Wyoming
DEPARTMENT OF Agriculture

March 31, 2020

To: All Wyoming Conservation Districts with an interest in the
Water Quality Program (WQ)

RE: Request for Proposals (RFP) Water Quality Grant Program (FY 2021-22)

DEADLINE 5 pm May 15, 2020

The 2021-22 biennium Water Quality Grant Program has approximately $390,414 available for local Conservation District watershed planning efforts for this Request for Proposal. Grant funding is available to Conservation Districts up to $20,000 for each project. Applicants may apply for more than one project, but are limited to one application per watershed or sub-watershed in each RFP. This RFP is open to all water bodies that are on the 303 (d) list.

Applications will be reviewed and ranked by the WACD Board of Directors; their recommendations will be forwarded on to the Board of Agriculture for their review and final approval. As part of the WACD Board of Directors ranking criteria, the board will be considering your districts past water grant performance i.e. meeting contractual obligations and utilization of funding within past contract periods.

Important Note:

In the past the WDA has provided project funding upfront upon project approval, the Department has changed how funding will be allocated. Upon approval of your application, a proponent must provide a "Yearly Plan of Work" for each year funding will be needed. Upon receipt of this request the WDA will review the "Yearly Plan of Work", once it is approved the proponent will submit a payment voucher and then the WDA will release funding for that year.

The following is a list of application requirements:

- **Application Deadline is May 15, 2020**
- Grants may be written for a timeframe longer than the biennium. Funded projects will be required to submit at least one interim report and a final report. Final reports and return of unused funds will be due on the contracted ending date.
- Written proposals should be no more than 5 pages in length, not including maps and other related materials.
- Projects must have 30% match which can be cash or in-kind. Federal funds such as 319 grant funds can also be used as match. **Please Note: If your project is approved and funded, the in-**

kind/match being claimed in your application is what must be provided for your project. You can claim a greater in-kind/match, but must meet what is shown in the contract coming out of the application.

- Successful applicants will be notified after the proposals are reviewed and approved by both the WACD and BOA. A WDA contract must be signed and approved before the implementation of the project.

The following criteria shall be considered by the WACD when ranking and recommending water quality grant proposals.

- Listed on Table A **(impaired)** or Table C **(threatened)** of Wyoming **final approved 303(d) list** of impaired waters.
- **Projects with implementation measures specifically addressing the pollutant of concern, as identified on the 303(d) list, will receive a higher priority**
- Amount of land mass and number of citizens included in the proposal or possibly impacted by failure of the project to be carried out. Please provide specifics
- Active Watershed Steering Committee providing local leadership for watershed effort and/or BMP implementation identified in locally developed/adopted watershed plan or adopted TMDL with local involvement
- Augmentation or acceleration of existing assessment, planning, and implementation project.
- **If monitoring is being conducted as part of the project it is being done under an acceptable Sampling and Analysis Plan and by a trained/qualified individual as per Credible Data statute.**
- Demonstrated need for funding or additional funding in order to continue existing work to address impairments
- Project demonstrates ability to meet required match of 30%. **If more than 30% match is provided, district must match at that higher level and account for the match in interim and final reports. (Local cash or in-kind contributions qualify as match, as well as, federal grant funds such as 205j or 319. Other state WDA funds cannot be used as match)**
- Demonstrate that all project costs are reasonable and justifiable. Quality project proposal budget provided. **Hourly rates for in-kind volunteer/professional level services shall be based on available rates for the State of Wyoming as provided at https://www.independentsector.org/volunteer_time**
- Past WDA Water Quality grant performance, applicant has met contractual obligations and utilized funding within contract period
- Application should specifically describe how BMP's, if any are listed, are helping to reduce the pollutants (reason the waters are listed) of concern

Email an electronic copy of your application to: Kelly Brown at WACD at kelly.brown@conservewy.com, **AND Justin Caudill at WDA at justin.caudill@wyo.gov**

** Please note that it may take up to four months to process contracts for awarded projects. No WDA funds may be spent until all signatures have been executed and all required approvals have been granted. WDA project funds may not be used to pay for activities performed prior to the execution of the contract **

Please refer to the WDA website agriculture.wy.gov at:

http://wyagric.state.wy.us/divisions/nrp/conservation-districts/funding-resources/water-quality

For the application, support documents, and the criteria