CONSERVATION AND RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT DIVISION
Renewable Resource Grant Program - RRG

RRG Project Grant Application Companion

This is a companion document to the RRG Project Grant Application Guidelines and online application. It depicts the online project grant application DNRC does not accept physical applications.

» **Applications must be submitted online through https://grants.dnrc.mt.gov/**

Contents

Helpful Hints and Best Practices for Applicants

Familiarize Yourself with DNRC Grant Applicant Resources

DNRC staff work hard to provide high-quality resources for applicants. All application materials are new or have been updated specifically for this application cycle.

» Applicants should begin with these resources:
1. **Application Guidelines:** See RRG Webpage
2. **Application Companion:** This Document
3. **RRG Webpage:** See RRG Webpage, under How to Apply
4. **Online Applicant Information Sessions:** See RRG Webpage, under How to Apply

» After reviewing the above resources, applicants requiring further assistance may:
1. **Email Questions to RRG Program Staff:** Email Link
2. **Book a One-On-One Consultation with RRG Program Staff:** Bookings Link

Write Clearly and Remove the Fluff

Do not underestimate the importance of good writing. Most narrative fields have word limits. Read each prompt carefully and respond directly. Skip unnecessary filler. Strong applicants will provide detailed, thoughtful answers without overwhelming reviewers with excess words. Applicants will be awarded points for good, clear writing. See Application Quality Scoring Rubric.

Draft Narrative Responses in Word or a Similar Program

You can save your progress as you work through the online application form. However, you should draft narrative responses in Microsoft Word or a similar program. This best protects you from losing information due to a technology glitch. Plus, Word and similar programs generally have better spelling and grammar tools available than the online application form.

Do Not Select Renewable Resource or Public Benefits Without Supporting Data or Modeling

Most application points are awarded in the Renewable Resource and Public Benefits categories. To earn the maximum score, you must include clear, measurable data or modeling to support your claims and cite all sources. In Parts 3 and 4 of the Application, only select the renewable resource and public benefits you can back up with supporting information. Unsupported claims will not earn points and may confuse reviewers. See Benefits Scoring Rubric.

Compile Application Attachments Before Working on the Online Application

Use the list of Application Attachments on Page 5 to prepare your attachments. Note the acceptable file types and linked resources. Some documents are required only if applicable. Refer to the application form to see when these documents are needed.

» Upload searchable PDF documents for larger documents.
» Give your files a meaningful title so reviewers can understand what document they are opening.

Prioritize Time to Review and Revise the Application

Allow time to review and revise your application. Ask someone unfamiliar with the project to skim the application and check for clarity. Ensure narrative fields, especially those in Part 2, are written so a legislator can understand.

Local Governments – Take Ownership of Your Grant Application

Local governments working with grant writers and engineers should carefully review the application for completeness and readability. Ask your consultant(s) to rewrite any confusing or overly technical language in clear, plain terms. If you cannot understand it, a reviewer may not either.

» Request that consultants submit application materials to you for review as they are drafting and compiling the grant application. Actively provide feedback.

» After submitting the application, be prepared to receive messages sent by DNRC and technical reviewers through the online application system (Submittable).

Submit Your Application Before May 15

Plan to submit the application one week before the May 15 application deadline. This allows time for you to address unforeseeable issues and questions. Technical issues are always possible and will be difficult to troubleshoot close to the application deadline.

» DNRC staff will have limited availability the week of the application deadline. Staff may not be available on May 15 to respond to last-minute inquiries or issues.

» Only the local government account holder can see and click the application's "Submit Form" button. They should be prepared to do so before the deadline.

List of Application Attachments

Attachments Required from All Applicants

Attachment Name	Acceptable File Types	Location in Application	Link to Template, Form, or Related Resources
Application Fee Receipt	.doc, .docx, .pdf, .gif, .jpg, .jpeg, .png, .svg, .tif, .tiff	Part 1	Not Applicable
Uniform Application for Montana Facilities Projects	.csv, .doc, .docx, .pdf, .xls, .xlsx, .zip	Part 1	See RRG Webpage, under How to Apply
Environmental Checklist	.doc, .docx, .pdf	Part 1	See RRG Webpage, under How to Apply
Main Project Map	.pdf, .gif, .jpg, .jpeg, .png, .svg, .tif, .tiff	Part 1c	Not Applicable
Main Project Photo	.pdf, .gif, .jpg, .jpeg, .png, .svg, .tif, .tiff	Part 1c	Not Applicable
Project Schedule (DNRC Format)	.doc, .docx, .pdf	Part 5a	See DNRC Schedule Template
Grant Management Plan	.doc, .docx, .pdf	Part 5e	See DNRC Grant Mgmt Plan Guide
Procurement Plan	.doc, .docx, .pdf	Part 5e	See DNRC Procurement Plan and Guide

Attachments Not Required or Required Only if Applicable

Attachment Name	Acceptable File Types	Location in Application	Link to Template, Form, or Related Resources
Preliminary Engineering Report or Other Planning Document	.doc, .docx, .pdf	Part 1	Not Applicable
Other Project Map(s)	.pdf, .gif, .jpg, .jpeg, .png, .svg, .tif, .tiff	Part 1c	Not Applicable
Other Project Photos	.pdf, .gif, .jpg, .jpeg, .png, .svg, .tif, .tiff	Part 1c	Not Applicable
Finalized Water Right	.doc, .docx, .pdf	Part 2b	Not Applicable
DEQ/EPA Enforcement Action or Administrative Order	.doc, .docx, .pdf	Part 4	Not Applicable
Documented Public Health and Safety Threats	.doc, .docx, .pdf	Part 4	Not Applicable
Documented Toxicity Impacts to Wildlife	.doc, .docx, .pdf	Part 4	Not Applicable
Standalone Technical Narrative	.doc, .docx, .pdf	Part 5b	See RRG Webpage, under How to Apply
Standalone Alternatives Analysis	.doc, .docx, .pdf	Part 5c	See RRG Webpage, under How to Apply
Procurement Documents	.doc, .docx, .pdf	Part 5e	Not Applicable
Committed Match Documentation	.doc, .docx, .pdf	Part 6a	See DNRC Match Guide
Loan Information	.doc, .docx, .pdf	Part 6c	Not Applicable

RRG Project Grant Application Form

Form Instructions

Applications Must be Submitted Online Through https://grants.dnrc.mt.gov/

Please read the RRG Project Grant Guidelines before applying.

How to apply:

A complete application must be submitted online by **5:00pm on May 15, 2026**:

1. **Submit application and required attachments online using this form.**
   - Do not submit a physical copy of the application.
2. **Pay $250 application fee before submitting the application:**
   - Pay through DNRC's online payment portal.
   - Retain a receipt or record of the transaction to attach to this application.

This application's account owner MUST be from the local government applying for funds.

The local government applying for this grant may invite others, like engineers, to assist with completing this form. Find the "Manage Collaborators" link in the upper right-hand corner of the application form to do so. Add email addresses to invite others to work on the application--they will receive an email from Submittable in this regard. Invited collaborators should check their spam folders for emails from Submittable.

