

BWSR

Grants Allocation Initiative

(GAI)

Recommendations

Chris Hughes, Board Conservationist
Dave Weirens, Land and Water Section Manager
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What is the Grants Allocation Initiative?

- It's a way to Clean Water – better, faster.
- It's a process to collect information on water quality priority projects from local governments.
- It allows the local government units to proactively plan and implement priority projects over a 3 year period.
- It will front end load the clean water grant making process.
- It will tell the Legislature what local governments can do before the appropriations are enacted.

Why is BWSR looking into a new way of doing Grants?

- More money, more programs, more grants, more grantees – with the same staff.
- Clean Water Fund is a 25-year program – we need to encourage longer-term planning and project targeting and prioritization.
- Increased scrutiny and expectations on use of funds and outcomes.

Goals of BWSR Grants Allocation Initiative

- To provide information on local government priority actions that will maintain or improve water quality to inform the Legislative appropriation and policy process.
- To provide information on projects and activities that BWSR can directly use to make grant awards.
- To effectively distribute formula driven and competitive project grants.
- To increase the effectiveness of BWSR and LGU grant program management.

History of the BWSR Grants Allocation Initiative

- Washington State Model.
- BWSR Annual Work Plan Work Group (April 2010)
 - evaluated concept.
- BWSR Grants Allocation Initiative (Fall 2010 and continuing).
 - identifying and developing implementation details.

Grants Allocation Initiative Feedback

- March 2011:
 - Mille Lacs SWCD
 - Morrison SWCD
 - Aitkin SWCD
 - Mower County
 - Stearns County
 - Faribault County
 - Brown Creek Watershed District
 - Cedar River Watershed District
 - Turtle Creek Watershed District
 - Others

Grants Allocation Initiative Recommendation 1

- **Develop Biennial Budget Request (BBR)**
 - Listing of local government project and operational activities to inform legislative appropriations.

Grants Allocation Initiative

Recommendation 2

- Synchronize the delivery of General Fund and Competitive Clean Water Fund grant programs via the BBR.
- Delivering all BWSR programs via BBR is more effective.

Grants Allocation Initiative

Recommendation 2

- Potential benefit of a single entry point for LGUs to request state agency funds for water quality protection and restoration.
- Provides more complete picture of LGU environmental program implementation needs and capabilities.

Grants Allocation Initiative

Recommendation 3

- Consider coordinating the BBR with LGU Roundtable Comprehensive Recommendations when they are finalized.
- The LGU Roundtable is developing recommendations to establish a coordinated system for implementing water quality activities across all local governments on a watershed basis.
- BBR should be flexible to incorporate these recommendations.

Grants Allocation Initiative

Recommendation 4

- Form a BWSR staff committee to develop and manage LGU performance-based criteria and data to assist in making grant decisions.

