RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

Funding Opportunity Announcement No. BOR-DO-18-F001

Native American Affairs: Technical Assistance to Tribes for Fiscal Year 2018



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
Native American and International Affairs Office
Denver, Colorado

September 2017

Mission Statements

The U.S. Department of the Interior protects America's natural resources and heritage, honors our cultures and tribal communities, and supplies the energy to power our future.

The mission of the Bureau of Reclamation is to manage, develop, and protect water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American public.

The mission of Reclamation's Native American Program is: To make the benefits of the Reclamation program available to Indian tribes and to fulfill Reclamation's Indian Trust responsibilities.

Synopsis

Federal Agency Name:	Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, Native American and International Affairs Office
Funding Opportunity Title:	Technical Assistance to Tribes for Fiscal Year (FY) 2018
Announcement Type:	Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA)
Funding Opportunity Number:	BOR-DO-18-F001
Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number:	15.519
Dates: (See FOA Sec. D.4)	Application due date: January 17, 2018 4:00 p.m. Mountain Standard Time
Eligible Applicants: (See FOA Sec. C.1)	A federally recognized Indian tribe or tribal organization in the 17 Western States identified in the Reclamation Act of June 17, 1902.
Recipient Cost Share: (See FOA Sec. C.2)	None required
Federal Funding Amount: (See FOA Sec. B.1)	Up to $200,000 per applicant over two fiscal years
Estimated Number of Agreements to be Awarded: (See FOA Sec. B.1)	10

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Application Checklist

The following table contains a summary of the information that you are required to submit with your application.

√	What to submit	Required content	Form or format	When to submit
	Mandatory Federal Forms: Application for Federal Financial Assistance Budget Information Assurances	See Sec. D.2.2.1	SF-424, SF-424A, SF-424B, and SF-424D forms may be obtained at http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/forms/sf-424-family.html	*
	Title page	See Sec. D.2.2.2	Page 11	
	Table of contents	See Sec. D.2.2.3	Page 11	*
	Technical proposal: Executive summary Background data Project description Evaluation criteria	 See Sec. D.2.2.4 See Sec. D.2.2.4 See Sec. D.2.2.4 See Sec. E.1	 Page 11 Page 11 Page 11 Page 25	* * * * *
	Project Budget: Budget proposal Budget narrative	 See Sec. D.2.2.5 See Sec. D.2.2.5	 Page 12 Page 14	* * *
	Environmental and cultural resources compliance	See Sec. D.2.2.6	Page 17	*
	Required Permits and Aprovals	See Sec. D.2.2.7	Page 19	**
	Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management	See Sec. D.3	Page 19	***

* Submit materials with your application.

** Document should be submitted with your application; however, please refer to the applicable section of the FOA for extended submission date.

*** Should be completed prior to application deadline; however, please refer to the applicable section of the FOA for extended completion date.

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

ARC	Application Review Committee
ASAP	Department of Treasury Automated Standard Application for Payments
BIA	Bureau of Indian Affairs
CFDA	Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CWA	Clean Water Act
DOI	U.S. Department of the Interior
DUNS	Data Universal Number System
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
ESA	Endangered Species Act
FAPIIS	Federal Award Performance Integrity Information System
FOA	Funding Opportunity Announcement
FY	Fiscal Year
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
P.L.	Public Law
Reclamation	Bureau of Reclamation
TAP	Technical Assistance Program
SAM	System for Award Management
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USC	United States Code
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey

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Section A: Funding Opportunity Description

A.1. Program Information

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), through the Native American Affairs Technical Assistance to Tribes Program (Technical Assistance Program [TAP]), provides technical assistance to Indian tribes and tribal organizations. The TAP is intended to establish cooperative working relationships, through partnerships with Indian tribes and tribal organizations, to ensure that tribes have the opportunity to participate fully in the Reclamation Program as they develop, manage, and protect their water and related resources. Reclamation's Native American and International Affairs Office, Washington, D.C., plans to make fiscal year (FY) 2018 funds available for the TAP through Reclamation's five Regional Offices.

For further information on the Technical Assistance Program please visit: www.usbr.gov/native/programs/techasst_activities_tap.html.

A.2. Objective of this Funding Opportunity Announcement

The objective of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is to invite federally recognized Indian tribes and tribal organizations to submit proposals for financial assistance, in the form of grants and cooperative agreements, for TAP projects and activities that develop, manage, and protect tribal water and related resources.

This FOA is not applicable to:

1) Federal assistance that Reclamation may provide to tribes and tribal organizations through contracts and agreements under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (Public Law [P.L.] 93-638, as amended) or

2) Direct technical support from Reclamation. Do not submit proposals under this FOA for either of these two scenarios. Instead, please contact the applicable Regional Office point of contact identified in Section G. *Agency Contacts*.

A.3. Statutory Authority

This Program is administered in accordance with the Reclamation Act of 1902, as amended and supplemented, including 43 United States Code (USC) 373d, which authorizes Reclamation to provide financial assistance to Indian tribes and tribal organizations to increase opportunities to develop, manage, and protect tribal water and related resources.

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Section B: Award Information

B.1. Total Project Funding

While program direction and leadership for the TAP is provided by the Native American and International Affairs Office, the TAP is implemented through Reclamation's Regional and Area Offices. Regional and Area Office Native American Affairs Program coordinators work with tribes and tribal organizations to share information about the TAP, answer questions, and assist during the preparation of TAP proposals and implementation of TAP projects. See *Section G.2. Agency Contact*s for a list of the regional points of contact.

Budgetary constraints limit the number of projects that may be funded each year. It is anticipated that $1,000,000 will be available in FY 2018 and each Region may have up to four awards for technical assistance, depending on the total amount of funding requested by successful applicants.

The total funds made available to each Region may be adjusted at any time during the fiscal year in response to congressional appropriations and the needs identified in each region.

B.2. Project Funding Limitations

Reclamation anticipates that available funding will be divided equally among the five regions, unless demand for funding is significantly higher or lower between the regions. In some instances, funding may be further divided equally among area offices within a particular region. All work on a project funded under this FOA must be completed within approximately two years from the date of the award.

