



Memphremagog Basin Water Quality Council

November 2nd, 2023



Meeting Agenda - REVISED

- 9:00 Welcome & review agenda
- 9:05 Roundtable introductions
- 9:10 Public Comment
- 9:15 MWA Alternate Designation (ACTION)
- 9:20 Review and adoption of 9.14.23 BWQC minutes (ACTION)
- 9:25 CWSP Program Updates
- 9:35 Presentation and Discussion of Project Applications
- 10:30 Project Prioritization & Selection by BWQC (Action)
- 10:45 Project Pipeline Updates
- 10:50 Project Manager & Subcontractor RFQ's
- 10:55 2024 Project Solicitation & Selection Schedule
- 11:00 Adjourn

Memphremagog BWQC - Conflict of Interest Policy

Excerpt on voting in “Member’s Code of Conduct & Conflict of Interest Policy” adopted at the 9/14/23 BWQC meeting

BWQC Voting

A conflict of interest also occurs when a BWQC member stands to receive a financial benefit from a matter under discussion/vote – for example, when the BWQC members’ organization has proposed a project for advancement/funding/approval by the BWQC, which will result in funding being given by the CWSP to that members’ organization (whether or not that member stands to personally receive funding for work on that project).

A conflict also exists when the BWQC member has a personal or familial interest that may be substantially affected by a project under discussion/vote by the BWQC or may benefit personally or privately from the outcome of a decision.

Any BWQC member so conflicted will recuse themselves from the relevant BWQC discussion and decision, although the BWQC member may answer questions about a project if so asked by the BWQC. If a BWQC votes on a slate of projects, where a member is conflicted on one or more of the projects, the member shall be conflicted for the entire slate of projects that is voted on. If the BWQC takes separate votes on each project, such that the outcome of one vote is not contingent upon, or impacted by the outcome of other votes, then a conflict of interest held by a BWQC member shall only affect the vote or votes to which that conflict pertains.

No BWQC member shall share details of grant applications or project proposals prior to and through BWQC voting on the underlying project in a way that conveys an unfair advantage to any party.

Project Evaluation and Selection Process

- Cost effectiveness (cost per KG of Phosphorus reduced) is key metric in selecting projects for funding
- Average cost per KG reduction is \$12,500 in Basin 17
- P reduction efficiency is 60% of score, Co-Benefits are 20%, and Other Factors (Project risk, Design Life/O&M, Basin Plan priorities) are another 20 points
- Act on Development (ID/Assessment) projects apart from Design/Implementation projects
- Need for any co-benefit score adjustments?

Project Scoring

Factor	Points	Description
P-reduction efficiency	60	Standardized DEC calculation: Ratio of proposed cost to overall p-reduction
Co-Benefits	20	Co-benefits scoring matrix
Project risk	8	Landowner relations, organizational capacity (4 points each)
Design Life, O&M	8	Sliding scale: For projects with > 15 years (4 points each)
Conformance with Basin Plan	4	Tactical Basin Plan priorities

Co-Benefits Scoring	
Environmental Justice Prioritizes vulnerable communities; Engages community stakeholders; Honors traditional ecological knowledge; Improves access to clean water and food; Protects sacred resources and indigenous land	(0-3 points)
Key Pollutants Other Than Phosphorus Nitrogen; road salts; microplastics/plastics; Sediments; Heavy metals; Pathogens Sewage/wastewater; Contaminants of emerging concern	(0-3 points)
Ecosystem Improvement/ Services and Climate Resiliency Flood resiliency and hazard mitigation; Reduced runoff and erosion; Carbon sequestration; Promotes biodiversity; including native pollinator species; Reduces spread of aquatic and/or terrestrial invasive species; Improves terrestrial and aquatic habitat and/or connectivity; Address high risk areas due to past environmental degradation	(0-3 points)
Recreation and Community Enhances accessibility to local natural areas; Provides or improves outdoor recreation opportunities; Protects green spaces and improves aesthetics; Enhances health and wellness; Increases tree canopy near recreational/community areas; Public/private partnership	(0-3 points)
Education Benefit Includes watershed education and awareness of environmental problems; Promotes trust among communities; scientists, and agencies; Project visibility and community outreach; Includes community volunteers	(0-3 points)
Enhances Local Economy Job creation, retention, and workforce development; Promotes sustainable energy practices; Increases property values	(0-3 points)
Other Co-Benefit Categories (different from any above)	(0-2 points)
Total Score Out of 20 points	

Project Requests/Available Funds

P Target KG	Project Funds Avail	ID/ Assessment (7%)	ID/ Assessment requested	Design/ Implementation allocation	Design/ Implementation requested	Round 1 P KG Reduction Totals
91.8	\$1,040,614	\$72,843	\$12,600	\$967,771	\$116,197	82.92

November Project Scoring

Project Name	Project Sponsor	Project Description	Project Stage	CWSP Funds Request	Total Budget	Total Project Cost	Est. Ave P Reduct (kg/yr)	Cost Effectiveness (\$/kg/yr)	P Reduction Score (Max. 60)	Other (Max. 20)	Co-Benefits Score (Max. 20)	Total Score
Beatty Riparian Buffer Planting	MWA	Planting of native shrubs in residential yard along unnamed tributary draining Hinman Settler Rd.	Implementation	\$4,970	\$4,970	\$ 4,970	0.36	\$13,707	29	17	7	53
Comes-O'Brien Floodplain/ Stream Restoration	MWA	Design of restoration project for 1,000-foot-long reach of degraded perennial stream draining Salem Hill, farms and residential properties on Hinman Settler Rd.	Preliminary & Final Design	\$18,460	\$18,960	\$ 68,960	9.75	\$7,180	38	14	7	59
Velco Property Restoration and Gully Stabilization	MWA	Design for restoration actions to reduce sediment, slow water velocity, increase floodplain connectivity and floodwater storage capacity, and reduce channel erosions on a Clyde River tributary.	Preliminary & Final Design	\$7,967	\$8,717	\$ 38,717	12.76	\$3,034	50	12	6	68
Valley Brook Restoration Phase 2	MWA	Finalize project development and complete 60% designs for up to 5 culvert upgrades and restoration of adjacent stream/floodplain areas on Valley Brook property, and riparian plantings.	Final Design & Implementation	\$72,900	\$72,900	\$772,900	42.45	\$18,207	25	15	10	50
Palin Farm Road Stream Channel Restoration	OCNRCD	Design for multi-faceted restoration project on jurisdictional farm.	Final Design	\$11,900	\$11,900	\$ 80,000	17.6	\$4,545	45	12	3	60
Lacross Farm	OCNRCD	Evaluation of two alternatives and set the basis for design	Project ID & Development	\$12,600	\$12,800	TBD	8.78	TBD				

2024 Project BWQC Schedule

- 2024 Project Rounds
 - January/February, April/May and August/September
- BWQC Meetings:
 - January - Lessons learned, BWQC policies/procedures
 - March - Project Selection
 - June - Project Selection
 - September - Election of officers, non-project presentations
 - November - Project Selection
 - December - 2024 Recap, non-project presentations