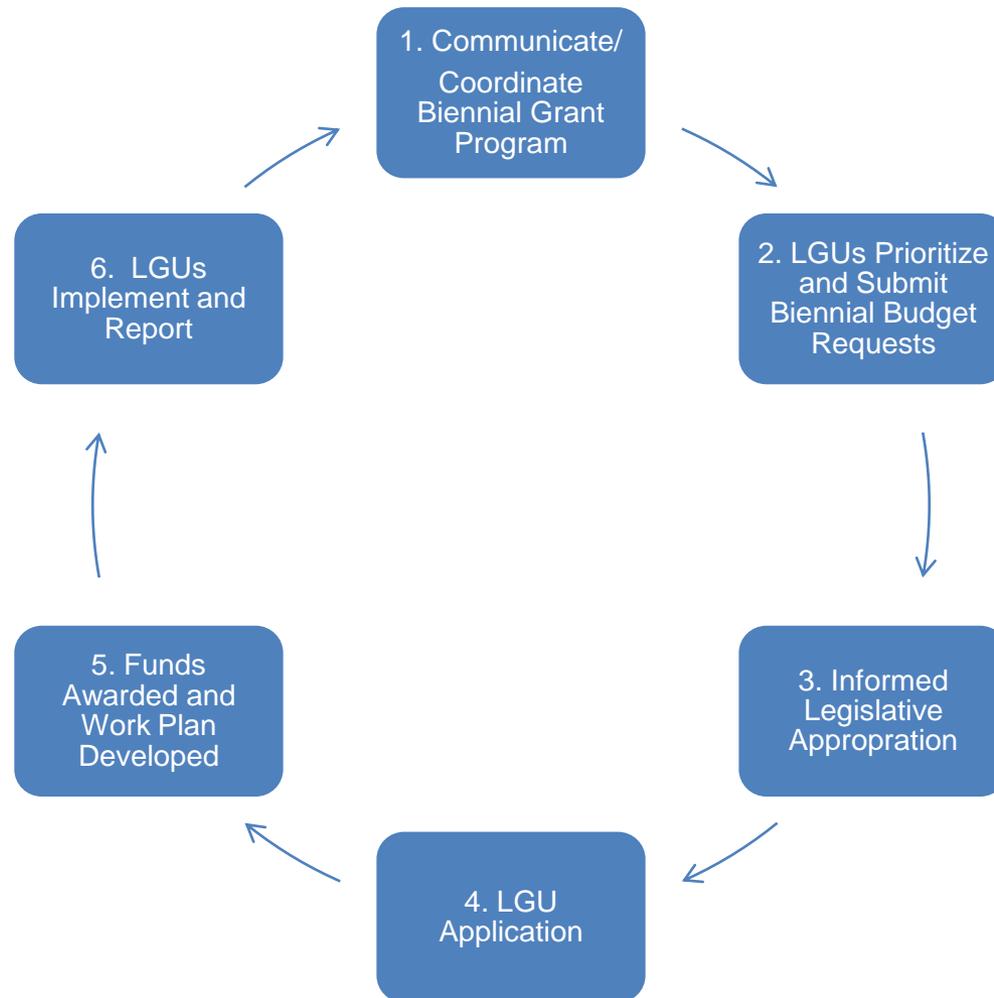
Where Can I Learn More

- Office Hours Today
 - 1:00 – 2:30 and 2:45 – 4:00
- Chris, Dave, Matt, Jeff, (Team)
- LGU Roundtable (AMC, MASWCD, MAWD)

The Biennial Budget Request BBR

What is it Really?

GAI Process



GAI Roles

- Local Governments – Staff and Elected/Appointed Officials
- BWSR Staff – Board Conservationists, Clean Water Specialists, and Grants Staff
- BWSR Board
- State Agencies – Department of Agriculture, Department of Health, Department of Natural Resources, Pollution Control Agency

