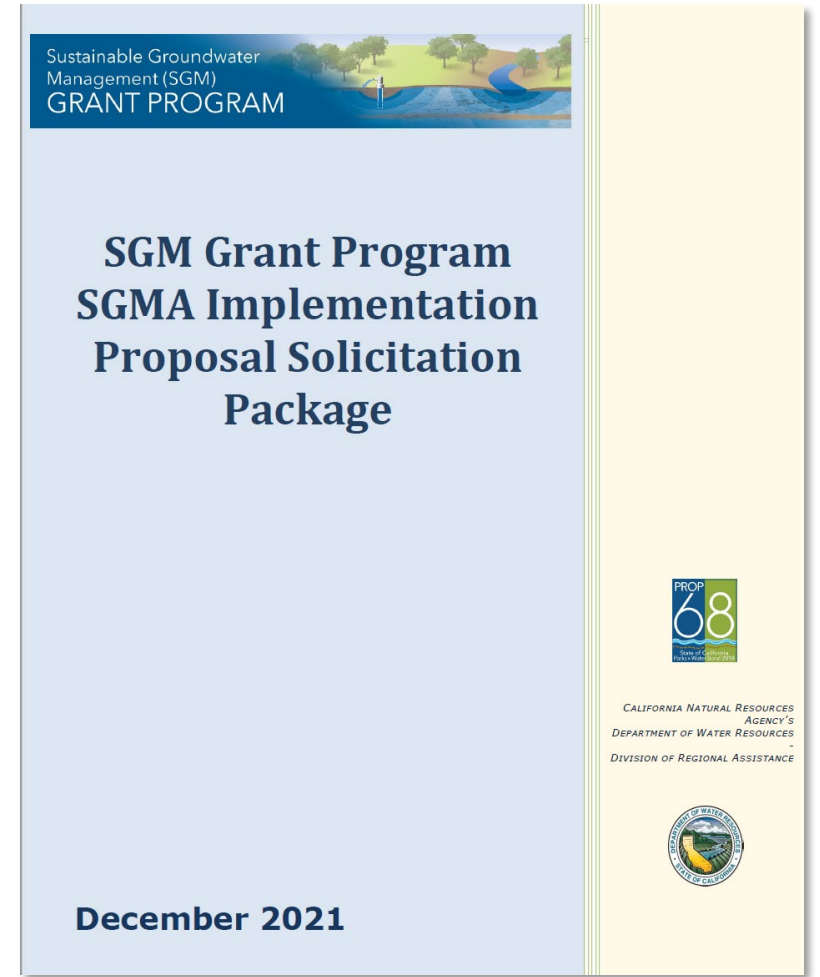


GRANT SOLICITATION

- Expected to open October 3rd, with applications due by the end of November
- Very competitive: total of \$202 million available for 94 eligible basins
- Each grant can ask for \$1 to \$20 million
- Cost share not required, however additional points will be given to those who have a cost share of at least 5% of total project cost
- All work must be completed by June 30, 2026



GRANT DETAILS

Eligible Projects

- Groundwater recharge projects
- Clean up contamination of groundwater
- Water supply reliability, water conservation, and water use efficiency and water banking, exchange, and reclamation
- Geophysical investigations
- Implementation of existing regional flood management plans
- Floodplain expansion to benefit groundwater recharge or habitat
- Modifications to a GSP
- Capital improvement projects listed in a GSP

Evaluation Criteria

- Clear justification on project selection
- Three quantifiable benefits identified and supported with backup documentation
- Well-coordinated
- Ability for interested parties' engagement in decision-making
- Positive impact to domestic and small water system wells
- Supports Human Right to Water
- Well defined scope
- Feasible budget

ADDITIONAL PROJECT DETAILS

- Projects must be included in the GSP or consistent with the GSP
- Recommended language:
 - Pilot Project,
 - Feasibility Study,
 - Demonstration Study
- Example of ineligible projects:
 - Water markets and trading programs
 - Purchases of water supplies
 - Rebate programs

GRANT APPLICATION PLANNING

- Will need to provide justification for selected projects – why this project was chosen over all others identified in the GSP in terms of:
 - Benefits provided
 - Communities served
 - MO and MTs
 - Plan implementation timeline
 - Feasibility
- Provide description of quantifiable benefits – requires 3 to obtain full points

SCORING CRITERIA (1 OF 2)

- To score full points, require 3 comment letters from Underrepresented Communities

