SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM

Adaptive Management Update

SAFE, CLEAN WATER PROGRAM
4/29/2025

SCORING COMMITTEE

Outline

Water Quality Scoring Adaptations

Water Supply Scoring Adaptations

Interim Guidance Update

Supplemental Guidance to Support Feasibility Study Guidelines

Water Quality Scoring Adaptations

Water Quality Scoring Adaptations

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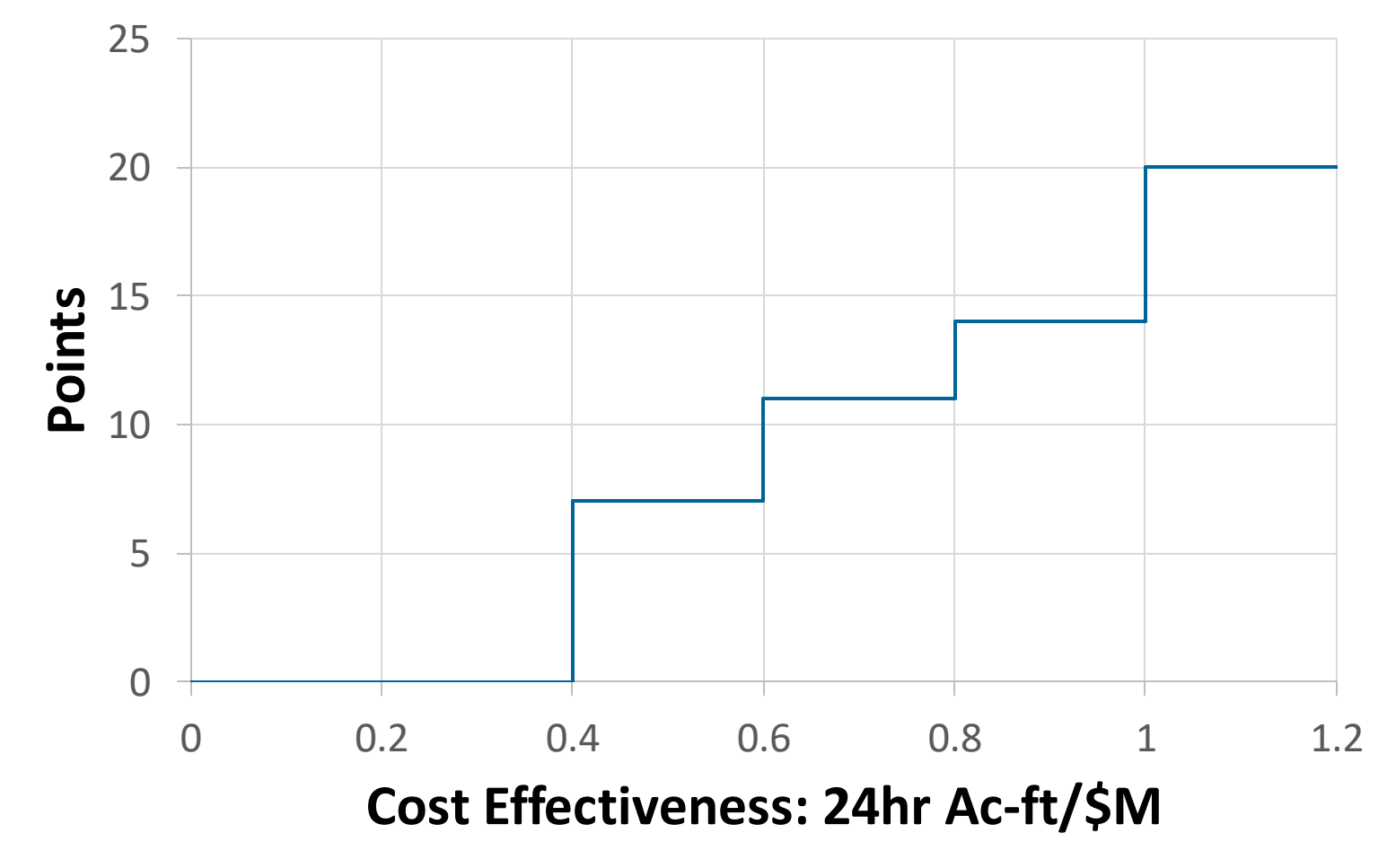
Considerations for Adaptation of Water Quality Scoring

Review of Current Water Quality Scoring Criteria

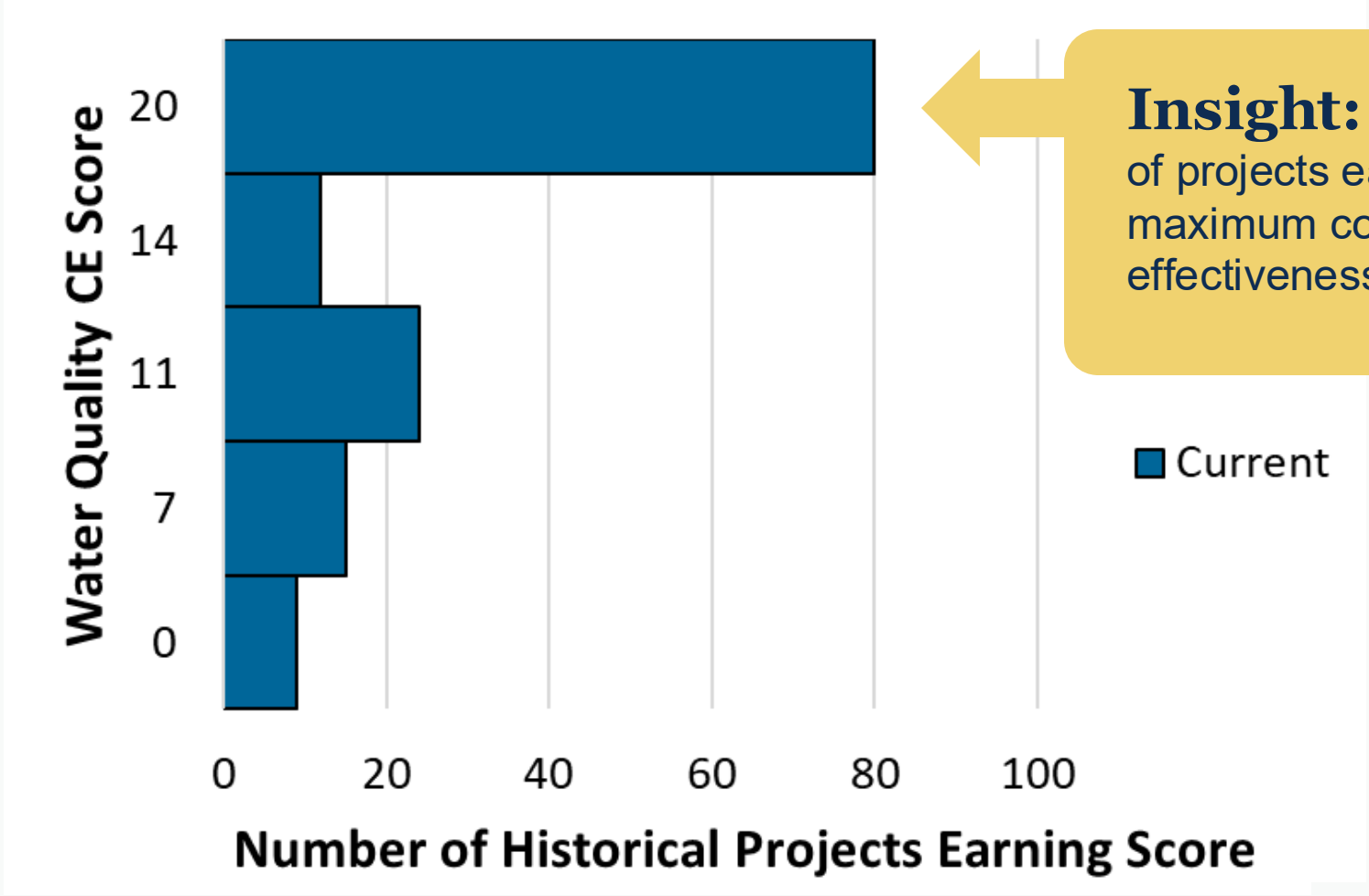
Review of Current Water Quality Scoring Criteria
Feasibility Study Guidelines (FSG) A.1.1

Cost Effectiveness Score (Wet Weather BMPs only)