What Does This Mean for You

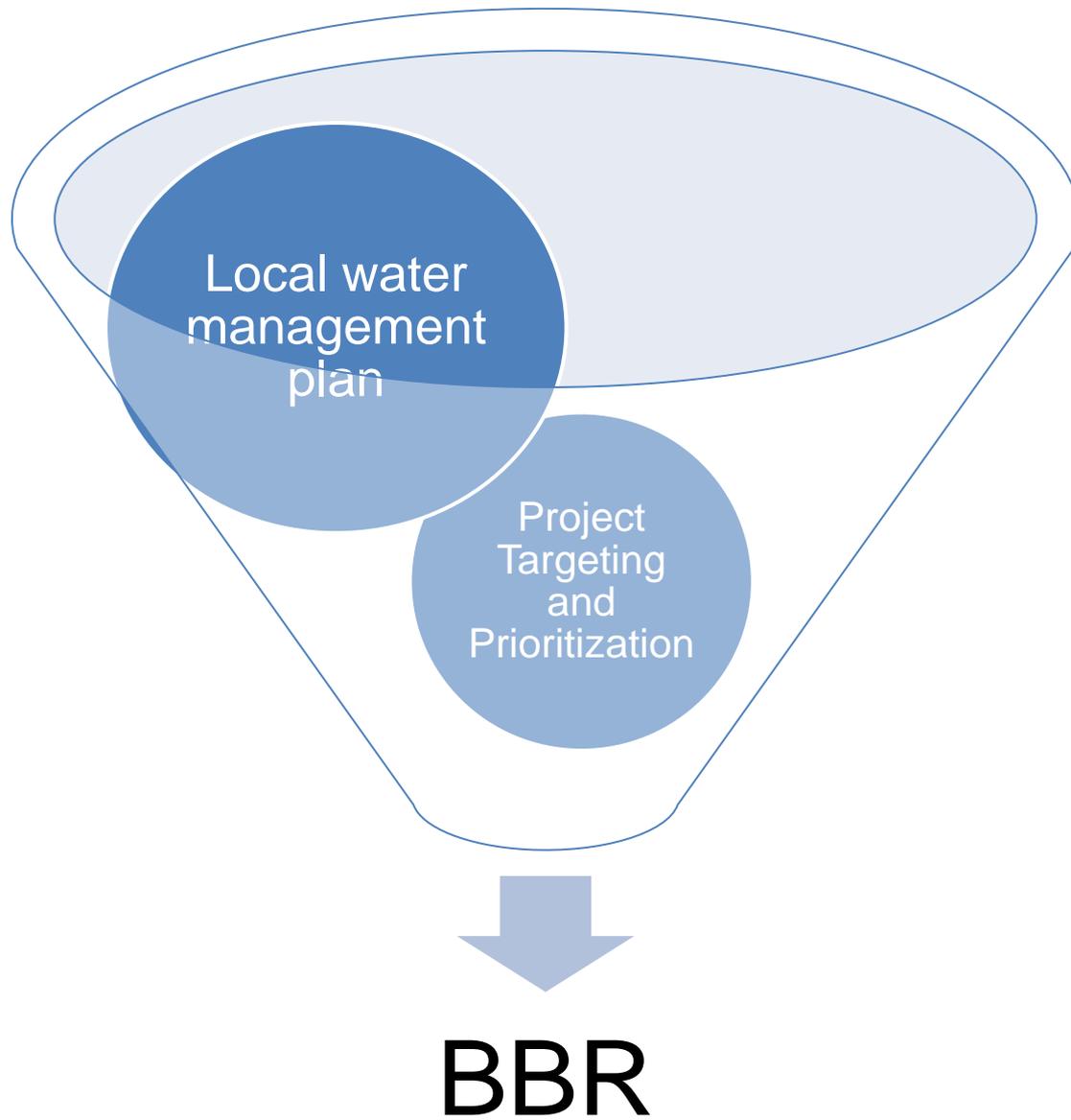
- Review your local water management plan for high priority projects and activities.
- Summarize high priority projects and activities and list them in the BBR.
- Be flexible as change continues in the months and years ahead.

GAI: Things That Hit Home

- Clean Water.
- Local Government Planning.
- Local Government Prioritization and Targeting.
- State Water Quality Grants.
- Legislative Appropriations.

GAI: Things to Keep in Mind

- Clean Water.
- Local Government Planning.
- Local Government Prioritization and Targeting.
- State Water Quality Grants.
- Legislative Appropriations.



