

Missouri Clean Water SRF (taken from the FY2020 IUP)

<https://dnr.mo.gov/env/wpp/srf/documents/2019-10-9-clean-water-srf-iup-fy20.pdf>

Appendix 5: Clean Water State Revolving Fund

Priority Points Criteria

General Information

Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Priority Points Criteria are established to evaluate proposed CWSRF projects for fiscal year 2021. The Priority Points Criteria forms the basis for project ranking and funding allocation.

The Department annually prepares a CWSRF Intended Use Plan that includes projects expected to qualify for financing within the fiscal year addressed by the plan. Projects are listed so that those addressing the most serious problems are given the highest priority. Each project's priority score is generated from assignment of points based on the Priority Points Criteria. Projects are then ranked in priority order in each funding category. Only those proposed projects identified within the plan's project lists are eligible to receive financial assistance.

The Department will seek public comments annually on the proposed priority point criteria. The priority point criteria will then be approved by the Missouri Clean Water Commission at least 60 days before the annual application deadline.

Assignment of Priority Points

The Department ranks eligible projects for funding based on the protection of water quality and human health. Proposed projects receive points based on how they address pollution abatement, treatment, regionalization or consolidation, nonpoint source pollution reduction and more.

Projects are ranked by the total number of points received. In the event two or more proposed projects have the same priority point total, the project with the greater service area population will be given funding priority.

Priority point assignment and listing in the Intended Use Plan does not guarantee all SRF financial and project eligibility requirements have been met.

I. Priority Points

The Department will calculate cumulative total priority points for each potential project based on the following six sections. Sections 4, 5, and 6 apply only to proposed nonpoint source projects.

Proposed nonpoint source projects must be consistent with the current Missouri Nonpoint Source Management Plan available at dnr.mo.gov/env/swcp/nps/mgmtplan/docs/missouri-nonpointsource-management-plan-042215-final.pdf.

1. Water Quality

Points will be assigned if the proposed project will maintain, improve, protect, or enhance the overall water quality within the watershed. For the purpose of assigning points under factors A and B below, the receiving water is considered to be the immediate water course into which the discharge flows. However, in those cases where the immediate receiving water is not classified in Water Quality Standards, 10 CSR 20-7.031, a downstream classified water body will be considered to be the receiving water if the publicly-owned treatment works (POTW) discharge or nonpoint source area is within two miles of the classified waters found in the Missouri Use Designation Dataset, including 100K Extent-Remaining Lakes and 100K Extent Remaining Streams.

A. Beneficial Uses. Beneficial uses, identified in rule 10 CSR 20-7.031, of the water body receiving discharge from existing POTWs or nonpoint source areas will be improved or eliminated by the proposed project. The beneficial use points are calculated by adding the total value from each beneficial use under this part. If the project affects multiple permitted facilities which discharge to different water bodies, the highest beneficial use point total from one of the multiple water bodies will be used.

1. Fifteen points will be assigned for the beneficial use of whole body contact recreation.
2. Fifteen points will be assigned for the beneficial use of drinking water supply.
3. Ten points will be assigned for the beneficial use of cool water habitat.
4. Ten points will be assigned for the beneficial use identified of cold water habitat.
5. Ten points will be assigned for the beneficial use of protection of warm water habitat/human health protection.

6. Ten points will be assigned for the beneficial use of protection of secondary contact recreation.

7. Five points will be assigned for each beneficial use identified in rule 10 CSR 20-7.031 and not identified in numbers 1-6 above.

B. Sensitive Waters. Proposed projects which will improve or eliminate existing POTWs or nonpoint source areas that directly discharge to certain sensitive waters identified in rule will be assigned additional priority points.

1. Fifteen points will be assigned for a losing stream as designated by the Missouri Geological Survey, see 10 CSR 20-7.031(1)O.

2. Fifteen points will be assigned for Outstanding National Resource Waters, see 10 CSR 20-7.031(Table D).

3. Fifteen points will be assigned for Outstanding State Resource Water, see 10 CSR 20-7.031(Table E).

4. Ten points will be assigned for lakes, see 10 CSR 20-7.031 (Table G) or for metropolitan no-discharge streams, see 10 CSR 20-7.031(Table F).

C. Targeted Water Bodies. A targeted water body is one in which a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) has been promulgated or is listed on the most recent 303(d) list. The value is limited to a maximum of 15 points total.

1. Fifteen points will be awarded where a TMDL has been promulgated for the receiving water body and the proposed project addresses an identified problem.

2. Ten points will be awarded if the receiving water body is listed on the most recent 303(d) list and the proposed project addresses an identified problem.

D. Regionalization or Consolidation. Projects that involve several independent entities forming a partnership to share the responsibilities of providing wastewater treatment may be referred to as regionalization or consolidation projects.

