

**Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
Water Quality Project Rating – Integrated Priority System
Wastewater Grant Program**

Priority Year FY 2014 Total Points 0

Section 1. Project Identification

Project Name/City _____
Project DUNS No. _____

DEQ Staff Reviewer _____
Date _____ Regional Office _____

Description of Problem(s) (use additional pages if necessary)
Limited capabilities: WordWrap works, use <alt><enter> for manual carriage return; no <tab>

Total Estimated Planning Document Cost _____
Estimated DEQ Grant Amount _____

Water Quality Project Rating – Integrated Priority System Instructions

An integrated priority system will be used by DEQ to annually allot available funds in accordance with the "Rules for Administration of Wastewater Treatment Facility Grants" (IDAPA 58.01.04). Each water quality project will be rated using the integrated priority system in accordance with this guidance.

Sections 2 through 6 include five major rating categories, and sections 7 and 8 are supplementary categories. Sections 2 through 5 and sections 7 and 8 apply to conventional wastewater (point source) projects. Section 6 and possibly sections 4 and 7 apply to nonpoint source (NPS) projects. Applicants with both conventional and NPS components can receive credit under both sections 5 and 6. Answer questions and generate a score for each section.

Section 2. Public Health Emergency or Public Health Hazard*	0 or 150 points
<i>IDAPA 58.01.04.020.02.a. Public health emergency or hazard certified by the Idaho Board of Environmental Quality, the Department, a District Health Department or by a District Board of Health – 150 points.</i>	

** Board certification of public health emergency must accompany LOI and rating form.*

Check one:	Possible	Score
<input type="checkbox"/> 1. There is no officially declared or designated public health emergency or hazard, or the proposed project will not resolve an officially declared or designated public health emergency or hazard. Enter 0 and proceed to section 3.	0	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> 2. There is an officially declared or designated public health hazard or emergency that is a documented health threat as certified by a Health District Board or the DEQ Board, and the grant is to fund a study to address the public health hazard or emergency. Enter 150 at right and as the section 2 subtotal.	150	_____
(Section 2 subtotal: 0 or 150 pts)		0

Section 3. Regulatory Compliance Issues

0-100 points

IDAPA 58.01.04.020.02.b. Regulatory compliance issues (e.g., noncompliance and resulting legal actions relating to infrastructure deficiencies at a permitted point source facility) – up to 100 points.

For qualifying points in this section (Regulatory Compliance Status), the cause of noncompliance and resulting legal actions should be restricted to infrastructure deficiencies at a permitted point source facility. The purpose of this section is not to assign points for noncompliance resulting **purely** from system mismanagement or operation and maintenance (O&M) deficiencies.

A permitted point source facility is required to comply with the EPA National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) discharge permit and/or state water reuse permit. A facility is considered to be out of compliance if the facility is not meeting limits or conditions in the permit and legal action for noncompliance has been set in place. The severity of legal actions varies depending on the impact or potential impact to water quality, watershed, or public health and how long attempts to resolve the problem(s) have been ongoing. Legal actions may include but are not limited to one or more of the following: consent order, notice of violation, administrative order, permit compliance schedule, or assessment of monetary penalties.

Check one:

	Possible	Score
<input type="checkbox"/> In compliance (0 pts) – System is in compliance with regulatory requirements. No points are awarded in this section. Enter 0 below and proceed to section 4.	0	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Low-Level Noncompliance (25 pts) – Includes documented permit violations with discharge monitoring reports, reuse inspections, or the equivalent. For low-level noncompliance, legal action has not yet been set in place, and therefore, no points are awarded in this section. Enter 0 below and proceed to section 4.	25	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate-Level Noncompliance (50 pts) – Includes a first state or EPA warning letter, notice of violation, consent agreement, or equivalent that are <i>directly related to the scope of the proposed planning document</i> . Noncompliance is intended to be resolved by the project in the proposed planning document. Enter 80 below and proceed to section 4.	50	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> High-Level Noncompliance (75 pts) – Includes second state or EPA warning letter, consent order, permit compliance schedule, or equivalent that are <i>directly related to the scope of the proposed planning document</i> . Noncompliance is intended to be resolved by the project in the proposed planning document. Enter 90 below and proceed to section 4.	75	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Noncompliance Consequences Imposed (100 pts) – Penalties assessed (e.g., monetary fines or incarceration) that are directly related to the scope of the proposed planning document. Enter 100 and proceed to section 4.	100	_____
(Section 3 subtotal: 0-100 pts)		0

Section 4. Watershed Restoration

0-100 points

IDAPA 58.01.04.020.02.c. Watershed restoration (e.g., implementation of best management practices or initiation of construction at wastewater collection and treatment facilities as part of an approved total maximum daily load plan, implementation of nonpoint source management actions in protection of a threatened water, or is part of a special water quality effort) – up to 100 points.