- **Click the "Manage Collaborators" link at the top of this section to invite others to edit the application.**

The local government must click the "Submit" button on this form. Form Collaborators cannot submit this application. That includes those external to the local government.

Part 1. Preliminary Information and Uploads

Project Title (Applicant Name and Brief Description) (required)

[   ]

Include the applicant name and a brief project title.
Examples:
- Westland Wastewater System Improvements
- Awesome Irrigation District Siphon Rehabilitation

The answer to this question will be used as the unique identifier for each submission.

Application Fee Payment Upload

☐ **Confirmation of Application Fee Payment** - I understand the applicant entity must pay a $250 application fee before submitting this application form and by 5:00pm on May 15, 2026. **(required)**

Pay through our online payment portal.

Upload Receipt of Submission of $250 Application Fee (required)

[Choose File]

DNRC will use this receipt to verify payment.

Uniform Application Upload – New Requirement

Use the fields below to upload a Uniform Application for Montana Public Facility Projects and a PER or other planning document to supplement this application. This is required of all applicants.

More resources, including a Word version of the application and Excel budget tables, are linked on the RRG Website, under "How to Apply": https://dnrc.mt.gov/Conservation/Grant-and-Loan-Programs/Renewable-Resource-Grants-and-Loans/RRG-Project-Grants

Required - Upload a Uniform Application for Montana Public Facility Projects (and Attachments) (required)

[Choose File]

Include the Uniform Application and attachments here (e.g., Excel budget tables). Up to 5 uploads are allowed in this space.
All documents, including the Uniform Application, are linked on the RRG Website, under "How to Apply": https://dnrc.mt.gov/Conservation/Grant-and-Loan-Programs/Renewable-Resource-Grants-and-Loans/RRG-Project-Grants

Recommended - Upload a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) or Other Planning Document for this Project

> Choose File

Attach the Preliminary Engineering Report, Technical Memo, Relevant Capital Improvement Plan, or other planning document that highlights the significance of the project in this grant application.

Environmental Checklist Upload

All applicants must consider the potential environmental impacts of their projects. Preparation of this document can alert applicants to consideration of location, design, or construction actions that will help to avoid potential adverse environmental impacts or expensive mitigation or construction costs. A project will not be eligible for funding if it would result in significant adverse impact after mitigation.

- Uniform Application Environmental Checklist Templates: **Environmental Checklist**

Uniform Application Environmental Checklist (required)

> Choose File

Upload the completed checklist and any supporting documents. Checklist forms are linked in the instruction section above.

Part 1a. Applicant Information

Grant Applicant - Local Government Entity Name (required)

<div style="border:1px solid #000; height:40px;"></div>

Limit: 100 characters

- **This is the entity applying for the grant.**
- **The entity must be an eligible local government.**
- **Do not abbreviate the name or use acronyms.**

Grant Applicant Type - Local Government Type (required)

- ☐ Incorporated City/Town
- ☐ County
- ☐ Water and/or Sewer District
- ☐ Conservation District
- ☐ Irrigation District
- ☐ State Agency
- ☐ Tribal Government
- ☐ Other

The applicant must be an eligible local government. Eligible local governments must be recognized by the Montana Department of Administration.

Is the local government partnering with or sponsoring another organization on this grant application? (required)

- ☐ Yes*
- ☐ No

Common partner or sponsored entities include ditch companies, water users associations, etc.
For more information, see DNRC Guidance for Partner or Sponsored Grants.

*BRANCH – "Yes" Response
Partner/Sponsored Entity Name (required)

<div style="border:1px solid #000; height:30px;"></div>

Write out the full name. Do not use abbreviations or acronyms.
Example: Awesome Ditch Company

*BRANCH – "Yes" Response
How does the project directly tie to the goals and objectives of the local government applying for funds? (required)

<div style="border:1px solid #000; height:120px;"></div>

Limit: 150 words

Briefly discuss the local government's connection to this project. The response should justify why the local government is sponsoring this application on behalf of another entity.

*Branch from "Yes" Response

☐ **Confirmation of Review of DNRC Guidance -** The local government, sponsored entity, and others managing the grant have carefully reviewed the DNRC Guidance for Sponsored or Partner Grants. **(required)**

Read the document here: **DNRC Guidance for Sponsored or Partner Grants**.

Part 1b: Contact Information

During the application review period, DNRC will communicate with the applicant and collaborators through the application system's messaging platform. DNRC will use the contact information provided below for other purposes.

Authorized Representative - Individual from Local Government (required)

First Name

Last Name

Individual must be authorized to enter into a grant agreement with DNRC.

Authorized Representative Title (required)

Authorized Representative Address (required)

Authorized Representative Address

Country

> Select…

Address

Authorized Representative Address

Country

> Select…

Address

Address Line 2 (optional)

City

State, Province, or Region

Zip or Postal Code

Authorized Representative Phone (required)

Authorized Representative Email (required)

Primary Contact - Individual from Local Government (required)

First Name

Last Name

Individual from local government whom DNRC should contact with updates or questions about the application or, if successful, grant agreement.

Primary Contact Title (required)

Primary Contact Phone (required)

Primary Contact Email (required)

Engineer or Technical/Professional Consultant

First Name

Last Name

Lead individual providing engineering/technical services for this project.

Engineer or Technical/Consultant Firm Name

List the entity name, if applicable.

Engineer or Technical/Consultant Firm Email

 Engineer or Technical/Consultant Firm Phone

Additional Contact - List the individual's full name, affiliation, role, and phone number.

Additional Contact Email

Part 1c: General Project Information

Project Category (required)
- ☐ Drinking Water
- ☐ Wastewater or Sewer
- ☐ Stormwater
- ☐ Agricultural Irrigation
- ☐ Stream Restoration
- ☐ Dams* (Not for Irrigation or Drinking Water)
- ☐ Other

*Projects that address high-hazard dams are eligible for funding through the DNRC Reclamation and Development Grant (RDG) Program. The RDG Program grant application cycle is also open. See the RDG Project Grant Program webpage.

Primary Project Activity(s) to be Funded with this Grant (required)
- ☐ Research Activities and/or a Study
- ☐ Planning Activities (e.g., development of a Preliminary Engineering Report)
- ☐ Engineering and/or Design Activities
- ☐ Construction Activities
- ☐ Other Activities

Select all that apply.

System Name - Name the consolidated works that are physically connected or that are jointly managed where the project activities will take place. (required)

[ ]

Example:
- Westland Wastewater System
- Awesome Irrigation District Canal System

Project Owner(s) (required)

[ ]

List all entities that hold any title or interest in the properties, rights, easements, or franchises to be acquired for projects to include:
- individuals
- irrigation, drainage, and flood control districts
- companies
- societies
- associations

Project County (required)

[Select…]

Project Latitude and Longitude - Use Decimal Degrees (required)

Format Example: 46.345678, -112.345678

Upload Main Project Map (required)

Choose File

Display the relationship of the project to a larger context (region, watershed, etc.). Use a scale and north arrow. Maps may be used for legislative hearings and posted online.

Upload Other Project Maps (Optional)

Choose File

Maps may be used for legislative hearings and posted online.

