

Appendix C. Rating Criteria

Publicly Owned Treatment Works (§ 212) Rating Criteria

- 30 pts. – Enforcement action (court, EPA, or Texas Commission of Environmental Quality (TCEQ) order) imposes a schedule.
- 20 pts. – Enforcement action: Participation in TCEQ’s Sanitary Sewer Overflow Initiative
- 11 pts. – Unserved area of an existing developed community is extended service.
- 30 pts. – Unserved area to be served has a nuisance documented by letter from the TCEQ or a Designated Agent licensed by the TCEQ. If the project is in an Economically Distressed Areas Program county, the letter may come from the State Health Department or a registered sanitarian.
- 10 pts. – Water body impacted by project is listed in a Watershed Protection Plan approved by the EPA.
- 5 pts. – Water body impacted by project is listed in a Watershed Protection Plan that is under development.
- 15 pts. – Innovative or alternative types of collection or treatment are proposed.
- 30 pts. – More stringent permit limits are to be met, or Conversion to a no-discharge or partial reuses facility to avoid higher level of treatment.
- 10 pts. – Regional project removes or prevents plant outfalls, or Regional project results in delivery of flow to, or receipt of flow at, a regional facility, thereby avoiding construction of a separate waste water treatment plant facility.

For projects that involve a facility that requires expansion of its hydraulic capacity or removal of extraneous flow, use EPA self-reporting data to determine the percentage of permitted capacity.

For existing plants permitted for ≥ 1 MGD, use the past 12 months of reported data.	$(12 \text{ months ADF})(100) / (\text{permitted ADF}) = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}\%$
For existing plants permitted for < 1 MGD, use the highest 3-consecutive-month average of the past 12 months of reported data.	$(\text{max 3 months ADF})(100) / (\text{permitted ADF}) = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}\%$

ADF =Average Daily Flow
 MGD =Million Gallons per Day

Choose ONE of the considerations below, whichever results in the largest number of points.

- 30 pts. – Capacity ≥ 90% and project directly or indirectly improves a capacity problem.

- 20 pts. – Capacity \geq 75% and $<$ 90%, and project directly or indirectly improves a capacity problem.
- 15 pts. – Capacity \geq 65% and $<$ 75%, and project directly or indirectly improves a capacity problem.
- 15 pts. – Expansion of existing plant permitted for no-discharge where self-reporting flow data is not required.

If the project impacts a water body by directly or indirectly mitigating a problem identified in the latest approved State of Texas Watershed Action Planning (WAP) Strategy Table, choose the applicable score according to the category indicated on the List. Projects impacting water bodies in a priority area will be awarded additional points.

Priority Area*	Non-Priority Area	WAP Categories
50 pts.	40 pts.	Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) study has been completed and approved by the EPA (Category 4a).
40 pts.	30 pts.	A TMDL study is underway, scheduled, or will be scheduled (Category 5a).
30 pts.	20 pts.	A review of the water quality standards for this water body will be conducted before a TMDL is scheduled (Category 5b).
20 pts.	10 pts.	Additional data and information will be collected before a TMDL is scheduled (Category 5c).

- 5 pts. – Whether a majority of the funds being requested from the CWSRF for the project be used to implement measures to reduce the demand for publicly owned treatment works capacity through water conservation, efficiency, or reuse.
- 5 pts. – If the Applicant is a qualified nonprofit entity that has federal tax-exempt status, whether a majority of the funds being requested from the SRF for the project will be used to implement assistance to owners and operators of small and medium publicly owned treatment works to either (a) plan, develop, and obtain financing for eligible CWSRF projects, including planning, design, and associated preconstruction activities; or (b) assist such treatment works in achieving compliance with the Act.

Nonpoint Source Pollution (§ 319) Rating Criteria

- 30 pts. – Area to be served has a nuisance documented by letter.
- 20 pts. – Aquifer or groundwater impacted by project is threatened.
- 10 pts. – Water body impacted by project is listed in a Watershed Protection Plan approved by the EPA.
- 5 pts. – Water body impacted by project is listed in a Watershed Protection Plan that is under development.

If the project impacts a water body by directly or indirectly mitigating a problem identified in the latest approved State of Texas WAP Strategy Table, choose the applicable score according to the category indicated on the List. Projects impacting water bodies in a priority area will be awarded additional points.

Priority Area*	Non-Priority Area	WAP Categories
50 pts.	40 pts.	TMDL study has been completed and approved by the EPA (Category 4a).
40 pts.	30 pts.	A TMDL study is underway, scheduled, or will be scheduled (Category 5a).
30 pts.	20 pts.	A review of the water quality standards for this water body will be conducted before a TMDL is scheduled (Category 5b).
20 pts.	10 pts.	Additional data and information will be collected before a TMDL is scheduled (Category 5c).

30 pts. – The project includes stream bank restoration or contain elements of Low Impact Development, such as vegetated filter strips, bio-retention, rain gardens, or porous pavement

* If a segment is under a Watershed Protection Plan or Total Maximum Daily Load – Implementation Plan on the TCEQ Watershed Action Plan listing for bacteria or dissolved oxygen it is a priority in the chart above.

Estuary Management (§ 320) Rating Criteria

20 pts. – Project restores, protects, and enhances coastal natural resources.

20 pts. – Project improves water quality.

20 pts. – Project enhances public access.

20 pts. – Project improves onshore infrastructure and environmental management.

20 pts. – Project mitigates erosion and stabilizes shorelines.

20 pts. – Project educates the public on the importance of coastal natural resources.

For all eligible projects:

15 pts. – Whether a majority of the funds being requested from the SRF for the project will be used to implement innovative approaches to manage, reduce, treat, or recapture stormwater or subsurface drainage water.

- 5 pts. – Whether a majority of the funds being requested from the SRF for the project will be used to implement reuse or recycling wastewater, stormwater, or subsurface drainage water.

Effective Management Rating Criteria

- 5 pts. – Entity has adopted an asset management plan within the past 5 years that incorporates an inventory of all assets, an assessment of the criticality and condition of the assets, a prioritization of capital projects needed, and a budget.
- 5 pts. – Beginning in SFY 2021 - Entity has adopted an Asset Management / Financial Planning tools within the past 5 years that contains the product deliverables under the AMPSS initiative as described in Section XII.
- 1 pt. – Entity is planning to prepare an asset management plan as part of the proposed project.
- 1 pt. – Asset management training has been administered to the entity’s governing body and employees.
- 1 pt. – Proposed project addresses a specific goal in a water conservation plan created within the past 5 years.
- 1 pt. – Proposed project addresses a specific goal in an energy assessment, audit, or optimization study conducted within the past three years.
- 2 pts. – Project is consistent with a state or regional water plan, integrated water resource management plan, regional facility plan, regionalization or consolidation plan, or a TMDL implementation plan.

Affordability - Disadvantaged Eligibility

- 10 pts. – Entity qualifies as a disadvantaged community.

Previously Received TWDB Planning, Acquisition or Design Funds for this Project

10 pts. – The project is requesting construction financing and previously received a TWDB commitment for Planning, Acquisition, and/or Design (PAD) financing within the prior five years (60 months) of the PIF due date under the CWSRF program or the TWDB’s Economically Distressed Areas Program, the entity has completed and received TWDB completion approval for all of the PAD activities and is ready to proceed to the construction phase, TWDB has released from escrow at least eighty percent of the PAD funds, and the project has not received any TWDB funding for construction.

Tie Breaker - Equal combined rating factors will be ranked in descending order with priority given to the least population first.