Review of Current Water Quality Scoring Criteria
FSG A.1.1

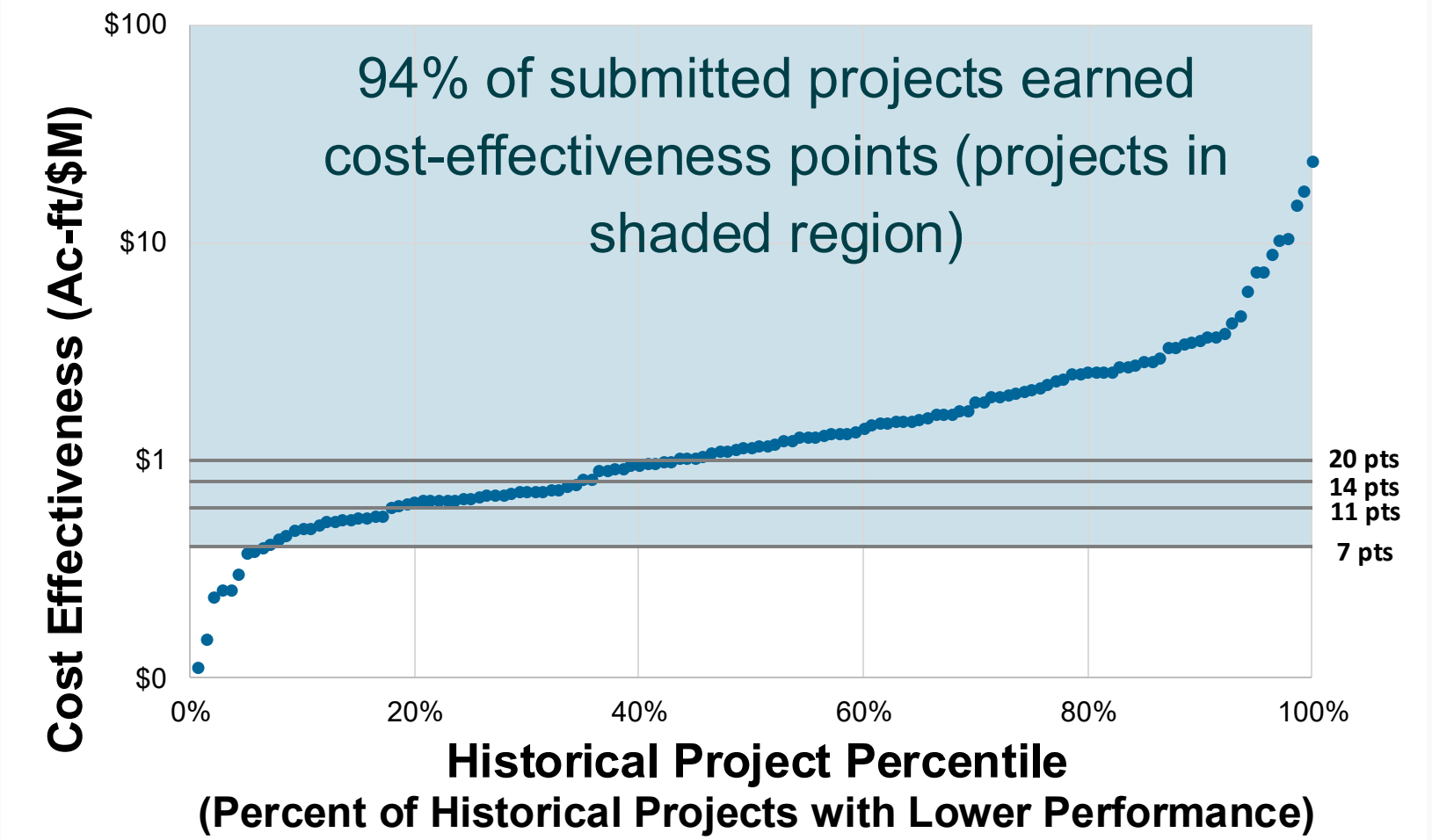
Cost Effectiveness Score (Wet Weather BMPs only)



Insight: about 60% of projects earn maximum cost effectiveness points

Review of Current Water Quality Scoring Criteria
FSG A.1.1

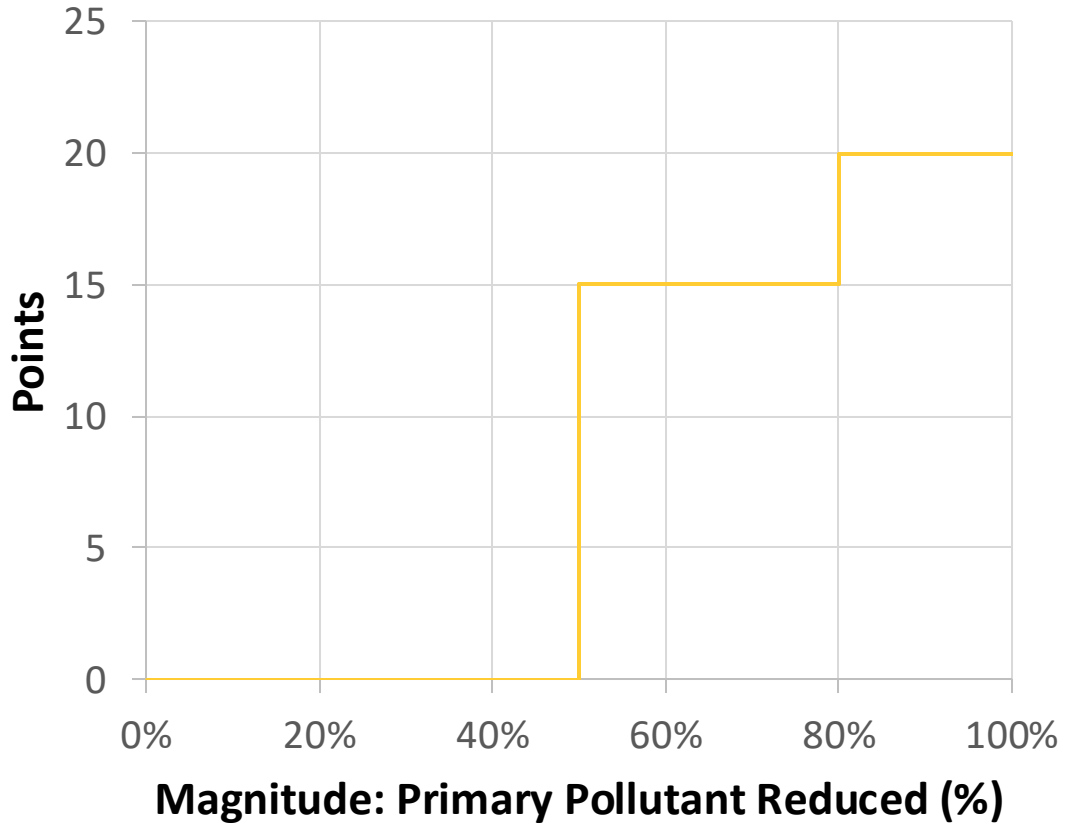
Cost Effectiveness Score (Wet Weather BMPs only)

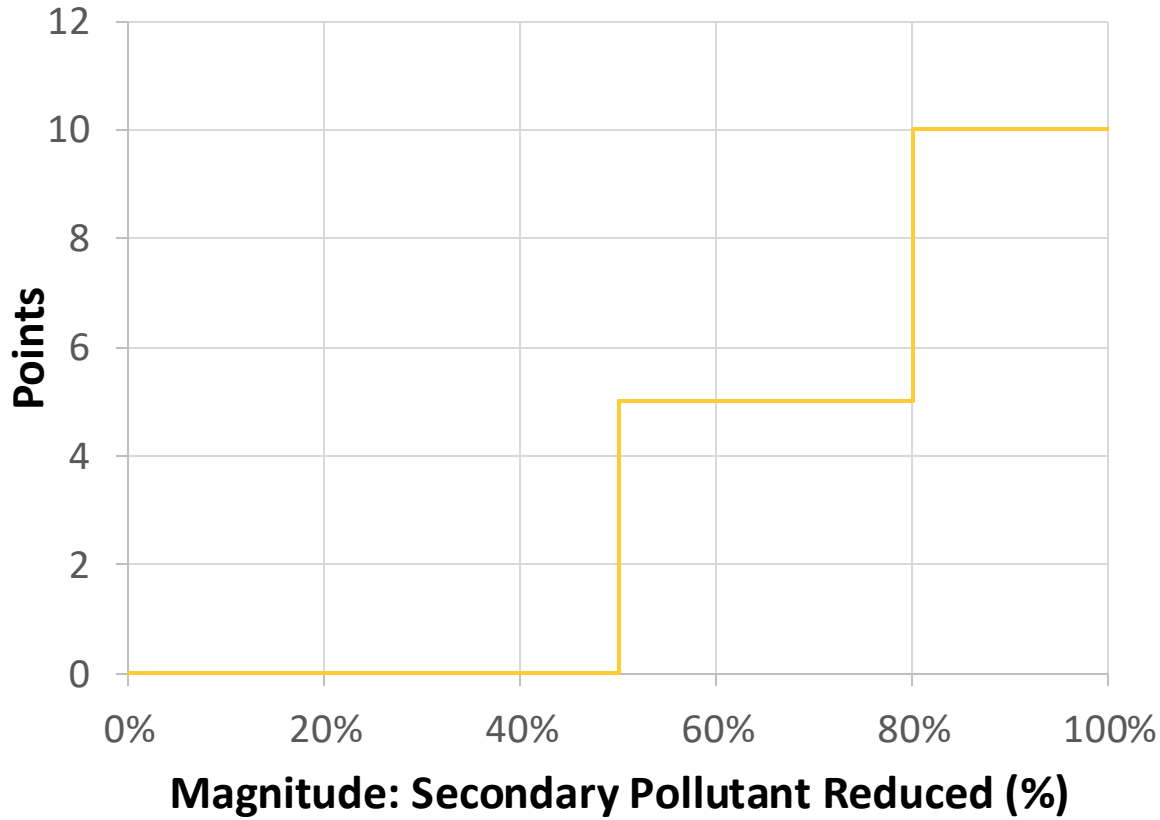


Review of Current Water Quality Scoring Criteria
FSG A.1.2

Water Quality Benefit Score (Wet Weather BMPs only)