Upload Main Project Photo for Legislative Hearings (required)

Choose File

DNRC will use this during legislative hearings and for the application gallery. **Do not attach a project map.**

Upload Additional Project Photos (Optional)

Choose File

If you have additional project photos, upload them here.

Part 2. Project Description

DNRC will use your responses in this section for the Governor's Executive Budget and legislative reports. Please be clear and brief. Most information can be pulled from the Uniform Application.

Part 2a. Project Narratives

Historical Information (1 Paragraph) (required)

<div style="border:1px solid #000; height:140px;"></div>

Limit: 150 words

Use full sentences. Define acronyms or avoid them. Provide context about the project for someone unfamiliar (like a legislator). Consider including the following:
- The age of the system.
- The date, type and cost of the last major improvements to the system.
- Whether there are any state administrative orders or other similar requirements to fix or modify the system.
- If necessary, a short overview of project phases.

Example:
Westland is an unincorporated rural village in McNamee County. The sanitary wastewater system was constructed in 1983. The system consists of approximately 8,000 lineal feet of 8-inch PVC (polyvinyl chloride) gravity sewer main with 50 service connections. The gravity main discharges into a duplex lift station which pumps into a two-cell facultative lagoon. No significant improvements or modifications have been made to the system since its construction. The system has experienced frequent disruption and backups due to ongoing issues with the lift station and a lack of valve controls around the lagoon system. Infiltration is suspected to be an operational problem along with concerns about the remaining operational life of the existing lagoon liners.

Project Need and Justification (1 Paragraph) (required)

<div style="border:1px solid #000; height:120px;"></div>

Limit: 150 words

Use full sentences. Define acronyms or avoid them.
- Describe the effort the local government has undertaken to identify this specific project as a priority. Did it result from a PER or other system study, for example?
- Indicate why this project has been prioritized over others in the system/community. Attach a copy of the community planning document at the beginning of this application form.

Project Summary Statement (2-3 Complete Sentences) (required)

```



```
Limit: 150 words

Provide 2 complete sentences. See examples below. Define acronyms or avoid them.
1. Summarize the project these grant funds will support.
2. State the project's primary goal. The primary project goal must be to conserve, develop, manage, or preserve a renewable resource.
3. State the public benefit goal(s) of the project (public health and safety, economic, recreation, etc.).

Examples:
- The Westland Wastewater System Improvements Project will address system deficiencies by upgrading the lagoon system, replacing the lift station, and installing new flow measurement and SCADA equipment. The project aims to preserve groundwater quality by improving system monitoring and preventing wastewater contamination.
- The Awesome Irrigation District Siphon Rehabilitation Project will improve the deteriorating Maple Creek Siphon by installing a new pipe for the siphon and new outlet structure. The project will enable the district to better manage surface water by reducing leaks within the siphon structure.

Project Construction Tasks/Activities (Bulleted List) (required)

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Limit: 150 words

Provide a bulleted list of the construction tasks these grant funds will support. Avoid acronyms unless they well known terms. Do not include engineering or closeout tasks.

Example:
- Replace lagoon liner system in two existing facultative cells;
- Install new control valving and monitoring system in lagoon cells;
- Replace lift station with new duplex lift station with backup generation and appurtenances; and,
- Install new flow measurement and SCADA equipment.

Phased Projects:
List construction tasks for only the project phase this grant will support. Other project phases may be discussed in the Historical Information field.

Non-Construction Projects:
List the specific tasks the grant funds will support.

Part 2b. Water Rights

Have water rights or diversion of the point-of-use been addressed with DNRC? (required)

- ☐ Yes*
- ☐ No*
- ☐ Not Applicable*

*BRANCH – "Yes" Response
Describe how the water rights or diversion of the point-of-use were addressed with DNRC. (required)

```
[                                                                    ]
```
Limit: 150 words

*BRANCH – "Yes" Response
Upload Finalized Water Right and/or Other Relevant Documentation

```
[   Choose File   ]
```

*BRANCH – "No" Response
Describe the plan to address water rights or diversion of the point-of-use with DNRC. (required)

```
[                                                                    ]
```
Limit: 150 words

*BRANCH – "Not Applicable" Response
Indicate why the project does not impact an existing water right or have water rights associated with it. (required)

```
[                                                                    ]
```
Limit: 150 words

Part 2c. State Water Plan

Does the project directly support the implementation of a State Water Plan Priority? (required)

☐   Yes*

☐   No

Check here: https://dnrc.mt.gov/Water-Resources/Water-Planning-Implementation-and-Communications/State-Water-Plan-Regional-Basin-Plans/

*BRANCH – "Yes" Response

Identify the specific priority/recommendation. Cite where it can be found in the State Water Plan. (required)

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Limit: 300 words

*BRANCH – "Yes" Response

Justify how this project specifically impacts the State Water Plan priority/recommendation cited above. (required)

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Limit: 300 words

Part 2d. Other DNRC Grants

Has DNRC awarded a Renewable Resource Grant (RRG), Reclamation and Development Grant (RDG), or other grant for a different part or earlier phase of this project?? (required)

☐ Yes*
☐ No

*BRANCH – "Yes" Response

List the Grant Number, Project Name, Grant Program Name, and Year of Award (required)

Example:
- RPG-24-9999, Westland Wastewater System PER, RRG Planning Grant, Awarded 2024.

*BRANCH – "Yes" Response

How does the project in this grant application differ from the already awarded DNRC grant(s)? (required)

Limit: 150 words

Example:
- RPG-24-9999 Westland Wastewater System PER project produced a PER for the system. This grant application is for system improvements identified in the PER as priority projects.

Part 3. Renewable Resource Benefits

All RRG projects must measurably conserve, develop, manage, or preserve a renewable resource. Renewable resources include surface water, groundwater, soil health, vegetation, and energy.

Applicants should use these terms to describe renewable resource benefits, when possible:
- **Conserve:** Use a renewable resource efficiently to avoid waste. An example is irrigating with treated wastewater to conserve groundwater as the source of irrigation water.
- **Develop:** Create a new, beneficial, and sustainable use for a renewable resource. An example is developing a new groundwater source to provide drinking water for a town.
- **Manage:** Carry out activities and practices that improve an entity's ability to control and administer a renewable resource. An example is implementing better irrigation controls to manage surface water more efficiently for irrigating fields.
- **Preserve:** Protect a renewable resource from pollution, destruction, or neglect. An example is restoring streambanks and riparian vegetation to reduce erosion and sedimentation in surface water.

Which renewable resource(s) this project will measurably benefit? (required)
- ☐ Surface Water Quality and Quantity*
- ☐ Groundwater Quality and Recharge*
- ☐ Soil Health and Conservation*
- ☐ Vegetation and Ecological Function*
- ☐ Energy Consumption*

Select all that apply. The application must provide clear, quantifiable, and verifiable metrics for each resource to be considered for scoring.

Renewable Resource Benefit(s) Summary Statement (1 Paragraph) (required)

Limit: 150 words

Briefly describe how the project will measurably benefit each of the renewable resources selected above. Define acronyms or avoid them. You will be asked to provide detail and citations for each resource below.

