the rationale behind selecting the project area. The project area should be consistent with the project goals. It should consider the current pollution control needs in the project area, the amount of work needed to effectively reduce the pollution loading and the staff and financial resources available.

Regardless of project type, an inventory and targeting process is required to assure the available fuds are directed to those sites which will provide cost-effective attainment of the project's pollution reduction goals.

This question also looks at how much targeting work has already been completed and what methods were used. Applications for projects where targeted work has already been completed will be given higher scores.

SCORING

4A. Project Area & Inventory of The Critical Pollution Sources to Date

- Response is complete and/or a large portion of previous work, including inventory and BMP implementation, has been conducted. **15-20 POINTS**

- Response is not as complete, and/or some of the inventory/BMP implementation work has been conducted. **10-14 Points**

- Response is incomplete, and/or little to no inventory/BMP implementation work has been conducted. **0-9 Points**

B. Additional Assessment & Inventory of Critical Pollution Sources – 10 Points

1. Describe additional project area assessment that is needed to complete the inventory of the most critical pollution sources responsible for causing impairments of threats to water quality.
2. Describe the methods that will be used to conduct the assessment, including quantitative and qualitative tools that will be used.

This section is used to identify additional targeting work that is needed.

The assessment of additional inventory and targeting needs can be part of the basis for the local assistance funding request.

SCORING

- Response is complete, and additional inventory work and methods were clearly described. **5-10 Points**

- Response is incomplete. **0-4 Points**

5. Project Implementation & Management Strategy - 15 Points

- Describe your methods, strategy and timeline in each of the following:

1. Contacting and educating farmers about the project
2. Conducting farm needs assessments and status reviews for performance standards and prohibitions
3. Timing and coordinating technical and financial assistance within the project period
4. Making interim progress assessment
5. Tracking and reporting progress
6. Identifying problems and making any needed adjustments

To qualify for a grant, you were required to pass filter question 5 in Part I F. By passing this question, you certified that you have a local NR 151 implementation program.

Part A of question 5 in Part I F asks for additional details on how you intend to apply that strategy in the project area. Projects that have already targeted specific farms and are very specific about the implementation strategy will score highest. Even if your project is more loosely realized, you should be able to present a basic strategy you intend to follow. Any applicant awarded a grant for a Large-Scale Project will be required to conduct NR 151 implementation activities in the project area.

The Large-Scale Project funded under this grant program will require an intensive, well-planned effort that is coordinated with other funding sources and technical services. The relatively short project period (three to four years) will require focused project management so that progress can be tracked, problems identified and adjustments made. This question explores how you intend to keep track of project progress and to identify and make needed adjustments.

Include progress reporting and contacts with your local DNR Nonpoint Source Coordinator.

SCORING

5. Project Implementation & Management Strategy

- Response is complete and methods, strategy and timeline were clearly identified. **10-15 Points**

- Response is less complete and methods, strategy or timeline were not as clearly identified. **5-9 points**

- Response is incomplete. **0-4 points**

6. Enforcement - 10 Points

- Describe how local ordinances will be used when necessary to facilitate NR 151 compliance.
- Include in your answer the applicable ordinances and information on grantee/DNR relationship and roles regarding enforcement.

Your answer must be consistent with your claim for local enforcement multiplier points in Part III of this application.

This question evaluates how local ordinances will be used when necessary to facilitate compliance with NR 151 performance standards and prohibitions or other land management needs.

The applicant is not required to enforce NR 151 at the local level, but two items are important to emphasize:

- Most counties have ordinances that cover one or more of the performance standards and prohibitions. It is expected that these local ordinances will be enforced using the same prioritization and procedures the county is using elsewhere.
- If the applicant is claiming the enforcement multiplier in Part III of this application, the grant award will require that the grantee use that authority if needed to require that compliance be achieved.

SCORING

6. Enforcement

- Applicable ordinances and how they would be used to achieve NR 151 compliance were clearly identified. **7-10 Points**

- Applicable ordinances were identified, but the response was less complete as to how they would be used to achieve NR 151 compliance. **3-6 Points**

- There are no applicable ordinances and/or response is incomplete. **0-2 Points**

Expected Pollutant Reduction & Water Resource Response - 30 Points

A. Expected Pollutant Reduction – 20 Points

- Provide the current pollutant loading and the expected percent reduction in pollutant(s) loading attributed to the project.
- Provide the model used to calculate the load and percent reductions.