The way the world is now

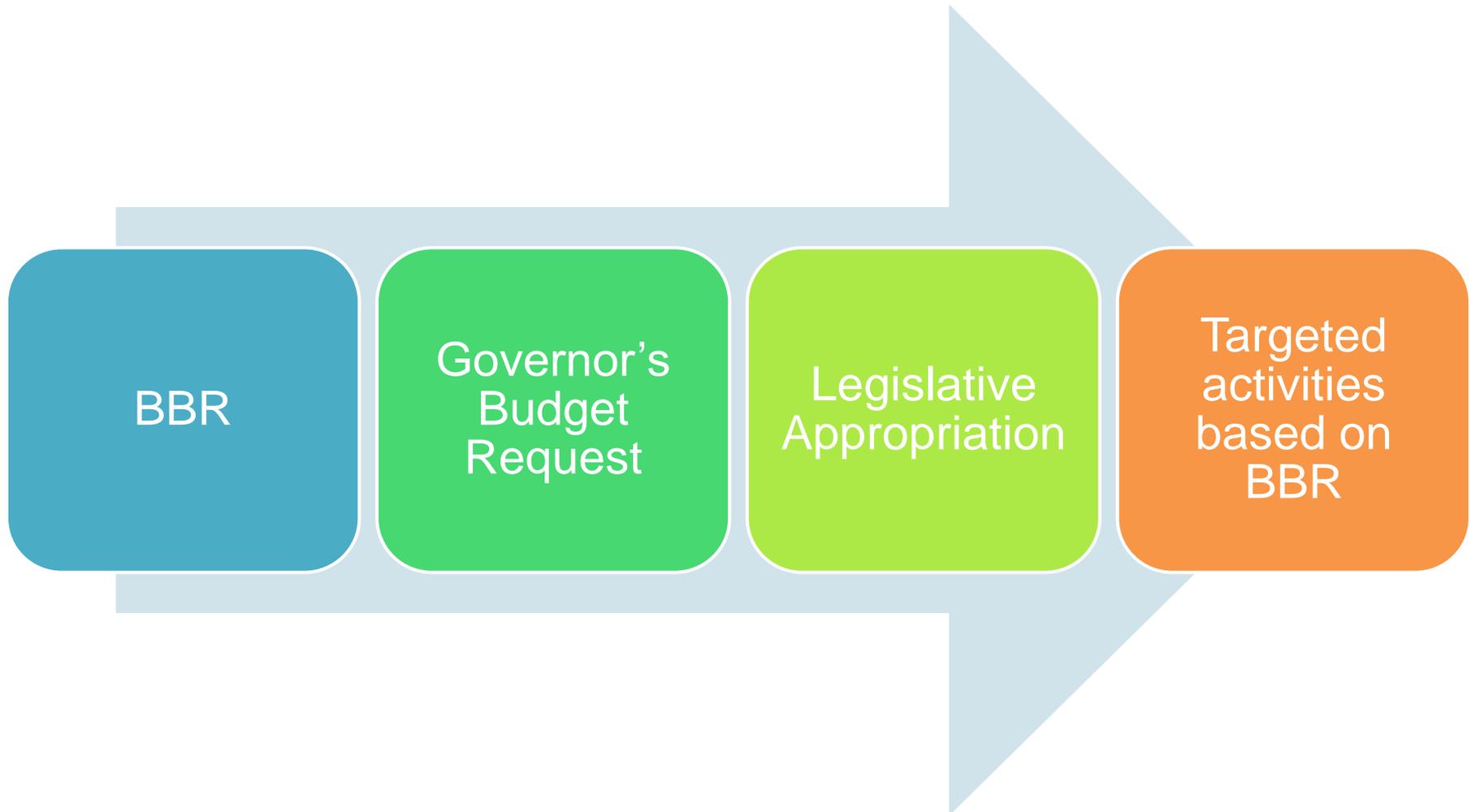
BWSR
Programmatic
Budget
Development

Governor's
Budget
Request

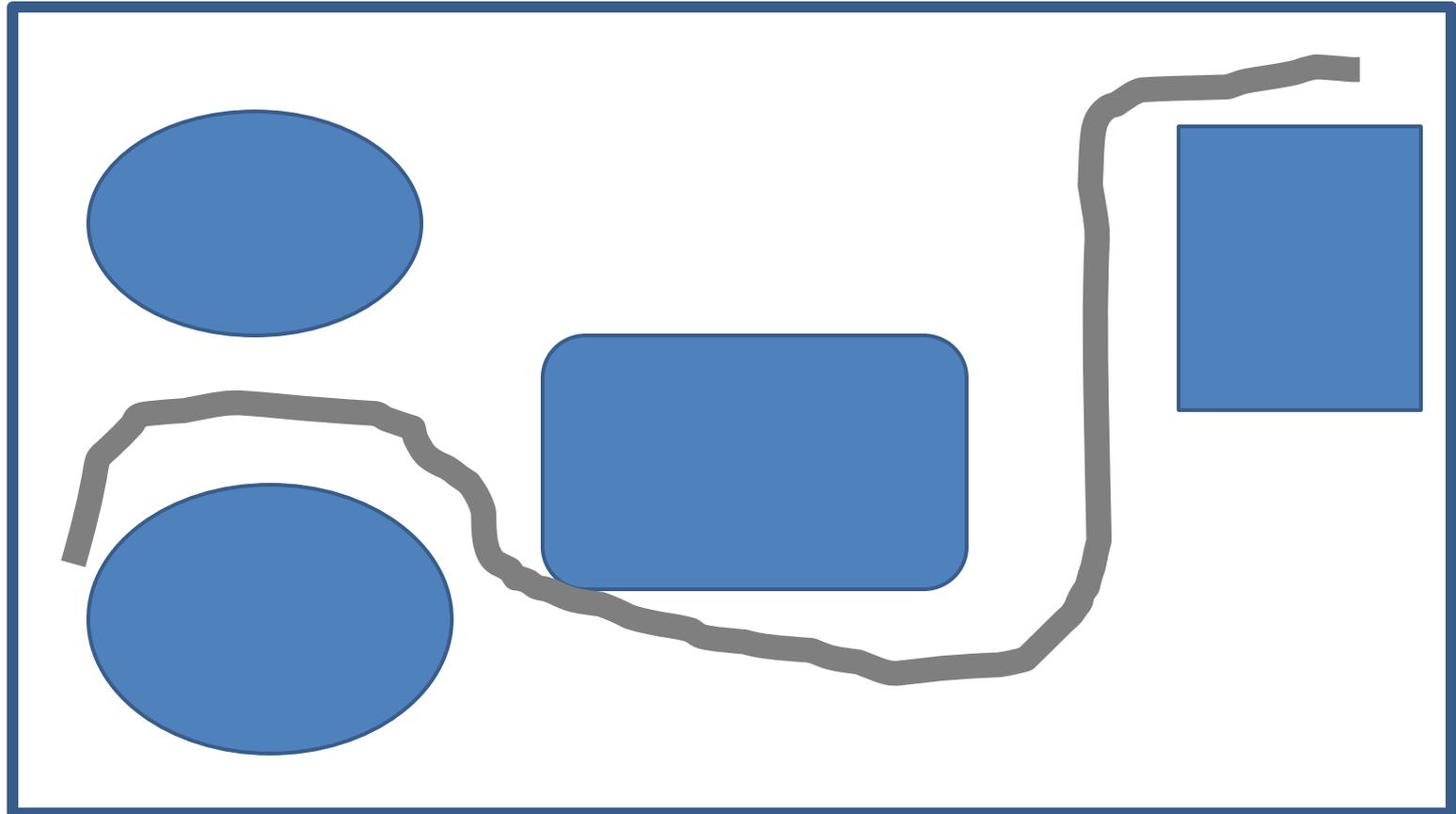
Legislative
Appropriation

Scramble to
find projects
that fit the
appropriation
language

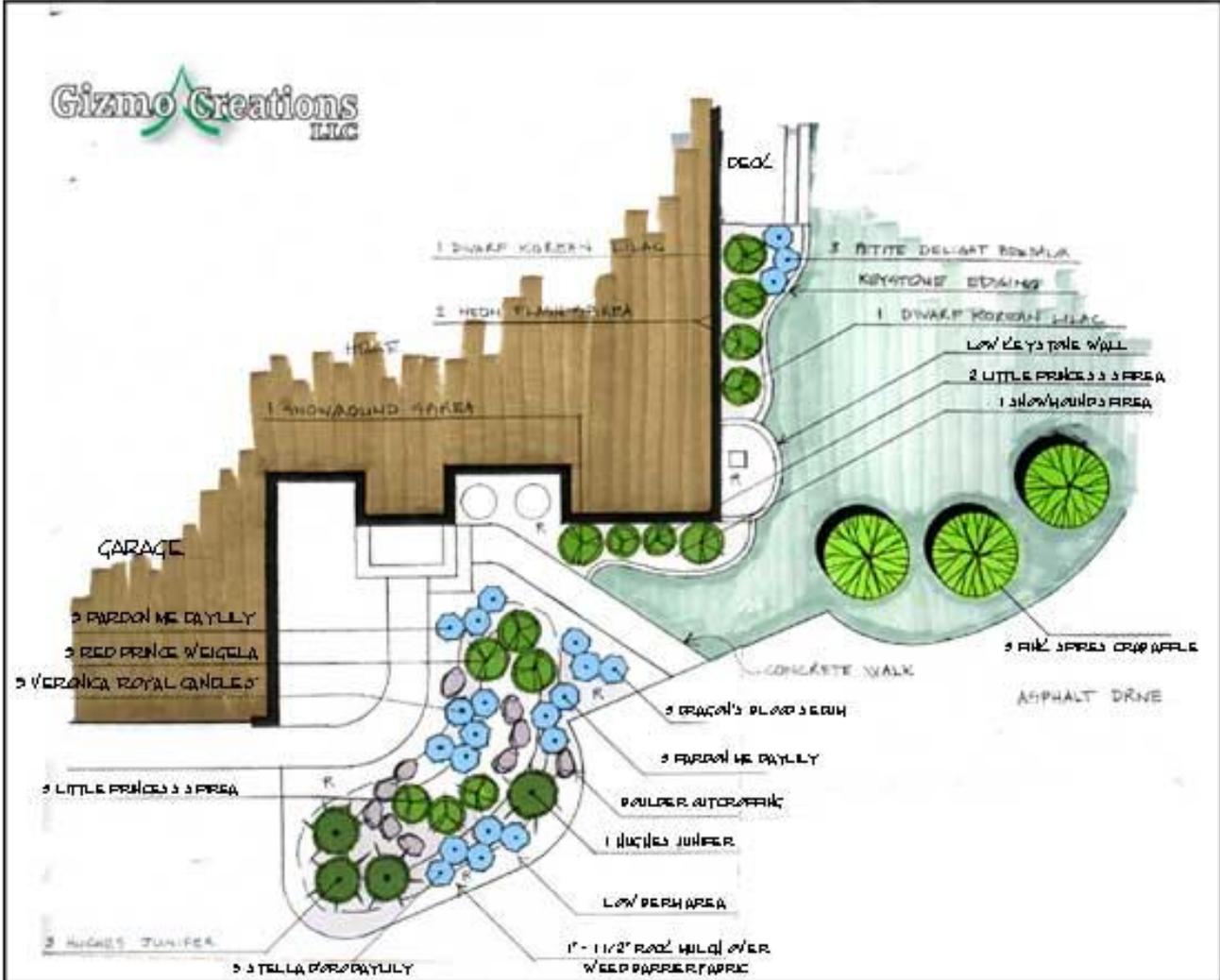
The New World Order?



Your chance to help!



Evolution



Proto-type BBR

2011 BWSR Academy BWSR Grants Allocation: A New Way of Doing Business *Pre-Academy Exercise on Water Plan Implementation*

Definitions:

- **Action Item:** Summarize the action items from your workplan that are the highest priority to accomplish.
- **Type of Action:** Is the action item of an earth-moving, construction, or vegetation installation variety such as feedlots/septic system