



OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE GRANT PROGRAM PROGRAM GOALS AND EVALUATION CRITERIA

Goal – Through a grant program eliminate the existing backlog of operation and maintenance needs on flood control dams.

Evaluation Criteria – Operation and maintenance needs of flood control dams were determined in previous surveys. The last survey was conducted in 2014 and estimated that about \$14 million was needed to address all known O&M needs. The State Board approves a program budget for operation and maintenance each fiscal year. Funds are allocated to dam sponsors based on submitted proposals on a first-come first-served basis until the approved budget amount is expended.

Compliance Monitoring – Agency rules specify which activities may be financed with program funding and to what extent a local share of the cost is required. The agency monitors the total needs of the state based on an analysis of all available information and survey results. Activities financed with program funds are reported to the agency upon a request for reimbursement. Documentation from subcontracted vendors is required prior to reimbursement at the rate specified in agency rule.

Analysis – Upon the completion of each fiscal year for which funds were approved for operation and maintenance grants, agency staff analyzes the work completed compared to the known remaining needs to determine the progress toward meeting the goal of eliminating the backlog.

Progress - The agency is monitoring spending amounts (both agency and local entities) toward the known financial needs from 2014, which were estimated to be \$14 million. Ongoing annual O&M cost is estimated to be \$1,500 per dam, or about \$3 million for 2,000 dams eligible for program assistance. From 2014 through 2021, an average of \$2.7 million was allocated to O&M. Thus, the backlog of O&M needs is estimated to still be about \$14 million due to insufficient funding to reduce the backlog.

For fiscal years 2022 and 2023, the agency obligated a total of \$4 million to address O&M needs from fiscal year appropriations. This expenditure required a 10% match by rule, making the estimated total work performed approximately \$4.4 million. With continuing allocations to O&M of \$2 million per year, the amount of backlog will likely increase. If allocations were increased to \$5 million per year, the agency believes that the backlog may be eliminated in 5 to 7 years.