Note: % reduction based on what enters project, not based on total watershed contributions

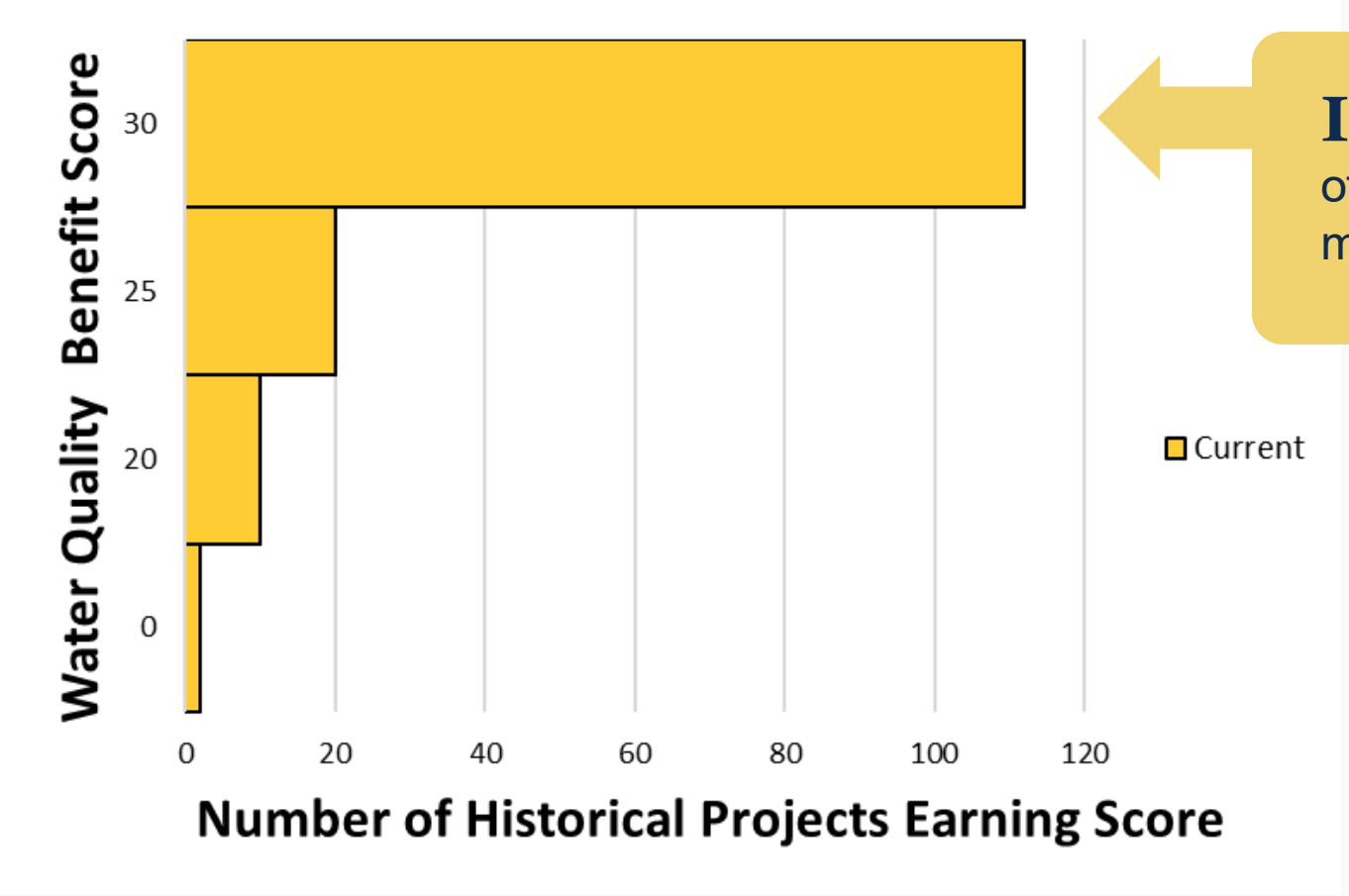




Review of Current Water Quality Scoring Criteria
FSG A.1.2

Water Quality Benefit Score (Wet Weather BMPs only)

Note: % reduction based on what enters project, not based on total watershed contributions