The planning document will evaluate best management practices or the construction of wastewater collection and treatment facilities as part of an approved total maximum daily load (TMDL), protection-threatened waters identified through Idaho's Nonpoint Source Management Program Plan, or as part of a special water quality effort (e.g., Governor's *Bull Trout Conservation Plan*).

1. Points can be assigned based on expectation that a planning document will study, evaluate, and propose alternatives to restore a 303(d) water body, threatened or endangered species, sole-source aquifer, or sensitive/special resource ground water.

Check all that apply:

	Possible	Score
Surface Water (LOI questions 1 through 3)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Facility discharges to a 303(d) water body.	10	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> TMDL for the 303(d) water body has been approved by EPA.	7	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Existing system is contributing a pollutant of concern to the 303(d) water body.	10	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Existing system is contributing two or more pollutants of concern to the 303(d) water body.	10	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Proposed planning document will evaluate a point source that is exceeding its waste load allocation listed in the approved TMDL.	8	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Proposed planning document will evaluate a NPS and is expected to reduce a pollutant of concern in the 303(d) listed water body.	8	_____
Ground Water (LOI question 4)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Existing system is degrading or has the potential to degrade a sole-source aquifer (Eastern Snake River Plain, Spokane-Rathdrum, or Lewiston Basin).	20	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Existing system is degrading or has the potential to degrade a Nitrate Priority Area water. www.deq.idaho.gov/water-quality/ground-water/nitrate.aspx	10	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Existing system is degrading or has the potential to degrade a designated Critical Ground Water Area water. www.idwr.idaho.gov/WaterInformation/GroundWaterManagement/	10	_____
Threatened and Endangered Species (LOI question 5)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Threatened or endangered species are impacted by current practices, and the planning document will evaluate ways to minimize or eliminate impacts.	5	_____
Subtotal for section 4	(Section 4 subtotal: limit to 100 pts)	0

Section 5. Watershed Protection from Impacts (conventional wastewater projects only) 0-100 points
NOTE: For point source projects that plan to sponsor NPS projects as part of their loan.
IDAPA 58.01.04.020.02.d. Watershed protection from impacts (e.g., improvement of beneficial use(s) in a given water body, evidence of community support, or recognition of the special status of the affected water body) – up to 100 points.

1. Points will be assigned based on the documented number of designated beneficial uses impacted by *current* point source pollutants. Eight points will be awarded for each of the five beneficial uses designated in the "Water Quality Standards" (IDAPA 58.01.08.100) for which the proposed project will reduce current impacts or prevent future impacts.

Check all that apply:

	Possible	Score
<input type="checkbox"/> Aquatic life	8	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Recreation	8	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Water supply (domestic, agricultural, or industrial)	8	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife habitats	8	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics	8	_____
(Section 5, part 1 subtotal)		0

2. Nexus/benefit to municipality – Points are awarded based on the commitment of a municipality, governing agency, or other eligible entity (e.g., local landowner, citizen group working through eligible entity) for *implementing* or *financing* a portion of the proposed NPS project managed by a loan-eligible entity. A support letter must indicate the commitment of the municipality, governing agency, or other eligible entity to implement or fund a portion of the proposed project. More points are awarded based on the degree of project support exhibited.

Check one:

	Possible	Score
<input type="checkbox"/> No support letters	0	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> One or two support letters	20	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Three or more support letters	40	_____
(Section 5, part 2 subtotal)		0

3. State and National Priorities – Points will be assigned based upon recognition of the special status of waters or uses of those waters.

