

**CALL FOR PROJECTS
IN THE BORREGO SPRINGS SUBBASIN
FOR INCLUSION IN A DWR GRANT APPLICATION**

Introduction

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) has released final [Guidelines](#) and a [Proposal Solicitation Package \(PSP\)](#) for the [Sustainable Groundwater Management \(SGM\) Grant Program's](#) Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Implementation Funding. This grant program is expected to provide a \$7.6 million grant to support planning and implementation projects that will help achieve groundwater sustainability in the Borrego Springs Subbasin (Basin) pursuant to SGMA. Grant funding is expected to be disbursed to the grant recipients for work performed between Spring 2022 through June 30, 2025.

The Borrego Springs Watermaster ([Watermaster](#)), in coordination with its member agencies including the [Borrego Water District](#) (BWD), is facilitating the development of a \$10 million Spending Plan for grant-eligible projects in the Borrego Valley. The Spending Plan will be developed through a competitive process that includes a self-evaluation of the projects using scoring criteria outlined in Table 7 of the [PSP](#). Project submissions will be accepted from any stakeholder with an interest in the Basin.

The Watermaster is a special master of the Superior Court of California and is responsible for implementing the adjudication of groundwater pumping rights in the Basin (Judgment) and achieving the sustainable management of the Basin pursuant to its Groundwater Management Plan (GMP). The Judgment and GMP can be found on the Watermaster website [here](#).

Before submitting a project for evaluation and potential inclusion in the Spending Plan, you are encouraged to review: (i) the Judgment and GMP because the DWR considers them the equivalent of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan under SGMA; (ii) pages 11-13 of the [PSP](#) which describe eligible and ineligible projects; (iii) page 20 of the [Guidelines](#) which describes reimbursable and non-reimbursable costs; and (iv) Table 7 in the [PSP](#) to understand how your project will be evaluated. A Project Review Committee is being established to evaluate and rank all project submittals based on the scoring criteria in Table 7 and the nexus of the project to groundwater sustainability and the GMP. Your project will grade higher if it is consistent with the projects, management actions, and sustainability goals listed in the GMP.

Note: The BWD is also conducting a Call for Projects with an identical Project Submission Form. All project submissions received by the Watermaster and BWD will be compiled and self-evaluated by a Project Review Committee.

Instructions for Project Submittals

The Project Submission Form must be completed to submit a project for evaluation and potential inclusion in the Spending Plan. Please complete and submit one (1) form per project. The form is a Microsoft Word electronic file. Follow these instructions to submit a project(s) for consideration:

1. To ensure project eligibility, please send a summary description of your project (1-2 short paragraphs) as soon as possible to Andy Malone (Watermaster Technical Consultant) at: amalone@westyost.com.
2. Copy the Project Submission Form file to your computer and rename it with the following convention:
"Project-Owner_Project-Name.docx"
3. Complete each section of the form to the best of your ability. The completed Form should be an executive summary of the project and no more than six (6) pages in length. Attachments of supporting documentation/maps/files are encouraged to provide more detailed descriptions of the project, scope of work, budget, and schedule.
4. Please contact Andy Malone at amalone@westyost.com or 949-285-6908 or Lauren Sather at lsather@westyost.com with questions or for technical assistance as you prepare your project submittal.
5. Submit the Project Submission Form along with supporting documentation/files by **January 17, 2022** to:

Email: Andy Malone (Watermaster Technical Consultant) at: amalone@westyost.com

and/or Mail: West Yost Associates
c/o Andy Malone
23692 Birtcher Drive
Lake Forest, CA 92630