

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

**Request for Funding Opportunity Application (FOA)
R10SF20005**

Groundwater Banking Improvements in Northwestern Kern County

Fiscal Year 2010



**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
Mid-Pacific Region**
<http://www.usbr.gov/mp/>

October 2010

Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
Mid Pacific Region
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, CA 95825

OVERVIEW

Agency Names:	Bureau of Reclamation, Sacramento, California
Funding Opportunity Title:	Groundwater Banking Improvements In Northwestern Kern County
Announcement Type:	Initial
Funding Opportunity Number:	R10SF20005
Application Due Date:	Applications due December 18, 2009, 3:00 p.m. Pacific Standard Time (PST)
Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number:	15.507
Eligible Applicants:	All water storage districts in Northwestern Kern County, California.
Cost Share:	Non-Federal Sources: 50% or more of project costs.
Number of Agreements to be Awarded	1
Federal Funding Amount:	Maximum of 50% of project costs, not to exceed \$917,000.00
Total amount of funding available for award:	\$917,000.00

REQUEST FOR FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

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PROPOSAL CHECKLIST

The following table contains a summary of the information that you are **REQUIRED** to submit with your application.

Submit an <u>original and disk</u> of documents below			
√	What to Submit	Required Content	REQUIRED FORM OR FORMAT
	PROPOSAL PACKAGE:	See Sec. IV.C	See below and Section IV.K
	Cover Page	See Sec. IV.C.2.1	Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Standard Form (SF) 424*, Application for Federal Assistance.
	Assurances	See Sec. IV.C.2.2	Office of Management and Budget (OMB), SF 424B* or SF 424D*, as applicable.
	Title Page	See Sec. IV.C.2.3	See format in Section IV.K
	Table of Contents	See Sec. IV.C.2.4	See format in Section IV.K
	Executive Summary	See Sec. IV.C.2.5	See format in Section IV.K
	• General Project Information	See Sec. IV.C.2.5.1	See format in Section IV.K
	Technical Proposal	See Sec. IV.C.2.6	See format in Section IV.K
	• Background Data	See Sec. IV.C.2.6.1	See format in Section IV.K
	• Consistency with State or Local Water Plan	See Sec. IV.C.2.6.2	See format in Section IV.K
	• Project Description	See Sec. IV.C.2.6.3	See format at Section IV.K
	• Performance Measures and Monitoring	See Sec. IV.C.2.6.4	See format at Section IV.K
	Project Benefits Sheet	See Sec. IV.D	See format in Section IV.K
	Funding Plan Instructions	See Sec. IV.E	See format in Section IV.K
	Budget and Project Costs Worksheet	See Sec. IV.F.1	See below and Section IV.K
	Budget Narrative	See Sec. IV.F.2	See format in Section IV.K
	Budget Form SF 424A or SF424C	See Sec. IV.G	Office of Management and Budget (OMB) SF 424A* Budget Information (Non-Construction Programs) or SF 424C* (Construction Programs), as applicable.
*Forms may be downloaded from www.grants.gov under the Funding Opportunity, R10SF20005, Full Announcement or Application			

SECTION I – GENERAL INFORMATION

I.A.1 BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

The mission of the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) is to manage, develop, and protect water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American public.

Under Public Law 111-8, the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation, is authorized to enter into grants, cooperative agreements, and other agreements with irrigation or water districts and States to fund up to 50 percent of the cost of planning, designing, and constructing improvements that will conserve water, increase water use efficiency, or enhance water management through measurement or automation, at existing water supply projects within the States identified in the Act of June 17, 1902.

Under Public Law 111-11, Section 9504, Water Management Improvement, the Secretary may provide any grant to, or enter into an agreement with, any eligible applicant to assist the eligible applicant in planning, designing, or constructing any improvement to conserve water; increase water use efficiency; facilitate water markets; enhance water management, including increasing the use of renewable energy in the management and delivery of water; to accelerate the adoption and use of advanced water treatment technologies to increase water supply; to prevent the decline of species that the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service have proposed for listing under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) (or candidate species that are being considered by those agencies for such listing but are not yet the subject of a proposed rule); to accelerate the recovery of threatened species, endangered species, and designated critical habitats that are adversely affected by Federal reclamation projects or are subject to a recovery plan or conservation plan under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) under which the Commissioner of Reclamation has implementation responsibilities; or to carry out any other activity—

This funding opportunity announcement is focused on groundwater banking improvements in Northwestern Kern County. The purpose is to facilitate completion of necessary planning and designing of Semitropic Project Improvements.

