RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

Funding Opportunity Announcement

R10SF40008

Colorado River Basinwide

Salinity Control Program

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Acronyms

ACH	Automated Clearinghouse
ARC	Application Review Committee
ASAP	Automated Standard Application for Payments
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CRBSCP	Colorado River Basinwide Salinity Control Program
D & B	Dun and Bradstreet
DUNS	Data Universal Numbering System
EFT	Electronic Funds Transfer
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
EQIP	Environmental Quality Incentives Program
FOA	Funding Opportunity Announcement
FY	Fiscal Year
GAO	General Accounting Office
GO	Grants Officer
GOTR	Grants Officer Technical Representative
HRP	Habitat Replacement Plan
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NRCS	National Resource Conservation Service
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
Reclamation	Bureau of Reclamation
SF	Standard Form
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
USGS	United States Geological Survey

SECTION A - DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES

A.1 PURPOSE AND DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES

The Bureau of Reclamation, Upper Colorado Region (Reclamation), is requesting applications for salinity control projects that reduce salinity contributions to the Colorado River system. Such applications may consist of projects to reduce salinity contributions originating from saline springs, leaking wells, irrigation sources, municipal and industrial sources, erosion of public and private land, or other sources.

All irrigation related applications are to be for off-farm delivery systems only. **No joint or integrated project applications will be accepted.** Joint or integrated projects are those that include costs and tons of salt from on-farm salinity measures that would be funded by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) or Basin States Program. Projects that enable on-farm work may be given a higher rating as detailed in Section C.

All salinity projects are required to replace incidental wildlife habitat losses concurrent with construction of salinity features, and maintain for the life of the project.

The FOA Submittal Process Flowchart located at the end of the FOA may be useful in preparing an application for submittal.

Applications will be evaluated and ranked by an application review committee (ARC) using the Evaluation Criteria described in Section C. As stated in Section C preference will be given to applications for projects that:

1. control over 1,000 tons of salt loading per year
2. will be completed in five years or less, and,
3. total funding being requested from Reclamation for the project is no more than $6 million.

Starting with those applications with the highest ranking, awards will be made until the anticipated available funding for the next two to three years has been awarded. Awarded projects are funded each year based on the appropriations received and the priorities of date of award and ranking order. Generally, awarded projects should plan on receiving funding each year of no more than $2 million.

A.2 WORKSHOPS

Workshops will be held by Reclamation, **in Grand Junction, Colorado and in Provo, Utah** to help applicants understand the requirements of the FOA and to answers questions regarding the FOA. If there are any questions regarding the workshops please contact the appropriate local Technical Contact listed in Section D.

September 21, 2010 1:00pm
Bureau of Reclamation
2764 Compass Drive
Grand Junction, CO 81506
Phone: 970-248-0600

September 22, 2010 1:00pm
Bureau of Reclamation
302 East 1860 South
Provo, UT 84606
Phone: 801-379-1000

A.3 PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The objective of the salinity control program is to minimize salt loading in the Colorado River System. Historically, total annual salt loading to the Colorado River has been approximately 9 million tons. About one half of the present salt load can be attributed to natural sources such as erosion of lands and saline springs. The remainder of the salt load is human-induced, originating from irrigation practices and municipal and industrial sources. Quantified economic damages resulting from this salt loading and the concentrating effects due to the consumptive use of water are estimated to be more than $350 million annually. These impacts accrue mainly to municipal, industrial, and agricultural water users in the Lower Basin of the Colorado River.

A.4 AUTHORITIES

In June 1974, Congress enacted the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Act, Public Law 93-320 (Salinity Control Act), which directed the Secretary of the Interior to proceed with a program to enhance and protect the quality of water available in the Colorado River for use in the United States and Republic of Mexico. In 1975 the Environmental Protection Agency approved water quality standards developed by the seven Colorado River Basin States in response to the Federal Water Pollution Control Act. The standards included numeric criteria for three stations on the mainstem of the lower Colorado River - below Hoover Dam, below Parker Dam, and at Imperial Dam - and a Plan of Implementation to control salinity increases.

Public Law 104-20 of July 28, 1995, amended the Salinity Control Act, and authorizes the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Reclamation, to implement a basinwide salinity control program (Basinwide Program). The Secretary may carry out the purposes of this legislation directly, or make grants, enter into contracts, memoranda of agreement, commitments for grants, cooperative agreements, or advances of funds to non-Federal entities under such terms and conditions as the Secretary may require.

The appropriate agreement mechanism will be determined on a case-by-case basis (i.e., grant or cooperative agreement). Throughout the remainder of this document the generic term "agreement" is used to describe the agreement mechanism.

The 1984 amendments to the Salinity Control Act authorized the USDA-NRCS and BLM to participate in the salinity control program. Although integrated with Reclamation's work, both of these agencies have their own authorities to implement their respective programs. For example, the NRCS Salinity Control Program is responsible for on-farm irrigation improvements and rangeland improvements on private lands. BLM is responsible for the rangeland management program on BLM lands. EPA and the seven Colorado River Basin States administer a pollution discharge permitting program that sets point source discharge standards for salinity and provides financial assistance for publicly owned treatment works.

A.5 NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT COMPLIANCE

All awarded agreements will require compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and with the Council on Environmental Quality and Department of Interior regulations implementing NEPA, before federal funds can be committed for a project (except where such funds are used for planning, environmental analysis and compliance, or project design). 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, the Clean Water Act, the Endangered Species Act, consultation with potentially affected tribes, and consultation with the State

Historic Preservation Office.

Reclamation is the lead Federal agency for NEPA compliance for this FOA. Reclamation will be responsible for evaluating technical information and ensuring that environmental, cultural, and socioeconomic concerns are addressed. As the lead agency, Reclamation is solely responsible for determining, in compliance with the applicable NEPA regulations cited above, the appropriate level of NEPA compliance which could be a categorical exclusion checklist, environmental assessment, or environmental impact statement. Findings of NEPA compliance must be acceptable to Reclamation in order for the project to be initiated. Environmental compliance costs must be included in the cost estimate in each application.

A.6 RECLAMATION ASSISTANCE

Reclamation assistance may be provided to the project sponsor in implementing the project when requested to do so and it is in the best interest of the Government. The cost of this assistance shall be considered a project cost and must be included in the cost estimate in each application.

Reclamation may, at its own discretion, provide direct assistance to the project sponsor when the proposed project has other associated indirect benefits of Federal interest (i.e., other water quality or environmental benefits). The cost of this assistance will not be considered a project cost.

A.7 SALT LOAD REDUCTION ESTIMATES FOR PROPOSED PROJECTS

A.7.A IRRIGATION-RELATED PROJECTS

All irrigation related applications must obtain salt load reduction estimates prior to submission of the application. The salt load reduction estimates will be provided in a letter by Reclamation's Upper Colorado Regional Office. The salt load reduction estimates will be determined from Reclamation, NRCS, or USGS salinity studies of agricultural areas. These estimates will only be provided for agricultural areas where a completed study is available. Reclamation does not have the capability to provide salt load reduction estimates for agricultural areas where Reclamation, NRCS, or USGS salinity studies have not been completed. See Section B.3.A.1 for further information on obtaining a salt load reduction estimate for the application.