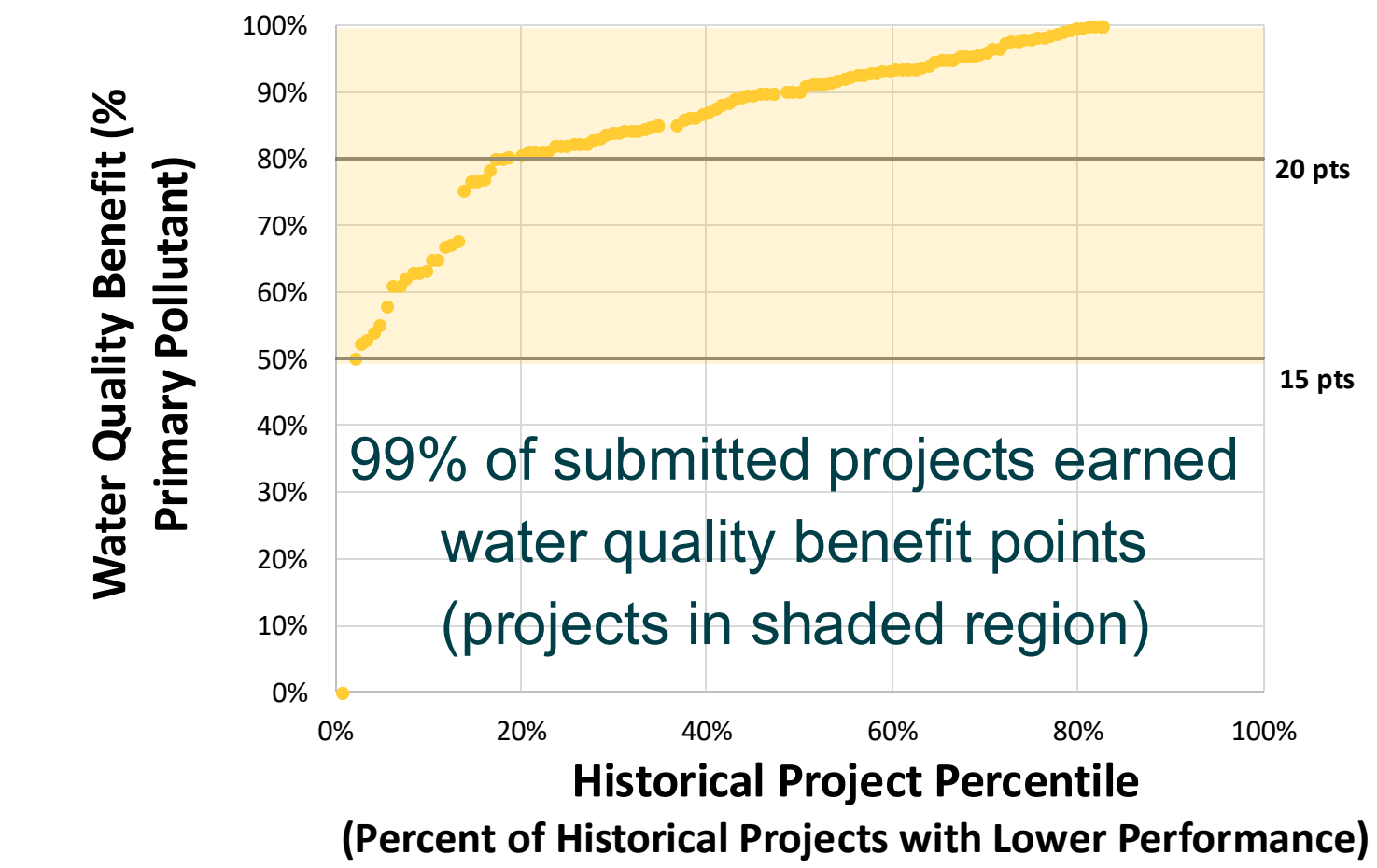


Insight: about 80% of projects earn maximum benefit points

Review of Current Water Quality Scoring Criteria
FSG A.1.2

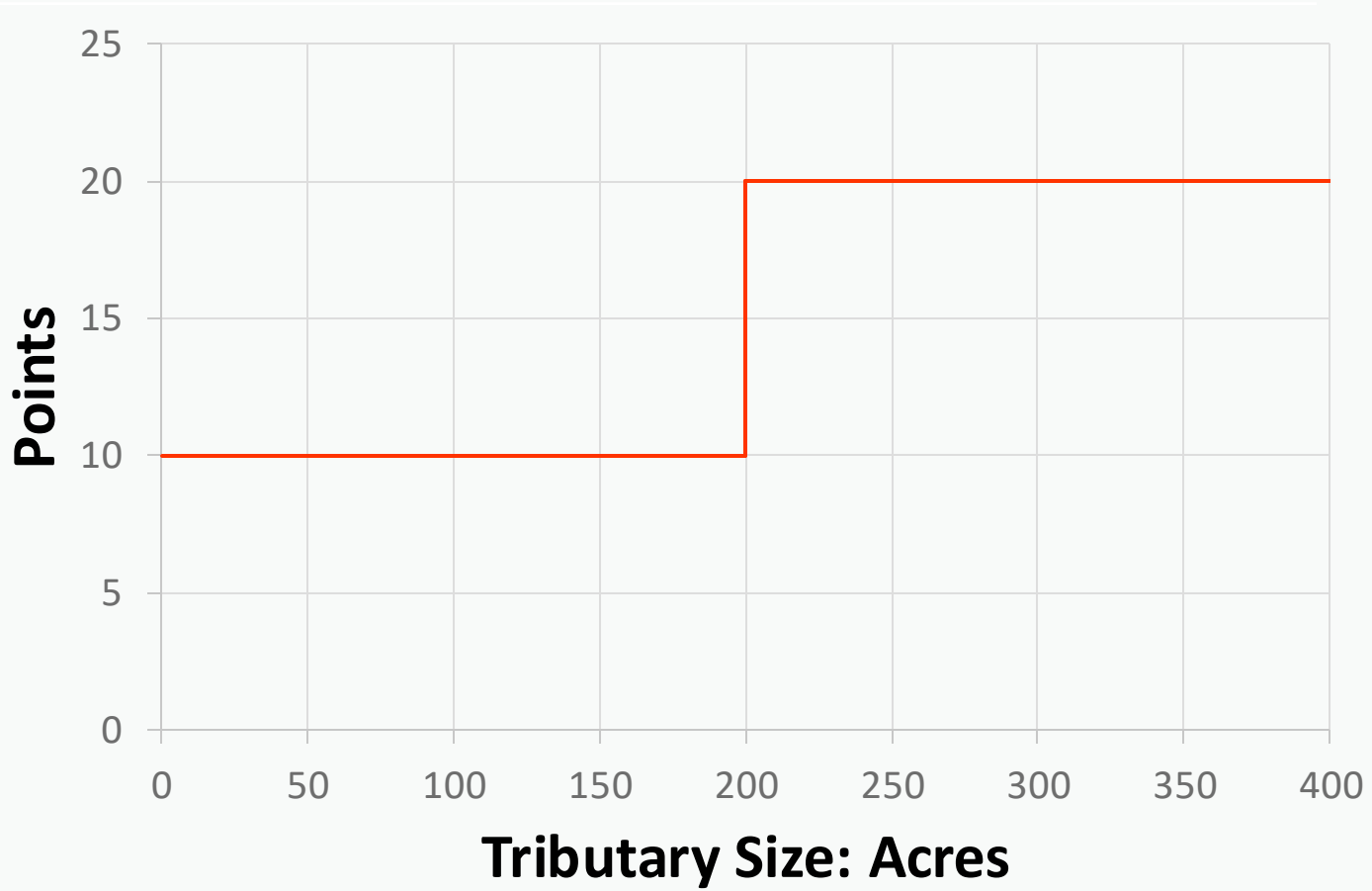
Water Quality Benefit Score (Wet Weather BMPs only)

Note: % reduction based on what enters project, not based on total watershed contributions



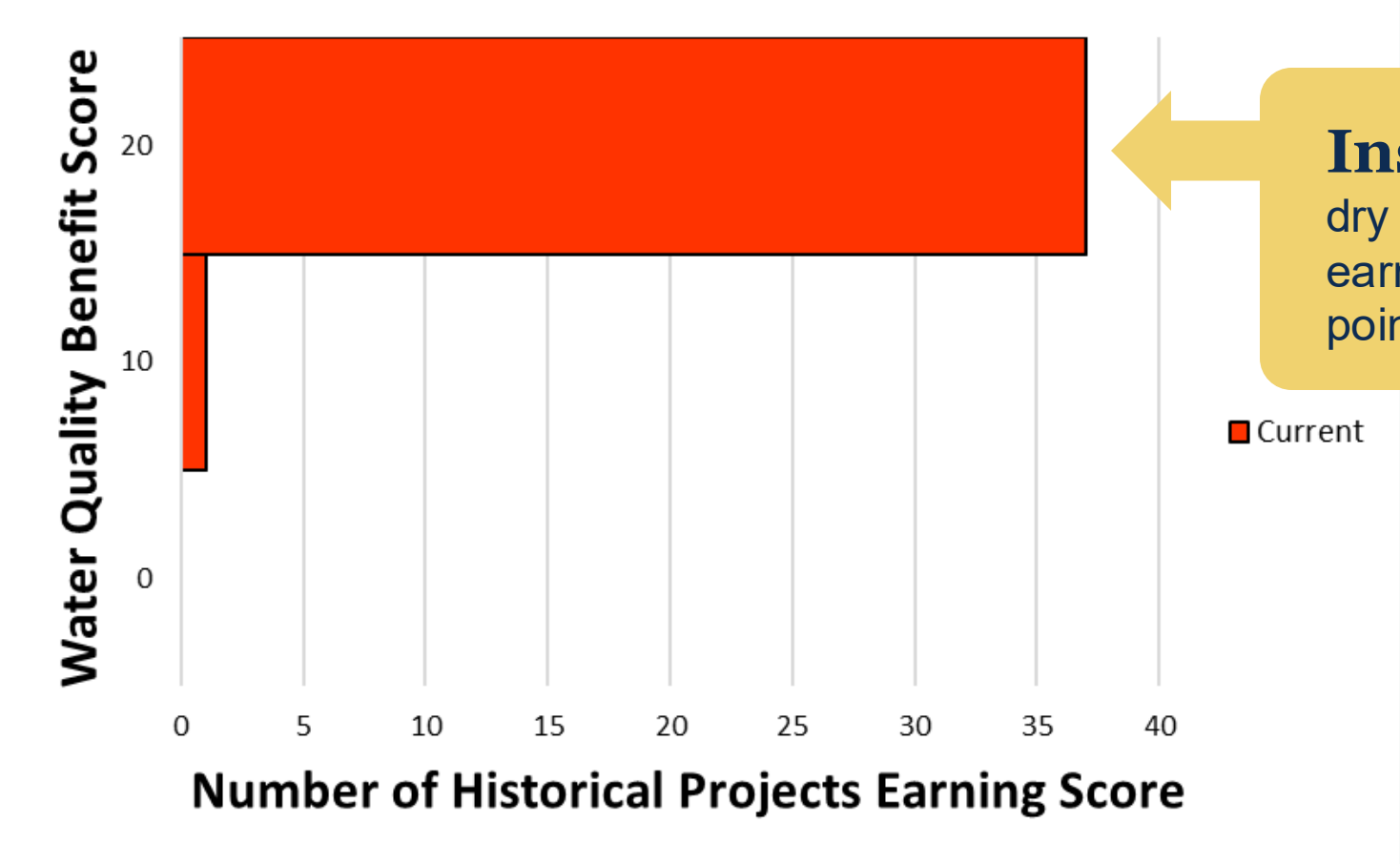
Review of Current Water Quality Scoring Criteria
FSG A.2.2

Water Quality Benefit Score (Dry Weather BMPs only)