I.A.2 OBJECTIVE OF REQUEST FOR FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

The objective of this Announcement is to invite water districts in Kern County to leverage their money and resources by cost sharing with Reclamation on existing groundwater storage projects that increase groundwater storage and increase the rate at which stored water can be recovered.

This FOA does not support construction of new groundwater banking facilities.

I.B. ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

The grant program will fund planning, design, and permitting activities associated with groundwater banking improvement programs in northwestern Kern County that:

1. Increase the total groundwater storage capacity beyond 1,000,000 acre-feet, and
2. Increase the potential annual rate of recovery of stored water to at least 200,000 acre-feet

For purposes of this FOA, northwestern Kern County is defined as the area within Kern County California that lies west of California State Route 43 and north of California State Route 58.

Emphasis will be given to projects that are designed to maximize the water conservation and efficiency of existing banking operations.

I.B.1 TYPES OF PROJECTS

Proposals may include any type of groundwater banking improvement project that requires the following specific project activities:

- engineering design of project facilities
- obtaining necessary permanent or temporary right-of-way for anticipated construction activities
- obtaining Federal and State Endangered Species Act (ESA) permits
- completion of mitigation required in ESA permits

Project construction activities will not be funded.

I.C. PROGRAM AUTHORITY

This Funding Opportunity Announcement is issued in accordance with the authority of Public Law No. 111-11, Section 9504. Applicants are advised to verify their proposed project meet the requirements of this public law and the appropriate subsection. Reclamation reserves the right to reject project applications that do not meet the requirements of Public Law No. 111-11 Section 9504.

SECTION II -- AWARD INFORMATION

II.A. TOTAL PROJECT FUNDING

Total estimated funding for the program for fiscal year 2010 is \$917,000.00. All available funding will be awarded to one water storage district.

II.B. PROJECT FUNDING LIMITATIONS

To facilitate the broad and effective use of limited Federal funds, Reclamation's share of the proposed financial assistance agreement shall not exceed 50% of the total project costs, and shall not exceed \$917,000.00.

II.C. RECLAMATION RESPONSIBILITIES

If substantial involvement between Reclamation and the Recipient is anticipated during the performance of this project, the anticipated instrument will be a cooperative agreement. In support of this agreement, Reclamation will provide the following:

Reclamation shall collaborate and participate with the Recipient in the management of the project and closely oversee the Recipient's activities to ensure that the program objectives are being achieved. This oversight shall include review, input, and approval at key interim stages of the project as identified in the Recipient's proposal.

If substantial involvement is not anticipated on the part of Reclamation, the financial assistance instrument will be a grant.

Reclamation retains the right to make awards using either grant or cooperative agreement instruments.

The proposal must demonstrate public benefit for financial assistance agreements.

Reclamation reserves the right to award continuation funding for projects previously awarded. However, applicants should specify if this current application is supplementary to a previous award, the status of the previous award (include the end date or anticipated complete date and outstanding issues) and how the current phase is dependant on the previously awarded phase.

II.D. AWARD DATE

It is anticipated that awards will be made on or before January 15, 2009.

SECTION III – ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

III.A. ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Eligible applicants include any water storage district in Northwestern Kern County California. Contracts will be executed with one eligible applicant only. The application must indicate who will sign the contract and the nature of the agreement between the other participants.

III.B. COST SHARE GUIDELINES

Cost sharing may be made through cash or in-kind contributions from the applicant or third party partners; however, all cost share contributions must meet the criteria established in the OMB administrative and cost principles circulars applicable to the applicant (see Section VIII). **Cost share contributions MUST be secured at the time of application submittal.**

In-kind contributions constitute the value of non-cash contributions that benefit a Federally-assisted project. These contributions may be in the form of real property, equipment, supplies and other expendable property, and the value of goods and services directly benefiting and specifically identifiable to the project or program. **The cost or value of in-kind contributions that have been or will be relied on to satisfy a cost sharing or matching requirement for another Federal financial assistance agreement, a Federal procurement contract, or any other award of Federal funds, may not be relied on to satisfy the cost share requirement for Program proposals.**

Indirect costs that will be incurred during the development of a project, which will not be recovered may be included as part of your cost-share. Indirect costs are those: (a) incurred for a common or joint purpose benefiting more than one cost objective, and (b) not readily assignable to any one cost objective. For further information on indirect costs, refer to the OMB cost principles circular applicable to your organization as listed in the Standard Terms and Conditions hyperlink found in Section VIII of this document.