Salt load reduction estimates may be available for the following agricultural areas. Check with the appropriate local Reclamation technical contact for the availability of salt load reduction estimates in each area (also see Figure A.1: Irrigation Related Project Areas):

Colorado:

- Grand Valley Unit which includes the majority of the Grand Valley in the vicinity of Grand Junction, Colorado with the exception of the Redlands area
- Lower Gunnison Basin Unit, Colorado including:
    - Uncompahgre Project area in the vicinity of the cities of Montrose and Delta
    - selected drainages tributary to the North Fork and the Smith Fork of the Gunnison River
- McElmo Creek Unit, which includes agricultural lands within the McElmo Creek and Navajo Wash basins in southwestern Colorado
- Mancos Valley, which includes agricultural lands within the Mancos River basin in southwestern Colorado
- De Beque study area, which is located near the town of De Beque, Colorado and includes agricultural lands located along the Colorado River corridor and along portions of Roan Creek

- Whitewater and Kannah Creeks study area, which is adjacent to the lower Gunnison River near the town of Whitewater, Colorado and includes agricultural lands located in lowland mesas and stream valleys of Whitewater, Kannah, and Callow Creek

New Mexico:
- Navajo Portion of the San Juan Unit (New Mexico) including the Hogback, Fruitland, and Gadii'ahi projects.

Utah:
- Price-San Rafael Rivers Unit, which includes agricultural lands within the Price and San Rafael River basins in east-central Utah.
- Uinta Basin study areas including Ashley Valley, Utah
- Muddy Creek Unit, which is near the town of Emery, Utah and includes agricultural lands located in the Muddy Creek watershed north of Interstate 70
- Manila-Washam project area, which is located near the towns of Manila, Utah and Washam, Wyoming and includes agricultural lands within Lucerne Valley, South Valley, Antelope Hollow, Green River and along Henry's Fork
- Green River project area, which includes agricultural lands located near the town of Green River, Utah

Wyoming:
- Big Sandy River near the towns of Farson and Eden, Wyoming, including agricultural lands served by the Eden Project.
- West Blacks Fork which includes agricultural lands along the Blacks Fork River upstream of its confluence with the Smith Fork River and near the towns of Fort Bridger and Lyman, Wyoming

If the proposed project does not fall within one of these previously studied areas, salt load reduction estimates cannot be provided at this time. However, if an organization has interest in pursuing the piping or lining of off-farm canals and ditches in such areas, please contact the appropriate local Technical Contact listed in Section D to discuss the possibility of future studies which could lead to participation in the salinity control program.

A.7.B OTHER TYPES OF SALINITY CONTROL (NON-IRRIGATION)

Applications for other types of salinity control will be accepted for evaluation. All applications for other types of salinity control must obtain salt load reduction estimates from Reclamation prior to submission of the application. See Section B.3.B for instructions on obtaining salt load reductions estimates from Reclamation.

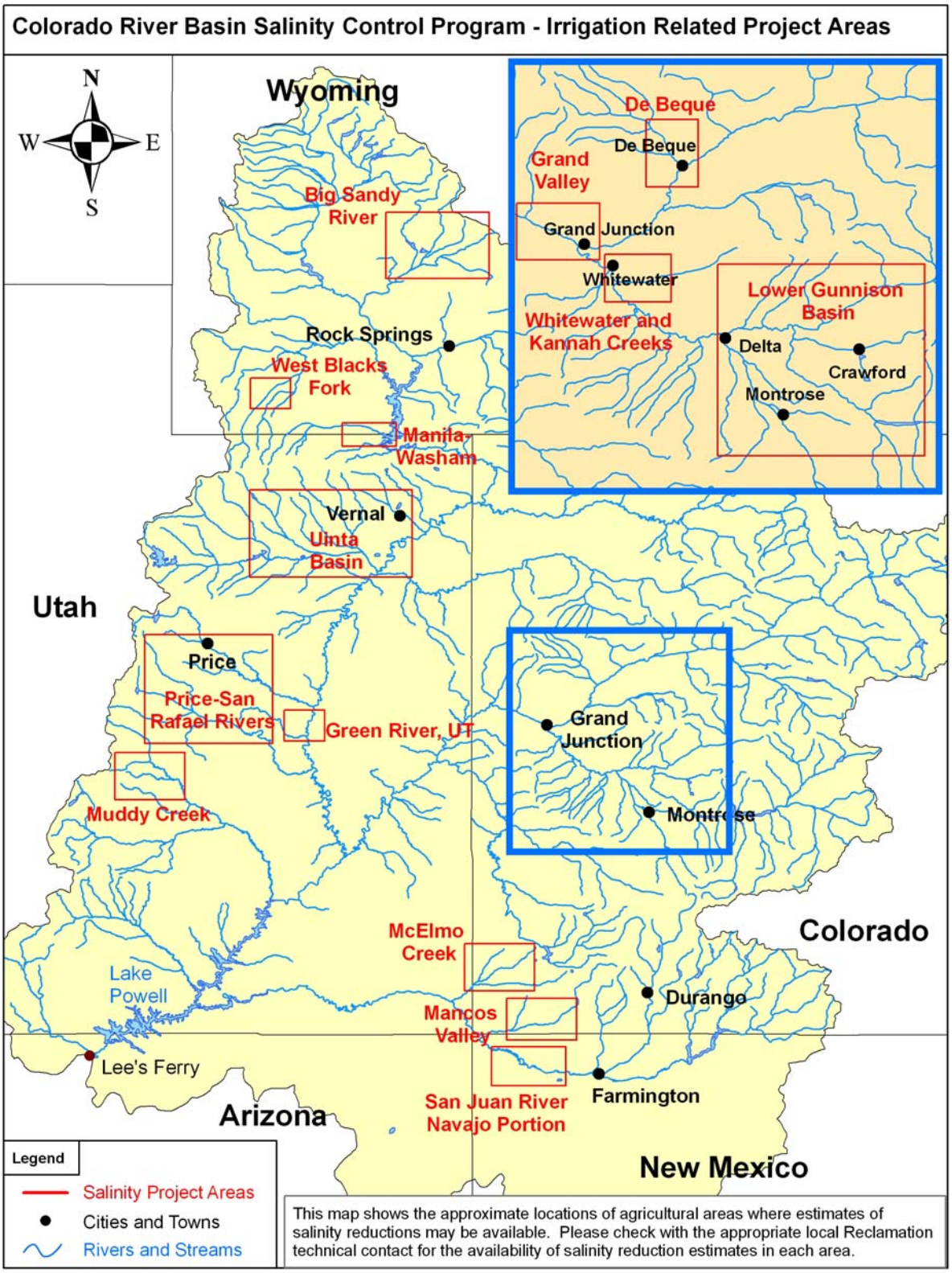

Figure A.1: Irrigation Related Project Areas

SECTION B - REQUIREMENTS, INSTRUCTIONS, AND CONDITIONS TO APPLICANTS

B.1 APPLICATION FORMAT AND LENGTH

Applications are limited to forty (40) 8 ½ X 11 inch pages, excluding required forms and appendices. Double sided pages will count as two pages. The font used shall be at least 10 point in size and easily readable. All pages shall be consecutively numbered, including pages with tables and exhibits.

B.2 APPLICATION CONTENT

The application(s) must be submitted using the required format contained in this section. All information must be entered into the response boxes provided in the application, with the exception of data tables which may be inserted in Appendix B. Any questions on the format or submission of an application should be directed to the local Technical Contact listed in Section D. An application that does not follow the required format will not be accepted. Instructions for completing each section of the application are contained within the format. Additional detailed instructions are contained in Section B.3 following the application format. An electronic version of the required application format should be downloaded from the website: http://www.usbr.gov/uc/progact/salinity. Applications using previous FOA application formats will not be accepted.

