



Fact Sheet

Storm Water Resource Plan & Storm Water Grant Guidelines *Guidance to Preparing a Storm Water Resource Plan and Prop 1 Storm Water Funding*

In January 2014, in the midst of extreme drought conditions, Governor Brown released the California Water Action Plan that called for multiple-benefit storm water management solutions. To accomplish this, the California Water Boards are working on multiple paths by providing financial assistance and working cooperatively with local agencies to encourage multiple benefit storm water projects for achieving regulatory compliance and supplemental water supplies. The California Water Code was recently amended to require a public agency to develop a Storm Water Resource Plan as a condition of receiving state grant funding for storm water and dry weather runoff capture projects from any bond approved by voters after January 2014.

The State Water Board has adopted the Storm Water Resource Plan Guidelines to provide guidance for entities preparing a Storm Water Resource Plan, and the Storm Water Grant Program Guidelines to assist interested applicants with obtaining grant funds for multiple-benefit storm water projects.

What Are the Objectives of the Storm Water Resource Plan Guidelines?

At a minimum, the Storm Water Resource Plan Guidelines seek to:

- Maximize cooperation and collaboration among state, regional and local agencies, and nongovernmental organizations during the development and implementation of a Storm Water Resource Plan;
- Provide guidance for the identification and prioritization of storm water projects and actions based on quantitative analysis of multiple benefits; and
- Provide the appropriate geographic scale of watersheds for storm water resource planning.

Types of Storm Water Projects

Multi-benefit storm water projects include green infrastructure and storm water capture projects that increase water quality and water supply, provide recreational and community benefits, and enhance the environment. Plans are required to address storm water on a watershed basis and incorporate the perspectives of communities, especially disadvantaged communities.

Financial Assistance for Multi-Benefit Storm Water Projects

Proposition 1 provides \$200 million to the State Water Board for providing matching grants to public agencies, nonprofit organizations, public utilities, state and federally recognized Indian tribes, and mutual water companies for multi-benefit storm water projects. The State Water Board developed the Proposition 1 Storm Water Grant Program Guidelines (Proposition 1 SWGP Guidelines) to establish the process and criteria to solicit applications, evaluate and rank proposals, and award funding to recommended projects.



Priorities for Funding and Funding Solicitation Timeline

Storm water projects that capture and “use” storm water for a variety of benefits, including (but not limited to) water supply, flood control, habitat enhancement/restoration, and creation of green space will receive priority funding consideration. The funding timeline and process maximizes the amount of funds provided in the near term by awarding in 2016 up to \$100 million appropriated in the fiscal year 2015/2016 budget: providing up to \$20 million for planning (including development of Storm Water Resource Plans), and up to \$80 million for implementation projects. Remaining funding will be made available through a future project proposal solicitation.

The Proposition 1 SWGP Guidelines establishes a competitive proposal solicitation process. Applicants will submit their proposal through the State Water Board’s on-line Financial Assistance Application Submittal Tool. Technical staff will review the submitted proposals and rank the projects based on the scoring criteria in Proposition 1 SWGP Guidelines. The Water Boards will develop a Recommended Funding List, which will be presented to the Deputy Director of the Division of Financial Assistance who will make the final decision on which projects to award funding and the grant amounts.

Guidelines Adoption Background

The Storm Water Resource Plan Guidelines and Proposition 1 SWGP Guidelines were developed concurrently with input from engaged stakeholders through several venues between March and October 2015.

An overview of the Proposition 1 SWGP and Storm Water Resource Plan Guidelines were presented at the October 7, 2015 Board Workshop, which followed three staff-level public workshops held in Fresno, Fountain Valley, and Oakland, California.

The final Draft Proposition 1 SWGP Guidelines and final Draft Storm Water Resource Plan Guidelines were posted for public review and comment for 45 days from August 28, 2015 through October 13, 2015.

The State Water Board adopted the Proposition 1 SWGP Guidelines and the Storm Water Resource Plan Guidelines at its December 15, 2015 meeting.

For more information regarding the Storm Water Resource Plan Guidelines and the Storm Water Grant Program, visit the State Water Board’s Storm Water Grant Program website [Storm Water Grant Program – Proposition 1](#) or contact Sean Maguire, at Sean.Maguire@waterboards.ca.gov or (916) 341-5877.

This fact sheet was last updated on December 15, 2015.