At a minimum, applicants must cost share 50% of the total project costs.

III.C. LENGTH OF PROJECT

The proposed project must be completed within 24 months from the project start date.

III.D. OTHER REQUIREMENTS

III.D.1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY, TECHNICAL AND BUDGET PROPOSALS

The applicant must submit technical and budget proposals in accordance with the requirements stated in Section IV of this document.

III.D.2 FUNDING PLAN

The applicant's proposal shall include a funding plan that describes how the non-Reclamation share of the costs will be obtained. If funding will be provided by other than the applicant, the names of these additional sources must be provided. See Section IV.E for information on submission of the Funding Plan.

III.D.3 PERFORMANCE MEASURES AND PROJECT MONITORING

Each application should identify as many benefits as possible. See Section IV.C.2.6.4.

III.D.4 OTHER REGULATIONS

Applicants shall adhere to Federal, California, and local laws, regulations, and codes, as applicable, and shall obtain all required approvals and permits. Applicants shall also coordinate and obtain approvals from site owners and operators. See Section IV.C.2.6.5 for additional information regarding environmental and regulatory compliance.

SECTION IV – APPLICATION AND PROPOSAL SUBMISSION INFORMATION

IV.A. ADDRESS TO REQUEST APPLICATION PACKAGE

This document contains all information, forms, and electronic addresses to obtain required forms or information required for the submission of a proposal.

If you are unable to access this information electronically and need assistance, please contact the following by:

Phone: (916) 978-5149
E-mail: msims@usbr.gov

IV.B. INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMISSION OF PROJECT PROPOSAL

Each applicant shall submit a proposal in accordance with the instructions contained in this section. Each proposal shall consist of the following elements: **(1) Executive Summary; (2) Technical Proposal; (3) Project Benefits Sheet; (4) Funding Plan; (5) Budget Worksheet; and (6) Budget Information.** Detailed instructions for each of these elements are set forth immediately below. The format for the complete proposal is included in Section IV.K of this document.

Applications must be submitted as a complete package. Materials arriving separately will not be included in the application package for consideration and will result in the application being rejected or not funded. **Mailing materials, package, or packing envelopes of the proposal must reference the FOA number R10AS20005. This requirement will include overnight mail labels. FAX copies and electronic mail of proposal documents will not be accepted. Electronic filings of applications are acceptable via grants.gov. If submitting your application in this format, please allow at least two (2) working days for processing.**

Do not include a cover letter or company literature/brochure with your proposal. All pertinent information must be included in your Executive Summary, Technical Proposal, Funding Plan, Budget Tables, and Budget Proposals in accordance with the formats below.

Applicants shall submit an **original and disk** of all proposal documents.

IV.C. PROPOSAL FORMAT AND CONTENT

IV.C.1 Proposal Format and Length

Proposals shall be limited to **twenty (20)** 8-1/2 inch X 11 inch pages, excluding any forms required in these instructions, **single-spaced**. The font used shall be at least 12 points in size and shall be easily readable. Proposals will be prescreened for compliance to the 20-page limit. The cover sheet (Standard Form 424), Assurances (Standard Form 424B or D, as applicable), Budget (Standard Form 424A or C), required budget tables, blank pages, title pages, blueprints, Appendix, and table of content pages, will not be counted in the 20-

page limit. All pages shall be consecutively numbered, including pages with tables and exhibits. See the Proposal Format in Section IV.K of this document.

IV.C.2 Proposal Content

IV.C.2.1 Cover Page – The cover page shall consist of a completed SF 424 - Application for Federal Assistance. This form must be signed by a person legally authorized to commit your organization to performance of the project. **Inclusion of a properly signed SF 424 in your proposal is a mandatory requirement. Failure to adhere to this requirement will result in the elimination of your proposal from further consideration.**

IV.C.2.2 Assurances – Include with your proposal a completed and signed SF 424B – Assurances – Non-Construction Programs or an SF 424D – Assurances – Construction Programs. This form must be signed by a person legally authorized to commit your organization to performance of the project. **Inclusion of a properly signed SF 424B or SF 424D in your proposal is a mandatory requirement. Failure to adhere to this requirement will result in the elimination of your proposal from further consideration.**

IV.C.2.3 Title Page – Provide a brief, informative, and descriptive title for the proposed work that indicates the nature of the project. Include the name and address of the applicant, and the name and address, email address, telephone and facsimile numbers of the project manager.