Example:
The project will measurably preserve groundwater quality and recharge by reducing the amount of water infiltrating the collection system. Other likely benefits include preservation of surface water, soil health, and ecological function. Finally, the project will likely lower energy consumption with decreased pumping requirements with reduced inflow and infiltration.

Surface Water Quality and Quantity Questions
*All questions BRANCHED from "Surface Water Quality and Quantity" Response

Surface Water Existing Condition (Baseline) (required)

Limit: 300 words

Describe the existing condition of surface water quality and/or quantity. **Provide clear, quantifiable, and verifiable metrics.**

Examples/Data to Include:
1. **Is the purpose of the project to reduce toxic effects to aquatic life?** Example: ammonia or metals toxicity in a surface water discharge. Look up aquatic life standards https://deq.mt.gov/files/Water/WQPB/Standards/PDF/DEQ7/DEQ-7.pdf.
2. **Is the purpose of the project to reduce sediment loading to a surface water body?** Example: Channel storm water runoff to settling ponds. Protect streambanks by providing alternate sources of stock water. Install buffer strips between fields and streams. Generally green infrastructure.
3. **Is the purpose of the project to reduce nutrients in a surface water body?** Example: Implement nutrient management plans to prevent excess fertilizer use. Install waste control structures at animal feeding operations. (Note: Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations do not qualify for nonpoint source projects.) Improve irrigation water use management to reduce return flows. Replace failing septic tanks or sewer the area.

Surface Water Proposed Condition (Change) (required)

Limit: 300 words

Describe the expected condition of surface water quality and/or quantity after the project. What will the project improve and how? **Provide clear, quantifiable, and verifiable metrics.**

Cite your source(s) for surface water information. Be specific. Provide section or page numbers. (required)

Limit: 300 words

Example
- 2024 Westland Wastewater System PER, Section 4.1, Page 24.

Will this project measurably reduce pollutant loads (such as nitrogen or other nutrients) to one or more specific waterbodies listed as impaired on Montana's 303(d) list, and contribute to progress toward meeting applicable TMDLs and water quality standards? (required)

☐ Yes**

☐ No

Check DEQ's latest Water Quality Integrated Report here: https://deq.mt.gov/water/resources

**BRANCH – "Yes" Response

Identify the impaired waterbody and the source of the impairment. Indicate how this project will specifically address the impairment. (required)

Limit: 300 words

Groundwater Quality and Recharge Questions

*All questions BRANCHED from "Groundwater Quality and Recharge" Response

Groundwater Quality Existing Condition (Baseline) - Describe the Existing Condition of Groundwater Quality in the Area Impacted by the Project **(required)**

Limit: 300 words

Provide specific data or modeling to support the assumptions.

Groundwater Quality Proposed Condition (Change) - Describe the Change to the Baseline as a Result of the Project (required)

Limit: 300 words

What will the project improve and how? **Provide specific data or modeling to support the assumptions.**

Groundwater Quantity Existing Condition (Baseline) - Describe the Existing Condition of the Groundwater Quantity in the Area Impacted by the Project (required)

Limit: 300 words

Provide specific data or modeling to support the assumptions.

Groundwater Quantity Proposed Condition (Change) - Describe the Change to the Baseline as a Result of the Project (required)

Limit: 300 words

What will the project improve and how? **Provide specific data or modeling to support the assumptions.**

Cite your source(s) for groundwater information. Be specific. Provide section or page numbers. (required)

<div style="border:1px solid #000; height:140px;"></div>

Limit: 300 words

Example
- 2024 Westland Wastewater System PER, Section 4.1, Page 24.

Will this project occur within a Montana Basin Closure or Controlled Groundwater Area? (required)
- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Check here: https://dnrc.mt.gov/Water-Resources/Water-Rights/Basin-Closures-Stream-Depletion-Controlled-Ground-Water-Areas

BRANCH – "Yes" Response

Identify the Closed Basin or Controlled Groundwater Area (required)

<div style="border:1px solid #000; height:120px;"></div>

Soil Health and Conservation Questions
*All questions BRANCHED from "Soil Health and Conservation" Response

Soil Health and Conservation Existing Condition (Baseline) (required)

[text box]

Limit: 300 words

Describe the existing condition of soil health and/or conservation before the project. **Provide clear, quantifiable, and verifiable metrics.**

EXAMPLES/DATA TO INCLUDE:
If the project will reduce soil loss from wind or water erosion, consider including the following:
- The average annual soil loss estimated with models like the Universal Soil Loss Equation (USLE) or Revised USLE (RUSLE), expressed as tons per acre per year.

If the project will Increase soil organic carbon, consider including the following:
- A measurement or estimate of existing soil carbon using a model.

If the project will improve other soil health indicators (such as aggregation, infiltration, biological activity, or nutrient-holding capacity), consider including the following:
- A measurement or estimate of the existing indicator using a model.

Soil Health and Conservation Proposed Condition (Change) (required)

[text box]

Limit: 300 words

Describe the expected condition of soil health and/or conservation after the project. What will the project improve and how? **Provide clear, quantifiable, and verifiable metrics.**

EXAMPLES/DATA TO INCLUDE:
If the project will reduce soil loss from wind or water erosion, consider including the following:
- A comparison of modeled or measured soil loss under baseline conditions to loss with the new practice and report the change as either absolute reduction (e.g., from 5 to 2 tons/acre/year), or percent reduction (e.g., 60% less erosion than baseline).
  If the project will Increase soil organic carbon, consider including the following:
- A justification of how the project or practice will improve soil carbon using modeling.
  If the project will the project improve other soil health indicators (such as aggregation, infiltration, biological activity, or nutrient-holding capacity), consider including the following:
- A justification of how the project or practice will improve the indicator using a model.

Cite your source(s) for soil health information. Be specific. Provide section or page numbers. (required)

[text box]

Limit: 300 words

Example
- 2024 Westland Wastewater System PER, Section 4.1, Page 24.

Vegetation and Ecological Function Questions

*All questions BRANCHED from "Vegetation and Ecological Function" Response

Vegetation and Ecological Function Existing Condition (Baseline) (required)

[text box]

Limit: 300 words

Describe the existing condition of vegetation or ecological function before the project. **Provide clear, quantifiable, and verifiable metrics.**

EXAMPLES/DATA TO INCLUDE:
- What are the dominant plant species or plant communities present now and are there invasive or noxious species of concern?
- How would you rate current ecological condition (for example, poor, fair, good, excellent) and what indicators are you using (for example, plant diversity, ground cover, native vs. non-native species, habitat structure, or signs of erosion)?

Vegetation and Ecological Function Proposed Condition (Change) (required)

[text box]

Limit: 300 words

Describe the expected condition of vegetation or ecological function after the project. What will the project improve and how? **Provide clear, quantifiable, and verifiable metrics.**

EXAMPLES/DATA TO INCLUDE:
- What specific changes in vegetation (for example, increased native cover, reduced invasive cover, more structural diversity) do you expect within 3 to 5 years of implementation, and how will you document or monitor those changes?