TITLE PAGE

Bureau of Reclamation
Colorado River
BASINWIDE SALINITY CONTROL PROGRAM

PROJECT NAME

PROJECT LOCATION

Applicant Name

Date

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PART I -- EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ES. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ES.1 **APPLICANT/ENTITY NAME:**
City/town, State

Response:

ES.2 **APPLICATION NAME:**

Response:

ES.4 **APPLICATION PREPARED BY:**

Response:

ES.3 **FUNDING REQUEST SUMMARY:** ***[Use * to denote an in-kind contribution]***

FUNDING SOURCE	FUNDING AMOUNT
Basinwide Program:	
Other Federal (list each source):	
Other (list each source):	
TOTAL PROJECT FUNDING:	

ES.4 **ABBREVIATED PROJECT SUMMARY:** If the project is irrigation related, include name and length of canals and laterals to be improved by piping or lining.

Response:

ES.5 **ESTIMATED SALT LOAD REDUCTION:** (See FOA Section B.3.A.1 or B.3.B as applicable)

Response:

ES.6 **ESTIMATED COST EFFECTIVENESS VALUE:**

Response:

ES.7 **CONTRACTING ENTITY MANAGER CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Name:	
Title:	
Address:	
Telephone:	
Fax:	
E-mail:	

ES.8	**PROJECT MANAGER CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Name:	
Title:	
Address:	
Telephone:	
Fax:	
E-mail:	

ES.9	**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF FOA AMENDMENTS:** Applicants shall acknowledge receipt of any amendment to this Funding Opportunity Announcement by identifying the amendment number and date.
	List Amendment No. and Date:

PART II – BACKGROUND & INFORMATION FOR SALT LOAD REDUCTION ESTIMATE

IN ORDER TO OBTAIN SALT LOAD REDUCTION ESTIMATES, PART II MUST BE INITIALLY SUBMITTED NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 1, 2010; ANY SUBSEQUENT REVISIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 17, 2010. A FINAL VERSION MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE APPLICATION NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 17, 2010

Provide a brief narrative or tabular data responding to each of the following sections that apply to the proposed salinity control project. All information must be entered into the response boxes provided in the application, with the exception of data tables which may be inserted in Appendix B. (It is important to refer to FOA Section B.3.A or B.3.B and contact the appropriate Technical Contact listed in Section D, prior to preparing the responses for this section of the application)

A.	**BACKGROUND & DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT AREA:** Describe project setting and geographic location. For irrigation-related applications, include general hydrology, geology, soils, climate (average rainfall, temperature, and growing season), water storage facilities, existing irrigation facilities (total mileage of canals & laterals and number of users), irrigated acreage, types of crops, etc.
	Response:
B.	**PROJECT MAP(S):** Attach a detailed map(s) scaled appropriately to easily identify the project area, existing facilities, and major geographic features including roads, streams, reservoirs, towns, etc. If the proposed project is irrigation related, the map should show locations of canals, laterals, and irrigated lands. Those canals or laterals proposed for improvement or abandonment under this application should be identified.
C.	**WATER RIGHTS AND SUPPLY:** Describe the water rights for both diversion and storage. Describe irrigation water supply and water shortages.
	Response:
D.	**DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED SALINITY CONTROL:** Describe proposed process or changes (in sections D.1, D.2, or D.3) anticipated by the proposed project that will lead to salt load reductions to the Colorado River system. This would include improvements to or elimination of existing facilities or operations. If the application does not contemplate changes in one of the three categories below, please indicate by entering "NA" or "Not Applicable".
D.1	**IRRIGATION DELIVERY SYSTEM (CANALS, LATERALS, DITCHES) IMPROVEMENTS:** If specific facilities are to be improved or replaced, include a detailed description of the facilities. Complete Appendix A.
	Response:
D.2	**OTHER TYPES OF SALINITY CONTROL (NON-IRRIGATION RELATED):** For desalinization, evaporation or other salinity control measures, clearly identify the salinity sources and quantify the salt (in tons/year) that will be controlled or eliminated. Include data that defines the salt loading and control in tabular format in Appendix B. Also see FOA Section B.3.B
	Response:
D.3	**NEW WATER IMPOUNDMENT STRUCTURES:** If new ponds, reservoirs, settling basins, or other water impoundment structures are to be constructed for any purpose (e.g., re-regulation, evaporation, etc.) as part of this application, address the requirements listed for the initial Part II submission in Section B.3.C. If the size of a proposed or existing water impoundment structure increases later a new salt load calculation will be developed and funding may be reduced and/or the application ranking may change.
	Response:

PART III – PROJECT PROPOSED FOR FUNDING	
A.	**DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED PROJECT:** Describe the project in detail including plans for abandoning any facilities. If irrigation related, identify the canal system or individual canals and laterals and describe in detail (lining method, pipe sizes, lengths, etc.) the proposed lining or piping of those facilities. If the proposed project requires acquisition of water or water rights, describe the acquisition plan and required contracts.
	Response:
A.1	**DESCRIPTION OF ON-FARM OPPORTUNITIES:** If new irrigation pipelines will provide sufficient water pressure and volume to promote new high efficiency irrigation improvements (sprinklers) on individual farm properties, complete the tables provided in Appendix E and submit required mapping in accordance with Section B.3.A.4. Summarize below the number of eligible deliveries and "Claimable Acres" for each canal/lateral/ditch. Additionally, identify the percentage of landowners demonstrating their intent by signing the Appendix E, page 2 table and the total acreage represented by those landowners.
	Response:
A.2	**DESCRIPTION OF WATER IMPOUNDMENT STRUCTURES:** If new ponds, reservoirs, settling basins, or other water impoundment structures are to be constructed as part of this application, address the requirements listed for the final application submission in Section B.3.C. Note any changes in number or sizes of these structures that have been made since the initial Part II submittal.
	Response:
A.3	**MAP(S) OF PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS:** Attach a second detailed map(s) scaled appropriately to easily identify improvements that would be constructed under this application. If irrigation related, display new pipeline alignments and/or canal segments to be lined. Indicate in the color blue, the portion of the delivery system facilities to be funded in whole or part by Reclamation and, in the color red, any portion to be funded by other sources. Those funding sources should be identified in Part IV, B.
B.	**DESIGN & IMPLEMENTATION:** Describe the design standards and construction methods that would be used to implement the proposed project. Identify implementation plans including use and experience of in-house staff or contractors for each project component. See FOA Section B.3.A.2 concerning minimum standards.
	Response:
C.	**ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:**
C.1	**NEPA COMPLIANCE:** Describe existing environmental compliance documents for the project area and new environmental documents (e.g., environmental assessments) required to implement the proposed project. Identify responsible parties and estimated costs.
	Response:
C.2	**OTHER BENEFITS:** Describe any additional environmental benefits of the proposed project including selenium-loading reduction.
	Response:
C.3	**ENDANGERED SPECIES CONCERNS:** Identify any known endangered or threatened species in the project area and assess the possibilities they may be affected by activities associated with the proposed project.
	Response:
C.4	**CULTURAL RESOURCES:** Identify any known archeological sites in the area of the proposed project and assess the possibilities they may be affected by activities associated with the proposed project.
	Response:

D.	**HABITAT REPLACEMENT PLAN:** If known, describe wetlands that may be affected by the proposed project and whether they have been previously inventoried. Identify existing Habitat Replacement Plans or new evaluations and analysis needed to develop a plan. Identify costs for studies and implementation of the plan. Justification must be provided if estimated costs are less than 5% of the Total Construction Cost. See FOA Section B.3.D for further information.
	Response:
E.	**OPERATION, MAINTENANCE AND MANAGEMENT PLAN:** Describe the proposed operation, maintenance, and management plan that will assure the project achieves the proposed salinity control over the project life. If the proposed project is an industrial process or an irrigation related project that relies extensively on water management to achieve benefits, a detailed description of the plan and funding source should be included. O&M of water impoundment structures should be described as specified in Section C.4.B.4.
	Response:
F.	**EXPERIENCE IN IMPLEMENTING PROJECTS:** Identify past salinity control projects or projects of similar nature completed or underway by your organization (company and engineer); include construction dates, brief description, and status.
	Response:

PART IV – PROJECT COSTS & FUNDING PLAN

A. **DETAILED COST ESTIMATE:** Using the table in Appendix C provide a detailed cost estimate for materials and construction (provisions for contingencies should be noted in the text and included in unit prices; do not show as a separate line item). The cost of a Habitat Replacement Plan and indirect costs such as design, NEPA compliance, overhead, etc. are to be included.