Review of Current Water Quality Scoring Criteria
FSG A.2.2

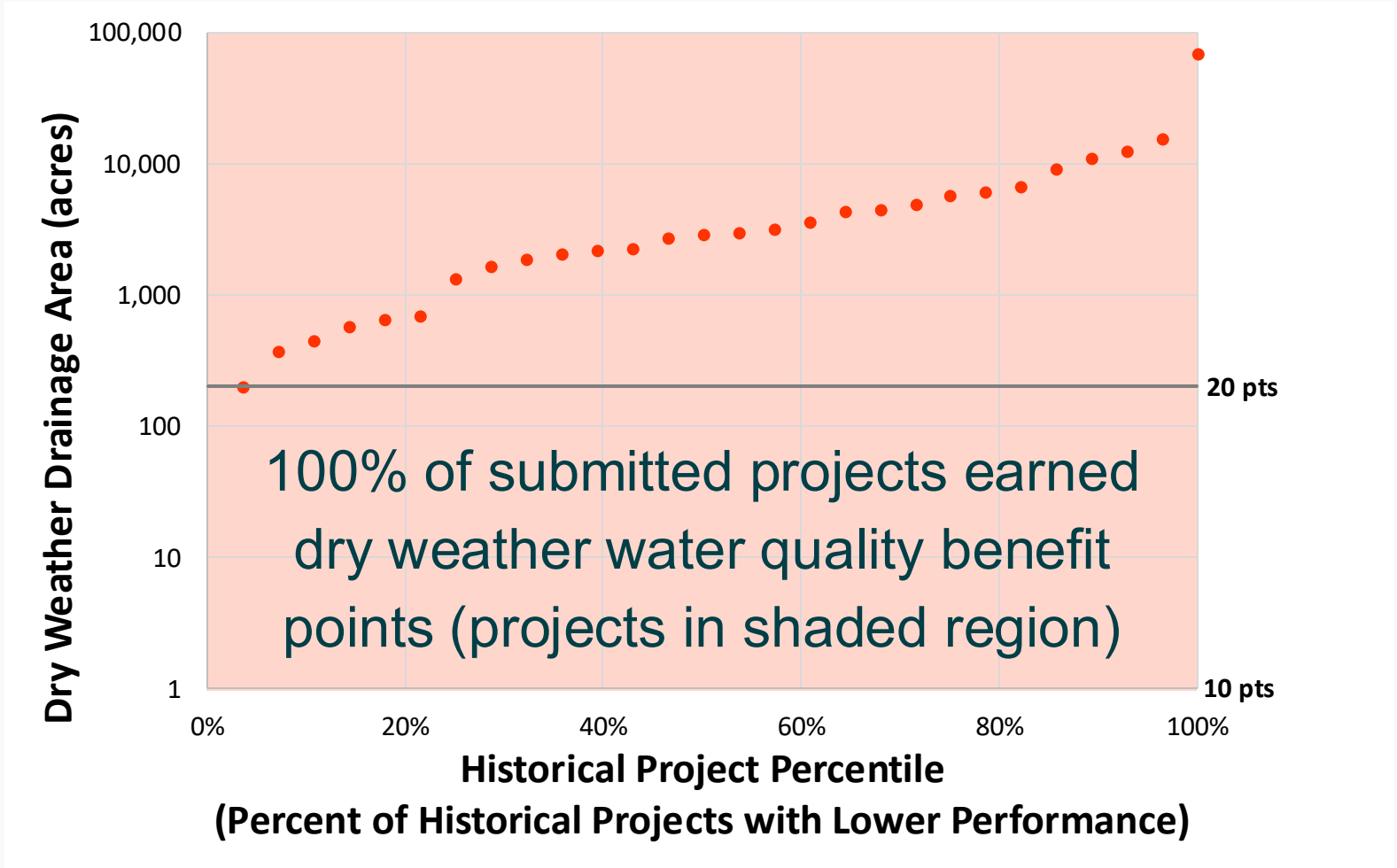
Water Quality Benefit Score (Dry Weather BMPs only)



Insight: almost all dry weather projects earn maximum benefit points

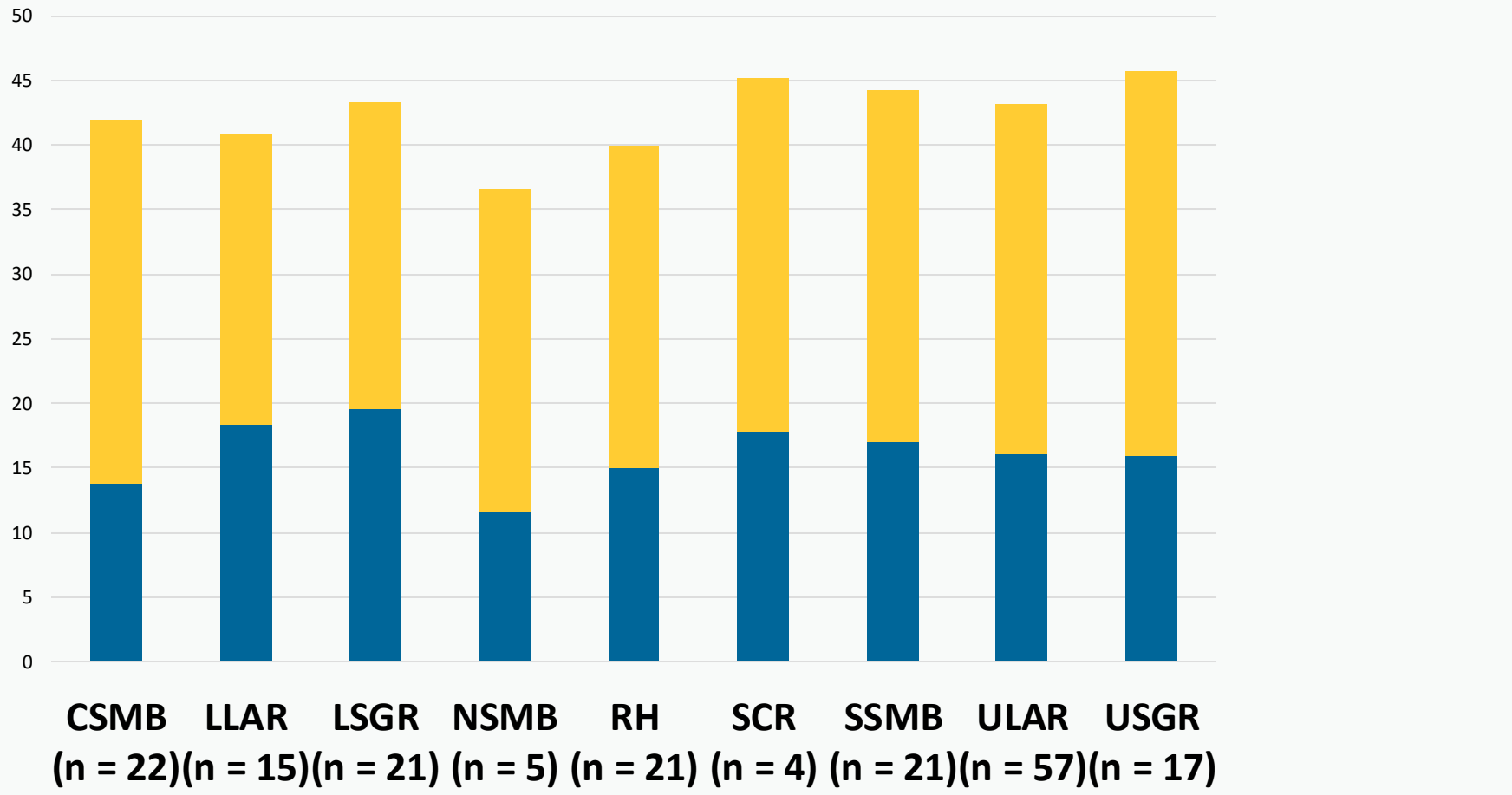
Review of Current Water Quality Scoring Criteria
FSG A.2.2

Water Quality Benefit Score (Dry Weather BMPs only)