Cite your source(s) for vegetation and ecological function information. Be specific. Provide section or page numbers. (required)

[text box]

Limit: 300 words

Example
- 2024 Westland Wastewater System PER, Section 4.1, Page 24.

Energy Consumption Questions

*All questions BRANCHED from "Energy Consumption" Response

Energy Consumption Existing Condition (Baseline) (required)

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Limit: 300 words

Describe the existing condition of energy consumption before the project. **Provide clear, quantifiable, and verifiable metrics.**

EXAMPLES/DATA TO INCLUDE:
- Does the project reduce energy consumption or include energy reducing principles or technologies?

Energy Consumption Proposed Condition (Change) (required)

```

```
Limit: 300 words

Describe the expected condition of energy consumption after the project. What will the project improve and how? **Provide clear, quantifiable, and verifiable metrics.**

EXAMPLES/DATA TO INCLUDE:
- Provide data to quantify energy reduction as a result of the project.

Cite your source(s) for energy consumption information. Be specific. Provide section or page numbers. (required)

```

```
Limit: 300 words

Example
- 2024 Westland Wastewater System PER, Section 4.1, Page 24.

Part 4. Public Benefits

All RRG projects must provide a public benefit. Public benefits are those to the local, regional, or statewide economy, public health and safety, and/or recreation.

Indicate which public resource(s) this project will measurably benefit: (required)
- ☐ Public Health and Safety*
- ☐ Local, Regional, or Statewide Economy*
- ☐ Recreation*

The application must provide clear, quantifiable, and verifiable metrics for each resource to be considered for scoring.

Public Benefit(s) Summary Statement (1 Paragraph) (required)

Limit: 150 words

Briefly describe how the project will provide measurable public benefits. Define acronyms or avoid them.

Example:
This project will provide local economic and public health and safety benefits by reducing contamination of groundwater drinking water sources and improving the quality of discharge from the treatment facility. The improvements to the treatment facilities will enable the town add households to the wastewater collection system.

Public Health and Safety Questions
*All questions BRANCHED from "Public Health and Safety" Response

Public Health and Safety Impacts - Existing Condition (Baseline) (required)

[text box]

Limit: 300 words

Describe the condition of public health and safety before the project. **Provide clear, quantifiable, and verifiable metrics.**

Public Health and Safety Impacts - Proposed Condition (Change) (required)

[text box]

Limit: 300 words

Describe the expected condition of public health and safety after the project. What will the project change and how? **Provide clear, quantifiable, and verifiable metrics.**

Cite your source(s) for public health and safety information. Be specific. Provide section or page numbers. (required)

[text box]

Limit: 300 words

Example
- 2024 Westland Wastewater System PER, Section 4.1, Page 24.

Is the water system under order from the State of Montana or Environmental Protection Agency to return to compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act or Clean Water Act? (required)

☐ Yes**
☐ No or Not Applicable

**BRANCH – "Yes" Response
Describe the enforcement action or administrative order and how the project will address the compliance issues. (required)

[text box]

Limit: 300 words

**BRANCH – "Yes" Response

Upload documentation from the State of Montana or Environmental Protection Agency. (required)

> ```
> Choose File
> ```

Is this project designed to avoid violations of the Safe Drinking Water Act or Clean Water Act? (required)

- ☐ Yes**
- ☐ No or Not Applicable

**BRANCH – "Yes" Response

Describe the regulatory standard and how the project will address potential violations. (required)

> ```
> 
> 
> 
> ```
> Limit: 300 words

Are there documented public health and safety threats associated with the system? (required)

- ☐ Yes**
- ☐ No or Not Applicable

**BRANCH – "Yes" Response

Identify documented public health or safety threats and specifically address how this project will address those threats. (required)

> ```
> 
> 
> 
> ```

**BRANCH – "Yes" Response

Upload documentation of public health and safety threats. (required)

> ```
> Choose File
> ```

Local, Regional, or Statewide Economy Questions

*All questions BRANCHED from "Local, Regional, or Statewide Economy" Response

Economy Existing Condition (Baseline) (required)

Limit: 300 words

Describe the condition of the local, regional, or statewide economy before the project. **Provide clear, quantifiable, and verifiable metrics.**

Economy Proposed Condition (Change) (required)

Limit: 300 words

Describe the expected condition of the local, regional, or statewide economy after the project. What will the project change and how? **Provide clear, quantifiable, and verifiable metrics.**

Cite your source(s) for economic information. Be specific. Provide section or page numbers. (required)

Limit: 300 words

Example
- 2024 Westland Wastewater System PER, Section 4.1, Page 24.

Recreation Questions
*All questions BRANCHED from "Recreation" Response

Recreation Benefits - Existing Condition (Baseline) (required)

Limit: 300 words

Describe the condition of recreation before the project. **Provide clear, quantifiable, and verifiable metrics.**

Recreation Benefits - Proposed Condition (Change) (required)

Limit: 300 words

Describe the expected condition of recreation after the project. What will the project change and how? **Provide clear, quantifiable, and verifiable metrics.**

Cite your source(s) for economic information. Be specific. Provide section or page numbers. (required)

Limit: 300 words

Example
- 2024 Westland Wastewater System PER, Section 4.1, Page 24.

Is the purpose of the project to reduce toxic effects to aquatic life? (required)
- ☐ Yes**
- ☐ No or Not Applicable

Example: Ammonia or metals toxicity in a surface water discharge. Link to DEQ aquatic life standards: https://deq.mt.gov/files/Water/WQPB/Standards/PDF/DEQ7/DEQ-7.pdf

**BRANCH – "Yes" Response
Identify documented toxicity impacts to aquatic life and specifically describe how the project will address those threats. (required)

Limit: 300 words

BRANCH – "Yes" Response

Upload documentation of toxicity impacts to aquatic life.

```
Choose File
```

Part 5. Technical Feasibility

Part 5a. Project Schedule

Upload a Project Schedule - Use DNRC Template (required)

```
Choose File
```

- **REQUIRED: Use the DNRC Project Schedule Template**
- Schedule must align with the schedule presented in the supporting PER or Technical Narrative.
- Title the document clearly.

Part 5b. Technical Narrative - See DNRC Technical Narrative Guidance

A Technical Narrative is a substantial part of the RRG eligibility and scoring criteria. Documents that fail to meet DNRC's requirements will be considered ineligible for grant funds.

Applicants can reference a Technical Narrative within a larger document already attached to this application or provide a standalone document here.

Technical Narrative Document - Indicate Which Is True (required)
- ☐ I uploaded a PER or other planning document at the beginning of this application which contains a Technical Narrative.*
- ☐ I will upload a standalone Technical Narrative Document below.*

*BRANCH – Planning Document Uploaded Response
Provide Page and/or Section Numbers for Relevant Information (required)

```



```

Identify where the Technical Narrative can be found in the uploaded document. Provide page numbers, if possible.

*BRANCH – Standalone Technical Narrative Response
Upload a Technical Narrative for this Project (required)

```
Choose File
```

See the DNRC Technical Narrative Guidance for document requirements.
Documents that fail to meet DNRC's requirements will be considered ineligible for grant funds.
1. Upload a searchable PDF.
2. **Title the document clearly.**

Part 5c. Alternatives Analysis - See the DNRC Alternatives Analysis Guidance

An Alternatives Analysis is a substantial part of the RRG eligibility and scoring criteria. Documents that fail to meet DNRC's requirements will be considered ineligible for grant funds.