The final project report requires the results of a comparison of the pre-and post-project changes in modeled pollutant loading to water resources using PLET (EPA's Pollutant Load Estimation Tool at https://www.epa.gov/nps/plet) or other applicable model and report the quantity of units managed.

SCORING

7A. Expected Pollutant Reduction

- The response was complete and included the current pollutant loading, expected percent reduction and the model used. **20 Points**

- The response was missing one of the elements. **10 Points**

- The response was incomplete and two or more of the elements were missing. **0 Points**

B. Expected Water Quality & Resource Response – 10 Points

- Address the water quality response(s) that is (are) expected with the land management changes the project will bring about (e.g., physical, chemical, biological, bacteriological, designated uses, etc.).
- Discuss the sensitivity of the water resources.

Information about surface waters will be included in the TMDL report. Surface water and groundwater information for areas without TMDL reports can be taken from other planning

documents. Fish surveys or surface water inventories conducted by the DNR or county staff may also be used.

The Wisconsin Buffer Initiative (WBI) Statewide Watershed Ranking Map and report which is available at https://faculty.nelson.wisc.edu/nowak/reports/nrbFinalReport.pdf and on the DNR Surface Water Data Viewer (see this additional resource), may be a useful reference for this section.

The WBI information can provide a general idea of how the watershed area ranks in several key areas when compared to other watersheds. Rankings are based on stream water quality, fish habitat, lake water quality and a composite ranking.

SCORING

7B. Expected Water Quality & Resource Response

- The response was complete and addressed well. **7-10 Points**
- The response was addressed somewhat. **4-6 Points**
- The response was insufficient. **0-3 Points**

8. Best Management Practice (BMP) Cost-Effectiveness Analysis - 30 Points

- Describe why the proposed management practices are cost-effective and reasonable means to attain water quality improvement or protection benefits.
- Provide quantitative and qualitative analyses and assessments of the cost-effectiveness of the proposed project activities toward meeting the water quality goals of the TMDL or watershed plans being implemented with this project.
- Include in this answer such factors as BMP effectiveness, site feasibility, practicality and other available funding sources or management efforts that may occur in conjunction with this project, as applicable.

This question looks at the applicant's quantitative and qualitative analyses and assessments of the cost-effectiveness of the proposed project activities toward meeting the priority water quality goals of the plans covered under Part I of this application. This answer will be scored on the detail of the information provided.

Cost-sharing will be provided to BMP(s) sized to meet water quality standards (NR 151 agricultural performance standards and prohibitions) for current and insignificant growth in AUs (cost-share eligibility requirement). The portion of construction beyond the eligible portion to meet water quality goals would be at the landowner's expense.

Significant expansions of livestock operations are ineligible for cost-share funds through the TRM Program. Calculate animal units according to the worksheet available at: https://dnr.wi.gov/files/PDF/forms/3400/3400-025A.pdf. More information is available in the Agricultural Best Management Practices resource.

- Address any coordination of other funding sources (e.g., NRCS).

Funding to install non-structural cropping practices is in shortest supply. This shortage is particularly severe in areas that do not have a nine key element plan. Since federal funding is available for the projects in nine key element plan areas, and since the federal funding can be used for either structural or non-structural practices, there will be more flexibility to fund non-structural cropping practices in nine key element plan areas. Attempts to coordinate with other funding programs, such as those administered by DATCP and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), are encouraged.

SCORING

8. BMP Cost-Effectiveness Analysis

- The response was complete and addressed well. **20-30 Points**
- The response was addressed somewhat. **10-19 Points**
- The response was insufficient. **0-9 points**

9. Project Evaluation- 10 Points

A. Modeling & Measures of Change – 4 Points

- Describe the strategy that will be implemented to evaluate the pre- and post-project pollution potential, pollutant loading and receiving water quality in the project area.
- At a minimum, describe the pre- and post-project evaluation modeling methods and measures that the applicant will use to measure success in achieving the NR 151 PS&Ps or TMDL project goals in your answer. This must include modeling changes in pollution potential and pollutant loading. It may also include modeling receiving water response after project implementation.