B. **FUNDING PLAN:** Describe the funding plan for construction, operation, and maintenance of the project. If funding from sources other than the Basinwide Program is anticipated, the funding partner should be identified and a letter of commitment attached. Proposed in-kind contributions should be identified.

Response:

C. **COST EFFECTIVENESS:**

C.1 **ESTIMATED PROJECT LIFE:** State estimated life of project components. This is 50 years for all irrigation-related improvements.

Response:

C.2 **TOTAL & AMORITIZED RECLAMATION COSTS:**

Total Basinwide Program cost:	$	Amortized Basinwide Program cost:	$

(For the amortization, multiply the factor provided in Reclamation's response to the initial submission of Part II by the total Basinwide Program cost. The current Federal planning interest rate is 4.375 percent.)

C.3 **ESTIMATE OF SALT LOAD REDUCTION:** Include written response from Reclamation providing salt load reduction estimate in Appendix D

Off-farm: _____ tons/year
Other: _____ tons/year
Total: _____ tons/year

C.4 **COST EFFECTIVENESS VALUE:** Divide the Amortized Basinwide Program cost by the total annual salt load reduction estimate.

$ _____ /ton/year

D. **CONSTRUCTION & FUNDING SCHEDULE:** Include a schedule displaying anticipated major work items and funding requirements (including cost share and in-kind services) on a Federal fiscal year basis (October 1 – September 30) for each year of the project.

Response:

APPENDIX A: EXISTING IRRIGATION DELIVERY FACILITIES DATA SHEET

(Use required format provided below)

Item		Units	Identify individual canal, lateral, or ditch				
			(Insert name here)				
Length of existing canal/lateral/ditch		feet					
Irrigated acreage served		acres					
Irrigation season							
	Average daily diversion	cfs					
	Average seasonal diversion	ac-ft					
	Average no. of days water carried	days					
Non-irrigation season (winter water)							
	Average daily diversion	cfs					
	Average seasonal diversion	ac-ft					
	Average no. of days water carried	days					
	Length of ditch carrying winter water	feet					
Describe EXISTING lined or piped sections							
	Lined length	feet					
	Liner type (concrete, earth, etc)	See Note 1					
	Year installed	year					
	Liner condition	See Note 2					
	Piped length (see Note 3)	feet					
	Remaining unlined/unpiped length	feet					
Length to be replaced/improved		feet					
Proposed replacement material		pipe or liner					

Notes: 1. Type of liner may be concrete, earth (clay), membrane or other (please specify).
2. Condition of liner should be rated as poor, satisfactory, good.
3. Disregard dispersed pipe segments with individual lengths of less than 100 feet.

APPENDIX B: SUPPLEMENTAL PART II DATA TABLES AND/OR DATA FOR OTHER TYPES OF SALINITY CONTROL (NON IRRIGATION RELATED)

APPENDIX C: DETAILED COST ESTIMATE

1) Listed items should be shown in sufficient detail to evaluate the reasonableness of the cost, for example, show different pipe diameters and cost per linear foot.
2) Unless justification is provided in Part III Section D of the application for a different value, the Habitat Replacement Plan should be 5% of the Total Construction Cost. For further information, see FOA Section B.3.D.1. The applicant is responsible for the full cost of the HRP even if it exceeds the 5% value.
3) Costs must be included for NEPA compliance and cultural resources surveys.
4) Provisions for contingencies should be noted in the text and included in unit prices; do not show as a separate line item.

ITEM DESCRIPTION *(ADD MORE LINES AS NEEDED)*	**QUANTITY**	**UNIT**	**$/UNIT**	**TOTAL COST**	**RECLAMATION FUNDING**	**RECIPIENT OR OTHER FUNDING**
Total Construction Cost						
Habitat Replacement Plan Implementation (see FOA Section B.3.D.1)						
TOTAL DIRECT COSTS						
INDIRECT COSTS						
Design						
NEPA Compliance						
Cultural Resources						
Construction Management						
Overhead						
Other (Specify)						
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS						

APPENDIX D: SALT LOAD REDUCTION ESTIMATE(S)

Include the response letter from Reclamation providing the salt load reduction estimate.

APPENDIX E – ESTIMATE OF ENABLED ON-FARM ACREAGE

The Page 1 and Page 2 tables for Appendix E can be downloaded from the website http://www.usbr.gov/uc/progact/salinity as an Excel spreadsheet. Instructions for completing Appendix E are contained in the spreadsheet file. Include the completed tables with the final application as Appendix E and submit the completed Excel spreadsheet electronically.

B.3 ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTION FOR APPLICATION CONTENT

B.3.A IRRIGATION DELIVERY SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

B.3.A.1 ESTIMATED SALT LOAD REDUCTION

The Applicant should contact the appropriate Technical Contact listed in Section D, prior to preparing the responses for Part II of the application. **PART II – BACKGROUND & INFORMATION FOR SALT LOAD REDUCTION ESTIMATE and APPENDIX A** of the application should be submitted as soon as possible to the Salinity Program Manager with a copy to the appropriate Technical Contact listed in Section D. However, Part II must be received by the Salinity Program Manager before 3:00 p.m. MDT, October 1, 2010. Reclamation will process requests on a first-come first-served basis and provide a salt load reduction estimate as soon as possible based on the availability of data in the project area. Revisions made to the scope of the project after the initial submission of Part II, requires that a revised Part II must be received by the Salinity Program Manager before 3:00 p.m. MST, November 17, 2010, for an updated salt load reduction estimate.

B.3.A.2 DESIGN STANDARDS AND OTHER CONSIDERATIONS FOR IRRIGATION-RELATED PROJECTS

The following considerations should be reflected in the design, cost estimate, and schedule for the proposed project:

- At a minimum all projects must meet NRCS construction standards (see below).
- Improvements to Reclamation-owned projects will require Reclamation review and approval of designs prior to construction. Reclamation will also require compliance with policies regarding rights-of-way, operation and maintenance, and ownership of facilities.
- Improvements to other Federally-owned irrigation facilities may have special requirements. The Applicant should contact the appropriate agency prior to submission of the application

To access NRCS Practice Standards and Specifications:

- Visit the NRCS website for the electronic Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG) at the following web address: http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/efotg/
- From the map of the United States, select the state where the project will be constructed.
- From the map of the state, select the county where the project will be constructed.
- Under the heading, FOTG, select "Section IV."
- Under Section IV, select the folder variously labeled "Practice Standards and Specifications" or Conservation Practices". Within this folder can be found the criteria for each type of conservation practice such as "Irrigation Pipeline" or "Irrigation Water Conveyance".

Standards and Specifications for materials, design and construction are available and unique to each state. There may be criteria specific to a county.

Generally, the practices "Irrigation Water Conveyance, Irrigation Pipeline, Pond and Pond Sealing" will cover nearly all practices that will be encountered.