TABLE 7 – APPLICATION EVALUATION CRITERIA				
Section Name	Q#	Questions	Possible Points	Scoring Guidance
General	1	Was a description of the proposed Project or Component provided? Did it explain why this Project or Component was chosen over all others identified in the Plan in terms of benefits provided, communities served, measurable objectives, minimum thresholds, plan implementation timeline, and feasibility? If you feel a question component does not apply to your proposed project, please explain why it is not applicable. (Example "Measurable objective not applicable because project is planning only".) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No funds will be awarded without clear justification for the proposed tasks/subtasks. 	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 – Fully addressed 3 – Mostly addressed, with minor details not included or unclear 2 – Mostly addressed, with significant details missing or unclear 1 – Marginally addressed 0 – Not addressed
General Implementation Only	2- Imp	Does the Project or Component provide a description of quantifiable benefits? Was an explanation of the benefits that are expected to be realized from the Project or Component provided, along with how those benefits will be evaluated and quantified? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To obtain full points, 3 or more quantifiable benefits must be identified and fully supported with backup documentation. 	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4- At least three quantifiable benefits with explanations and supporting documents. 3 – Two quantifiable benefits with explanations and supporting documents. 2 – Two quantifiable benefits lacking explanations and supporting documents. 1 - One quantifiable benefit with explanations and supporting documents. 0 – Benefits provided but are not explained or quantified.
General Planning Only	2- Plan	Does the Project Description describe a well-coordinated proposal including a GSP(s) that encompasses the entire basin or describes why a portion of the basin is not covered in the proposal? Does it describe how well the multiple GSA(s) surrounding and within the basin are working together?	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 – Fully addressed 3 – Mostly addressed, with minor details not included or unclear 2 – Mostly addressed, with significant details missing or unclear 1 – Marginally addressed 0 – Not addressed
General	3	Does the Project or Component fully describe their plan for outreaching and engaging interested parties (e.g., residents, local leaders, non-profit representing Underrepresented Communities, etc.) located within Underrepresented Communities? Does the outreach and engagement include interested parties during all phases of the Project or Component (e.g., planning, design, and implementation)? Can interested parties provide input and be involved in the decision-making processes? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To obtain full points, a minimum of three comment letters are required from the Underrepresented Communities. 	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 – Interested parties included on decision-making committees and fully engaged/involved in all aspects of the Project or Component 2 – Interested parties engaged/involved, but not included on decision-making committees 1 – Marginally addressed 0 – Not addressed
General	4	Was there a regional and Project map(s) depicting the site location, current conditions, and benefitting areas? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The information should be clear and easy to read. If not, the point will not be given. 	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 – Provided and all necessary information provided 1 – Provided but missing some information 0 – Not provided

SCORING CRITERIA (2 OF 2)

General	5	Does the project benefit an Underrepresented Community (-ies)? Was there a map(s) depicting the Underrepresented Community (-ies) that the project will benefit? Does the project benefit an SDAC? Was there a map(s) depicting the SDAC(s) that the project will benefit? Please provide the amount of funding that will benefit both the Underrepresented Community and SDAC. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No points will be given if a map(s) is not provided. 	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3- Project benefits an SDAC(s) 2- Project benefits Underrepresented Community 1 – Project partially benefits either 0 – Project does not benefit either
General	6	Will the Project or Component positively impact issues associated with small water systems or private shallow domestic wells (e.g., groundwater contamination vulnerability, drawdown, etc.)? Was justification such as domestic well census results, water system maps, service area maps, etc. provided? Does the Project or Component help address the needs of the State Water Board’s SAFER Program?	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 – Fully addressed 2 – Mostly addressed, with minor details not included or unclear 1 – Marginally addressed 0 – Not addressed
General	7	How does the proposed Project or Component address the Human Right to Water (AB 685 Section 106.3)? How will the Project or Component support the established policy of the State that every human being has the right to safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water adequate for human consumption, cooking, and sanitary purposes?	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 – Fully addressed 3 – Mostly addressed, with minor details not included or unclear 2 – Mostly addressed, with significant details missing or unclear 1 – Marginally addressed 0 – Not addressed
Scope of Work	8	Did the proposal provide a description of the tasks/subtasks that will be completed as part of this grant Project? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No funds will be awarded without clear justification for the proposed tasks/subtasks. 	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 – Fully addressed 2 – Mostly addressed 1 – Marginally addressed 0 – Not addressed
Budget	9	Is a budget summary table provided? Is the budget reasonable for the project? Is the budget table tasks/subtasks provided in the scope of work coincide with the tasks/subtasks in the budget and schedule tables? Is local cost share included (minimum of 5%)? Local cost share may include costs expended on projects before grant agreement date. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local cost share is not required but necessary to obtain full points. 	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 – Local cost share is provided, and budget is consistent and feasible 2 – Budget is consistent and feasible 1 – Budget is consistent but not feasible 0 – Not consistent and feasible
Schedule	10	Is the tasks/subtask in the schedule table consistent with those listed in the budget table and within the description in the application? Is the schedule feasible?	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 – Consistent and feasible 0 – Not consistent and feasible