IV.C.2.4 Table of Contents – List all major sections of the proposal in the Table of Contents.

IV.C.2.5 Executive Summary

The content of the executive summary is described below. See Section IV.K.1.5 of this document.

IV.C.2.5.1 General Project Information – Include the Project name, applicants name and address, contact information and a summary of funding request. A one-paragraph project overview shall be included in this section.

IV.C.2.6 Technical Proposal

The content of the technical proposal is described below. See Section IV.K.1.6 of this document.

IV.C.2.6.1 Background Data – Include location (state, county, and direction from nearest town) and other appropriate information, including the applicant's average annual water supply (in acre feet), major crops, total acres served, miles of canals, miles of laterals, existing irrigation improvements (type, miles, acres), canal and lateral seepage losses and on-farm efficiency.

IV.C.2.6.2 Consistency with California or Local Water Plan – Applicants are required to ensure that the proposed project is consistent with any existing local (i.e. county, municipal or regional) water plan. **Urban Only:** Applicants must have an updated water management plan as required by California law.

IV.C.2.6.3 Project Description – Describe in detail the work to be carried out. Break the proposed work, including reporting, into major tasks. Discuss the approach to accomplish the proposed work by task. This discussion shall be in sufficient detail to permit a comprehensive evaluation of each task and the proposal. Engineering plans, designs and analyses should be included, if available. These plans should be in the Appendix of the proposal.

IV.C.2.6.4 Performance Measures and Project Monitoring -Include a Performance Assessment Plan and a list of project-specific performance measures that will be used to assess project success in the relation to the goals and objectives. If the project goal is to achieve Targeted Benefits, describe what portion of the Targeted Benefits will be achieved by the project. For area specific Targeted Benefits, visit www.agwatercouncil.org/Targeted-Benefits/Targeted-Benefits/menu-id-45.html. Describe the monitoring and assessment procedures that will be used to measure performance,

other benefits, to mark progress, and to determine the success of the project to achieve its goals. Include information about how the data and other information will be handled, stored, and made accessible. Provide a list of expected products/outcomes such as reports and other documentation, presentations, advances in technology, and information transfers via workshops, seminars, education programs, etc.

IV.C.2.6.5 Environmental and Regulatory Compliance – Applicants are required to comply with all applicable state, Federal, and local environmental, cultural, and paleontological resource protection laws and regulations. These may include, but are not limited to, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Clean Water Act, Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) -which could require consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) or Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) if applicable, Endangered Species Act, and consultation with potentially affected Tribes. This includes adhering to the Council on Environmental Quality, Department of the Interior, and Reclamation policy and regulations for implementing these laws.

Reclamation is the lead Federal agency for NEPA compliance. As the lead agency, Reclamation is solely responsible for determining the appropriate level of NEPA compliance, which could be a categorical exclusions checklist, environmental assessment, or environmental impact statement. Therefore, all supporting documentation produced by the applicants must be approved by and adopted by Reclamation for use. However, a project sponsor (or their contractor) can provide much of the necessary information and data analyses Reclamation requires to prepare the appropriate NEPA documentation. The applicant shall coordinate with Reclamation to ensure proper environmental compliance is completed.

FEDERAL FUNDS WILL NOT BE RELEASED TO A GRANT RECIPIENT UNTIL ALL APPROPRIATE ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE IS COMPLETE AND APPROVED BY RECLAMATION. RECIPIENTS OF FEDERAL FUNDS MAY NOT UNDERTAKE ANY GROUND DISTURBING ACTIONS UNTIL NOTIFIED BY RECLAMATION IN WRITING THAT THESE PROCESSES ARE COMPLETE.

In order to allow Reclamation to assess the probable environmental impacts and associated costs for each proposal, all applicants must respond to the following list of questions focusing on the requirements of NEPA, the Endangered Species Act, and Section 106 of the NHPA.

Please answer the following questions to the best of your knowledge. If any question is not applicable to your project, please explain why. If you have any questions, please contact your local Reclamation office.

(1) Will your project impact the surrounding environment (i.e. soil [dust], air, water [quality and quantity], animal habitat, etc.)? If so, please explain the impacts and any steps that could be taken to minimize the impacts.

(2) Are you aware of any ESA Listed (i.e. endangered or threatened species) in the project area as well as critical habitats they depend on? If so, are there any expected impacts to these species or their critical habitat (explain)?