The Federal funding amount per award agreement is estimated to not exceed $200,000 total over two (2) years ($100,000 per year).

Funding in the second year is contingent upon the availability of appropriations.

B.3. Assistance Instrument

Project awards will be made through grants or cooperative agreements as applicable to each project. If a cooperative agreement is awarded, the recipient should expect Reclamation to have substantial involvement in the project.

Substantial involvement by Reclamation may include:

- Collaboration and participation with the recipient in the management of the project and close oversight of the recipient's activities to ensure that the program objectives are being achieved.

- Oversight may include review, input, and approval at key interim stages of the project.

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Section C: Eligibility Information

C.1. Eligible Applicants

Applicants eligible to receive an award to fund activities must be:

- A federally recognized Indian tribe or tribal organization, as defined in 25 U.S.C. 450b; and

- Located in the 17 Western States identified in the Reclamation Act of June 17, 1902, as amended and supplement; specifically: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

Those not eligible include, but are not limited to, the following entities:

- Federal Governmental entities
- State Governmental entities
- Local Government entities
- Individuals

C.2. Cost-Sharing Requirements

There is no requirement for a non-Federal cost share contribution. If the proposal includes financial or "in-kind" contributions, the applicant should include a description of the source, nature, amount or estimated value, and the intended use of any contributions to be provided in accordance with the following provisions.

C.2.1. Cost-Share Regulations

All cost-share contributions must meet the applicable administrative and cost principles criteria established in 2 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, available at www.ecfr.gov.

C.2.2. In-Kind Contributions and Donations

In-kind contributions and donations constitute the value of noncash contributions that benefit a federally assisted project. These contributions may be in the form of real property, equipment, supplies, and other expendable property, as well as the value of goods and services directly benefiting and specifically identifiable to the project or program. Applicants should refer to 2 CFR §200.434 for regulations regarding the valuation of in-kind contributions and donations, available at www.ecfr.gov.

C.3. Eligible Projects

C.3.1. Eligible Projects

To be eligible for funding under this FOA, projects must be directly related to the development, management, or protection of tribal water and related resources.

Eligible projects include, but are not limited to:

- Water needs assessments
- Water management studies
- Water quality data collection and assessments
- Water measurement studies
- Training for tribal staff and managers in areas of water resources' development, management and protection
- Minor rehabilitation or replacement of existing tribally owned, water-related structures and facilities
- Minor construction projects such as:
    - Restoring wetlands
    - Controlling erosion
    - Stabilizing streambanks
    - Installing gardens
    - Drilling domestic and stock wells
    - Constructing ponds
    - Developing water basin plans

C.3.2. Ineligible Projects

Projects that are not eligible for funding under this FOA include, but are not limited to:

- Feasibility studies (as defined under Reclamation law, which require express congressional authorization)
- Projects not directly benefiting a tribe for which another Federal agency or a Reclamation program is primarily responsible. For example:
    - Environment/water and air/quality – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
    - Water measurement – U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)

  - Aagricultural/forestry – U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)
  - Fish and wildlife – U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
  - Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) water rights
  - Other Reclamation programs such asWater Smart; Rural Water, and Dam Safety

- Projects requesting greater than $200,000 in Native American Affairs Technical Assistance funding over a 2-year period
- Projects that lack definable products or deliverables
- Specific employment positions within an Indian tribe
- Projects with a duration of more than two years
- Projects that generate data or analyses that have the potential to compromise any study or activities of a U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) Indian water rights negotiation or the Department of Justice in its pursuit of related Indian water rights claims
- Projects related to non-Federal or non-tribal dams and associated structures
- Projects that consist of providing funding for the administration of contracts or agreements under P.L. 93-638 that are unrelated to the Technical Assistance Program
- Purchase of equipment as the sole purpose of the project
- Projects in direct support of litigation of any kind
- Projects that will obligate Reclamation to provide, or are not sustainable unless Reclamation does provide, perpetual funding, such as an obligation to provide future funding for operation, maintenance, or replacement
- Biological activities (e.g., fisheries work, including collection, analysis and evaluation of background data), except that activities related to the water supply (i.e., quantity and/or quality) of a biological activity are eligible for Technical Assistance Program funding

C.3.3 Length of Projects

In general, proposed projects should be completed within one year of award, but may be completed within two years if second year funding is provided. Applications for projects requiring more time will be considered for funding only under limited circumstances.

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Section D: Application and Submission Information

D.1. Address to Request Application Package

This document contains all information, forms, and electronic addresses required to obtain the information required for submission of an application.

If you are unable to access this information electronically, you can request paper copies of any of the documents referenced in this FOA by contacting:

By mail:	Bureau of Reclamation Financial Assistance Support Section Attn: Darren Olson P.O. Box 25007, MC 84-27814 Denver, CO 80225
By e-mail:	dolson@usbr.gov
By telephone:	303-445-3697

D.2. Content and Form of Application Submission

All applications must conform to the requirements set forth below.

D.2.1. Application Format and Length

The total application package shall be no more than ***35*** consecutively numbered pages. If an application exceeds ***35*** pages, only the first ***35*** pages will be evaluated. The font shall be at least 12 points in size and easily readable. Page size shall be 8½ by 11 inches, including charts, maps, and drawings. Oversized pages will not be accepted. The technical proposal and evaluation criteria section shall be limited to a maximum of ***25*** pages. The SF-424 forms will not be considered in the total page count.

Applications will be prescreened for compliance to the page number limitations.

D.2.2. Application Content

The application must include the following elements to be considered complete:

- Mandatory Federal Forms
  - SF-424 Application for Federal Assistance
  - SF-424 Budget (A or C Form, as applicable to the project)
  - SF-424 Assurances (B or D Form, as applicable to the project)

These forms may be obtained at
www.grants.gov/web/grants/forms/sf-424-family.html

- Title page
- Table of contents
- Technical proposal and evaluation criteria (limited to ***25*** pages)
  - Executive summary
  - Background data
  - Technical project description
  - Evaluation criteria
- Environmental and cultural resources compliance
- Required permits or approvals
- Project budget
  - Budget proposal
  - Budget narrative

D.2.2.1. Mandatory Federal Forms

The application must include the following standard Federal forms:

SF-424 Application for Federal Assistance

A fully completed SF-424 Application for Federal Assistance signed by a person legally authorized to commit the applicant to performance of the project must be submitted with the application. Failure to submit a properly signed SF-424 may result in the elimination of the application from further consideration.