Evaluation is an important part of a nonpoint source pollution control project. Grantees are required to prepare and submit a final project report with modeled pollutant loading reduction results to close out the grant and receive final payment. Pre- and post-project photographs are also required with the final report.

The project evaluation strategy must be based on comparing pre- and post-project changes in modeled pollutant loading to water resources using PLET (EPA's Pollutant Load

Estimation Tool at https://www.epa.gov/nps/plet or other applicable model, and report the quantity of units managed.

SCORING

9A. Modeling & Measures of Change

- Evaluation strategy is detailed, comprehensive and appropriate for proposed project. **3-4 Points**

- Evaluation strategy lacks sufficient detail and/or is not appropriate for proposed project. **0-2 Points**

B. Field Evaluation Monitoring Bonus – 6 Points

- Check the first box if the project evaluation strategy will provide pre-and post-project information from water resources monitoring, and the information will be provided to the DNR.
- If the first box is checked "Yes" also check all that apply below.
- Select box 1 if a one-page summary of the monitoring strategy and timeline for implementation and reporting is attached. This summary must be reviewed and signed by a DNR Water Quality Biologist.
- Select box 2 if the project will evaluate the in-stream physical habitat, fisheries, biological or chemical conditions
- Select box 3 if the project will evaluate BMP pollution reduction effectiveness (e.g., inlet/outlet monitoring).

Additional points may be earned by monitoring the effectiveness of the project's BMP(s) and/or the pre- and post-project condition of the surface water or groundwater resource. However, funding for monitoring under 9B is not available from the DNR at this time.

To earn points for project monitoring, the applicant must submit a summary of the project-specific supplemental monitoring strategy with their application. Applicants that earn points for their proposal to do monitoring will have a requirement to do so included in their grant agreement.

Work with the Regional Nonpoint Source Coordinator to determine appropriate monitoring evaluation. Have this discussion early in the process.

The water quality program recognizes that monitoring proposals under TRM and UNPS grant applications can be variable depending on study objectives or design. The biologist review is not an endorsement of the study but a review that the proposal will provide meaningful water quality, habitat or biological information that will be useful in describing current or anticipated resource conditions.

If "a" was selected, then the following instructions apply. This type of monitoring plan (UNPS Construction, Small-Scale TRM or Large-Scale TRM) is more appropriate to evaluate BMPs that have inflow/outflow at a more defined location. The grantee may propose fewer

monitoring locations but should have a more focused monitoring design that detects change either pre- and post-restoration or upstream and downstream of the practice. These types of practices could include stormwater projects, edge of field monitoring, streambank, riparian or habitat restoration or some other similar practice.

If the project is focused on chemical parameters there should be a higher frequency of data collection, clear list of appropriate parameters (such as total phosphorus and total suspended solids for edge of field run-off monitoring or bacteria for animal waste projects) with documentation about the laboratory doing the analysis.

If the project plans to modify water quantity (such as reducing total runoff or reduced peak runoff), then the monitoring should include consideration of monitoring frequency and seasonality as well as a clear description of methods used to measure water quantity and clearly describe who is conducting the monitoring. The monitoring should include a pre- and post-monitoring plan to quantify the impacts of the specific project more accurately. If appropriate, the project may include upstream and downstream monitoring design instead of a pre and post design. This might be appropriate for a stormwater retention basin or other practice that has a clear inflow and outflow.

If "b" was selected, then the following instructions apply. This type of monitoring project (such as a Large-Scale TRM project) is intended to assess overall condition of a particular stream(s) or watershed. Typically, this box will be selected when the grantee plans to implement upland BMPs at a larger or more dispersed scale. Because of this dispersed nature, it will be difficult to measure the effect of any one project, so the grantee should be focusing on monitoring in-stream conditions. The grantee is not expected to design a monitoring project of scope and scale to statistically evaluate the impacts of the restoration activities, as this monitoring design is too intensive for this grant requirement. Instead, the grantee should propose a monitoring design that adequately captures current conditions in the stream or watershed using approved DNR and/or other well-documented procedures that will provide meaningful data on water quality.