Check all that apply:

- | | Possible | Score |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> This project is a State Priority – The project reduces impacts to either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. State park or state recreation area b. Recognized blue ribbon fishery c. Designated Nitrate Priority Area
www.deq.idaho.gov/water-quality/ground-water/nitrate.aspx d. Area of high ground water vulnerability (based on source water assessments) e. Project enhances the state's NPS management program
www.deq.idaho.gov/water-quality/surface-water/nonpoint-source-pollution/idaho%27s-nps-management-program.aspx | 10 | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> This project is a National Priority – A statewide initiative project is intended to positively impact either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Threatened or endangered species
www.fws.gov/idaho/Species.htm
map.streamnet.org/website/bluecriticalhabitat/viewer.htm b. Wilderness area
www.publiclands.org/explore/spec_agency.php?agency=Wilderness%20Areas&picstate=ID c. Wild and scenic river d. EPA-designated sole-source aquifer
yosemite.epa.gov/r10/water.nsf/Sole+Source+Aquifers/ssamaps | 10 | _____ |

(Section 5, part 3 subtotal) 0

Subtotal. Sum of section 5, parts 1, 2, and 3. (Section 5 subtotal) 0

Section 6. Preventing Impacts to Beneficial Uses (NPS projects only) 0-100 points
IDAPA 58.01.04.020.02.e.Preventing impacts to uses (nonpoint source pollution projects) – up to 100 points.

1. Points will be assigned based on the documented number of designated beneficial uses impacted by *current* NPS pollutants. Eight points will be awarded for each of the five beneficial uses designated in the "Water Quality Standards" (IDAPA 58.01.08.100) for which the proposed project will reduce current impacts or prevent future impacts.

Check all that apply:

- | | Possible | Score |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aquatic life | 8 | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation | 8 | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water supply (domestic, agricultural, or industrial) | 8 | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife habitats | 8 | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics | 8 | _____ |

(Section 6, part 1 subtotal) 0

2. Nexus/benefit to municipality – Points are awarded based on the commitment of a municipality, governing agency, or other eligible entity (e.g., local landowner, citizen group working through eligible entity) for *implementing* or *financing* a portion of the proposed NPS project managed by a loan-eligible entity. A support letter must indicate the commitment of the municipality, governing agency, or other eligible entity to implement or fund a portion of the proposed project. More points are awarded based on the degree of project support exhibited.

Check one:

<input type="checkbox"/> No support letters	Possible	Score
<input type="checkbox"/> One or two support letters	0	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Three or more support letters	20	_____
	40	_____
	(Section 6, part 2 subtotal)	0

3. State and National Priorities – Points will be assigned based upon recognition of the special status of waters or uses of those waters.

Check all that apply:

<input type="checkbox"/> This project is a State Priority – The project reduces impacts to either:	Possible	Score
a. State park or state recreation area	10	_____
b. Recognized blue ribbon fishery		
c. Designated Nitrate Priority Area		
www.deq.idaho.gov/water-quality/ground-water/nitrate.aspx		
d. Area of high ground water vulnerability (based on source water assessments)		
e. Project enhances the state's NPS management program		
www.deq.idaho.gov/water-quality/surface-water/nonpoint-source-pollution/idaho%27s-nps-management-program.aspx		
<input type="checkbox"/> This project is a National Priority – A statewide initiative project is intended to positively impact either:	10	_____
a. Threatened or endangered species		
www.fws.gov/idaho/Species.htm		
map.streamnet.org/website/bluecriticalhabitat/viewer.htm		
b. Wilderness area		
www.publiclands.org/explore/spec_agency.php?agency=Wilderness%20Areas&plicstate=ID		
c. Wild and scenic river		
c. EPA-designated sole-source aquifer		
yosemite.epa.gov/r10/water.nsf/Sole+Source+Aquifers/ssamaps		
	(Section 6, part 3 subtotal)	0

4. For NPS-related projects, how long will the project owners, managers, or sponsoring agency operate and maintain the project after implementation.

Check one:

<input type="checkbox"/> Less than 5 years	1	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Between 5 and 10 years	3	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> More than 10 years	5	_____
	(Section 6, part 4 subtotal: max 5 pts)	0

Subtotal. Sum of section 6, parts 1, 2, 3, and 4. (Section 6 subtotal) 0

Section 7. Sustainability Efforts 0-50 points

IDAPA 58.01.04.020.02.f. Sustainability efforts (e.g., prospective efforts at energy conservation, water conservation, extending the life of capital assets, green building practices, and other environmentally innovative approaches to infrastructure repair, replacement and improvement) – up to 50 points.