SF-424 Budget Form

A fully completed SF-424A, Budget Information-Non-Construction Programs, or an SF-424C, Budget-Construction Programs must be submitted with the application.

SF-424 Assurances

A SF-424B, Assurances—Non-Construction Programs, or an SF-424D, Assurances—Construction Programs, signed by a person legally authorized to commit the applicant to performance of the project must be included. Questions regarding whether to use SF-424B or SF-424D should be directed to the Grants Management Point of Contact identified in *Section G: Agency Contacts*. Failure to submit a properly signed SF-424B or SF-424D may result in the elimination of the application from further consideration.

D.2.2.2. Title Page

Provide a brief, informative, and descriptive title for the proposed work that indicates the nature of the project. Include the name and address of the applicant, and the name and address, e-mail address, and telephone of the project manager.

D.2.2.3. Table of Contents

List all major sections of the proposal in the table of contents.

D.2.2.4. Technical Proposal and Evaluation Criteria

The technical proposal and evaluation criteria (***25*** pages maximum) includes:

(1) Executive summary
(2) Background data
(3) Technical project description
(4) Evaluation criteria

Executive Summary

The executive summary should include:

- The date, applicant name, city, county, and state
- A one paragraph project summary that specifies the work proposed, including how funds will be used to accomplish specific project activities and briefly identifies how the proposed project contributes to accomplishing the goals of this FOA. (see Section C.3.1. *Eligible Projects*)
- State the length of time and estimated completion date for the proposed project

Background Data

Provide appropriate background information about the general project area. Provide a map, if appropriate, showing the geographic location of the proposed project (include pertinent information such as reservation name, state, county, and direction from nearest town).

As applicable, describe the source of water supply, the water rights involved, current water uses (i.e., agricultural, municipal, domestic, or industrial), the number of water users served, and the current and projected water demand. Also, identify potential shortfalls in water supply. If water is primarily used for irrigation, describe major crops and total acres served.

In addition, as appropriate, describe the applicant's water delivery system. For agricultural systems, please include the miles of canals, miles of laterals, and existing irrigation improvements (i.e., type, miles, and acres). For municipal

systems, please include the number of connections and/or number of water users served and any other relevant information describing the system.

Identify any past working relationships with Reclamation. This should include the date(s), name of the Reclamation office(s), and a description of the projects(s).

Technical Project Description

The technical project description should describe the work in detail, including specific activities that will be accomplished. This description shall have sufficient detail to permit a comprehensive evaluation of the proposal.

The proposal should thoroughly describe the proposed project in detail. This description should have sufficient information to permit a comprehensive evaluation of the proposal.

- Describe what the project is intended to accomplish, including goals and objectives
- Identify problems and needs
- Describe the methods to be employed
- Identify expected outcomes

Evaluation Criteria

(See Section E.1. *Evaluation Criteria* for additional details, including a detailed description of each criterion and subcriterion and points associated with each.)

The evaluation criteria portion of your application should thoroughly address each criterion and subcriterion in the order presented to assist in the complete and accurate evaluation of your proposal.

It is suggested that applicants copy and paste the evaluation criteria and subcriteria in Section E.1.* Evaluation Criteria *into their applications to ensure that all necessary information is adequately addressed

D.2.2.5. Project Budget

The project budget includes:

- **Budget proposal**
- **Budget narrative**

Budget Proposal

The budget proposal should include detailed information on the categories listed below and must clearly identify all project costs, including those that are being contributed as non-Federal cost share. Unit costs must be provided for all budget

items including the cost of work to be provided by contractors. The budget proposal should also include any in-kind contributions of goods and services that will be provided to complete the project. It is strongly advised that applicants use the budget proposal format shown below on Table 1 or a similar format that provides this information. If selected for award, successful applicants must submit detailed supporting documentation for all budgeted costs.

Table 1.—Sample Budget Proposal Format

BUDGET ITEM DESCRIPTION	COMPUTATION		Quantity Type	TOTAL COST
	$/Unit	Quantity		
Salaries and Wages				
Employee 1				$
Employee 2				$
Employee 3				$
Fringe Benefits				
Full-Time Employees				$
Part-Time Employees				$
Travel				
Trip 1				$
Trip 2				$
Equipment				
Item A				$
Item B				$
Item C				$
Supplies and Materials				
Item A				$
Item B				$
Contractual/Construction				
Contractor A				$
Contractor B				$
Other				
Other				$
TOTAL DIRECT COSTS				**$**
Indirect Costs				
Type of rate	percentage	$base		**$**
TOTAL ESTIMATED PROJECT COSTS				**$**

Budget Narrative

Submission of a budget narrative is mandatory. An award will not be made to any applicant who fails to fully disclose this information. The budget narrative provides a discussion of, or explanation for, all items included in the budget proposal. Include the value of in-kind contributions of goods and services that will be provided to complete the Project. The types of information to describe in the narrative include, but are not limited to, those listed in the following subsections. Costs, including the valuation of in-kind contributions and donations, must comply with the applicable cost principles contained in 2 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) §200, Subpart E available at the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations (www.ecfr.gov).

Salaries and Wages

Indicate program manager and other key personnel by name and title. Other personnel may be indicated by title alone. For all positions, indicate salaries and wages, estimated hours or percent of time, and rate of compensation. The labor rates should identify the direct labor rate separate from the fringe rate or fringe cost for each category. All labor estimates shall be allocated to specific tasks as outlined in the Project description. Labor rates and proposed hours shall be displayed for each task.

Include estimated hours for compliance with reporting requirements. Please see Section F.3. *Reporting Requirements and Distribution* for information on types and frequency of reports required.