(3) Are there wetlands inside or near the project boundaries? If so, please estimate how many acres of wetlands there are, and describe any impact your project will have on the wetlands.

(4) When was your irrigation system constructed?

(5) If your project will affect individual features of an irrigation system (e.g., headgates, canals or flumes), state when those features were constructed and describe the nature and timing of any extensive alterations or modifications to those features.

IV.D. PROJECT BENEFITS SHEET

The grant program will fund planning, design, and permitting activities associated with groundwater banking improvement programs in northwestern Kern County that:

1. increase the total groundwater storage capacity beyond 1,000,000 acre-feet, and
2. increase the potential annual rate of recovery of stored water to at least 200,000 acre-feet

The applicant's proposal shall include a quantifiable estimate of water management benefits associated with groundwater banking improvements. See Project Benefits Sheet, Section IV.K.1.7.

IV.E. FUNDING PLAN INSTRUCTIONS

The applicant's proposal shall include a funding plan that describes how the non-Reclamation share of the project costs will be obtained. Reclamation will use this information in making a determination of financial capability. See Budget Plan Format, Section IV.K.1.8.

IV.F. BUDGET AND PROJECT COSTS INSTRUCTIONS

IV.F.1 Budget Narrative

The project budget shall clearly identify all project costs by task and the funding source, i.e., Reclamation, Applicant, or other funding sources. **See Budget Worksheet Section IV.K.1.9 for a sample.**

Applicants are required to disclose any other sources and amount of funding they are applying for or have received for any portion of this project. Submission of the following information is mandatory. Award will not be made to any applicant who fails to fully disclose the following information.

Preaward costs will not be allowed. Prior approval for direct proposal costs will not be allowed.

The budget narrative format is included in Section IV.K.1.10 and includes the following information.

IV.F.1.1 Salaries and Wages - Indicate program manager and other key personnel by name and title. Other personnel may be indicated by title alone. For all positions, indicate salaries and wages, estimated hours or percent of time, and rate of compensation proposed. All labor estimates, including any proposed subcontractors, shall be allocated to specific tasks as outlined in the Recipient's proposal. Labor rates and proposed hours shall be displayed for each task.

Clearly identify any proposed salary increases and the effective date.

Generally, salaries of administrative and/or clerical personnel should be included as a portion of your indirect costs. If these salaries can be adequately documented as direct costs, they may be included in this section; however, an explanation should be included in your budget narrative.

IV.F.1.2 Fringe Benefits – Indicate rates/amounts, what costs are included in this category, and the basis of the rate computations. Indicate whether these rates are used for proposal purposes only or whether they are fixed or provisional rates for billing purposes. Federally-approved rate agreements are acceptable for compliance with this item.

IV.F.1.3 Travel – Include purpose of trip, destination, number traveling, length of stay and all travel costs including airfare (basis for rate used), per diem, lodging, and miscellaneous travel expenses. For local travel, include mileage and rate of compensation.

IV.F.1.4 Equipment – Itemize costs of all equipment having a value of over \$500 and include information as to the need for this equipment.

IV.F.1.5 Supplies – Itemize supplies by major category, quantity, and purpose, such as whether the items are needed for office use or research.

IV.F.1.6 Contractual – Identify all work that will be accomplished by subrecipients, consultants, or contractors, including a detailed budget estimate of time, rates, supplies, and materials that will be required for the task. If a subrecipient, consultant, or contractor is proposed and approved at time of award, no other approvals will be required. Any changes or additions will require a request for approval.

IV.F.1.7 Environmental and Regulatory Compliance Costs –

Reference cost incurred by Reclamation or the applicant in complying with environmental regulations applicable to this Program, which include NEPA, ESA, NHPA and the Clean Water Act, and other regulations depending on the project, including costs associated with any required permits or approvals.

IV.F.1.8 Other – Any other expenses, such as those for reporting, not included in the above categories shall be listed in this category, along with a description of the item and what it will be used for. No profit or fee will be allowed.

Funding for contingencies will only be considered in association with construction projects. Proposals for construction contingency funding at a rate greater than 10% will not be found acceptable.

IV.F.1.9 Indirect Cost – Show the proposed rate, cost base, and proposed amount for allowable indirect costs based on the applicable OMB circular cost principles (see Section VIII) for the recipient's organization. It is not acceptable to simply incorporate indirect rates within other direct cost line items.