1. Fifteen points will be assigned if the proposed project serves more than one community.

2. Five points will be assigned for each permitted wastewater treatment facility that will be eliminated by the proposed project.

3. Twenty-five points will be assigned if the entity owning the facility being eliminated would be deemed grant eligible by the methodology prescribed by the CWSRF grant eligibility evaluation based on affordability.

4. Ten points will be assigned for each facility being eliminated which has a history of significant noncompliance.

2. Publicly Owned Treatment Works.

Points will be awarded if the proposed project is a POTW project that will address potential or existing water pollution problem(s).

A. Combined/Sanitary Sewer Overflows. Fifteen points will be assigned if the proposed project will eliminate or adequately treat combined or sanitary sewer overflows (CSOs/SSOs). Supporting documentation must be provided with the application for CSOs/SSOs points to be awarded. Supporting documentation may include copies of SSO Database records, city clean up records, or other supporting documentation.

B. Wastewater Treatment Enhancement. The value is derived from selecting the most appropriate description and associated value.

1. Twenty points will be assigned if the proposed project is for the conversion of a discharging wastewater treatment facility to a no-discharge wastewater treatment facility.

2. Fifteen points will be assigned if the proposed project is for the construction of a new wastewater treatment facility, an increase in capacity or an increase in the level of treatment at an existing wastewater treatment facility.

3. Ten points will be assigned if the project is for the rehabilitation or process improvement of an existing wastewater treatment facility.

C. Failing Onsite Wastewater Disposal System.

1. Ten points will be assigned if the proposed project is primarily to address a documented surface water quality or public health problem attributable to failing or failed onsite wastewater disposal systems. Documentation must be provided by any local, county, or state health or environmental professional.

2. Five points will be assigned if the proposed project is primarily to address an incidental water quality or public health problem attributable to failing or failed onsite wastewater disposal systems.

D. Collection System Enhancement.

1. Fifteen points will be assigned if the proposed project is for collection system rehabilitation to reduce or eliminate inflow or infiltration (I&I).

2. Ten points will be assigned if the proposed project is for a new collection system, or the expansion of or an upgrade to an existing collection system.

E. Water Recycling. Twenty points will be assigned if the proposed project is for reusing or recycling wastewater, stormwater, or subsurface drainage water. This includes, as part of the reuse project, the purchase and installation of treatment equipment sufficient to meet reuse standards other than the internal reuse at the wastewater treatment facility and excludes no-discharge systems.

3. Sustainability and Readiness to Proceed.

A. Adequate User Charge. Fifteen points will be assigned if the applicant has maintained adequate user charge rates for the existing system's operation and maintenance for the past five years.

B. Inflow/Infiltration Reduction. Ten points will be assigned if the applicant has maintained an inflow/infiltration (I&I) reduction program for the past five years.

C. Conservation. Fifteen points will be assigned if the applicant's proposed project will address the findings of an energy assessment and/or audit of the wastewater utility. These points may also be awarded if the proposed project will address water efficiency and reuse efforts to not only conserve raw water but also reduce the flow (excluding I&I) of wastewater to treatment plants.

D. Disadvantaged Community. Ten points will be assigned if the applicant has a population of 3,300 or less based on the most recent decennial census; the median household income is at or below 75 percent of the state average median household income using the latest decennial data as determined by the American Community Survey as conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau or by an income survey overseen by a

state or federal agency; and has an average wastewater user charge for 5,000 gallons that is at least 2 percent of the median household income of the applicant.

E. Median Household Income. Five points will be assigned if the applicant has a median household income at or below 75 percent of the state average median household income using the latest decennial data as determined by the American Community Survey as conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau or by an income survey overseen by a state or federal agency.

F. Readiness to Proceed. Twenty-five points will be assigned if the applicant has submitted as part of their application, a complete facility plan and has an acceptable debt instrument per 10 CSR 20-4.040 and any necessary funding commitments from other state and/or federal agencies.

G. Master Water Plan. Five points will be assigned if the applicant's project is specifically identified in a master wastewater plan, capital improvement plan or an integrated plan.

H. Board Training. Ten points will be assigned if the applicant's governing board has received training related to the management and operation of wastewater infrastructure. Supporting documentation must be provided with the application for board training points to be awarded.

I. Green Infrastructure. Fifteen points will be assigned if the proposed project incorporates green infrastructure components. Green infrastructure refers to the management of stormwater runoff at the local level through the use of natural systems, or engineered systems that mimic natural systems, to treat polluted runoff.

4. Untreated/Uncontrolled Runoff

Stormwater runoff from agricultural, suburban, and urban areas such as farms, homes, buildings, roads, or parking lots resulting in flooding of local streams, erosion of stream banks, or increased pollutant transport.