Management-based (LOI question 2) (**check all that apply**):

Applicant proposes to implement or has implemented:	Points	Score
<input type="checkbox"/> Capital budget that is funded and is supported by capital improvement plan	20	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Usage-based, full-cost pricing for wastewater systems	20	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Formal asset management system (using a tool such as EPA's Check Up Program for Small Systems [CUPSS])	20	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable design principles, including energy efficiency and design for disassembly	20	_____

<input type="checkbox"/> Formal environmental management system (shown by International Organization for Standardization [ISO] 14001 certification)	20	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainability infrastructure benchmarking program	20	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Actions to become an EPA GreenPower Partner	20	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Proposed project is a consolidated system (i.e., public/private, small/large, shared resource)	20	_____
Implement <i>green</i> building management (based on Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design [LEED] O&M criteria)	20	_____
Conduct professional energy audit and intend to substantially implement its recommendations	20	_____
Other (contact Grant and Loan Program)	20	_____

Technology-based (LOI question 3) (**check all that apply**):

As part of this project, the applicant proposes to implement:

Installation of water meters and employ other water conservation measures that result in a net 20% water use savings (e.g., use of WaterSense plumbing/irrigation products, grey water distribution/collection systems, leak detection)	20	_____
Use/installation of energy-efficient lighting systems and other practices that result in a net 20% energy reduction:	20	_____
Advanced fluorescent lighting		
High-efficiency discharge lighting		
Lighting controls		
Variable frequency drive (VFD) pumps		
Heat pumps that reclaim heat from treated effluent		
Efficient replacements for vacuum dewatering systems		
Energy-efficient motors that meet National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA) Premium specification		
Green roofs		
On-site energy generation: methane clean combustion, fuel cells, solar, wind		
Direct seeding		
Hydromodification for riparian buffers		
Wastewater reuse when other alternatives have been considered in the facility planning process		
Decentralized system when other alternatives have been considered in the facility planning process		
Gray water distribution system		
Aeration improvements, such as fine bubble aeration, VFD blowers, or automated dissolved oxygen control		
Green building designs (derived from LEED criteria)	20	_____
Other (contact Grant and Loan Program)	20	_____

Construction practices (LOI question 4) (**check all that apply**):

Brownfield site is being used for the facility	10	_____
Recycled materials are specified for facility construction	10	_____
Other (contact Grant and Loan Program)	10	_____

(Section 7 subtotal: limited to 50 pts) 0

Section 8. Affordability*IDAPA 58.01.04.020.02.f. Affordability (current system user charges exceed state affordability guidelines) – up to 10 points.*

A study is not affordable if the current monthly user charge (based on operation, maintenance, replacement, and debt service) exceeds 1.5% of the monthly Median Household Income (MHI).

1. Obtain city or community MHI from either (check one):

factfinder2.census.gov

DEQ-approved community income survey

Community name _____

MHI (annual) _____ Year 2010

2. Adjust the MHI to January 2012 dollars using the Bureau of Labor Statistics CPI-U price index.

<http://data.bls.gov/cgi-bin/cpicalc.pl> 2012 MHI (annual) _____

Monthly user charge _____

A. Not affordable	10	
B. Affordable	0	
	0	(Section 8 subtotal) 0

Section 9. Final Score

Section 2 Subtotal – Public Health Emergency or Public Health Hazard (0-150)	0	
Section 3 Subtotal – Regulatory Compliance Issues (0-100)	0	
Section 4 Subtotal – Watershed Restoration (0-100)	0	
Section 5 Subtotal – Watershed Protection from Impacts (conventional wastewater) (0-100)	0	
Section 6 Subtotal – Preventing Impacts to Beneficial Uses (NPS only) (0-100)	0	
Section 7 Subtotal – Sustainability Efforts (0-50)	0	
Section 8 Subtotal – Affordability (0-10)	0	
	Total (max. 510)	0

NOTES:

For recording information not on LOI, conversations with applicant, etc.

Limited capabilities: WordWrap works, use <alt><enter> for manual carriage return; no <tab>