For further information or clarification, contact:

For projects in Utah; Brent Draper brent.draper@ut.usda.gov (801) 524-4582
For projects in Colorado; John Andrews john.andrews@co.usda.gov (720) 544-2834
For project in Wyoming; Chuck Schmitt chuck.schmitt@wy.usda.gov (307) 233-6748

B.3.A.3 CANAL LINING MINIMUM CONSTRUCTION CRITEIRA

- GENERAL

  The following criteria are minimum standards for canal linings with a 50 year design life that will be included in the FOA. Any canal lining projects to be constructed using full or partial Reclamation funding must meet or exceed the standards presented below. In addition, the final design and specifications for a 50 year design life must be designed and stamped by a registered professional engineer in the state of the project.

- SPECIFIC RECLAMATION REQUIREMENTS

  The maximum design seepage rate for the canal shall not exceed 0.25 inches per day. The liner shall be designed so as to not exceed that amount throughout the 50 year life of the project. Geomembrane linings with either a concrete/shotcrete cover material or sand and gravel cover material shall be the only design accepted that will meet the 50 year design life.

- COVERED GEOMEMBRANE LINING SYSTEMS

  Acceptable geomembranes consist of PVC, Polypropylene, EPDM, LDPE, or HDPE and shall have a minimum thickness of 30 mil. Non-woven geotextile with a minimum weight of 10 oz. shall be placed on both sides of the geomembrane to provide protection from both the sub-grade and cover material. The cover material shall be either concrete/shotcrete or sand and gravel.

  Groundwater shall be permanently controlled in order to prevent floating of the liner system with a designed drain system. Sub-grade shall be prepared in order to provide firm compacted foundation for the liner; densities shall be the greater of 85% proctor density or the densities of the surrounding soil as approved by a registered engineer. Sub-grade shall be free of organics and sharp objects/rocks.

  Goemembrane liner system must be anchored with a minimum horizontal lip of 2 feet that is keyed in underneath the O&M road or embankment and as recommended by the designer and manufacturer. All geomembrane liners must be field seamed. Construction and seaming of liners must be performed by an experienced installer with a minimum of five years of seaming experience. Geomembranes must be adequately protected during placement to avoid puncture on installation.

  When sand and gravel cover is used, it shall be 1.5 ft thick minimum with consideration given to adequate cover if heavy maintenance activities are anticipated. The sand and gravel cover shall consist of material with a maximum particle size of 6 inches and no more than 15% fines with a gradation adequate to withstand canal velocities and wave action. The minimum side slope shall be 2.5:1 or as approved by a registered engineer and the stability of the cover material must be analyzed in final design by a registered engineer.

  Concrete and Shotcrete shall be considered synonymous except as noted otherwise. When concrete cover material is used, it shall have a minimum thickness of 3 inches with a minimum

compressive strength of 3,000 psi. The minimum side slope shall be 1.5:1. Synthetic reinforcement, such as Fibermesh, shall be utilized with shotcrete and not concrete.

- CONSTRUCTION QUALITY ASSURANCE

  A quality control program should be developed. The quality control testing must be performed by an independent, (from the contractor) third party materials testing firm. Additionally, Reclamation reserves the right to utilize its material laboratory and personnel to perform supplemental quality control testing. Soil compaction control guidelines can be found in Reclamation's Earth Manual.

  All testing to support the proposal shall be performed by accredited laboratories using industry standard methods such as test procedures provided by the ASTM. Test methods that are used should be cited correctly in the proposals.

  For geomembrane quality control testing, consult Reclamation guide specification 02344 and/or comply with the manufacturer's recommendations for information on seam testing and other aspects of field quality control.

B.3.A.4 ENABLE ON-FARM SALINITY CONTROL FEATURES TO BE CONSTRUCTED

Improvements to irrigation delivery systems may enable the construction of on-farm salinity control features and result in additional salinity control benefits. On-Farm salinity features are considered enabled if the acreage meets the following basic requirements.

- Have been irrigated 2 of the last 5 years (2006-2010)
- Have no irrigation improvements beyond land leveling (i.e., no existing gated pipe, sprinklers, drip facilities, etc.)
- Be provided with a dynamic working pressure of 35 psi or greater
  - Where working pressure generated by the pipeline is insufficient booster pumps may be added. Capital costs for pumps and electrical connections would be part of the Reclamation funded project and must be displayed as project costs in Appendix C

Applicants desiring to demonstrate that the off-farm delivery system improvements will enable on-farm salinity control features to be constructed must do the following:

1. Complete Part III, Section A.1 of the application

2. Complete the tables located in Appendix E for each canal/lateral/ditch. Appendix E can be downloaded from the website http://www.usbr.gov/uc/progact/salinity as an Excel spreadsheet. Instructions for completing Appendix E are contained in the spreadsheet file. Include the completed tables as part of the application and submit the completed Excel spreadsheet electronically. Appendix E requests the following information:
   a. Provide evidence that claimed acreage meets the basic requirements by completing Page 1 of Appendix E.
   b. Provide evidence that on-farm improvements will be pursued by individual landowners by completing page 2 of Appendix E. Include the signatures of those landowners willing to indicate their intention to install high-efficiency irrigation systems when sufficient volume and pressure are available. High efficiency systems include pivot or side-roll sprinklers, drip irrigation and micro spray systems.

3. Submit mapping (with aerial photo background) that:
    a. Identifies the eligible acreage to be provided with 35 psi working pressure and displays number of acres for each field.
    b. Identifies each delivery location and includes the elevation of that delivery with background topography (contour lines) for easy verification

B.3.B OTHER TYPES OF SALINITY CONTROL

B.3.B.1 ESTIMATED SALT LOAD REDUCTION

The Applicant should contact the appropriate Reclamation Technical Contact, listed in **Section D** prior to preparing the responses for Part II of the application. **PART II – BACKGROUND & INFORMATION FOR SALT LOAD REDUCTION ESTIMATE and Appendix B** of the application should be submitted as soon as possible to the Salinity Program Manager with a copy to the appropriate Technical Contact listed in Section D. However, Part II must be received by the Salinity Program Manager before 3:00 p.m. MDT, October 1, 2010. Reclamation will process requests on a first-come first-served basis and work with Applicants to develop salt load reduction estimates. Revisions made to the scope of the project after the initial submission of Part II, requires that a revised Part II must be received by the Salinity Program Manager before 3:00 p.m. MST November 17, 2010, for an updated salt load reduction estimate

B.3.C WATER IMPOUNDMENT STRUCTURES

This section contains special provisions for applications involving new pond or reservoir construction.

It is allowable to include the construction of a new pond or reservoir in a salinity control proposal if that structure is needed for the operation of a piped irrigation water delivery system or for other essential purposes. Justification for the pond or reservoir must be provided in the application. To be acceptable the design and construction must meet standards developed by Reclamation. The standards are aimed at providing a liner sufficient to last for the life of the entire project (50 years if coupled with buried pipelines). Applicants contemplating a new pond or reservoir can obtain these standards from the appropriate Technical Contact listed in Section D. A successful applicant's funding agreement will require a complete Reclamation review of the proposed design, specifications, and construction.

Additional seepage will likely occur from the new pond or reservoir and must be accounted for in the application's overall salt load reduction estimate. This seepage must be identified and multiplied by the appropriate local salt loading rate to estimate new salt loading which will then be deducted from the application's total salt load reduction estimate. Reclamation will provide an estimate for this deduction based on information supplied by the applicant.

In order to be responsive to the FOA, the applicant must:

- In the initial submission of Part II, in section D.3:
    - Provide justification for a new pond or reservoir to be constructed with funding from Reclamation
    - Agree to meet the design and construction standards
    - Identify the anticipated depth and both the maximum surface area and wetted (subject to seepage) area of the pond or reservoir
    - Identify the average number of days per year the pond/reservoir will store water and whether the remaining contents will be evacuated during the non-irrigation season.