If the recipient has separate rates for recovery of labor overhead and general and administrative costs, each rate shall be shown. The applicant should propose rates for evaluation purposes which will be used as fixed or ceiling rates in any resulting award. Include a copy of any federally-approved Indirect Cost Rate Agreement.

If you do not have a Federally-approved Indirect Cost Rate Agreement or if unapproved rates are used, explain why, and include the computational basis for the indirect expense pool and corresponding allocation base for each rate. Information on "Preparing and Submitting Indirect Cost Proposals" is available from the Department of the Interior, National Business Center, Indirect Cost Section, at www.aqd.nbc.gov/indirect/indirect.asp.

IV.G. BUDGET FORM – In addition to the above-described budget information, the applicant must complete an SF 424A, Budget Information – Nonconstruction Programs, or an SF 424C, Budget Information, Construction Programs. These forms may be downloaded from the Funding Opportunity in Grants.gov under Full Announcement.

IV.H. DATE FOR RECEIPT OF PROPOSALS

Proposals will be accepted until 3:00 p.m., Pacific Standard Time, on December 18, 2009. Proposals received after this date and time will not be considered for award.

IV.I. PROPOSAL DELIVERY INSTRUCTIONS

Proposals shall be submitted in hard copy or through www.grants.gov (electronic filings of applications are acceptable via grants.gov. If submitting your application in this format, please allow at least two (2) working days for processing) only and addressed as follows (electronic mail or facsimile transmissions of proposals will NOT be accepted):

Mailing Address:

Bureau of Reclamation, MP Region
Attn: Mary Sims, Mail Code: MP-3833
2800 Cottage Way, Room E-1815
Sacramento CA 95825-1898

IV.J. PROPOSAL SUBMISSION CHECKLIST

A Proposal Submission Checklist has been included on page 5 of this FOA. The Checklist contains a summary of the information you are **required** to submit with your application.

IV.K. FORMATS

This section of this document contains the formats for your Proposal, Project Benefit Sheet, Budget Worksheets, and Budget Narrative.

IV.K.1 Proposal Format

This section contains the forms and formats for your proposal that will meet the proposal submission requirements stated in this Request for Funding Opportunity.

IV.K.1.1 Cover Page -- SF-424 Application for Financial Assistance form

IV.K.1.2 SF-424B, Assurances - Nonconstruction Programs, or SF-424D, Assurances – Construction Programs form

IV.K.1.3 Title Page

IV.K.1.4 Table of Contents

IV.K.1.5 Executive Summary

IV.K.1.6 Technical Proposal

IV.K.1.7 Project Benefits Sheet

IV.K.1.8 Funding Plan

IV.K.1.9 Budget Worksheet

IV.K.1.10 Budget Narrative

IV.K.1.11 Budget Form – SF 424A, Budget Information – Nonconstruction Programs, or SF 424C, Budget Information - Construction Programs

COVER PAGE (See Section IV.C.2.1)

IV.K.1.1

Include an SF 424 Application for Financial Assistance. Form may be downloaded from the Funding Opportunity in Grants.gov under Full Announcement.

ASSURANCES FORM (See Section IV.C.2.2)

IV.K.1.2

Include an SF 424B, Assurances - Nonconstruction Programs, or SF 424D, Assurances – Construction Programs form. Forms may be downloaded from the Funding Opportunity in Grants.gov under Full Announcement.

IV.K.1.3

TITLE PAGE (See Section IV.C.2.3)

Groundwater Banking Improvements In Northwestern Kern County

PROJECT NAME

PROJECT LOCATION

Applicant Name

Applicant Address

Date

IV.K.1.4

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IV.K.1.5

Part I -- EXECUTIVE SUMMARY (See Section IV.C.2.5)																							
A. General Project Information																							
A.1	Date: Applicant Name: City, County, State:																						
A.2	Project Name:																						
A.3	2009 Funding Request Summary <i>[Use * to denote an in-kind contribution]</i> <table border="1" style="margin-left: 40px;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 60%;">FUNDING SOURCE</th> <th>FUNDING AMOUNT</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Non-Federal Entities:</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Non-Federal Subtotal:</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reclamation Funding:</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL PROJECT FUNDING:</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	FUNDING SOURCE	FUNDING AMOUNT	Non-Federal Entities:										Non-Federal Subtotal:				Reclamation Funding:				TOTAL PROJECT FUNDING:	
FUNDING SOURCE	FUNDING AMOUNT																						
Non-Federal Entities:																							
Non-Federal Subtotal:																							
Reclamation Funding:																							
TOTAL PROJECT FUNDING:																							
A.4	One paragraph project summary.																						
A.5	Contact for Further Information: Name: Title: Telephone: E-mail:																						

