

567—90.13(455B) NPS project procedures—stormwater linked-deposit program. The purpose of this program is to assist private landowners with the construction of stormwater BMPs that will provide water quality improvement or protection.

90.13(1) *Eligibility conditions and restrictions.* Assistance under the CWSRF shall be in the form of low-interest loans made by participating lending institutions through a linked deposit arrangement with the CWSRF.

a. Eligible project costs. The amount of assistance available shall be limited to the total costs deemed necessary, reasonable, and directly related to the practices required to provide water quality improvements.

b. Applicant eligibility. Assistance is available to any person who is an owner of record or has legal control over land that needs stormwater BMPs installed to control runoff of sediments, nutrients, pesticides, or other NPS pollutants.

c. Eligible practices. Eligible practices include but are not limited to grade stabilization structure, grassed waterway, stormwater wetland, native landscaping, soil quality restoration, riparian forest and vegetative buffers, sediment basin, underground outlet with water quality treatment, stream bank stabilization, bioretention cell, greenroof, and other practices that are shown to improve or protect water quality.

90.13(2) *Applying for assistance.* Application for project approval shall be made on forms provided by the department or its agent. Forms may be downloaded from www.iowasrf.com.

90.13(3) *Project review and approval.*

a. Applications shall be submitted to the local SWCD. The local SWCD will evaluate the application, provide an estimated cost, and certify that the practice is compatible with state water quality goals.

b. It is recommended that all practices be constructed to meet Iowa Stormwater Management Manual or NRCS standards and specifications as posted on the department's website at www.iowadnr.gov and the NRCS website at www.nrcs.usda.gov, respectively, as of September 1, 2024. The NRCS or another technical service provider shall attest that the practice is designed to these specifications and standards, or shall attest that the practice is based on these standards and designed with sound engineering principles.

90.13(4) *Project duration.* The project is to be maintained, kept in place or operated as proposed for the life span of the practice, but in no case for less than the life of the loan.

90.13(5) *Eligible costs.* All costs directly related to and necessary for the implementation of the stormwater BMP approved in the memorandum of project approval are eligible costs.

90.13(6) *Ineligible costs.* Ineligible costs include costs for overbuilding a practice beyond what is required to maintain or improve water quality and costs for the purchase of land.

90.13(7) *Site access.* The applicant shall provide the department or its agent access to the project site to verify that the loan was used for the purpose intended.

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