- In the FINAL submission of the application:
    - In Part III, A.1, discuss the preliminary design, specifications and construction plans for the

pond/reservoir and liner, including the following:
    - Type and thickness of the liner
    - Average seepage rate expected over the project life
    - Construction methods
    - Procedures for testing and documentation to insure that the liner will be constructed according to specifications
- In Part III. E, describe how operation and maintenance will be performed in a manner to prevent damage to the liner. This includes, but is not limited to, excluding animals and equipment from the treated area, protection of the liner during initial filling, agitation, or pumping operations, and repair of disturbed or eroded areas. The need for sediment removal and how it will be accomplished should be specifically discussed.
- In the table in Appendix D, include in the cost estimate, adequate quantities and costs for materials and installation in order to meet the standards. Costs should be broken into major categories, e.g., land acquisition, excavation, embankment, liner materials/installation, liner cover, etc.

B.3.D WILDLIFE HABITAT REPLACEMENT

B.3.D.1 IRRIGATION DELIVERY SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS & OTHER TYPES OF SALINITY CONTROL (NON-IRRIGATION RELATED)

The Salinity Control Act, Section 202(a)(6), provides for the replacement of incidental fish and wildlife values that are lost as a result of measures and associated works to reduce salinity.
The following are minimum requirements for habitat replacement for salinity control projects:

- There shall be no net loss of habitat function. This is to say that acreage amounts need not be the same, but that there is no net loss in total value to wildlife.
- A reasonable assurance must be provided that the replacement habitat features will survive and function (e.g., with an assured water supply) for the life of the project. The replacement lands must be protected through acquisition, easement or through public ownership and long-term management and monitoring will be provided.
- Long-term active management must be included to assure that exotic plant species will not reduce the function of the site as wildlife habitat.
- Habitat replacement should be implemented in advance of project (for example, pipeline) construction or otherwise, must occur concurrently.
- The estimated cost of the habitat replacement will be included in the cost effectiveness computation and included as a cost risk factor. Unless justification is provided in the application for a different value, the Applicant should include a wildlife habitat replacement cost of 5% of the total construction costs

The process to identify habitat replacement requirements will involve ascertaining the existing quality of the habitat to be lost and the existing quality of habitat in a potential replacement area using a standardized habitat assessment approach approved by Reclamation. This approach will examine various components of both the project area and proposed replacement habitat(s) to identify a value of those lands to wildlife and assign a Habitat Value Score. The total wildlife habitat value is based on the following formula:

Area (acres) of impacted habitat X Habitat Quality Score (HQS) of the impacted habitat = Total Habitat Value Lost (or Total Habitat Units lost)

Area x HQS = THV

The existing total habitat value (THV) of the proposed replacement lands is determined by the same method. Then improvements are planned for replacement lands; the improvement (acres improved X increase in existing HQS) must equal or exceed the total habitat value lost. Thus there will be no net loss of habitat value. The acreage of project impacts and replacement lands will likely be different, varying with the habitat quality scores (HQS) and improvement potential of the replacement lands.

Example:
Five miles of a lateral are to be placed in pipe. There are 5 acres of wetlands/riparian (including open water habitat) vegetation supported by seepage from the lateral. It is predicted that these 5 acres will be lost when the lateral is placed in pipe.

The Habitat Quality Score of the 5 acres are determined. In this example, the Habitat Quality is 3. Therefore the THV or Habitat Units lost will be 5 acres x 3 = 15

Replacement lands are identified. These lands will have to have the THV improved by 15 in order to have no net loss of value. In this example the replacement area is 5 acres and has a Habitat Value Score of 4. Therefore the THV of the replacement lands is 20. This needs to be increased to 35. Improvements need to be made to the replacement lands to increase the per acre Habitat Quality Score to 7 for an improvement of 15. This improvement will result in no net loss of habitat value from the project.

If jurisdictional wetlands are present within the proposed project area, Reclamation will coordinate with the Corps of Engineers to coordinate habitat replacement requirements.

HABITAT QUALITY SCORE (HQS)

A protocol has been designed to accurately and effectively assess the habitat quality score of a specified area in a timely and cost effective manner. Eleven criteria have been developed to examine aspects of habitat that are essential for wildlife. The first criterion, riparian or wetland habitat type must have a 'yes' answer in order to proceed to further evaluation. Each of the remaining 10 criteria should then be scored as to what is appropriate or expected for the specific habitat type being evaluated, and some may need to be adapted to fit the specific project area. Evaluators should have an understanding of the ecological community they are evaluating.

- See attached habitat assessment protocol for further guidance.

B.3.E COST EFFECTIVENESS

The cost effectiveness will be calculated by following the process in Part IV, Section C of the required application format. The current Federal planning interest rate is 4.375. The application shall not include any past salinity control benefits from projects that have already been implemented.

B.4 APPLICATION SUBMITTAL

a) Submit an original, signed, hard copy, 2 additional copies, and an electronic copy on CD. On the CD, please have the application as one file and maps and other information in other files as needed. Applications signed by an agent shall be accompanied by evidence of that agent's authority.

b) Applicants are advised to prepare applications based on the best cost and price terms and the most favorable technical terms. Applicants also are advised to carefully review all terms, conditions, and specifications of the FOA prior to submission of applications.

c) Designate a person who will be in charge of the agreement administration and provide name, title, address, telephone, email, and faxogram number of designee in the Executive Summary (Part I, Section ES.7 of the application).

d) **Applications must be received at the address below before 3:00 p.m. MST, December 17, 2010.**

e) Submit in sealed envelopes or packages and clearly labeled "Salinity Control Program Application."

f) Address to:

Ms. Lila Duffin
Bureau of Reclamation
Attention: UC-825
125 South State Street, Room 6426
Salt Lake City UT 84138-1147

B.5 UNNECESSARILY ELABORATE APPLICATIONS OR QUOTATIONS

Unnecessarily elaborate brochures or other presentations beyond those sufficient to present a complete and effective response to this FOA are not desired and may be construed as an indication of the Applicants lack of cost consciousness. Elaborate art work, expensive paper and bindings, expensive visual and other presentation aids are neither necessary nor wanted.

B.6 AMENDMENTS TO FOA

(a) If this FOA is amended, then all terms and conditions which are not modified remain unchanged.

(b) Applicants shall acknowledge receipt of any amendment to this Funding Opportunity Announcement by identifying the amendment number and date in the Executive Summary (Part I, Section ES.8 of the application).

B.7 LATE SUBMISSIONS, MODIFICATIONS, AND WITHDRAWALS OF APPLICATIONS

(a) Any application received at the office designated in the FOA after the exact time specified for receipt **will not** be considered unless it is received before award is made and it--

(1) Was sent by registered or certified mail not later than the fifth working day before the date specified for receipt of applications.

(2) Was sent by mail and it is determined by Reclamation that the late receipt was due solely to mishandling by the Government after receipt at the Government installation.

(b) The only acceptable evidence to establish the date of mailing of a late application or modification sent either by registered or certified mail is the postmark on the wrapper or on the original receipt. If neither postmark shows a legible date, the application, quotation, or modification shall be processed as if mailed late. "Postmark" means a printed, stamped, or otherwise placed impression (exclusive of a postage meter machine impression) that is readily identifiable without further action as having been supplied and affixed by employees of the U.S. Postal Service on the date of mailing. Therefore, Applicants should request the postal clerks to place a hand cancellation bull's-eye postmark on both the receipt and the envelope or wrapper.

(c) The only acceptable evidence to establish the time of receipt at the Government installation is the time/date stamp of that installation on the application wrapper or other documentary evidence of receipt maintained by the installation.