To receive points on the application this monitoring plan should include monitoring for total phosphorus, following WisCALM guidance for minimum data requirements (monthly, May-October) for one or more years at multiple sites. The plan should identify the laboratory doing the analysis and that the lab is certified for any parameters analyzed. If the project proposes to collect physical habitat, macroinvertebrates or fisheries data then the plan should indicate what field procedures will be used, who will be doing the work, how the taxonomic ID will be conducted and how the data will be reported. It is not necessary to have pre- and post-restoration data collected, but the inclusion of that in a monitoring design is preferred. For instance, the grantee may only plan to collect total phosphorus and total suspended solids at a couple sites, but a high frequency data collection before and after BMP implementation is preferred. Projects should include additional parameters such as TN or TSS, that the DNR is interested in, as appropriate.

SCORING

9B. Field Evaluation Monitoring Bonus

- Option a. Project will monitor BMP pollution reduction effectiveness and summary of strategy is attached. **3 Points**

- Option b. Project will monitor the in-stream physical habitat, fisheries, biological or chemical conditions and summary of strategy is attached. **3 points**

- Option c. Project will monitor both (1) and (2) and summary of strategy is attached. **6 Points**

- Option d. Project will monitor either or both (1) and (2) and no summary of strategy is attached. **0 Points**

- Option e. None of the above. **0 Points**

10. Local Support for Project- 8 Points

- Describe support for this project from other local, state, and federal sources, such as governmental units, interest groups, landowners and operators.
- Describe the extent to which available federal funding and other staffing and financial resources will be used.
- Address how the project would be improved due to support and partnerships.
- Include copies of letters of support, landowner commitments and letters documenting commitments to provide resources (materials, equipment, staff or financial resources) to the project

This question looks at support that is either known to be available, or that can be sought, for work to be done within the project area under this grant. This section provides the applicant with an opportunity to explain in more detail the sources of technical and financial assistance that are identified in question 8 as coming from sources other than this grant.

Landowner support is assessed based on willingness to become involved in the project. The involvement of partners, in addition to the applicant and landowners, is assessed based on their commitment to provide resources to the project and letters of support indicating those resources being provided for the project.

Letters of support from the DNR will not count in the scoring for this question.

SCORING

10. Local Support for Project

- Response is complete; there is a high level of support for the project, and documentation is attached.**6-8 Points**

- Response is complete; there is a lesser level of support for the project, and documentation is attached. **3-5 Points**

- Response is incomplete and/or there is no local support for the project and/or documentation is not attached. **0-2 points**

11. Disadvantaged Community Bonus Points - 5 Points

- List all towns, villages or cities included in the project area
- Explain how the project is benefiting the communities where it is located.

List all towns, villages and cities where the project is located.

If the project benefits any of the communities included in the project area, the department will calculate an area weighted average Disadvantaged Community Index for the listed towns, villages or cities after the application has been submitted to determine if the project qualifies for the bonus points

The index is calculated using the methodology detailed in Section 10.1 of department's Environmental Improvement Fund (EIF) SFY 2026 Clean Water Fund Program (CWFP) Intended Use Plan. The index (Table 7) includes the following factors: Population, Median Household Income (MHI), family poverty percentage, population trend, unemployment rate and lowest quintile household income (LQI).

A community can benefit from a project in many ways. For example, how was the community involved in the decision of where to locate the practice? In addition to water quality improvement, what other ancillary benefits will the practice bring to the community?

SCORING

11. Disadvantaged Community Bonus Points

- The applicant explained how the communities benefit from this project and the disadvantaged community index score >=110 or the project falls within tribal lands. **5 Points**

- The applicant did not explain how the communities benefit from this project and/or the disadvantaged community index score <110. **0 Points**

12. Local Plan Consistency- 2 Points

- Provide a summary of the water quality recommendation from the local plan.
- Describe how this proposed project implements the recommendation.

