

# **Bering Strait Development Council**

P.O. Box 1009 Nome, AK 99762  
(907) 443-6015 - (907) 443-6098 (FAX)

## **Project Proposal Criteria and Approval Process**

Background: (From the National RC&D Manual)

The Bering Strait Regional Development Strategy/Area Plan is based upon information gathered throughout the area. The information provides a basis for establishing the direction the council/board chooses to pursue. An RC&D project is one of the tools that the Council can use to implement the area plan and achieve their stated goals. Projects can be derived from strategies to reach the objectives and consist of one or more parts of the strategy. The project is adopted by the RC&D council when the idea is conceived and found to address a particular objective in the area plan. Projects are written up in the form of an application. A project should be a one time effort requiring a significant amount of time on the part of the council, sponsor, or a committee. It results in a defined product or service that provides public benefits. Projects are sponsored by any group or unit of government that meets the requirements to implement, operate, and maintain the project.

Basic Criteria for a Project.

1. The project should fall within the Bering Strait RC&D Council mission and goals and address the objectives or strategies of the area plan.
2. When completed it will provide public benefits.
3. There should be an adequate plan in place to develop the project.
4. There must be local leadership to drive the proposal.

Criteria for ranking new project proposals.

1. Does the project fall within a Council priority area or strategy for the fiscal or calendar year?
2. Does it provide regional, local, or individual benefits?
3. What kind of impact will it have? Job creation, natural resource conservation and development, economic diversification, dollar savings, etc.
4. Time commitment from the staff. Does the staff have the time or can they find additional resources to assist the sponsors?
5. Will there be negative impacts? If so can they be mitigated?
6. How much support is there for the project and what kind? Multi-community, groups and organizations, public and private sector?
7. Will the project benefit Bering Strait RC&D Council member organizations?

## Process.

1. Sponsor's project idea, problem, or issue is discussed with the staff.
2. Staff and project leaders research potential solutions. Staff will be allowed up to two to three days to assist project sponsors develop and research ideas prior to discussion with the board.
3. Project proposal form is completed.
4. Proposal is brought to the Bering Strait RC&D Council for discussion and approval. As in other board decisions a quorum must be present. In order to be as efficient as possible, the board should get the proposals far enough in advance of the meeting to be aware of the proposal.
5. Staff should be prepared to address the ranking criteria. For example, staff time commitment, meeting area plan objectives, etc. However, some of the criteria are subjective and final decisions should be made by the board.
6. Project is approved, denied, tabled, or sent to the appropriate committee/organization for additional assistance if there are recognized regional impacts or conflicts. Since projects fall within different goals, proposals may get referred to various committees.
7. If the project is sent to a committee, the committee must meet (teleconference) within a reasonable period of time and address the problem or offer assistance.
8. If tabled, the board may wish to allow the staff additional time to work with project sponsors before approving the project as a Bering Strait RC&D Council supported project.
9. Board decisions either in favor or not in support of the project will be recorded in the minutes and appropriate correspondence will be sent to the project sponsor.

# Bering Strait Development Council

*"To improve the quality of life in the Bering Strait Region through employment and economic opportunities."*

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USDA/NRCS RC & D 443-6015, fax 6098

Kawerak CPD 443-4248, fax 4449

## REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

Thank you for seeking assistance from the Bering Strait Development Council. The Council functions as the region's Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Council, and the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR).

The BSDC, a 16 member committee, is comprised of one representative from each of the following: Sponsors-Kawerak, Inc., Norton Sound Health Corporation, Nome Chamber of Commerce, the City of Nome; Industries-Transportation, Fisheries, Mining, Banking/Finance, Tourism, and Housing as well as 5 sub-regional seats which represent the region's 20 communities.

In order for the Council to review your request for assistance, we ask that you complete the following questions so that we can better understand your proposed project and the type of assistance that you are in need of.

### **PROJECT SPONSOR/MANAGER** (please designate a single contact person):

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Position/Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

### **PROJECT NAME/TYPE**

Provide a brief summary of the proposed project:

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**WHAT TYPE OF ASSISTANCE ARE YOU REQUESTING?** (Be as specific as possible)

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**IF POSSIBLE, PLEASE PROVIDE AN ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF TIME NEEDED TO ACHIEVE YOUR PROJECT GOAL.**

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**WHAT OTHER GROUPS AND/OR AGENCIES HAVE YOU SOUGHT ASSISTANCE FROM AND WHAT WAS THEIR RESPONSE?**

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Thank you for your interest in our program. Your request will be referred to the Council. We will notify you whether your request has been approved or not. Please be prepared to make a presentation on your proposed project to the Council if requested.