Applicants can reference an Alternatives Analysis within a larger document already attached to this application or provide a standalone document here.

Alternatives Analysis Document - Indicate Which Is True (required)
- ☐ I uploaded a PER or other planning document at the beginning of this application which contains an Alternatives Analysis.*
- ☐ I will upload a standalone Alternatives Analysis Document below.*

*BRANCH – Planning Document Uploaded Response
Provide Page and/or Section Numbers for Relevant Information (required)

_____

Identify where the Alternatives Analysis can be found in the uploaded document. Provide page numbers, if possible.

*BRANCH – Standalone Alternatives Analysis Response
Upload a Standalone Alternatives Analysis for this Project (required)

┌─────────────────────┐
│   Choose File   │
└─────────────────────┘

See the DNRC Alternatives Analysis Guidance for document requirements.
Documents that fail to meet DNRC's requirements will be considered ineligible for grant funds.
1. Upload a searchable PDF.
2. **Title the document clearly.**

Part 5d. Public Participation and Agency Consult

Summarize Efforts (Undertaken or Planned) to Engage the Public in the Project Scoping and Selection Process (required)

Limit: 150 words

Use full sentences. Define acronyms or avoid them.
- How has/will the local government engaged the public to scope the project and select it?
- How will the local government engage the public throughout the project?

Summarize Efforts (Undertaken or Planned) to Consult Regulatory Agencies Regarding this Project (1 Paragraph) (required)

Limit: 150 words

Use full sentences. Define acronyms or avoid them.

Part 5e. Grant Management and Procurement

Upload a Grant Management Plan - Use DNRC Template (required)

<div style="border:1px dashed">Choose File</div>

Use this: DNRC Grant Management Plan Instructions and Template
Title the document clearly.

Upload a Procurement Plan - Use DNRC Guide (required)

<div style="border:1px dashed">Choose File</div>

Use this: DNRC Procurement Guidance and Procurement Plan
Title the document clearly.

Have any project vendors already been procured and/or contracted for this project? (required)

☐   Yes*
☐   No

For example, has the local government procured and contracted grant writing, engineering services, etc.?

*BRANCH – "Yes" Response

Upload Procurement Documents for Services Already Procured/Contracted (required)

<div style="border:1px dashed">Choose File</div>

Example Documents to Upload Here:
1. The Local Government's Procurement Procedure/Policy
2. Limited or Competitive Solicitation Documents (Request for Proposal, List of Bids/Quotes, etc.)
3. Executed Contracts AND Applicable Task Orders

Title the documents clearly.

Part 6. Financial Feasibility

Part 6a. Budget Information and Match

Budget tables should be included as part of the Uniform Application attached at the beginning of this application form.

☐ **Confirmation of Budget/Financial Information -** Applicant has included all budget and financial information as required in the Uniform Application. The information is attached with the Uniform Application at the beginning of this application form. (required)
Check to verify all necessary budget information has been included with the Uniform Application per the form's instructions.

☐ **Confirmation of Budget Narrative** - Applicant has included a Budget Narrative within its Uniform Application attached at the beginning of this application form. The Budget Narrative meets the Uniform Application requirements. (required)

Check to verify a Budget Narrative has been included with the Uniform Application per the form's instructions (see Section C: Funding Strategy Narrative and Project Budget Narrative).

Matching Funds - Does the project budget include any COMMITTED matching funds? (required)
☐ Yes*
☐ No

Select "yes" if the budget includes **committed** matching funds from any source. Applicants must include adequate documentation below.

*BRANCH – "Yes" Response
Upload Documentation of Committed Match (required)

```
Choose File
```

Please follow the DNRC Firm Commitment of Matching Funds Guide.
Applicants must include adequate documentation, as described in the link above, for DNRC to consider matching funds "Committed".

Matching Funds - Is the applicant committing local funds (general fund, discretionary funds, dedicated infrastructure revenues, reserves or set asides or cash) to this project? (required)
☐ Yes* - The budget includes committed local funds.
☐ No - The budget includes NO committed local funds.

*BRANCH – "Yes" Response

Describe the source(s) of the committed local funds. (required)

[ ]

For example:
- General fund or other discretionary funds (city or county operating budgets).
- Dedicated infrastructure revenues utility fees).
- Special reserves or set aside for capital or infrastructure.
- Cash contributions from the local government.

*BRANCH – "Yes" Response

What is the Annual Operating Budget for the System? (required)

[ ]

*BRANCH – "Yes" Response

What is the local government Median Household Income (MHI)? (required)

[ ]

*BRANCH – "Yes" Response

How many users will this project serve? (required)

[ ]

Matching Funds – Is the applicant also applying for a MCEP Project Grant in May 2026 for this project? (required)
- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Matching Funds – Has the applicant applied or will the applicant apply for a State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan for this project? (required)
- ☐ Yes*
- ☐ No

*BRANCH – "Yes" Response

Indicate the applicant's status regarding funds from the State Revolving Loan (SRF) Program. Select all that apply. (required)
- ☐ Has yet to apply to DEQ but intends to.
- ☐ Has applied to DEQ but the project IS NOT on a DEQ Intended Use Plan (IUP).
- ☐ Has applied to DEQ and the project IS on a DEQ Intended Use Plan (IUP).
- ☐ Has regular calls with DEQ/the SRF Program regarding its project and SRF funding.

Part 6b. Grant and Project Amounts

Ensure all information in this section matches information in the Uniform Application attached to this application.

Renewable Resource Loan - Are you requesting an Renewable Resource Loan with this application? (required)

☐ No

☐ Yes*

Renewable Resource Grant Request Amount (required)

[   ]

Indicate the RRG project grant request amount.
Double check:
- **This amount matches the Uniform Application uploaded with this application.**

Total Matching Funds (required)

[   ]

Indicate the total amount of matching funds as shown in your budget documents.
Match is total project cost minus RRG grant request (and minus the RRG Loan request, if applicable).
Double check:
- **This amount matches the Uniform Application uploaded with this application.**

Estimated Total Project Cost (required)

[   ]

Double check
- **This amount equals the sum of the above fields.**
- **This amount matches the Uniform Application uploaded with this application.**

☐ **Confirmation of Consistency with Uniform Application -** I confirm the amounts entered above match the Uniform Application uploaded with this application. (required)

Part 6c. Renewable Resource Loan Request

*All questions BRANCHED from "Yes" response to Renewable Resource Loan

Renewable Resource Loan Request Amount (required)

Indicate the RRG project loan request amount.
Double check:
- **This amount matches the Uniform Application uploaded with this application.**

Loan Information
1. Will tax revenues be pledged for repayment? If yes, will this be a special tax levy (example: a special improvement district) or will it be a pledge of the general taxing authority of the local government?
2. Will rates and charges be pledged for repayment (e.g. a revenue bond)? If yes, please describe the rates and charges of the system. Include in this discussion information about number of users and the method of calculating the rates (example: is it based on quantity of water or on a per hook-up basis). Also, using the last fiscal year's information, what were the total revenues of the system and what was the cost of the operation and maintenance of the system?
3. Is there any outstanding debt that relies on the same revenues that will be the basis of the DNRC loan? If yes, what is the amount of the debt, what is the remaining term of the debt, and, if possible, please provide a copy of the bond resolution associated with the outstanding debt.
4. Use a rate of five percent (5%) over a 20-year term to calculate annual debt service payments associated with a Renewable Resource loan. Using this information along with current rate or tax information for the system, discuss the overall financial status of the local government. To be eligible for a below-market rate of interest, the applicant must demonstrate a high financial need.

