

## **FY2025 Agricultural Water Conservation Request for Application Questions**

- We are proposing to generate field-level irrigation maps and estimate water use for Texas. While working on the proposal, I am curious whether we could use TWDB's water use data to train and validate our models.
  - Yes, TWDB data would be made available.
- Proposal Page Limit: Is there a specific page limit for the proposal? If so, does this limit include figures, tables, and references, or are these elements excluded from the total page count?
  - No limit but should only answer the questions. No need to have an excessively long application.
- Project Duration: The application does not specify the expected duration of the project. Is there a defined timeframe for project completion, or is the duration flexible based on the proposed work plan?
  - Projects are typically 3-5 years but not fixed.
- Category 2 Geographic Scope: In the previous webinar, it was mentioned that proposals under Category 2 should cover the entire state of Texas. However, the application instructions (Section II: Project Information) request a map of the geographic area where the applicant is authorized to conduct the proposed conservation program or project. Could you clarify whether Category 2 proposals must encompass all of Texas, or if a smaller area, such as a group of counties, would be acceptable?
  - All of Texas.
- Field Boundary Data (2023-2027 and Prior Years): The RFA states that proposals should provide field boundary data for 2023-2027 and "three years prior to be determined." This wording seems to suggest that the project duration might be expected to be three years. Could you explicitly confirm whether the intended project duration is indeed three years? If the project duration is shorter (e.g., one year starting in 2026), would boundary data for 2027 need to be projected or estimated? Additionally, could you clarify whether "three years prior to be determined" refers to the period from 2020 to 2022?
  - Projects are typically 3-5 years but not fixed. "Three years prior" are to be determined upon selection to exemplify years of interest such as drought.
- I guess TWDB has both field-level metering data and water district-scale water use statistics, right?
  - Yes.
- Asking about the 1.5 million agriculture grant please send application to XXXX. Can citizens get it? For water conservation fund
  - Sorry not available to individuals to apply. Please see information here. Thank you for your interest.  
<https://www.twdb.texas.gov/financial/programs/AWCG/index.asp>

- Do you want all submitted application materials to be in one (1) PDF document or can the documents be organized in segments (e.g., application forms, attachments, etc.) and submitted in multiple files attached to one email?
  - One PDF.
- When would TWDB need the field boundaries and other deliverables in order to apply those products to the current (or next) water planning cycle? I know we are in the middle of a water planning cycle now but I do not have a good conception of when in the process TWDB would need these products in order to use them. I could see where it might be possible to use them in this planning cycle (if they are not needed until late enough in the process) or that it might have to wait for the next cycle (because they would be needed too soon in the current cycle).
  - We produce the irrigation estimates annually so with or without field boundaries we still produce an estimate. Once we have field boundaries we will use them to improve our existing methodology. As the years progress, becoming more reliant on the field boundary data and remote sensing approach. We just finished 2022 estimates and start work on 2023 irrigation estimates next month.
- Would like to confirm if there are any indirect cost rate (IDC) requirements for subcontractors from institutions outside of Texas. Should we apply the same IDC rate (0%) as required for Texas agencies?
  - Yes
- Budget Cap: Is formal approval required if the total budget exceeds \$250,000?
  - There is no budget cap.
- Subcontractor Budget Limit: Does TWDB have any restrictions regarding the subcontractor's portion of the budget? For instance, some funders mandate that subcontractors' budgets should not exceed 50% of the total.
  - We are unaware of any such limit.
- If irrigation districts apply for funding under this grant program, can they distribute money to growers or does the grant funding need to go for district infrastructure as opposed to grower irrigation systems?
  - Yes the money can go to growers through reimbursement depending on the project
- If he is permitted to submit a second application as well, so he would be the lead PI on two different projects/applications for the same submission cycle. Is this allowed?
  - The RFA and application instructions do not call out a limit on application submissions. Note in the application instructions, " Identification of technical staff with the expertise needed to carry out this project, including: their name(s) and qualifications, and an estimate of what percentage of their time will be attributed to this project". As for all applications, this should be included.
- Can we see the abstracts of awarded grants or final reports? To be competitive we would like to know the scope of work that has been awarded. That should be in an abstract or a report

- The final reports for those awarded grants which have final reports required, have reached project completion dates, and have had their final reports accepted, are hyperlinked on this page: <https://www.twdb.texas.gov/financial/programs/awcg/index.asp>. Scroll towards the bottom of the page and the contract numbers which are hyperlinked, a final report is available for viewing.
- Is it possible to submit one proposal covering both categories 1 and 2?
  - One application cannot cover both categories. You are welcome to put in an application for both categories, though.

See webinars for questions asked during live webinars.

<https://www.twdb.texas.gov/financial/programs/AWCG/index.asp>