A. Stormwater Treatment/Management Facility. Ten points will be assigned if the proposed project is for a structural device designed to receive stormwater runoff, and detain it for a period of time in order to reduce pollutant transport and stream erosion.

B. Best Management Practice (BMP). Five points will be assigned if the proposed project

entails conservation measures that protect water quality and make land areas more productive.

C. Landfills. Ten points will be assigned if the proposed project is to address water quality issues at a landfill. A landfill is any site where the disposal of non-hazardous wastes and/or sludge occurs or has occurred by placing them in or on the land, compacting, and covering with a layer of soil. Project components may include a capping system, leachate collection system, side slope seepage prevention and control system, or monitoring wells that are needed to prevent water quality degradation.

5. Groundwater Pollution.

Projects that prevent contamination of groundwater resources.

A. Groundwater Uses. The beneficial uses of the groundwater area being impacted by nonpoint source pollution.

1. Fifteen points will be assigned if the groundwater is a drinking water supply source; or
2. Five points will be assigned if the groundwater is used for industrial purposes, irrigation, and/or livestock/wildlife watering.

B. Failing Onsite Wastewater Disposal System. A failing onsite wastewater treatment system is not treating and dispersing sewage in a safe, sanitary manner.

1. Ten points will be assigned if the proposed project primarily addresses a documented groundwater impact or public health problem attributable to failing or failed onsite wastewater disposal systems. Documentation to be provided by any local, county, or state health or environmental professional.
2. Five points will be assigned if proposed project is primarily to address an incidental groundwater impact or public health problem attributable to failing or failed onsite wastewater disposal systems.

C. Leaking Petroleum Storage Tank. Five points will be assigned if the proposed project addresses groundwater problems caused by petroleum storage tanks.

D. Hazardous Waste Site. Ten points will be assigned if the proposed project addresses groundwater problems caused by a hazardous waste site that is participating in the

Department's Voluntary Cleanup Program.

E. Inadequate Landfill Leachate Collection/Treatment. Ten points will be assigned if the proposed project addresses groundwater problems caused by inadequate landfill leachate collection and treatment.

6. Aquatic/Riparian Habitat.

Aquatic/riparian habitat is a vegetated or potentially vegetated ecosystem along a water body through which energy, materials, and water pass thereby providing nutrient recycling and biological diversity. Ten points will be assigned if the primary purpose of the proposed project is to restore aquatic/riparian habitat and/or to prevent aquatic/riparian habitat degradation.

II. Special Priority Points.

The Clean Water Commission (Commission) may assign special priority and override the priority points assigned to a project above and place that project on the planning, fundable or contingency priority lists in a position decided by the Commission. In order to award special priority, the Commission must determine that unique or unusual needs exist which do not logically fit into the rating system described above. In addition, the Commission may award special priority for projects impacting enterprise zones as authorized under state law.

III. Phased/Segmented Projects.

Projects that are phased or segmented due to limited program funding or project complexity may receive an additional 50 points. Points may be awarded to an applicant for each in a succession of phases. However, such projects should occur directly after each subsequent phase or segment of the project was completed to be eligible for points. If the project is being phased at request of the Department due to lack of available funds or due to the applicant exceeding the Department's deadline for reaching a binding commitment, the review for eligibility of points will include an evaluation of the reason for sequencing. If the project is being phased at the request of the applicant, the review for the eligibility of points will include a review of the applicant's master plan or capital improvement plan. The plan should be submitted with the application for the first phase, and must include how subsequent phases will be implemented.

IV. Debt Refinancing/Refunding.

Five priority points will be assigned to eligible projects that include refinancing of existing debt. Projects primarily related to refinancing or refunding will not receive any other priority points. Projects that involve the refinancing of existing debt will receive priority points only for affordability.

V. Definitions.

1. Increase capacity.

Increasing the treatment capacity for existing treatment plants, biosolids handling facilities, decentralized treatments systems, and nonpoint source project BMPs with respect to flow or pounds.

2. Increase level of treatment.

Improving the degree of treatment. This refers to any improvement in unit processes or BMPs that improve the effluent quality or decrease the concentration of most water quality variables from runoff or other nonpoint sources. The addition of nutrient removal is considered an improvement in effluent quality.

3. Rehabilitation.

Restoring, replacing, adding or repairing parts to existing treatment plants, combined or separate sewer systems, biosolids handling facilities, individual on-site systems, and nonpoint source project BMPs with no increase in capacity or level of treatment.

4. Replacement.

An existing facility is considered obsolete and is demolished, and a new facility is constructed on the same site.

5. Process improvement.

Any improvement to a facility that does not increase the capacity, increase the level of treatment, expand the service area, or make a similar change to existing treatment plants, biosolids handling facilities, decentralized treatment systems, and nonpoint source project BMPs