Generally, salaries of administrative and/or clerical personnel will be included as a portion of the stated indirect costs. If these salaries can be adequately documented as direct costs, they should be included in this section; however, a justification should be included in the budget narrative.

Within the budget narrative, please provide a certification that the labor rates included in the budget proposal represent the actual labor rates of the identified personnel. If the proposal is selected for award and the awarding Grants Officer determines that the provided rates fall within Bureau of Labor Statistic averages for personnel with similar job descriptions, no further documentation for this item of cost shall be requested during budget negotiations.

Fringe Benefits

Indicate rates/amounts, what costs are included in this category, and the basis of the rate computations. Indicate whether these rates are used for application purposes only or whether they are fixed or provisional rates for billing purposes. Federally approved rate agreements are acceptable for compliance with this item.

Travel

Include purpose of trip, destination, number of persons traveling, length of stay, and all travel costs including airfare (basis for rate used), per diem, lodging, and

miscellaneous travel expenses. For local travel, include mileage and rate of reimbursement.

Equipment

If equipment will be purchased, itemize all equipment valued at or greater than $5,000. For each item, identify why it is needed for the completion of the project and how the equipment was priced. *Note: if the value is less than $5,000, the item should be included under materials and supplies.* ***If the equipment will be furnished and installed by a contractor, it should be included in the construction contract estimate.***

If equipment is being rented, specify the number of hours and the hourly rate. Local rental rates are only accepted for equipment actually being rented or leased for the project.

If the applicant intends to use their own equipment for the purposes of the project, the proposed usage rates should fall within the equipment usage rates outlined by the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) within their Construction Equipment Ownership and Operating Expense Schedule (EP 1110-1-8) by region at http://www.publications.usace.army.mil/USACE-Publications/Engineer-Pamphlets/u43545q/313131302D312D38/.

Materials and Supplies

Itemize supplies by major category, unit price, quantity, and purpose, such as whether the items are needed for office use, research, or construction. Identify how these costs were estimated (i.e., quotes, invoices, engineering estimates, or published prices).

Contractual

Identify all work that will be accomplished by subrecipients, consultants, or contractors, including a breakdown of all tasks to be completed, and a detailed budget estimate of time, rates, supplies, and materials that will be required for each task. Identify how the budgeted costs for subrecipients, consultants, or contractors were determined to be fair and reasonable. *Note: If a subrecipient, consultant, or contractor is proposed and approved at the time of award, no other approvals will be required. Any changes or additions will require a request for approval.*

Environmental and Regulatory Compliance Costs

If the proposed project includes ground disturbing activities, the applicant must include a line item in their budget to cover environmental compliance costs. “Environmental compliance costs” refer to costs incurred by Reclamation and the recipient in complying with environmental regulations applicable to an award under this FOA, including costs associated with any required documentation of environmental compliance, analyses, permits, or approvals.

Applicable Federal environmental laws could include: National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Endangered Species Act (ESA), National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), Clean Water Act (CWA), and other regulations depending on the project. Such costs may include, but are not limited to:

- The cost incurred by Reclamation to determine the level of environmental compliance required for the project
- The cost incurred by Reclamation, the recipient, or a consultant to prepare any necessary environmental compliance documents or reports
- The cost incurred by Reclamation to review any environmental compliance documents prepared by a consultant
- The cost incurred by the recipient in acquiring any required approvals or permits, or in implementing any required mitigation measures

The amount of the line item should be based on the actual expected environmental compliance costs for the project, including Reclamation's cost to review environmental compliance documentation. However, the minimum amount budgeted for environmental compliance should be equal to at least one to two percent of the total project costs. If the amount budgeted is less than one to two percent of the total project costs, you must include a compelling explanation of why less than one to two percent was budgeted.

How environmental compliance activities will be performed (e.g., by Reclamation, the applicant, or a consultant) and how the environmental compliance funds will be spent, will be determined pursuant to a subsequent agreement between Reclamation and the applicant. The amount of funding required for Reclamation to conduct any environmental compliance activities, including Reclamation's cost to review environmental compliance documentation, will be withheld from the Federal award amount and placed in an environmental compliance account to cover such costs. If any portion of the funds budgeted for environmental compliance is not required for compliance activities, such funds may be reallocated to the project, if appropriate.

Other Expenses

Any other expenses not included in the above categories shall be listed in this category, along with a description of the item and why it is necessary. No profit or fee will be allowed.

Indirect Costs

Indirect costs that will be incurred during the development or construction of a project, which will not otherwise be recovered, may be included as part of the applicant's project budget. Show the proposed rate, cost base, and proposed amount for allowable indirect costs based on the applicable cost principles for the

recipient's organization. It is not acceptable to simply incorporate indirect rates within other direct cost line items. Include a copy of any federally approved indirect cost rate agreement.

If the applicant has never received a Federal negotiated indirect cost rate, the budget may include a *de minimis* rate of up to 10 percent of modified total direct costs. For further information on modified total direct costs, refer to 2 CFR §200.68 available at www.ecfr.gov.

If the applicant does not have a federally approved indirect cost rate agreement and is proposing a rate greater than the *de minimis* 10 percent rate, include the computational basis for the indirect exense pool and corresponding allocation base for each rate. Information on "Preparing and Submitting Indirect Cost Proposals" is available from DOI's National Business Center's Indirect Cost Services, at www.doi.gov/ibc/services/finance/indirect-cost- services. Please note that the applicant will need to obtain a federally negotiated indirect cost rate agreement within one year of award.

Total Costs

Indicate total amount of project costs, including the Federal and non-Federal cost share amounts.

D.2.2.6. Environmental and Cultural Resources Compliance

To allow Reclamation to assess the probable environmental and cultural resources impacts and costs associated with each application, all applicants must respond to the following list of questions focusing on NEPA, ESA, and NHPA requirements. Please answer the following questions to the best of your knowledge. If any question is not applicable to the project, please explain why.

- Will the proposed project impact the surrounding environment (e.g., soil [dust], air, water [quality and quantity], animal habitat)? Please briefly describe all earth-disturbing work and any work that will affect the air, water, or animal habitat in the project area. Please also explain the impacts of such work on the surrounding environment and any steps that could be taken to minimize the impacts.

