

Otter Creek Basin Water Quality Council Project Scoring Policy
Adopted July 23, 2025

Overview

Cost Effectiveness of Phosphorus Reduction - 65 points

Likelihood of Success - 15 points

Co-Benefits - 20 points

Total = 100 points

Cost Effectiveness of Phosphorus Reduction

DEC Formula Grant Cost Efficiency 2025 (FGCE) = \$13,149

Ratio to FCGE	Dollars/kg FY25	Score
0.50	\$6,574.50	65
0.75	\$9,861.75	60
1.00	\$13,149.00	55
1.50	\$19,723.50	50
2.00	\$26,298.00	45
3.00	\$39,447.00	35
4.00	\$52,596.00	25
5.00	\$65,745.00	15
6.00	\$78,894.00	5

Projects with a P reduction efficiency more than 6x the DEC Formula Grant Cost Efficiency will not be considered for full funding from the BWQC. Such projects may be considered if other funds are available so that the CWSPs investment decreases below 6x FCGE per P reduction credit the CWSP receives.

Note: the DEC Formula Grant Cost Efficiency is expected to change for FY26.

Likelihood of Success

Likelihood of Success means the chance that a proposed project will result in the CWSP receiving credit for the amount of Phosphorus reduction identified in the application. Projects in an early stage of development have, by definition, a lower likelihood of success. The following maximum scores are based on project stage:

- Preliminary Design - 4
- Final Design - 8
- Implementation - 15

The BWQC or CWSP may further reduce scores based on consideration of project complexity, prior investment in project development, permitting challenges, questions about project

methods, track record of the project implementer, demonstrated willingness of landowner or applicant to undertake maintenance, completeness and clarity of the application, or other factors identified by the CWSP or BWQC.

Co-Benefits

- Ecosystem Improvement. Score one point for each of the following potential improvements (max. 6)
 - Water supply
 - Carbon sequestration
 - Reduced runoff/erosion/sediment
 - Habitat restoration/improved connectivity
 - Promotes native species/removes invasive species
 - Protects RTEs
 - Protects significant natural communities
 - Promotes biodiversity
- Flood Resilience/Hazard Mitigation (max. 3)
 - Minor reduction - 1 point
 - Moderate reduction - 2 points
 - Significant reduction - 3 points
- Education (max. 3)
 - Ephemeral education products (pamphlets, web site, etc.) - 1 point
 - Short term public event(s) associated with project - 2 points
 - Long term embedded interaction with public - 3 points
- Local Pollution Control. Score one point for pollutants other than phosphorus that will be addressed (max. 3). Examples:
 - Nitrogen
 - Pathogens
 - Heavy metals
 - Microplastics
- Other Environmental Benefits (max. 5)
 - Recreation. Up to one point each for:
 - Public accessibility
 - Improved green space
 - Urban tree canopy
 - Environmental Justice. Project serves a disadvantaged community.
 - Community Support.
 - Vague reference to project in a local or regional plan (1 point)
 - Clear identification of project in a local or regional plan (2 points)
 - Other. Must be clearly defined by applicant