

**FY21 WATERSHED PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION  
SOLICITATION FOR APPLICATIONS  
QUESTIONS and ANSWERS**

Note: Some of the questions below have been edited for clarity.

**Distribution List**

The following people or organizations indicated in writing their interest in the Solicitation for Applications (SFA).

<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Email address</b>
Brodmerkle	Barbara	Not available	<a href="mailto:doggiegames@yahoo.com">doggiegames@yahoo.com</a>
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Romeling	Shannon	Amigos Bravos	<a href="mailto:sromeling@amigosbravos.org">sromeling@amigosbravos.org</a>
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**1) Would this funding opportunity be able to support an aquifer mapping study near El Rito?**

The El Rito Creek watershed is not currently eligible for funding under this SFA because there is neither a Watershed-based Plan or Wetlands Action Plan describing a water quality problem or threat to wetlands in the area. However, were this eligibility requirement met, an aquifer mapping study would be eligible for funding, pending review by the Evaluation Committee, as an optional planning component in a project that is primarily on-the-ground implementation.

**2) Does your program allow funding to private entities?**

Yes. The program is to benefit waters of the state (including wetlands). If a proposed project would do that, then the land could be owned by a private or public entity. Projects must also comply with EPA’s subaward policy, at <https://www.epa.gov/grants/grants-policy-issuance-gpi-16-01-epa-subaward-policy-epa-assistance-agreement-recipients>. The subaward policy does not prohibit funding of private entities, under some conditions, and pending EPA approval.

**3) Can we use our one-seed juniper posts as match?**

Yes. Fair market value of the posts may be included in the budget within your application.

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- 4) Neither the Rio Pueblo de Taos, Rio Fernando de Taos, or Embudo Creek WBP's were officially approved when the SFA was released. What if they are approved within the next few months?**

The Rio Pueblo de Taos WBP does not include all nine elements of WBPs, and a new draft addressing EPA and state concerns would need to be submitted for EPA to find that the plan does meet the nine elements. The Embudo Creek and Rio Fernando de Taos WBPs are under review by EPA currently and may be found to meet the nine elements prior to the beginning of the evaluation phase for this SFA. The Evaluation Committee will score and evaluate all-applications received.

- 5) Is this funding opportunity something you expect to release next year too?**

The Nonpoint Source Management Plan states that NMED will conduct an SFA for watershed implementation projects (i.e., on the ground Section 319 projects) every other year. We may release another one sooner depending on applications received during the current SFA.