Review of Current Water Quality Scoring Criteria

Watershed Area Comparison

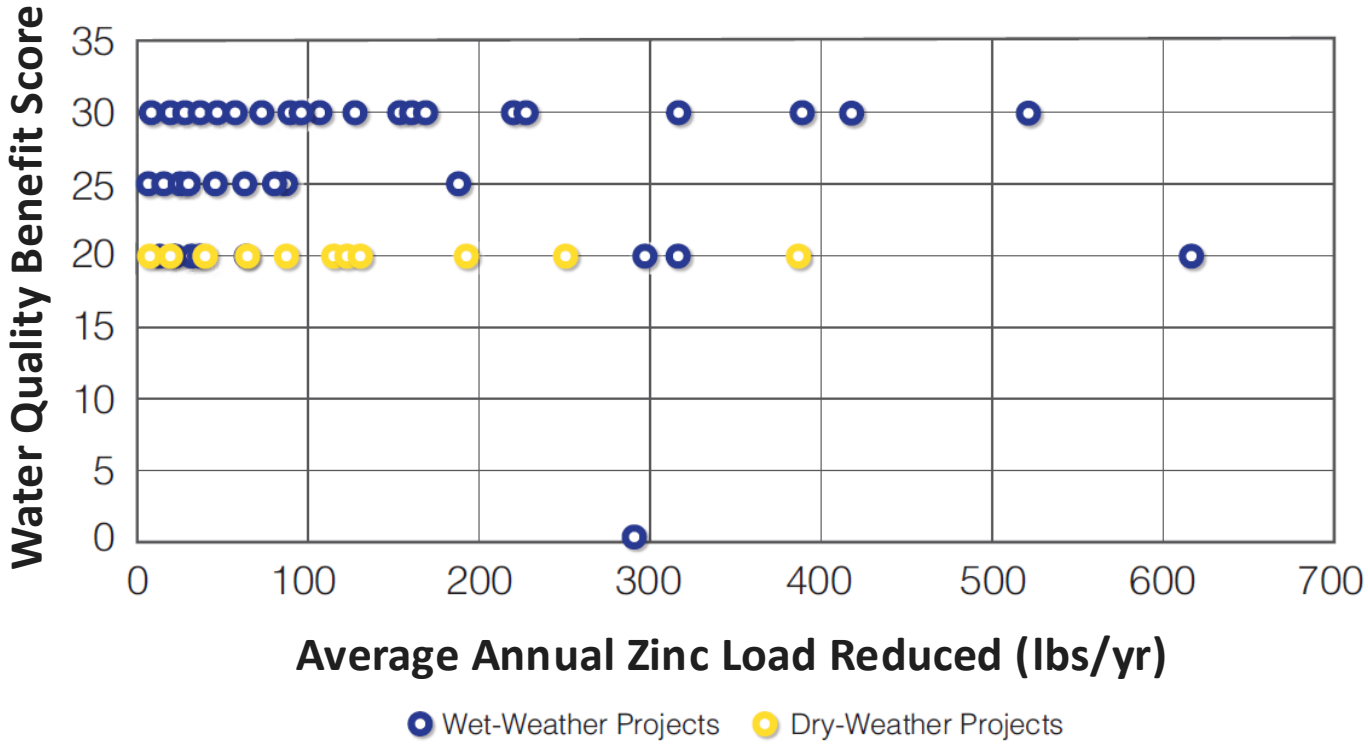


Drivers for Water Quality Scoring Adaptation

Drivers for Water Quality Scoring Adaptation

- Need to consider how inflation and economic changes impact cost-based Water Quality cost-effectiveness scoring
- Need to evaluate how to better align Water Quality Benefit scoring criteria with MMS-recommended water quality Performance Measures

Insight: Water Quality Benefit scores do not correlate with MMS Water Quality Benefit Performance Measures (pounds of pollutant)



Alternative Water Quality Scoring Rubrics

Alternative Rubrics

1

Adding Gradation to Current Scoring Rubric:
Provides additional granularity so that projects can score at one-point increments, applied to current criteria

2

Using 85th Percentile Storm Capture & Adding Gradation:
Creates an optional scoring rubric that uses an estimation of the runoff captured during an 85th percentile design storm

3

Calibrating Scoring to Historical Projects:
Evenly scales the scoring criteria across the range of proposed project performance from the first five rounds of Program implementation

4

Using Pollutant Mass:
Mass of Zinc captured by a project were used to develop scoring metrics that were awarded at one-point increments

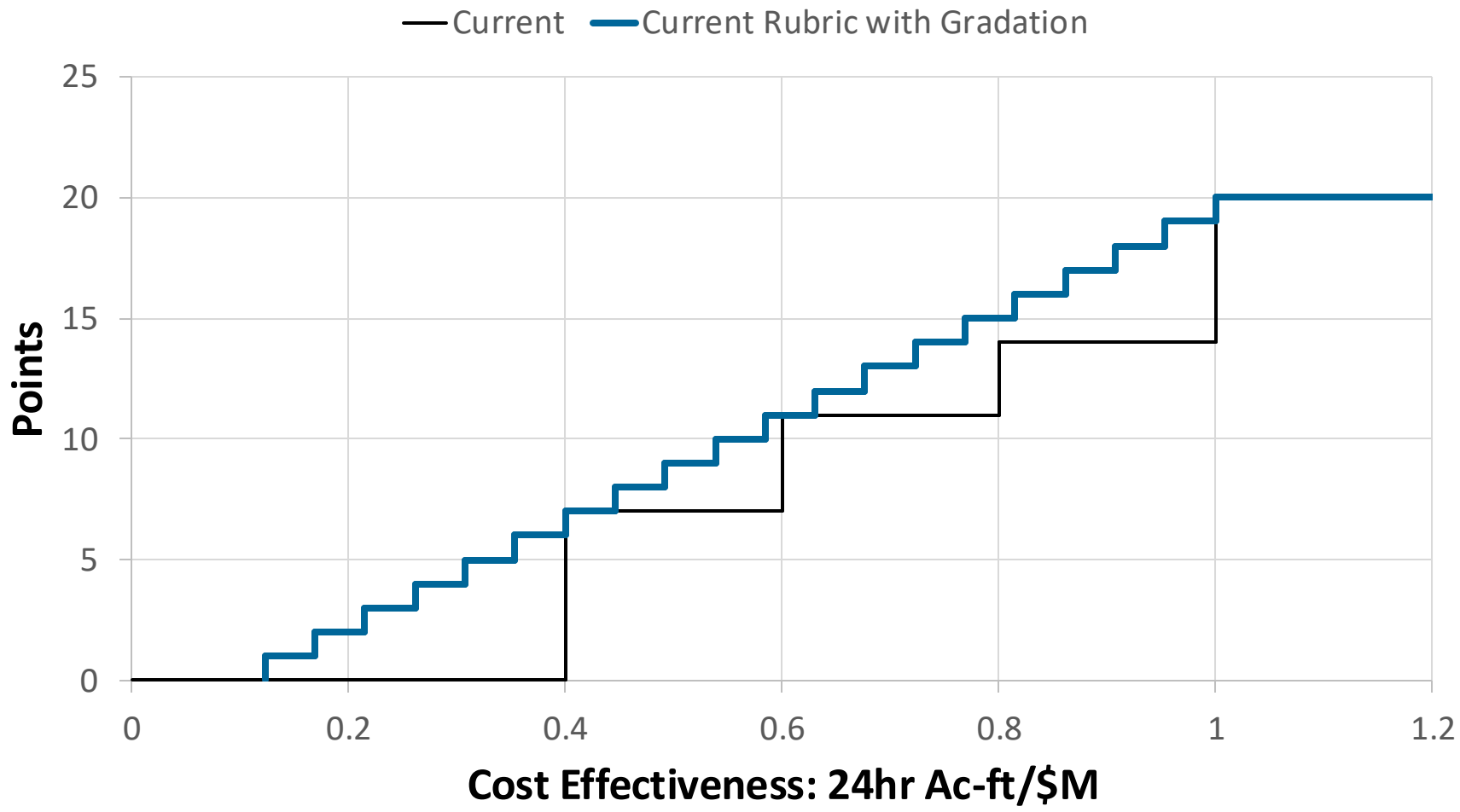
Basis for Analysis: First 5 Years of Infrastructure Program Applications

- **Projects "Under Development" were screened out.** Project applications "Under Development" may be incomplete and have not yet been submitted for scoring. The analysis included **183 projects** from the following categories: Accepted Funded (134), Considered Not Funded (41), Refer to Technical Resource Program (4), Withdrawn (4).
- **Duplicate Projects were screened out.** If multiple submissions exist in the module for the same phase of the same project, all but the most recent submission were screened out.
- **Scores were analyzed assuming reported scores for dry weather projects for dry weather flow capture.** This analysis did not consider adjusted metrics for dry weather capture. A total of 144 wet weather projects and 39 dry weather projects were included in the analysis.
- **Zero values or "N/A" values were excluded from the analysis.** The module data included zero/null 24-hour capacity and/or zero/null pollutant capture for some projects. Scores for those criteria were not computed for projects with missing data.

