

North Carolina's FY2024 319 Grant Proposal Review Criteria

Proposals must meet the following criteria to be scored by 319 Grant review team:

- Project implements an existing watershed-based plan that adequately meets the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's "9 Minimum Elements of Successful Watershed Plans" or implements an alternative to a watershed-based plan in the form of a summary of the nine elements compiled from planning documents. From FY24, the DWR considers a current EPA-approved Tribal NPS management Program plan as acceptable alternative to a nine-element watershed restoration plan.
- Application includes required 40% match. Projects serving underserved communities may be eligible for a full or partial reduction in match upon request.
- Project can be completed within a 3-year window.
- Project location should be anywhere within the watershed/drainage area of the impaired reach.
- Proposal identifies specific restoration practices to be implemented.
- Proposal includes locations where projects will be implemented.

Proposals meeting these criteria will be reviewed and evaluated on the criteria listed below, with a possible total score of 100 points.

	Proposal Evaluation Criteria	Maximum Points	Score Obtained
1	Project Background <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Described the watershed/project setting, including the significance of the water resource for North Carolina b. Defined the specific water quality concern to be addressed c. Described the current water quality conditions (Proposed project targets identified pollutants in 303(d) listed waters) d. Project goals objectives and activities identified e. Project map with sufficient detail of project location, water quality context and other factors relevant to project f. "Before Project" photo(s) inserted 	10	
2	Relevance to NPS Program <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Proposed activity types are specifically identified by 9-Element Plan or Summary documents b. Proposed project addresses the most significant source(s) of known NPS pollution identified in the accepted Watershed Plan 	10	
3	Measurable Impacts <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Activities clearly identified to address identified water quality problem(s) b. Measurable outcomes and deliverables listed. Examples include number and brief description of BMPs to be completed, associated load reduction etc. 	20	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. Project leads to long-term, sustainable reduction of NPS pollution d. Described how an evaluation of the project will be done, including how success will be defined and measured 		
4	Bigger Picture Benefits	15	
4.1	Climate Resilience (5) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Identifies potential vulnerabilities of the proposed project to climate change b. Project proposes adaptation responses to the identified vulnerabilities (e.g. how the BMPs will be designed to accommodate climate change) c. Describes whether and how the proposed project, especially choice of practice types, mitigates climate change impacts 		
4.2	Benefit to underserved communities (6) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Project located in underserved communities b. EJ needs and problems clearly identified and addressed c. Underserved communities/organizations engaged in the project d. Project benefits underserved communities e. If applicable, applicant considered potential negative impacts the project may have on underserved communities 		
4.3	Impacts to downstream communities (2) (e.g. impact of the project on communities of downstream people, plants, and animals)		
4.4	Education and Outreach (2) Project includes strategy for educating and informing the local population project's purposes, design of management measures implemented, project achievements with the purpose of enhancing environmental literacy, particularly as it relates to NPS.		
4.5	Any other co-benefits (Specify)		
5	Project Readiness and Permanence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Commitment obtained from property owners on proposed project b. Higher priority for project located on public land, relatively lower priority for private land c. Project identifies any permits/approval that may be required as well as the current status and expected completion date d. Maintenance agreement and conservation easement are in place e. Preliminary designs for the practices ready 	10	
6	Tasks and Timelines <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Project has identified major tasks, timelines for 	10	

	<p>major tasks to be completed and who will manage major tasks</p> <p>b. Timeline is reasonable to complete the tasks</p>		
7	<p>Partnership and Capability</p> <p>a. The project involves appropriate partners and has significant stakeholder support.</p> <p>b. Partners and their roles in the project identified</p> <p>c. Sufficient technical and managerial resources are available to facilitate successful completion of project (including the qualification and experience of PI and other key staff)</p> <p>d. The proposal describes how the applicant will coordinate partners for successful implementation</p> <p>e. Applicant experience or other evidence supporting/increasing likelihood of successfully implementing project</p>	15	
8	<p>Budget</p> <p>a. Adequate non-federal match has been secured for the project and match sources are appropriate for the project</p> <p>b. Project costs are reasonable as compared to anticipated results</p> <p>c. Budget provides reasonable balance between salary, BMPs, equipment, monitoring and other categories</p>	10	