- Are you aware of any species listed or proposed to be listed as a Federal threatened or endangered species, or designated critical habitat in the project area? If so, would they be affected by any activities associated with the proposed project?

- Are there wetlands or other surface waters inside the project boundaries that potentially fall under the CWA jurisdiction as "Waters of the United States?" If so, please describe and estimate any impacts the proposed project may have.

- When was the water delivery system constructed?

- Will the proposed project result in any modification of or effects to, individual features of an irrigation system (e.g., headgates, canals, or flumes)? If so, state when those features were constructed and describe the nature and timing of any extensive alterations or modifications to those features completed previously.

- Are any buildings, structures, or features in the irrigation district listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places? A cultural resources specialist at your local Reclamation office or the State Historic Preservation Office can assist in answering this question.

- Are there any known archeological sites in the proposed project area?

- Will the proposed project have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations?

- Will the proposed project adversely affect Indian Trust Assets?

- Will the proposed project limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites or result in other impacts on tribal lands?

- Will the proposed project contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area?

Note, if mitigation is required to lessen environmental impacts, the applicant may, at Reclamation's discretion, be required to report on progress and completion of these commitments. Reclamation will coordinate with the applicant to establish reporting requirements and intervals accordingly.

Under no circumstances may an applicant begin any ground-disturbing activities (including grading, clearing, and other preliminary activities) on a project before environmental compliance is complete and Reclamation explicitly authorizes work to proceed. This pertains to all components of the proposed project, including those that are part of the applicant's non-Federal cost-share. Reclamation will provide a successful applicant with information once environmental compliance is complete. An applicant that proceeds before environmental compliance is complete may risk forfeiting Reclamation funding under this FOA.

If you have any questions regarding NEPA, ESA and NHPA requirements, please contact your regional or area Reclamation office.

D.2.2.7. Required Permits or Approvals

Applicants must state in the application whether any permits or approvals are required and explain the plan for obtaining such permits or approvals.

D.3. Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management

All applicants (unless the applicant has an exception approved by Reclamation under 2 CFR §25.110[d]) are required to:

(i) Be registered in the System for Award Management (SAM) before submitting its application;

(ii) Provide a valid unique entity identifier in its application (such as a Data Universal Number System [DUNS]); and

(iii) Continue to maintain an active SAM registration with current information at all times during which it has an active Federal award or an application or plan under consideration by a Federal awarding agency.

Meeting the requirements set forth above is mandatory. If the applicant is unable to provide a unique entity identifier or complete SAM registration by the application deadline, the valid unique entity identifier must be obtained and SAM registration must be initiated within 30 days after the date the application is submitted in order to be considered for selection and award.

Reclamation will not make a Federal award to an applicant until the applicant has complied with all applicable unique entity identifier and SAM requirements and, if an applicant has not fully complied with the requirements by the time the Reclamation is ready to make an award, Reclamation may determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive a Federal award and use that determination as a basis for making a Federal award to another applicant.

D.4. Submission Date and Time

Proposals will be accepted, evaluated, and selections made throughout the fiscal year. The close date for this FOA is January 17, 2018. The final application submission date deadline:

Wednesday January 17, 2018, 4:00 p.m. Mountain Standard Time

Proposals received after the application deadline will not be considered unless it can be determined that the delay was caused by Federal Government mishandling.

Please note that any application submitted for funding under this FOA may be subjected to a Freedom of Information Act request (5 USC Section 552, as amended by P.L. No. 110-175), and as a result, may be made publicly available. Following awards of funding, Reclamation may post all successful applications on the Reclamation website, after conducting any redactions determined necessary by Reclamation, in consultation with the recipient.

D.4.1. Application Delivery Instructions

Applications may be submitted electronically through Grants.gov (www.grants.gov) or hard copies may be submitted to either one of the following addresses. Under no circumstances will applications received through any other method (such as email or fax) be considered eligible for award.

By mail:
Bureau of Reclamation
Financial Assistance Support Section
Attn: Darren Olson
P.O. Box 25007, Mail Code 84-27814
Denver, CO 80225

By express delivery:
Bureau of Reclamation mail services
Attn: Darren Olson
Denver Federal Center
Bldg. 67, Rm. 152
6th Avenue and Kipling Street
Denver, CO 80225

By courier services:
Bureau of Reclamation
Attn: Darren Olson
Denver Federal Center
Bldg. 56, Rm. 1000
6th Avenue and Kipling Street
Denver, CO 80225

D.4.2. Instructions for Submission of Project Application

Each applicant shall submit an application in accordance with the instructions contained in this section.

D.4.2.1. Applications Submitted by Mail, Express Delivery or Courier Services

Please follow these instructions to submit your application by mail, express delivery, or courier services.

- Applicants shall submit one copy of all application documents for hardcopy submissions. Only use a binder clip for documents submitted. ***Do not staple or otherwise bind application documents.***

- Hard copy applications may be submitted by mail, express delivery, or courier services to the addresses identified in this FOA.

- Materials arriving separately will not be included in the application package and may result in the application being rejected or not funded.

- Faxed and emailed copies of application documents will not be accepted.

- Do not include a cover letter or company literature/brochure with the application. All pertinent information must be included in the application package.

D.4.2.2. Applications Submitted Electronically

If the applicant chooses to submit an electronic application, it must be submitted through Grants.gov (www.grants.gov). Reclamation encourages applicants to submit their applications for funding electronically at: www.grants.gov/applicants/apply-for-grants.html. Applicant resource documents and a full set of instructions for registering with Grants.gov (www.grants.gov) and completing and submitting applications online are available at: www.grants.gov/applicants/apply-for-grants.html.

- Please note that submission of an application electronically requires prior registration through Grants.gov, which may take 7 to 21 days. Please see registration instructions at www.grants.gov/applicants/apply-for-grants.html. In addition, please note that the Grants.gov system only accepts applications submitted by individuals that are registered in SAM as both a user and an Authorized Organizational Representative.