Loan Information Upload (required)

Choose File

Part 7. Uniform Application and Certification Confirmation

☐ **Confirmation of Uniform Application Upload -** I confirm the applicant has uploaded a complete Uniform Application at the beginning of this application form. (required)

Click here to access the Uniform Application.
More resources, including a Word version of the application and Excel budget tables are linked on the RRG Website, under "How to Apply": https://dnrc.mt.gov/Conservation/Grant-and-Loan-Programs/Renewable-Resource-Grants-and-Loans/RRG-Project-Grants

☐ **Confirmation of Application Certification -** I confirm the applicant has included Certification from the Local Government's Authorized Representative with the Uniform Application. (required)

Check to verify the Application Certification has been included with the Uniform Application per the form's instructions (see Section A).
Verify:
1. The Local Government's Authorized Representative has signed the Certification.
2. The Authorized Representative is the individual at the local government with the authority to enter into a legal agreement with DNRC.

Part 8. Local Government Confirmation (Last Step)

Local Government Official - Complete this section immediately before submitting the grant application. You are the DNRC's primary contact for this application.

Form Collaborators (external engineers, grant writers) - Review your contributions to the application with the local government applying for funds. Do not complete this section.

☐ **Government Official -** I have reviewed all information within this application carefully, including attachments. I understand I am responsible for the application's contents. (required)

☐ **Government Official -** I understand I am the primary contact for this grant application during the application review period. I will ensure DNRC's questions are addressed in a timely manner and, if necessary, pass correspondence to application Collaborators. (required)

☐ **Government Official -** I understand DNRC will correspond with me primarily via Submittable Message during the application review period. I will monitor DNRC correspondence. (required)

Save Draft	Submit Form*

Drafts may be visible to the administrators of this program.

---

*NOTE ON SUBMITTING THIS FORM
» Only the local government account holder can see and click the "Submit Form" button.
» Applications must be submitted online through **https://grants.dnrc.mt.gov/**.

This is a companion document only. It cannot replace an online application.

RRG Project Grant Application Scoring

The criteria for eligibility and ranking RRG Grant and Loan applications are established in ARM 36.17.610. An application scoring breakdown is below. The pages that follow include a scoring rubric for each category.

Breakdown of Scoring by Category

Scoring Category	Total Points Available	% of Total Points
Renewable Resource Benefits	100	33%
Public Benefits	60	20%
Application Quality	20	7%
Compliance and Past Management	20	7%
Technical Feasibility	60	20%
Financial Feasibility	40	13%
Total Application Points	**300**	

Scoring Rubric – Renewable Resource Benefits and Public Benefits

Scoring Category	Benefit Type	Scoring Element	Application Location	Points Available	Scoring Guide
Renewable Resource Benefits	Surface Water Quality and Quantity	Significance	Submittable Form - Part 3	10	0 = No Significance. 5 = Small or very localized significance. 10 = Strong significance. Project benefits clearly extend to region or state and/or project reduces an impairment to a waterbody that is on the State's 303d list.
Renewable Resource Benefits	Surface Water Quality and Quantity	Measurability	Submittable Form - Part 3	10	0 = No Benefit. 5 = Likely Benefit. No/little data included to support claims or benefits are hypothetical and/or indirect. 10 = Measurable Benefit. Data included that supports claims. Benefits will result directly from the project.
Renewable Resource Benefits	Groundwater Quality and Recharge	Significance	Submittable Form - Part 3	10	0 = No Significance. 5 = Small or very localized significance. 10 = Strong significance. Project benefits clearly extend to region or state and/or project occurs within a Montana Basin Closure or Controlled Groundwater Area.
Renewable Resource Benefits	Groundwater Quality and Recharge	Measurability	Submittable Form - Part 3	10	0 = No Benefit. 5 = Likely Benefit. No/little data included to support claims or benefits are hypothetical and/or indirect. 10 = Measurable Benefit. Data included that supports claims. Benefits will result directly from the project.
Renewable Resource Benefits	Soil Health and Conservation	Significance	Submittable Form - Part 3	10	0 = No Significance. 5 = Small or very localized significance. 10 = Strong significance. Project benefits clearly extend to region or state.

Scoring Category	Benefit Type	Scoring Element	Application Location	Points Available	Scoring Guide
Renewable Resource Benefits	Soil Health and Conservation	Measurability	Submittable Form - Part 3	10	0 = No Benefit. 5 = Likely Benefit. No/little data included to support claims or benefits are hypothetical and/or indirect. 10 = Measurable Benefit. Data included that supports claims. Benefits will result directly from the project.
Renewable Resource Benefits	Vegetation and Ecological Function	Significance	Submittable Form - Part 3	10	0 = No Significance. 5 = Small or very localized significance. 10 = Strong significance. Project benefits clearly extend to region or state.
Renewable Resource Benefits	Vegetation and Ecological Function	Measurability	Submittable Form - Part 3	10	0 = No Benefit. 5 = Likely Benefit. No/little data included to support claims or benefits are hypothetical and/or indirect. 10 = Measurable Benefit. Data included that supports claims. Benefits will result directly from the project.
Renewable Resource Benefits	Energy Consumption	Significance	Submittable Form - Part 3	10	0 = No Significance. 5 = Small or very localized significance. 10 = Strong significance. Project benefits clearly extend to region or state.
Renewable Resource Benefits	Energy Consumption	Measurability	Submittable Form - Part 3	10	0 = No Benefit. 5 = Likely Benefit. No/little data included to support claims or benefits are hypothetical and/or indirect. 10 = Measurable Benefit. Data included that supports claims. Benefits will result directly from the project.
Public Benefits	Public Health and Safety	Significance	Submittable Form - Part 4	10	0 = No Significance. 5 = Small or very localized significance. 10 = Strong significance. Project benefits clearly extend to region or state and/or project will address DEQ/EPA compliance issues, avoid SDWA CWA violations, address documented health and safety threats.