IV.K.1.6

Part II -- TECHNICAL PROPOSAL (See Section IV.C.2.6)	
A	Background Data Include the following information about the applicant. (See Section IV.C.2.6.1)
A.1	Location (state, county, and direction from nearest town).
A.2	Applicant's average annual water supply (in acre feet).
A.3	Describe water use (i.e. municipal, irrigation, etc.).
A.4	If water is primarily used for irrigation, describe major crops, total acres served, major irrigation methods.
A.5	Describe any other relevant background information.
B	Consistency with State or Local Water Plan (See Section IV.C.2.6.2)
B.1	State whether the proposed project is consistent with the state or local water plan. Yes ___ No ___ If yes, identify the applicable plan. If no, state why the project should be considered.
C	Project Description (See Section IV.C.2.6.3)
C.1	Describe in detail the work and approach to be used to carry out the proposed project. This description shall be in sufficient detail to permit a comprehensive evaluation of the proposal.
C.2	Briefly describe any engineering plans, designs and analyses prepared in connection with the proposed work and include it in the Appendix of the proposal.

IV.K.1.7

Part III -- PROJECT BENEFIT SHEET (See Section IV.D)

Project Benefits Sheet

Please provide the appropriate water management benefits for agricultural or urban measures that you anticipate addressing in your proposal. Where available, please provide an estimate of the benefit in units (i.e. Acre Feet, \$, %)

Partner: _____

- Reduce Leaks and Seepage _____ Acre Feet/Year
- Reduces System Spills _____ Acre Feet/Year
- Makes More Water Available for Crop Use _____ Acre Feet/Year
- Reduces Diversions _____ Acre Feet/Year
- Reduces Operation Costs _____ \$/Year
- Reduces Energy Cost _____ \$/Year
- Reduces Waste Treatment Cost _____ \$/Year
- Improves Crop Yield _____ Percent/Year
- Reduces On-Farm Costs _____ \$/Year
- Reduces Per Capita Use _____ Gals/Capita/Day
- Provides Technical Training _____ # of People
- Provides Water Conservation Education _____ # of People
- Improves Water Supply Reliability _____ Frequency (Yrs)*
- Reduces Drainage Induced Erosion _____ Tons/year
- Improves Water Quality _____ %Reduction of _____
- Enhances Aquatic/Riparian Habitat _____ Acres
- Endangered Species _____ Yes/No

*Estimate of how often the improvement will occur (i.e. 1 = each year, 2 = 1 in 2 years etc.)

IV.K.1.8

Part IV -- FUNDING PLAN (See Section IV.E)	
A	Describe how the Applicant will make its contribution to the cost share requirement, including a description of monetary and in-kind contributions, and identification of the source funds contributed by the applicant (e.g., reserve account, tax revenue and/or assessments).
B	<p>If project funding is being provided by funding partners, not including the applicant or Reclamation, please provide the following information:</p> <p>(a) Identify the funding partners and state the amount of funding to be provided by each.</p> <p>(b) Are letters of commitment from all cost-sharing partners included with the proposal? Yes ___ No ___.</p>
C	Describe any other Federal funding requested or received for the proposed work. Note: Federal funding will not be counted towards the applicant's 50% cost share requirement.
D	Have you applied to other 2010 Reclamation grant programs (Challenge Grants) for this project? Yes ___ No ___
E	Discuss what lesser amount would be acceptable if Reclamation is unable to provide your total funding request. Discuss any decrease in project size or other problems due to decreased Federal funding.
F	Does the budget identify direct, indirect, environmental and contingency costs? Yes ___ No ___ . If not, explain why.

BUDGET WORKSHEET (See Section IV.F.1)

IV.K.1.9

COST ITEM DESCRIPTION	COMPUTATION		RECIPIENT COST SHARE	RECLAMATION FUNDING	TOTAL COST
	Unit/Hr	Quantity			
SALARIES AND WAGES					
Employee 1					
Employee 2					
FRINGE BENEFITS					
Full-time employees					
Part-time employees					
TRAVEL					
Trip 1					
Trip 2					
EQUIPMENT					
Item A					
Item B					
Item C					
SUPPLIES/MATERIALS					
Office Supplies					
Construction					
CONTRACTUAL					
ENVIRONMENTAL AND REGULATORY COMPLIANCE					
OTHER					
Reporting					
TOTAL DIRECT COSTS					
INDIRECT COSTS - __%					
TOTAL ACTIVITY COSTS			\$	\$	\$