(d) The application is not binding until both parties sign the final agreement. Applications may be withdrawn by written notice received at any time before the agreement is signed.

B.8 RESTRICTION ON DISCLOSURE AND USE OF DATA

Applicants who include in their application or quotations data that they do not want disclosed to the public--

(a) Mark the title page with the following legend:

"This application or quotation includes data that shall not be disclosed outside the Government and shall not be duplicated, used, or disclosed--in whole or in part--for any purpose other than to evaluate this application or quotation. If, however, an agreement is awarded to this Applicant as a result of--or in connection with--the submission of this data, the Government shall have the right to duplicate, use or disclose the data to the extent provided in the resulting agreement. This restriction does not limit the Government's right to use information contained in this data if it is obtained from another source without restriction. The data subject to this restriction are contained in sheets [insert numbers or other identification of sheets]"; and

(b) Mark each sheet of data it wishes to restrict with the following legend: "Use or disclosure of data contained on this sheet is subject to the restriction on the title page of this application or quotation."

B.9 EXPLANATION OR INTERPRETATION OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT

Any prospective Applicant desiring an explanation or interpretation of the FOA must request it before September 25, 2010. Any information given to a prospective Applicant concerning the FOA will be furnished promptly to all other prospective Applicants as an amendment to the FOA, if that information is necessary in submitting applications or if the lack of it would be prejudicial to any other prospective Applicants.

B.10 RETENTION/DISPOSITION OF MATERIALS

Applications submitted in response to this FOA will not be returned but will be retained by the Government for official record purposes. Application material supplied to the Applicant by Reclamation (including attachments and specifications) need not be returned to the procuring office but may be disposed of at the discretion of the Applicant unless otherwise specifically directed.

B.11 FAILURE TO SUBMIT APPLICATION

Recipients of this FOA not responding with an application should not return this FOA. Instead, they should advise the issuing office by letter or postcard if they want to receive future Funding Opportunity Announcements for similar requirements. If a recipient does not submit an application and does not notify the issuing office that future FOA's are desired, the recipient's name may be removed from the applicable mailing list.

B.12 ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR LONG-TERM O&M

In the case of projects that do not require reimbursement of annual operation and maintenance expenses, no further review or approval by Congress is required beyond the normal, annual appropriation of funds. In the case of projects which require a major, long-term commitment of resources to reimburse annual operation and maintenance expenses, Reclamation will require that a planning/NEPA compliance report be sent to Congress for approval before committing to project funding or authorizing the project sponsor to proceed.

B.13 PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND SELECTION OF CONTRACTOR

- **The following statement was taken from Federal Regulations 43 CFR 12.943 – Competition**

All procurement transactions shall be conducted in a manner to provide, to the maximum extent practical, open and free competition. The recipient shall be alert to organizational conflicts of interest as well as noncompetitive practices among contractors that may restrict or eliminate competition or otherwise restrain trade**. In order to ensure objective contractor performance and eliminate unfair competitive advantage, contractors that develop or draft specifications, requirements, statements of work, invitations for bids and/or requests for proposals shall be excluded from competing for such procurements.** Awards shall be made to the bidder or offer or whose bids or offer is responsive to the solicitation and is most advantageous to the recipient, price, quality and other factors considered. Solicitations shall clearly set forth all requirements that the bidder or offeror shall fulfill in order for the bid or offer to be evaluated by the recipient. Any and all bids or offers may be rejected when it is in the recipient's interest to do so.

SECTION C- APPLICATION EVALUATION AND AGREEMENT AWARD

C.1 GENERAL

In order for an application to be considered it must have been submitted to the address and by the deadline stated in Section B.4.

C.2 INITIAL SORTING

In the Initial Sorting an application will be evaluated using the following:

- The project being proposed is located in the Colorado River Basin above Hoover Dam.
- Submitted by a legal entity capable of contracting with Reclamation, i.e., owner of the features to be replaced and/or to be constructed.
- Responsive to the FOA requirements – especially to the following:
    - Construction & Funding Schedule filled out with milestone dates and costs. (see Part IV D)
    - Detailed maps (see Part II B & Part III A.2) provided
    - Use proper format in Parts I-IV and Appendices
    - State all Direct and Indirect costs in Appendix C in the Detailed Cost Estimates (NEPA, habitat replacement, etc…)
- Not use unproven technology
- Not be of a nature that creates undue financial risk for Reclamation

C.3 SORTING TO HIGH AND LOW PREFERENCE

An application passing the Initial Sorting will be further evaluated and sorted into one of the following two categories:

1. High Preference – For an application for a project to be placed in this category:
    a. The project must:
        i. control over 1,000 tons of salt loading per year,
        ii. be completed in five years or less, and
        iii. <u>not</u> require reimbursement from Reclamation of annual operation and maintenance expenses.
    b. The applicant must:
        i. request no more than $6 million in total funding from Reclamation for the project,
        ii. have never had an agreement with Reclamation under the salinity control program terminated due to non-compliance or non-performance.

2. Low Preference – an application not meeting the requirements of the High Preference category will be placed in this category.

C.4 EVALUATION CRITERIA

Applications will be evaluated and ranked by an application review committee (ARC) using the Evaluation Criteria described below. The relative importance of the Evaluation Criteria is as follows: Cost Effectiveness is the prime criteria and Project Risk is more important than Enable On-Farm Salinity Control Features. Project Risk and Enable On-Farm combined are less important than Cost Effectiveness. Under Project Risk, Obtaining Salt Load Reduction is the most important, and Capability to Implement, Detailed Project Plan and Costs, and O&M and Management are equal in importance and when combined equal Salt Load Reduction.

High Preference applications will be evaluated using the Evaluation Criteria described below. Once the applications in this category are ranked, and if it is determined that there are sufficient applications for projects to utilize the anticipated available funding, the Low Preference applications will not be evaluated.

If after funding the High Preference applications, it is determined that there is sufficient funding to fund Low Preference applications, they also will be evaluated using the Evaluation Criteria described below.

Applications ultimately selected for award will be determined by the Grants Officer (GO) using the results of the ARC's evaluation and ranking.

C.4.A COST EFFECTIVENESS

The Salinity Control Act directs that cost effectiveness be the prime criteria for ranking and selecting projects for funding.

C.4.B PROJECT RISK

In the Report to Congress prepared by Reclamation as required by Public Law 104-20 that created the Basinwide Salinity Control Program, it is stated that risk factors that might affect the project's performance would be considered in the ranking of proposals (applications). The following criteria address risks that could affect the project's performance to control the salt claimed.

C.4.B.1 <u>OBTAINING SALT LOAD REDUCTION</u>

This criterion acknowledges that the precision of salt load measurements and estimates varies based on the method of salinity control and the availability and reliability of data and hydrosalinity studies in the different salinity project areas. Salt load reduction estimates are rated based on the following criteria:

- Methods of estimating salt load reduction
  - Direct measurement
  - Estimate derived from reports, studies, models, etc.
- Study types:
  - Feasibility level study
    - Multiple years of flow and salt data
    - Detailed water & salt budgets including separation of agricultural salt load into on and off-farm components
    - Identification of differential salt loading for different locations within a study area
  - Appraisal or screening level study
    - Lacks many or all of the items present in feasibility level studies
  - Combination of studies, reports, load estimates, streamflow & salt data, and USGS model estimates used to develop salt load estimates for a given area
  - Short-term or incomplete studies & reports

C.4.B.2 CAPABILITY TO IMPLEMENT PROJECT AND MEET PROJECT SCHEDULE:

Applications that adequately demonstrate the capability to implement the project for the proposed cost, and have a detailed project schedule which identifies all the major work items, with reasonable completion dates for each will reduce risk to Reclamation. Projects with shorter schedules will receive higher ratings.