Scoring Category	Benefit Type	Scoring Element	Application Location	Points Available	Scoring Guide
Public Benefits	Public Health and Safety	Measurability	Submittable Form - Part 4	10	0 = No Benefit. 5 = Likely Benefit. No/little data included to support claims or benefits are hypothetical and/or indirect. 10 = Measurable Benefit. Data included that supports claims. Benefits will result directly from the project.
Public Benefits	Local, Regional, or Statewide Economy	Significance	Submittable Form - Part 4	10	0 = No Significance. 5 = Small or very localized significance. 10 = Strong significance. Project benefits clearly extend to region or state.
Public Benefits	Local, Regional, or Statewide Economy	Measurability	Submittable Form - Part 4	10	0 = No Benefit. 5 = Likely Benefit. No/little data included to support claims or benefits are hypothetical and/or indirect. 10 = Measurable Benefit. Data included that supports claims. Benefits will result directly from the project.
Public Benefits	Recreation	Significance	Submittable Form - Part 4	10	0 = No Significance. 5 = Small or very localized significance. 10 = Strong significance. Project benefits clearly extend to region or state and/or will address toxicity impacts to wildlife.
Public Benefits	Recreation	Measurability	Submittable Form - Part 4	10	0 = No Benefit. 5 = Likely Benefit. No/little data included to support claims or benefits are hypothetical and/or indirect. 10 = Measurable Benefit. Data included that supports claims. Benefits will result directly from the project.
		Total Points		**160**	

Scoring Rubric – Application Quality and Past Grant Management

Scoring Category	Scoring Element	Application Location	Points Available	Scoring Guide
Application Quality	Application Completeness and Overall Quality	Submittable Form and Attachments	10	0 = Poor; 5 = Fair; 10 = Great
Application Quality	Quality of Narrative Responses	Submittable Form	10	0 = Poor; 5 = Fair; 10 = Great
Compliance and Past Management	Grant Applicant Risk Level	N/A – DNRC Staff Consult	10	0 = High Risk; 5 = Medium Risk (or no established Risk Level); 10 = Low Risk
Compliance and Past Management	Past Grant Management or Project Completion Issues	N/A – DNRC Staff Consult	10	0 = Significant issues; 5 = Some issues/new applicant to DNRC; 10 = No issues/Very positive experience
		Total Points	**40**	

Scoring Rubric – Technical Feasibility and Financial Feasibility

Scoring Category	Scoring Element	Application Location	Points Available	Scoring Guide
Technical Feasibility - Project Schedule	Completeness	Submittable Form - Part 5a and Uniform Application	5	0 = Information/document is completely inadequate. 2 = Information is provided but incomplete. The reviewer has significant questions. 5 = Necessary information is provided. The reviewer has no questions or only minor questions.
Technical Feasibility - Project Schedule	Feasibility	Submittable Form - Part 5a and Uniform Application	5	0 = The schedule appears infeasible and/or is very difficult to understand. No DNRC schedule provided and/or it does not match the schedule provided in the PER/planning document. 2 = The schedule appears somewhat reasonable but the reviewer has some concerns. The project may not/will not be completed by the end of 2029. 5 = The schedule appears very reasonable and easy to follow. The reviewer has no concerns. The project should be completed by the end of 2029.
Technical Feasibility - Alternatives Analysis	Completeness	Submittable Form - Part 5c, PER, or other planning document	5	0 = Information/document is completely inadequate. 2 = Information is provided but incomplete. The reviewer has significant questions. 5 = Necessary information is provided. The reviewer has no questions or only minor questions.
Technical Feasibility - Alternatives Analysis	Quality of Analysis	Submittable Form - Part 5c, PER, or other planning document	10	0 = Analysis is poor or very difficult to follow. 5 = Analysis is okay. There are some flaws with the information and/or the reviewer has some questions. 10 = Analysis is strong and comprehensive.

Scoring Category	Scoring Element	Application Location	Points Available	Scoring Guide
Technical Feasibility - Preferred Alternative Selection	Completeness	Submittable Form - Part 5b, PER, or other planning document	5	0 = Information/document is completely inadequate. 2 = Information is provided but incomplete. The reviewer has significant questions. 5 = Necessary information is provided. The reviewer has no questions or only minor questions.
Technical Feasibility - Preferred Alternative Selection	Quality of Analysis	Submittable Form - Part 5b, PER, or other planning document	10	0 = Analysis is poor or very difficult to follow. 5 = Analysis is okay. There are some flaws with the information and/or the reviewer has some questions. 10 = Analysis is strong and comprehensive.
Technical Feasibility - Grant Management Plan	Completeness	Submittable Form - Part 5e	5	0 = Information/document is completely inadequate. 2 = Information is provided but incomplete. The reviewer has significant questions. 5 = Necessary information is provided. The reviewer has no questions or only minor questions.
Technical Feasibility - Grant Management Plan	Quality of Plan	Submittable Form - Part 5e	5	0 = Plan is poor. Information is inadequate. 2 = Plan is acceptable but the reviewer has some questions. Some roles identify individuals that are not fit for the role. 5 = Plan is good and easy to follow.
Financial Feasibility - Budget Tables	Completeness	Submittable Form - Attachment - Uniform Application	5	0 = Information/document is completely inadequate. 2 = Information is provided but incomplete. The reviewer has significant questions. 5 = Necessary information is provided. The reviewer has no questions or only minor questions.
Financial Feasibility - Budget Tables	Quality and Accuracy of Information	Submittable Form - Attachment - Uniform Application	10	0 = Information is poor or very difficult to follow. 5 = Information is okay and generally makes sense. The reviewer has questions and/or there are errors. 10 = Information is good and easy to follow.

Scoring Category	Scoring Element	Application Location	Points Available	Scoring Guide
Financial Feasibility - Budget Narrative and Cost Estimates	Completeness	Uniform Application	5	0 = Information/document is completely inadequate. 2 = Information is provided but incomplete. The reviewer has significant questions. 5 = Necessary information is provided. The reviewer has no questions or only minor questions.
Financial Feasibility - Budget Narrative and Cost Estimates	Quality and Accuracy of Information	Uniform Application	10	0 = Information is poor or very difficult to follow. 5 = Information okay and generally makes sense but has some flaws. 10 = Information is good and easy to follow.
Financial Feasibility - Matching Funds	Adequacy of Match Commitment	Submittable Form – Part 6a and Uniform Application	5	0 = No committed matching funds. 2 = Some committed matching funds with adequate documentation provided. 5 = All match funds are committed and adequate documentation is provided.
Financial Feasibility - Matching Funds	Commitment of Local Funds	Submittable Form – Part 6a and Uniform Application	5	0 = No committed local cash match. 5 = Budget includes committed local funds.
Technical Feasibility - Environmental Analysis	Completeness	Submittable Form – Preliminary Attachments	5	0 = Information/document is completely inadequate. 2 = Information is provided but incomplete. The reviewer has significant questions. 5 = Necessary information is provided. The reviewer has no questions or only minor questions.
Technical Feasibility - Environmental Analysis	Quality of Analysis	Submittable Form – Preliminary Attachments	5	0 = Analysis is poor or very difficult to follow. 2 = Analysis okay. The reviewer has some concerns and/or there are some errors. 5 = Analysis is strong and easy to follow.
		Total Points	**100**	

Additional Questions – Not Scored

Additional Questions	Application Location
Does the application clearly support the implementation of a State Water Plan priority?	Submittable Form - Part 2c
Will the project require a new or additional water right?	Submittable Form - Part 2b
Will the project result in a change in the location of use, a water source, a point of diversion or use of the water?	Submittable Form - Part 2b