- Cite the name of the document, date(s) of publication and provide page numbers.
- Provide a link to the document, if available

This question explores whether there are existing local plans that have recommendations being implemented by the proposed project. Consistency with other local planning efforts should increase the degree to which water quality goals can be achieved over the long run.

To earn points, projects must implement a water quality recommendation from a current (i.e., adopted or updated within the past 10 years), locally approved resource management plan, other than a TMDL report, TMDL implementation plan or county land & water resource management plan. The plan documented may not be the plan documented in Part 1 C.3 (Project Type Filter) of this aw Water resources management plan since consistency with these plans is already required by this application.

Acceptable examples include, but are not limited to, smart growth plans, Green Tier Legacy Community plans, water star plans, local storm water management plans, wellhead protection, lake management, regional water quality plans, remedial action plans and other watershed-based nonpoint source control plans.

SCORING

12. Local Plan Consistency

- Existing, locally approved resource management plans (other than TMDL report, TMDL implementation plan or county land and water resource management plan) that directly support the proposed project in this application exists, and all required information requested on the application is provided. **2 Points**

- Existing, locally approved resource management plans that directly support the proposed project in this application exists, but not all information requested on the application is provided. **1 Point**

- No locally approved resource management plans that directly support the proposed project in this application exist. **0 Points**

Part III: Eligibility For Local Enforcement Multiplier

- Select option A if both of the following are true:
  - The applicant certifies that the proposed project addresses an enforceable agricultural performance standard or prohibition on a site where the applicant has local enforcement jurisdiction; and
  - the applicant submitted their local ordinance(s) which establish this authority to DNR staff for review to determine eligibility for local enforcement multiplier.

- Select option B if the applicant does not have an ordinance that gives the applicant local authority to enforce some or all state agricultural performance standards for review by DNR staff to determine eligibility for local enforcement multiplier.

If option A is selected, the applicant must check box a, b or c and attach or provide a link to the applicable ordinance(s).

Completion of this part of the application is optional. However, an applicant can increase their final project score by qualifying for a project multiplier.

The applicant agrees to use its local enforcement authority to require that the livestock facility or cropland practice being funded by this TRM grant come into compliance with the standard or prohibition in the event the farmer does not fix the problem for which funds are offered.

The state performance standards and prohibitions are listed in Part II F of the application (Form 8700-333).

SCORING

(Multiply Part IV Score By 1.15)

- The applicant certifies that it has local authority to enforce **all** state agricultural performance standards and prohibitions at **all** sites within the local jurisdiction where such state agricultural performance standards and prohibitions apply; **AND** this project addresses one or more of the enforceable standards or prohibitions; **AND** a copy of the appropriate local authority is attached or the website is provided. **23.85 Maximum Possible Points**

(Multiply Part IV Score By 1.10)

- The applicant certifies that it has local authority to enforce **some,** but not all, of the state agricultural performance standards and prohibitions **at all sites** within the local jurisdiction where such state agricultural performance standards apply; **AND** this

project addresses one or more of the enforceable performance standards or prohibitions; **AND** a copy of the appropriate local authority is attached or the website is provided. **15.9 Maximum Possible Points**

(Multiply Part IV Score By 1.05)

- The applicant certifies that it has local authority to enforce some, but not all, of the state agricultural performance standards and prohibitions at some, but not all, of the sites within the local jurisdiction; AND this project addresses one or more enforceable performance standards or prohibitions on a site under local jurisdiction; AND a copy of the appropriate local authority is attached or the website is provided. **7.95 Maximum Possible Points**

(Multiply Part IV Score By 1.0)

- Applicant has no local authority to enforce state agricultural performance standards and prohibitions within the local jurisdiction **for this proposed project. 0 Points**

Optional Additional Information

There may be aspects of the project that do not fit neatly into the categories covered by this application but will lead to a better understanding of the project by the grant application reviewers. Enter this information in the space provided.

Applicant Certification

A Government Official with Signatory Authority must sign and date the application form prior to submittal to the DNR.

The Government Official with Signatory Authority (who is authorized to sign contracts on behalf of the local unit of government) must sign as shown on the Governmental Responsibility Resolution (see GRR Template), and date the application form prior to submittal to the DNR.