Sources of Funding

Recipient
 Cash: _____
 In-Kind Services: _____

Partner (1) _____
 Cash: _____
 In-Kind Services: _____

Partner (2) _____
 Cash: _____
 In-Kind Services: _____

Reclamation: _____

Total Activity Funding: _____

BUDGET NARRATIVE (See Section IV.F.1)

IV.K.1.10

Applicants shall include a Budget Narrative with the application. The Budget Narrative provides a discussion of or explanation for items included in the Budget Proposal. See Section IV.F.1.1-Section IV.F.1.9 to reference the information that needs to be included in the Narrative.

BUDGET FORM (See Section IV.G)

IV.K.1.11

Include either an SF 424A, Budget Information – Nonconstruction Programs, or an SF 424C, Budget Information - Construction Programs form. Forms may be downloaded from the Funding Opportunity in Grants.gov under Full Announcement.

SECTION V -- APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

The relative importance of various evaluation criteria is set forth below. Applications will be evaluated by a technical panel in accordance with these criteria and the corresponding weight assigned to each criterion.

1. Project Benefits (60 points):

The proposal contributes toward the program objectives:

- increase total groundwater storage capacity beyond 1,000,000 acre-feet, and
- increase potential annual rate of recovery of stored water to at least 200,000 acre-feet
- Proposal includes a Projects Benefit Sheet.

2. Project has Technical/Scientific Merit and Feasibility (20 points):

- This proposal addresses whether the approach is technically sound, if the methods are appropriate for achieving the stated project targets, goals and objectives, and if the anticipated results can be achieved in the time frame specified.

3. Applicants, Cooperators and Partners are capable of accomplishing the project (20 points):

- The professional and technical qualifications of the applicants are commensurate with the proposed project.
- The applicant has existing or describes how it will develop new partnerships necessary for the project's short and long term success and sustainability.
- The applicant has demonstrated good standing with past project performance.

The Government reserves the right to reject any and all proposals which do not meet the requirements of this solicitation. Awards will be made to the responsible applicants submitting proposals that conform to the solicitation and are most advantageous to the Government considering the factors and any significant sub factors listed above.

SECTION VI -- AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

VI.A. AWARD NOTICES

Successful applicants will receive a notice of award of a Grant or Cooperative Agreement document by mail, signed by a Grants Officer, notifying the applicant of project award and project starting date.

VI.B. AWARD DOCUMENT

If your organization is awarded an agreement as a result of this Request for Funding Opportunity, the applicable portions of Sections II, III, and VIII of this document will be included in the resulting agreement.

VI.C. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS AND DISTRIBUTION

If your organization is awarded an agreement as a result of this Request for Funding Opportunity, you will be required to submit the following types of reports during the term of the agreement.

VI.C.1 Financial Reports

- SF-425, Financial Status Report, (available at <http://www.usbr.gov/mso/aamd/doing-business-financial-assistance.html>)

VI.C.2 Program Performance Reports

- Interim Reports
- Annual Reports
- Final Report
- Project Monitoring/Performance Measures Reports

SECTION VII -- AGENCY CONTACTS

Organizations or individuals interested in submitting proposals in response to this solicitation may direct questions to Reclamation in writing. Questions may be submitted to the attention of Mary Sims, Grants Officer:

By mail:

Bureau of Reclamation
Mid-Pacific Region
Attn: Mary Sims
Mail Code: MP-3833
2800 Cottage Way, Room E-1815
Sacramento CA 95825-1898

By FAX: (916) 978-5175

By E-mail: msims@usbr.gov

SECTION VIII -- OTHER INFORMATION

VIII.A. STANDARD TERMS & CONDITIONS

If you are awarded a Grant or Cooperative Agreement as a result of this Request for Funding Opportunity, General and Special Provisions will be included in the agreement at time of award. The provisions are available at <http://www.usbr.gov/mso/aamd/doing-business-financial-assistance.html>.

VIII.B. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA)

All applications may be subject to FOIA. The Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C.A. §552) generally provides that any person has a right, enforceable in court, to obtain access to federal agency records, except to the extent that such records (or portions of them) are protected from public disclosure by one of nine exemptions or by one of three special law enforcement record exclusions. Proprietary information should be marked "Confidential" to assist in alerting the federal agency to information that may be protected from disclosure.