- Applicants sometimes have experienced significant delays when attempting to submit applications through Grants.gov. If you plan to submit your application through Grants.gov you are encouraged to submit your application several days prior to the application deadline. If you are a properly registered Grants.gov applicant and encounter problems with the Grants.gov application submission process, you must contact the Grants.gov Help Desk to obtain a case number. This case number will provide evidence of your attempt to submit an application prior to the submission deadline.

Regardless of the delivery method used, you must ensure that your proposal arrives by the date and time deadline stated in this FOA. Applications received after this date and time due to weather or express delivery/courier performance will not be considered for award. Late applications will not be considered unless

it is determined that the delay was caused by Federal Government mishandling or by a problem with the Grants.gov application system.

D.4.2.3. Acknowledgement of Application Receipt

If an application is submitted by mail, express delivery, or courier, Reclamation will notify you in writing that your application was received and, if applicable, whether it was received prior to the deadline identified in the FOA.

If an application is submitted through Grants.gov, you will receive an email acknowledging receipt of the application from Grants.gov. In addition, Reclamation will notify you in writing whether the application was successfully downloaded from Grants.gov.

D.5. Intergovernmental Review

This FOA is not subject to Executive Order 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs."

D.6. Funding Restrictions: Pre-award Costs

Project pre-award costs that have been incurred prior to the date of award may be submitted for consideration as an allowable reimbursable expense. **In no case will pre-award costs incurred prior to July 1, 2017 be considered for reimbursement.**

For example, such costs might include design or construction plans and environmental compliance costs directly supporting the proposed project. Reclamation will review the proposed pre-award costs to determine if they are allowable in accordance with the authorizing legislation and applicable cost principles. To be considered allowable, any pre-award costs proposed for consideration under the new awards must comply with all applicable requirements under this FOA.

D.7. Automated Standard Application for Payments Registration

All applicants must also be registered with and willing to process all payments through the Department of Treasury Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP) system. All recipients with active financial assistance agreements with Reclamation must be enrolled in ASAP under the appropriate Agency Location Code(s) and the Data Universal Number System (DUNS) Number prior to the award of funds. If a recipient has multiple DUNS numbers they must separately enroll within ASAP for each unique DUNS Number and/or Agency. All of the information on the enrollment process for recipients, including the enrollment initiation form and the enrollment mailbox can be found at https://www.usbr.gov/mso/aamd/asap.html.

Note that if your entity is currently enrolled in the ASAP system with an agency other than Reclamation, you must enroll specifically with Reclamation in order to process payments.

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Section E: Application Review Information

E.1. Evaluation Criteria

The evaluation criteria portion of your application should thoroughly address each of the following criteria and subcriteria in the order presented to assist in the complete and accurate evaluation of your proposal. **Applications will be evaluated against the evaluation criteria (listed below), which comprise a total of 90 points.** Please note that projects may be prioritized to ensure balance among the Regions and to ensure that the projects address the goals and objectives of the FOA.

Please note, if the work described in your application is a phase of a larger project, please only discuss the benefits that will result directly from the work discussed in your application and that is reflected in the budget, not the overall project.

It is suggested that applicants copy and paste the evaluation criteria and sub-criteria immediately below into their applications to ensure that all necessary information is adequately addressed.

E.1.1. Evaluation Criterion A—Priority (30 points)

Reclamation will evaluate the extent to which the proposal demonstrates the project or activity is intended to address the water and water-related priorities identified by the tribe or tribal organization.

1) Include or attach a statement of tribal water and related priorities and briefly describe how the proposed project or activity furthers one or more of those priorities; or

2) Briefly describe how the proposed project or activity will contribute to:
   a) The health and safety of the tribe and its members;
   b) Improved development, management and/or protection of the tribe's water resources (including building or enhancing the tribe's own internal capacity to develop, manage and/or protect its water and related resources);
   c) The creation or maintenance of important economic and/or social benefits;
   d) The protection and/or enhancement of the environment; and/or
   e) Compliance with regulatory requirements.

3) Identify any monetary, property, or in-kind contributions the tribe or tribal organization will make to the proposed project or activity.

E.1.2. Evaluation Criterion B—Viability (30 points)

Reclamation will evaluate the extent to which the proposal demonstrates the project or activity is economically, technically and legally viable, and capable of meeting the water-related needs of the tribe or tribal organization.

1) Include a brief explanation of how the tribe or tribal organization has:
   a) Estimated the cost of successfully completing the proposed project or activity, or otherwise determined the proposed project or activity can be successfully completed within the proposed budget (e.g., engineering cost estimates, firm bids from potential contractors)
   b) Estimated the schedule for fully implementing the proposed project or activity

2) If applicable, briefly describe any Reclamation involvement with the development of costs and/or schedules.

3) Identify whether additional monetary, property or in-kind contributions have been pledged by or will be needed from third parties.

4) Identify any government permits or third-party approvals (e.g., permission from adjoining property owners) needed before the proposed project or activity can be implemented, and indicate which, if any, have been secured at the time of application.

5) Briefly describe:
   a) Any actions or costs associated with operating and maintaining the proposed project or activity after completion; and
   b) The source of funds to pay for such actions and costs.

6) To the extent relevant and necessary, briefly describe any actions taken to identify, or planned to respond to, the reasonably foreseeable adverse impacts climate change could have on the proposed project or activity and/or the benefits it is intended to provide.

7) To the extent relevant and necessary, briefly describe any actions by third-parties needed to ensure the long-term sustainability of the project or activity (e.g., removal of invasive species on neighboring property or measures needed to prevent their spread).

8) Describe or attach the tribe’s or tribal organization’s project-implementation plan.

9) To the extent relevant and appropriate, briefly describe any steps that will be taken to identify as well as protect or restore important environmental and cultural resources.

E.1.3. Evaluation Criterion C—Capability (30 points)

Reclamation will evaluate the extent to which the proposal demonstrates the tribe or tribal organization, working through in-house experts or external contractors or consultants, is capable of completing the project or activity within the specified scope, schedule and budget.