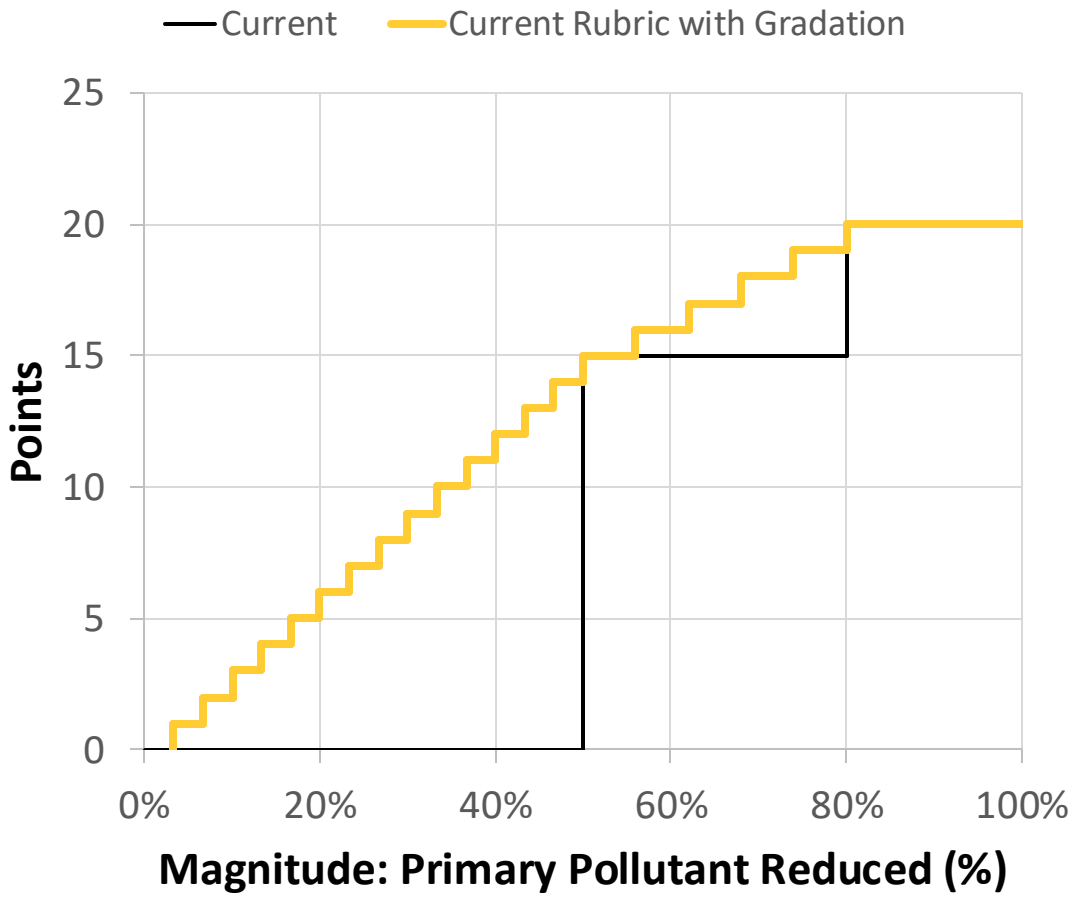
Alternative 1: Adding Gradation FSG A.1.1

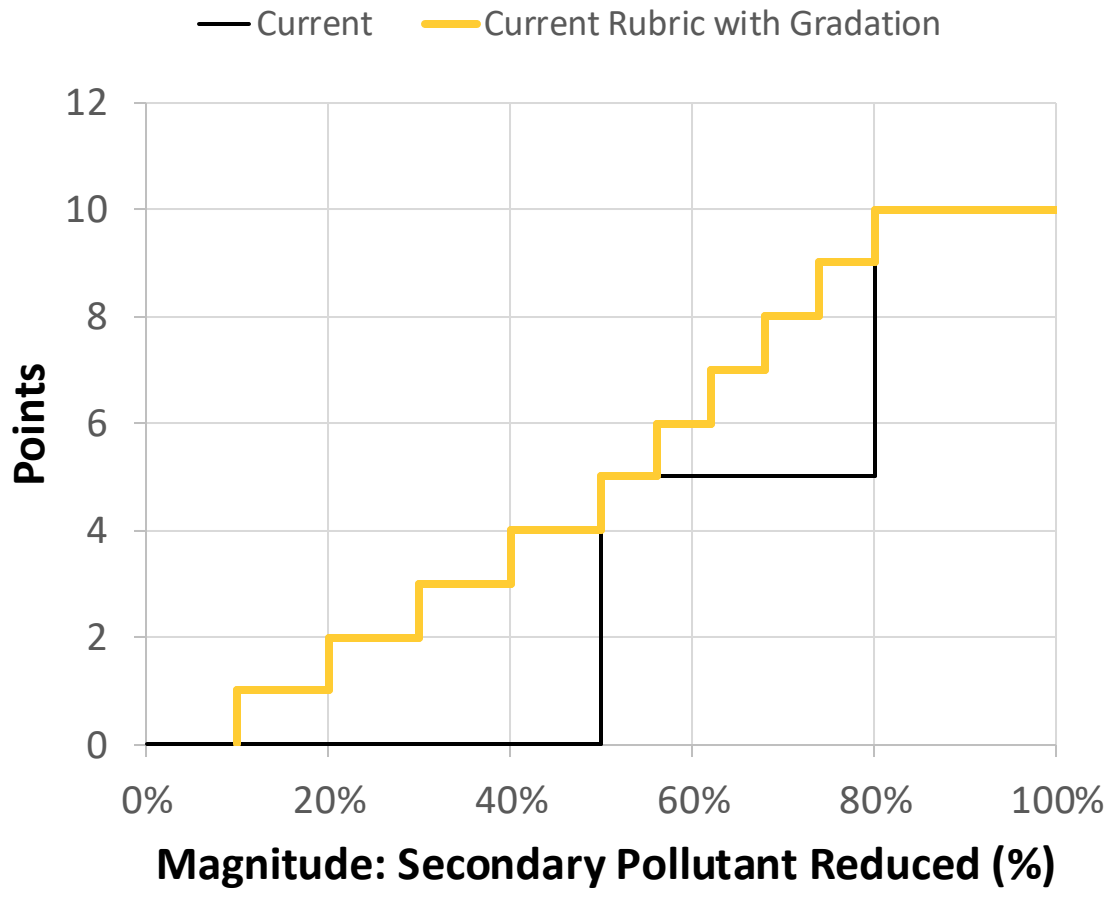
Approach

- Straight-line rubric from upper to lower point values
- Add 1-pt scoring increments

