Application and Award Process Diagram

Pre-Application Proposal & Preliminary Review Report

PURPOSE: Those considering applying for a grant can obtain preliminary information to help decide whether to submit a Complete Application
- Submit the Pre-Application Proposal and spatial data through the Program web page: Sagegrouse.mt.gov
- The Program will apply the Habitat Quantification Tool (HQT) and determine other ecological metrics
- The Program provides a Preliminary Review Report to the potential applicant
- Would-be applicants decide whether to submit Complete Application

Formal Request for Complete Applications

PURPOSE: Program issues formal request for Complete Applications
- Complete Applications, supporting information, final spatial data through the Program web page: Sagegrouse.mt.gov

Written Public Scoping Comments Accepted

PURPOSE: Accept initial public scoping comments on grant applications for MSGOT's consideration and initiate preparation of an environmental assessment if the project is selected for funding
- Program publishes all Complete Applications received and the Program's Preliminary Review Report on the Grants webpage
- Submit electronic comments through the web or postal mail

Application Review and Program's Report

PURPOSE: Review Complete Applications, obtain independent peer review and prepare Grant Recommendation Report for MSGOT
- Program calculates final HQT scores, determines projected number of credits created, other relevant ecological and situational metrics
- Independent Peer Review of Complete Applications, HQT results, and other metrics
- Program prepares Grant Recommendations Report for MSGOT

MSGOT Selects Recipients

PURPOSE: MSGOT meeting to select projects for funding and award amounts
- MSGOT Meeting: presentations by grant applicants, review Complete Applications, supporting materials, HQT results and peer review, public scoping comments, and the Program's Grant Recommendations Report / Recommendations
- MSGOT discussion, additional public comment, and MSGOT selects recipients and award amounts

Environ. Assessment (MEPA)

PURPOSE: complete MEPA environmental assessment and decision notice
- Program completes environmental assessment, solicits public comment
- MSGOT chair reviews proposed record of decision so long as no significant issues raised by the public and no material changes to the project or award amount
- MSGOT reviews anew if significant issues raised by the public or material changes to the project

Execute Grant Agreement

PURPOSE: Parties sign the grant agreement
- Program, MSGOT and grant recipients execute grant agreements
- Administrative, fiscal, and legal support from host agency Dept. of Natural Resources and Conservation as needed

Implement Project

- Grant recipient implements the project as soon as proposed decision notice is signed by MSGOT Chair and the Grant Agreement is executed
- Grant Recipient works with the Habitat Conservation Program and DNRC as necessary to implement project
- Program updates the mitigation credit registry