installation/stormwater basins/installation of buffer/filter strips, etc. or some other type of activity such as septic system inventory/nutrient management plan development/forest stewardship plan writing or other activities.
- **Budget:** For projects, estimate the total cost of BWSR funds required to accomplish this activity, including administration of funds/development of projects/technical and administrative components and construction activity. For activities estimate the total cost of producing outputs from the activity.
- **Timeline:** Assume the budget amount you included will be expended in the timeframe of January 1, 2013 until December 31, 2015.
- **If I got the money...** Considering all of the other workload items on your plate, could you get out in the field, start making contacts, or start accomplishing the tasks immediately?

(examples highlighted)

Action Item	Type of Action		Budget	Timeline	If I got the money, I could start tomorrow
	Earth-Moving or Plant Installation	Other Type of Action			
Identify critical erosion areas in the A, B & C watersheds. Priority will be given to those areas within 1,000 feet of rivers, lakes, and major ditch systems.		Inventory and Prioritization	\$20,000	01/2013 - 12/2014	Yes
Install 50 water & sediment control basins	Water and Sed Basins		\$150,000	06/2013 - 12/2015	No. Survey and construction in Spring
Deliver nutrient management plans that cover 75% of the acres in xx watershed		Nutrient management plan development	\$40,000	06/2013 - 12/2015	No- need additional tech