1) Indicate whether the proposed project or activity will be executed, managed and/or overseen by the tribe's or tribal organization's employees, outside contractors, or a combination of the two.

2) Briefly describe any past experience the tribe, tribal organization, or outside contractors have managing similar projects or activities.

3) Identify staff with appropriate technical and project management expertise and describe their qualifications and roles in the proposed project or activity. Describe any plans to request additional technical assistance from Reclamation or by contract. For contracted activities, describe the procurement standards that will be used to select successful contractors.

E.2. Review and Selection Process

The Federal government reserves the right to reject any and all applications which do not meet the requirements of this FOA or are outside the scope of the Technical Assistance Program. Awards will be made for projects most advantageous to the Government. Award selection may be made to maintain balance among the eligible projects listed in this FOA or to ensure balance among the Regions. The evaluation process will be comprised of the steps described in the following subsections.

E.2.1. Initial Screening

All application packages will be screened to ensure that:

- The applicant meets the eligibility requirements stated in this FOA.

- The applicant meets the unique entity identifier and SAM registration requirements stated in this FOA (this may be completed up to 30 days after the application is submitted).

- The application meets the content requirements of the FOA package, including submission of technical and budget proposals and related forms.

- The application contains a properly executed SF-424 Application for Financial Assistance, SF-424A Budget Non-Construction Programs or SF-

424C Budget Construction Programs and form SF-424B Assurances Non-Construction Programs, or SF-424D Assurances Construction Programs.

Reclamation reserves the right to remove an application from funding consideration if it does not pass all Initial Screening criteria listed above. An applicant that has submitted an application that is determined to be ineligible for funding will be notified along with other applicants, or sooner, if possible

E.2.2. Application Review Committee

Evaluation criteria will comprise the total evaluation weight as stated in Section E.1. *Evaluation Criteria.* Applications will be scored against the evaluation criteria by an Application Review Committee (ARC), made up of Regional Native American Affairs program managers from across Reclamation. The ARC will also review the application to ensure that the proposed project meets the description of eligible projects and meets the objective of this FOA.

During ARC review, Reclamation may contact applicants to request clarifications to the information provided, if necessary.

E.2.3. Red-Flag Review

Following the results of the ARC review, Reclamation offices will review the applications and will identify any reasons why a proposed project would not be feasible or otherwise advisable, including environmental or cultural resources compliance issues, permitting issues, legal issues, or financial position. Positive or negative past performance by the applicant and any partners in previous working relationships with Reclamation may be considered, including whether the applicant is making significant progress toward the completion of outstanding financial assistance agreements and whether the applicant is in compliance with all reporting requirements associated with previously funded projects.

In addition, during this review Reclamation will address any specific concerns or questions raised by members of the ARC and conduct a preliminary budget review.

E.2.4. Managerial Review

Reclamation management will prioritize projects to ensure the total amount of all awards does not exceed available funding levels. Management will also ensure that all projects meet the scope, priorities, requirements and objectives of this FOA. Management may also prioritize projects to ensure that multiple project types are represented.

E.2.5. Pre-Award Clearances and Approvals

After completion of the Managerial Review, Reclamation will notify applicants whose proposals have been selected for award consideration and will forward their applications to the appropriate Reclamation Region or Area Office for completion of environmental compliance as well as negotiation and award of the financial assistance agreement.

The following pre-award clearances and approvals must be obtained before an award of funding is made. If the results of these pre-award reviews and clearances are satisfactory, the award of funding will be made once the agreement is finalized (approximately one to three months from the date of initial selection). If the results of pre-award reviews and clearances are unsatisfactory, consideration of funding for the project may be withdrawn.

E.2.5.1 Environmental Review

Reclamation will forward all proposals selected for award consideration to the appropriate Reclamation Regional or Area Office for completion of environmental compliance. To the extent possible, environmental compliance will be completed before a financial assistance agreement is signed by the parties. However, in most cases, the award will be made contingent on completion of environmental compliance. The financial assistance agreement will describe how compliance will be carried out and how the costs will be paid. Ground disturbing activities may not occur until this second level of environmental analysis is completed.

E.2.5.2 Budget Analysis and Business Evaluation

A Reclamation Grants Officer will also conduct a detailed budget analysis and complete a business evaluation and responsibility determination. During this evaluation, the Grants Officer will consider several factors that are important, but not quantified, such as:

- Allowability, allocability, and reasonableness of proposed costs
- Financial strength and stability of the applicant
- Past performance, including satisfactory compliance with all terms and conditions of previous awards, such as environmental compliance issues, reporting requirements, proper procurement of supplies and services, and audit compliance
- Adequacy of personnel practices, procurement procedures, and accounting policies and procedures, as established by applicable Office of Management and Budget circulars

E.3. Federal Award Performance Integrity Information System

Prior to making an award with a Federal total estimated amount greater than $150,000, Reclamation is required to review and consider any information about the applicant that is in the designated integrity and performance system accessible through SAM (currently Federal Award Performance Integrity Information System [FAPIIS]) (see 41 United States Code [U.S.C.] §2313). An applicant, at its option, may review information in the designated integrity and performance systems accessible through SAM and comment on any information about itself that a Federal awarding agency previously entered and is currently in the designated integrity and performance system accessible through SAM. Reclamation will consider any comments by the applicant, in addition to the other information in FAPIIS, in making a judgment about the applicant's integrity, business ethics, and record of performance under Federal awards when completing the review of risk posed by applicants as described in 2 CFR §200.205 Federal awarding agency review of risk posed by applicants.

E.4. Award Date

Reclamation expects to contact potential award recipients and unsuccessful applicants in March 2018 or slightly later if necessary. Within one to three months after that date, financial assistance agreements will be awarded to applicants that successfully pass all pre-award reviews and clearances.

Section F: Federal Award Administration Information

F.1. Federal Award Notices

Successful applicants will receive by electronic mail, a notice of selection signed by the Program Manager, Native American and International Affairs Office. ***This notice is not an authorization to begin performance.***

F.2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

F.2.1. Environmental and Cultural Resources Compliance

All projects being considered for award funding will require compliance with the NEPA before any ground-disturbing activity may begin. Compliance with all applicable state, Federal and local environmental, cultural, and paleontological resource protection laws and regulations is also required. These may include, but are not limited to, CWA, ESA, NHPA, consultation with potentially affected tribes, and consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office.