C.4.B.3 DETAILED PROJECT PLAN AND COSTS:

Applications that provide detailed project plans, cost estimates and, if applicable, have adequate water rights will reduce risk to Reclamation.

C.4.B.4 O&M AND MANAGEMENT:

Applications that have low operation, maintenance, and management requirements or that have a well defined and adequately funded operation, maintenance, and management plan will reduce risk to Reclamation. Generally a pipeline project would have less O&M and management requirements.

C.4.C ENABLE ON-FARM SALINITY CONTROL FEATURES TO BE CONSTRUCTED

Applications that demonstrate off-farm delivery system improvements will provide a sufficient volume of water at a dynamic working pressure of 35 psi to the edge of the field will be eligible for rating under these criteria. Application ratings will be improved based on evidence of the probability that on-farm improvements, particularly high efficiency irrigation systems, will be pursued by individual landowners.

C.5 NEGOTIATIONS AND AWARDS

Starting with those applications with the highest ranking in the High Preference category the GO will enter into negotiations for an agreement. If an agreement cannot be executed, the GO may enter into negotiations with Applicants with next highest ranking. Agreement awards will be made until the anticipated available funding has been awarded. If there is anticipated funding remaining after awarding the High Preference applications, then awards may be made to the highest ranking applications of the Low Preference category.

Verbal explanations or instructions given before the award of the agreement will not be binding. Any explanation or instructions, which will change the FOA or impact potential agreement award, will be given in writing.

False claims or mistakes made in the application discovered during the award process will require that the application be re-rated, re-ranked, and could result in the application not being awarded or termination of the agreement award.

Be advised that upon award, application and agreement will become public information.

Reclamation reserves the rights to verify the data in the application and to quality control test features of the project. Costs associated with the verification and testing may be withheld from funding awarded for the project.

C.6 FUNDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION

Funding for the program is subject to annual appropriations from Congress.

SECTION D- GOVERNMENT CONTACTS

The Acquisition Office representative responsible for overall administration of the FOA and agreement(s) is:

Ms. Lila Duffin
Bureau of Reclamation
Attention: UC-825
125 South State Street, Room 6107
Salt Lake City UT 84138-1147
Phone: (801) 524-3727
Faxogram: (801) 524-3857
Internet: lduffin@usbr.gov

Salinity Program Manager

Mr. Kib Jacobson
Bureau of Reclamation
125 South State Street, Room 7311
Salt Lake City UT 84138-1147
Phone: (801) 524-3753
Faxogram: (801) 524-5499
Internet: kjacobson@usbr.gov

Salinity Coordinator

Mr. Bradley Parry
Bureau of Reclamation
125 South State Street, Room 7311
Salt Lake City UT 84138-1147
Phone: (801) 524-3723
Faxogram: (801) 524-5499
Internet: bjparry@usbr.gov

Technical Contacts

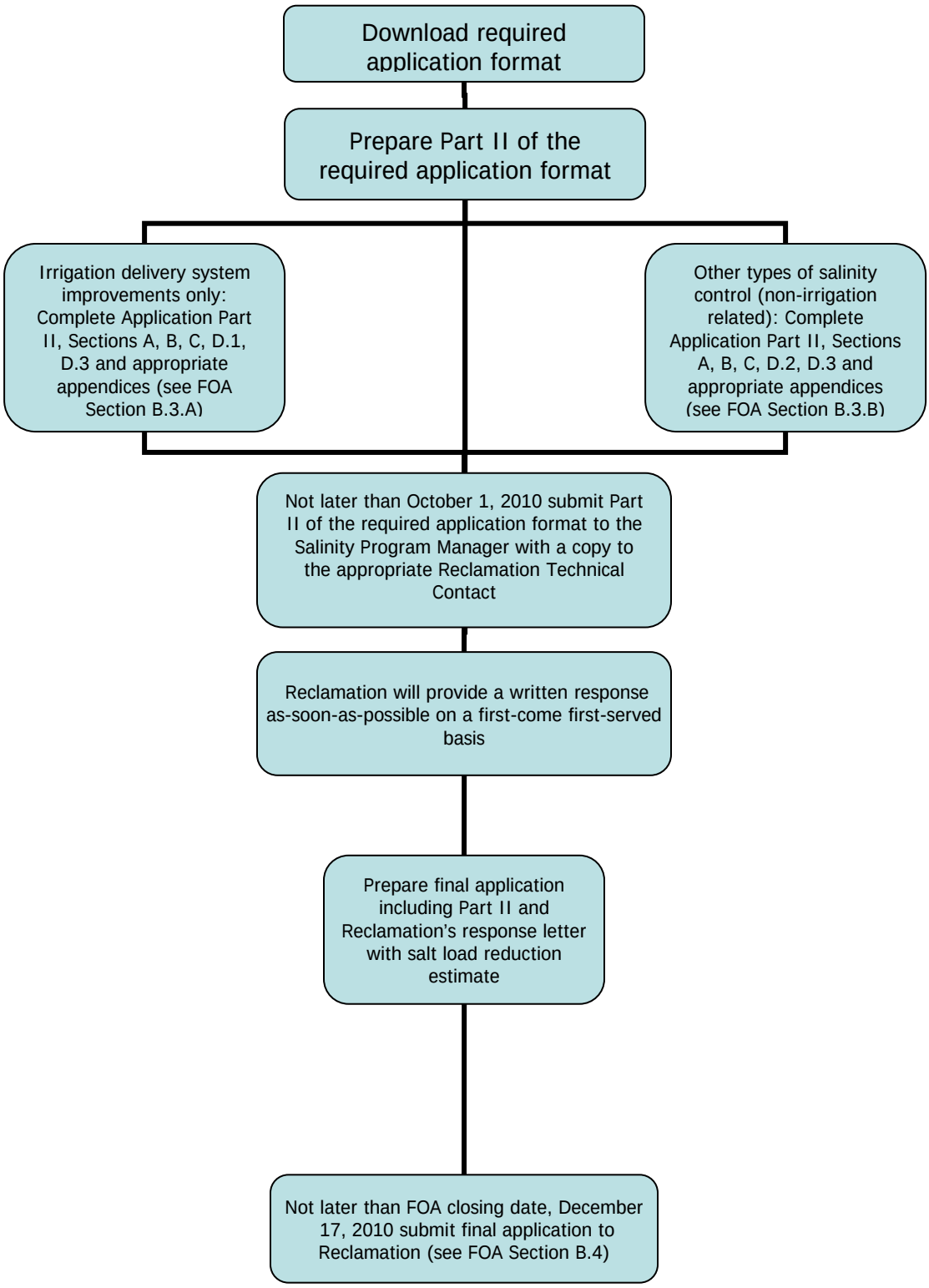
Western Colorado

Mr. Terry Stroh
Bureau of Reclamation
2764 Compass Drive
Grand Junction CO 81506
Phone: 970-248-0608
Faxogram: 970-248-0601
Internet: tstroh@usbr.gov

Eastern Utah and Western Wyoming

Mr. Ben Radcliffe
Bureau of Reclamation
302 East 1860 South
Provo UT 84606
Phone: 801-379-1213
Faxogram: 801-379-1159
Internet: bradcliffe@usbr.gov

Southwest Colorado, New Mexico, and Arizona

Mr. Stan Powers
Bureau of Reclamation
835 E Second Avenue, Suite 300
Durango CO 81301
Phone: 970-385-6555
Faxogram: 970-385-6539
Internet: spowers@usbr.gov

FOA submittal process flowchart