Tentative Timeline

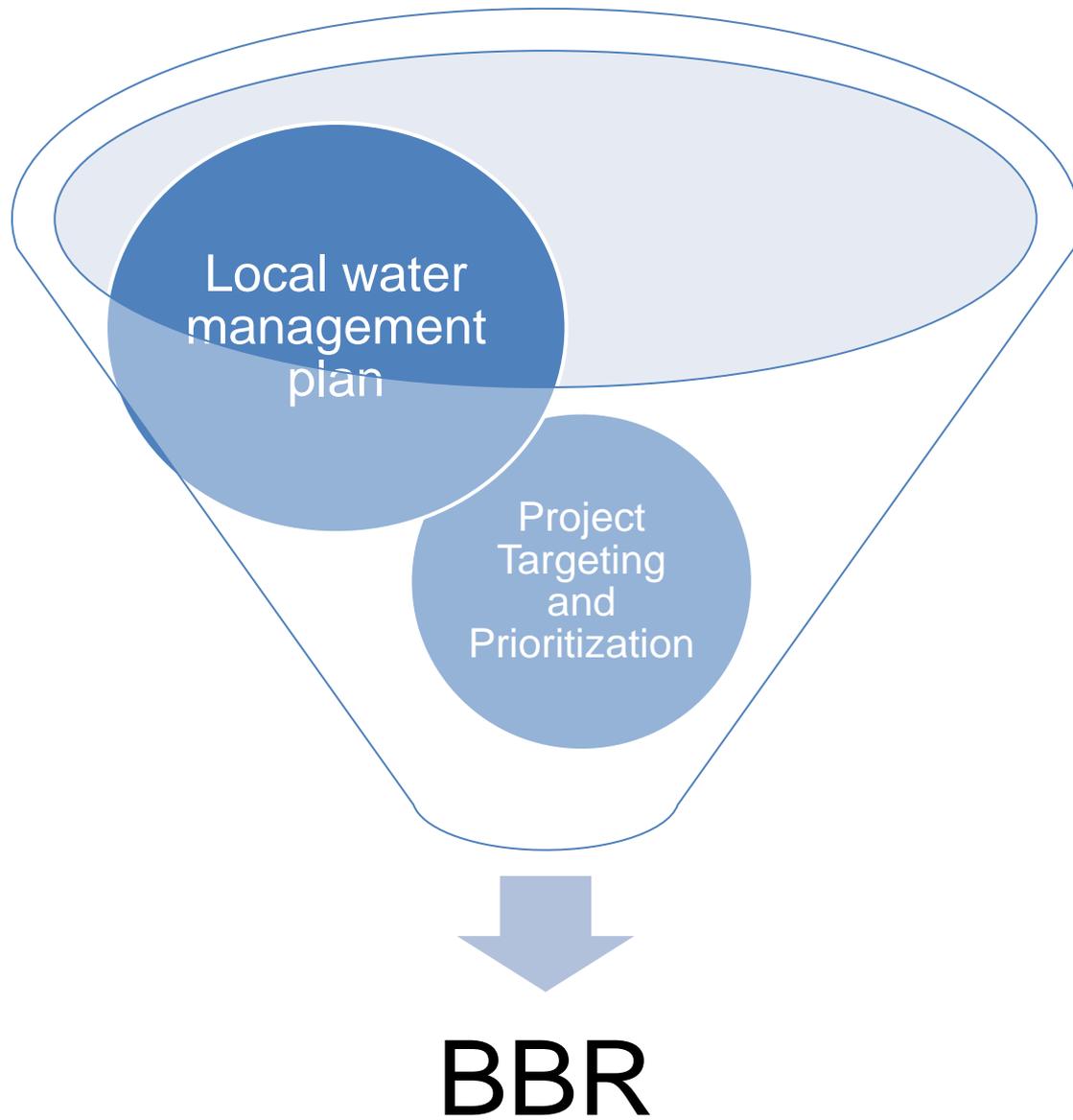
Jan – March 2012
LGU Training for
FY 14/15 BBR

April 2012
BWSR Authorizes
1st BBR
(FY 14/15)

May – July 2012
BBR RFP Open
FY 14/15

What You Can Do Now

- Apply What You've Learned Today



What Can You Do Now

➤ Office Hours:

- Today 1:00 – 2:30 and 2:45 – 4:00

Participant Action Plan

- Write one thing you learned from this session
- Write one thing that you know/do/apply back on the job.