Reclamation will be the lead Federal agency for NEPA compliance and will be responsible for evaluating technical information and ensuring that natural resources, cultural, and socioeconomic concerns are appropriately addressed. As the lead agency, Reclamation is solely responsible for determining the appropriate level of NEPA compliance. Further, Reclamation is responsible to ensure that findings under NEPA, and consultations, as appropriate, will support Reclamation's decision on whether to fund a project. Environmental and cultural resources compliance costs are considered project costs. These costs will be considered in the selection of applications.

Under no circumstances may an applicant begin any ground-disturbing activities (e.g., grading, clearing, and other preliminary activities) on a project before environmental and cultural resources compliance is complete and Reclamation explicitly authorizes work to proceed. Reclamation will provide a successful applicant with information once such compliance is complete. An applicant that proceeds before environmental and cultural resources compliance is complete may risk forfeiting Reclamation funding under this FOA.

F.2.2. Approvals and Permits

Recipients shall adhere to Federal, state, territorial, tribal, and local laws, regulations, and codes, as applicable, and shall obtain all required approvals and permits. Recipients shall also coordinate and obtain approvals from site owners and operators.

F.3. Reporting Requirements and Distribution

Recipients of awards made under this FOA will be required to submit the following reports during the term of the agreement. The specific terms and conditions pertaining to the reporting requirements will be included in the financial assistance agreement.

F.3.1. Financial Reports

Recipients will be required to submit a fully completed form SF-425 Federal Financial Report on at least a semi-annual basis and with the final performance report. The SF-425 must be signed by a person legally authorized to obligate the recipient.

F.3.2. Interim Performance Reports

Recipients will be required to submit interim performance reports on at least a semi-annual basis. At a minimum, each interim performance report must include the following information:

- A comparison of actual accomplishments to the milestones established by the financial assistance agreement for the period
- The reasons why established milestones were not met, if applicable
- The status of milestones from the previous reporting period that were not met, if applicable
- Whether the project is on schedule and within the original cost estimate
- Any additional pertinent information or issues related to the status of the project

F.3.3. Final Performance Report

Recipients will be required to submit a final performance report encompassing the entire period of performance. The final performance report must include, but is not limited to, the following information:

- Whether the project objectives and goals were met
- Discussion of the benefits achieved by the project, including information and/or calculations supporting the benefits
- How the project met the objectives of the tribe or tribal organization
- Photographs documenting the project, if available (including citation for photographer, photo content, and location)

F.4. Releasing Applications

Following awards of funding, Reclamation may post all successful applications on the Reclamation website after conducting any redactions determined necessary by Reclamation, in consultation with the recipient.

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Section G: Agency Contacts

There will be no pre-application conference. Organizations or individuals interested in submitting applications in response to this FOA may direct questions to the Reclamation personnel identified below.

G.1. Reclamation Financial Assistance Contact

Questions regarding application and submission information and award administration may be submitted to the attention of Darren Olson, Grants Management Specialist, as follows:

By mail: Bureau of Reclamation
Financial Assistance Support Section
Attn: Darren Olson
P.O. Box 25007, Mail Code: 84-27814
Denver, CO 80225

By email: dolson@usbr.gov

By phone: (303) 445-3697

G.2. Reclamation Regional Technical Assistance Program Contacts

Questions regarding applicant and project eligibility and the application review process may be submitted to the attention of the appropriate Regional point of contact identified below. Indian tribes and tribal organizations that are interested in submitting an application in response to this FOA, or learning more about the other forms of technical assistance that Reclamation provides to tribes and tribal organizations, should also direct questions to the appropriate regional point of contact. A list of the tribes located in each Region can be found by cutting and pasting the links below into your browser.

Pacific Northwest Region

By mail: Matt Howard, Regional Native American Affairs Coordinator
Pacific Northwest Regional Office
1150 North Curtis Road
Boise, Idaho 83706-1234

By email: mhoward@usbr.gov

By phone: (208) 378-5003

List of tribes in the Pacific Northwest region:
www.usbr.gov/native/regions/pn/Pacific%20Northwest%20Region%20Indian%20Tribes.pdf

Mid-Pacific Region

By mail: Kevin Clancy, Native American Affairs Program Manager
Mid-Pacific Regional Office
Federal Office Building
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento CA 95825-1898

By email: kclancy@usbr.gov

By phone: (916) 978-5194

List of tribes in the Mid-Pacific region:
www.usbr.gov/native/regions/mp/Mid-Pacific%20Region%20Tribes.pdf

Lower Colorado Region

By mail: Pam Adams, Native American Affairs Program Manager
Boulder Canyon Operations Office
P.O. Box 61470
Boulder City, NV 89006-1470 --or--
500 Fir Street
Boulder City, NV 89005-2403

By email: padams@usbr.gov

By phone: (702) 293-8501

List of tribes in the Lower Colorado region:
www.usbr.gov/native/regions/lc/Lower%20Colorado%20Region%20Tribes.pdf?region=LC%20

Upper Colorado Region

By mail: Brian Parry, Native American Affairs Program Manager
Upper Colorado Regional Office
125 South State Street, Room 6107
Salt Lake City, UT 84138-1102

By email: bparry@usbr.gov

By phone: (801) 524-3674

List of tribes in the Upper Colorado region:
www.usbr.gov/native/regions/uc/Upper%20Colorado%20Region%20Indian%20Tribes.pdf

Great Plains Region

By mail: Douglas Davis, Native American Affairs Specialist
Great Plains Regional Office
2021 4th Avenue North
Billings, MT 59101 -- or --
P.O. Box 36900
Billings, MT 59107-6900

By email: douglasdavis@usbr.gov

By phone: (406) 247-7710

List of tribes in the Great Plains region:
www.usbr.gov/native/regions/gp/Great%20Plains%20Region%20Tribes.pdf