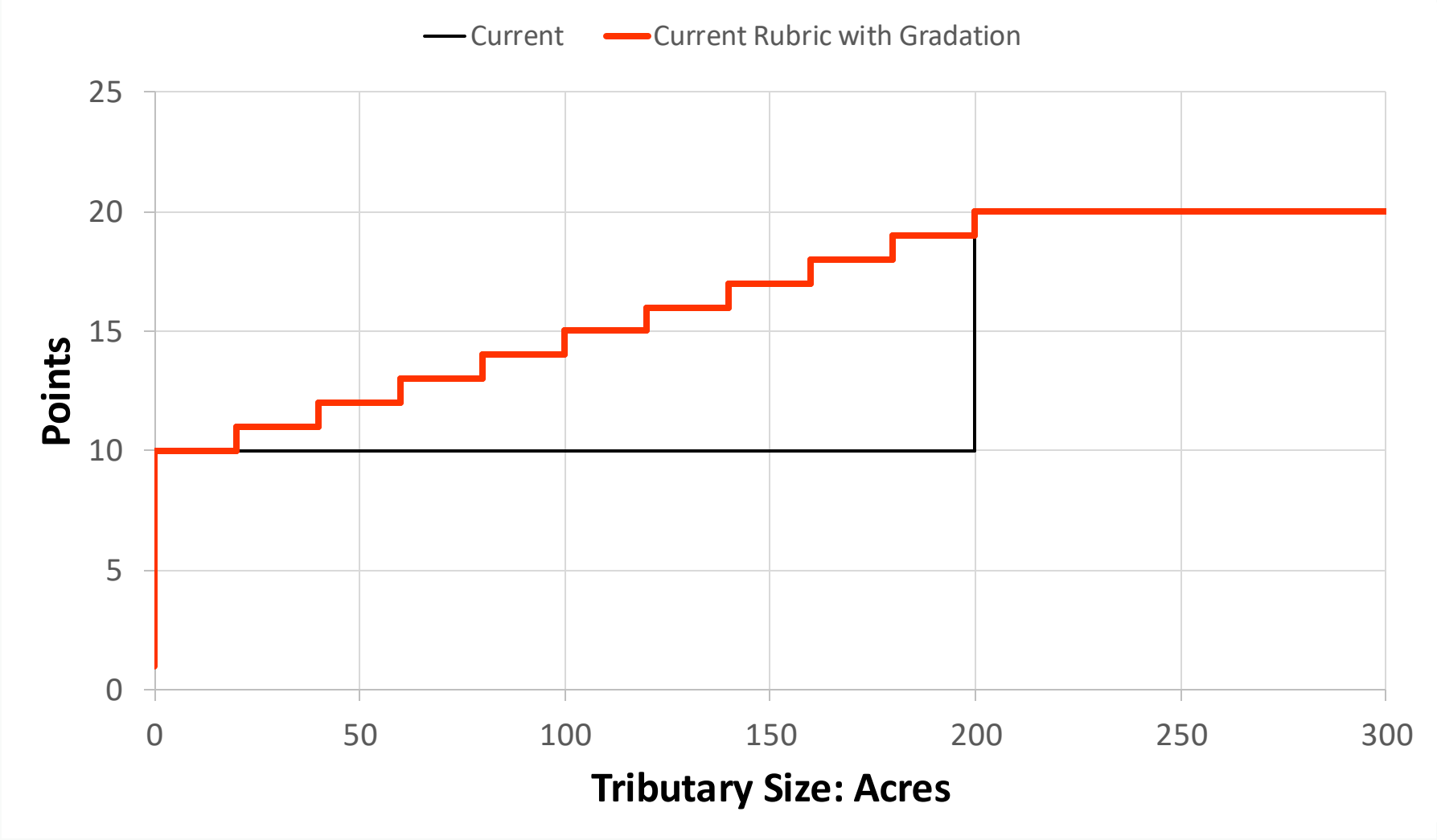


Alternative 1: Adding Gradation FSG A.1.2





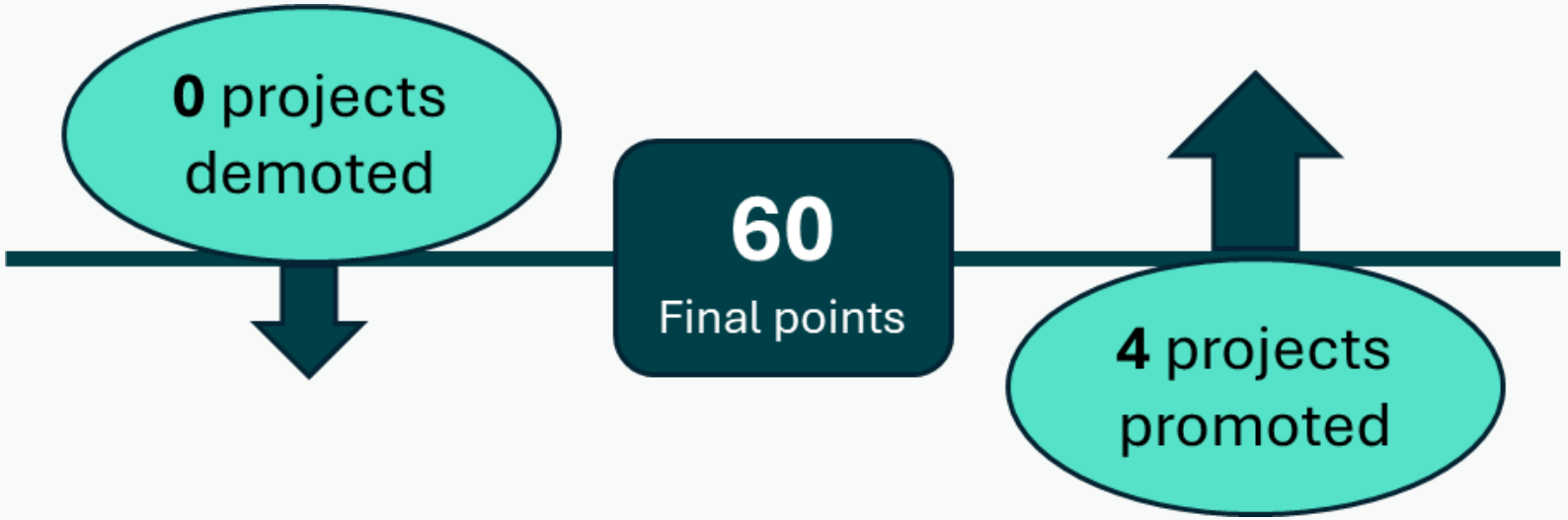
Alternative 1: Adding Gradation FSG A.2.2



Alternative 1: Adding Gradation

Impact: Tends to result in a minor net increase in points due to added granularity

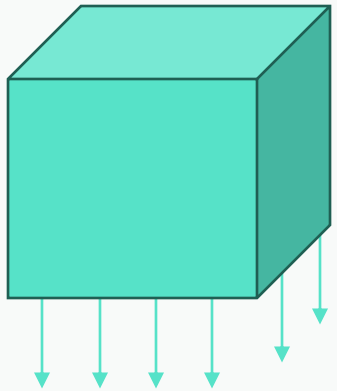
	Change in Score of Historical Projects Under Alternative Criteria		
Scoring Category	**Greatest Decrease**	**Mean Change**	**Greatest Increase**
Cost Effectiveness	0	1	6
Water Quality Benefit	0	0.5	8



Alternative 2: Using 85th %-ile Storm Capture - FSG A.1.1

Current Scoring:
Based on 24-Hour
BMP Capacity Volume

STORAGE VOLUME + 24-hr THROUGHPUT (e.g., infiltration)

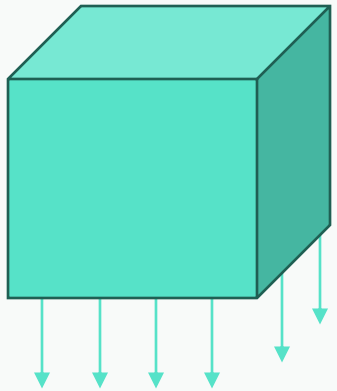


Feasibility Study Guidelines: Management of the 24-hour event is considered the maximum capacity of a Project for a 24-hour period.

Alternative 2: Using 85th %-ile Storm Capture - FSG A.1.1

Current Scoring: Based on 24-Hour BMP Capacity Volume

STORAGE VOLUME + 24-hr THROUGHPUT (e.g., infiltration)



Insight: scoring based on capacity is independent of drainage area to the project

e.g., two projects of the same size would earn the same cost effectiveness score, even if one manages 1 acre and the other manages 10,000 acres

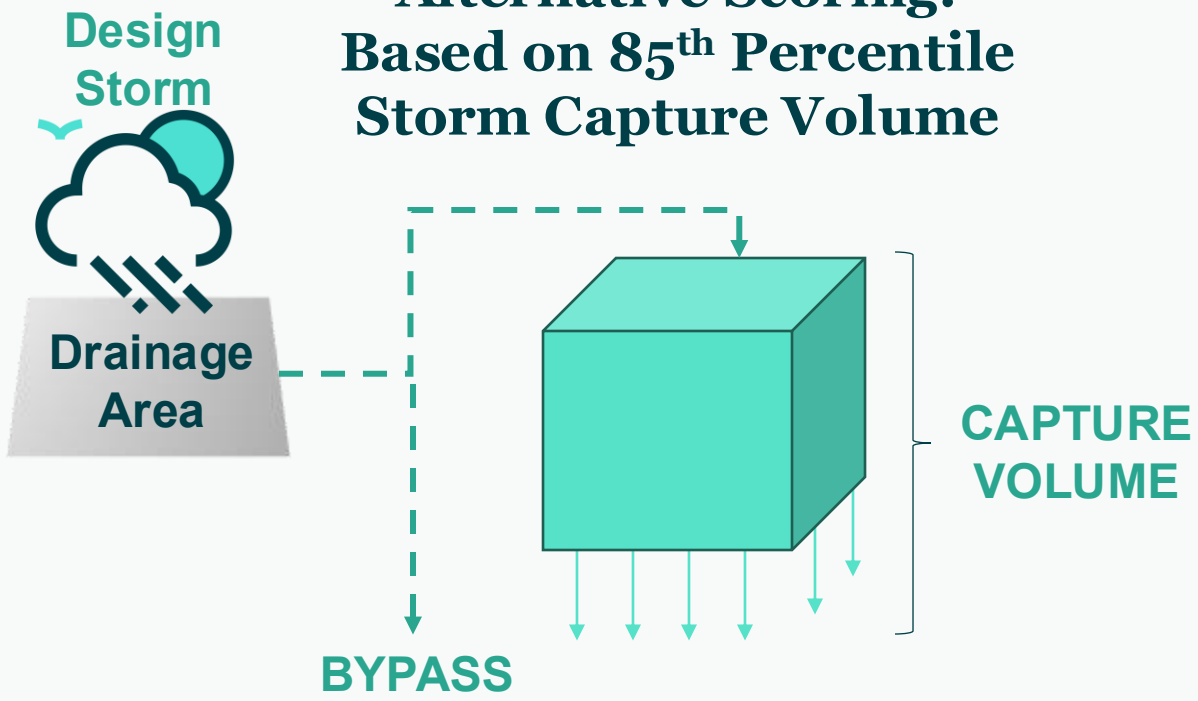
Feasibility Study Guidelines: Management of the 24-hour event is considered the maximum capacity of a Project for a 24-hour period.

Alternative 2: Using 85th %-ile Storm Capture - FSG A.1.1

Current Scoring: Based on 24-Hour BMP Capacity Volume

STORAGE VOLUME + 24-hr THROUGHPUT (e.g., infiltration)

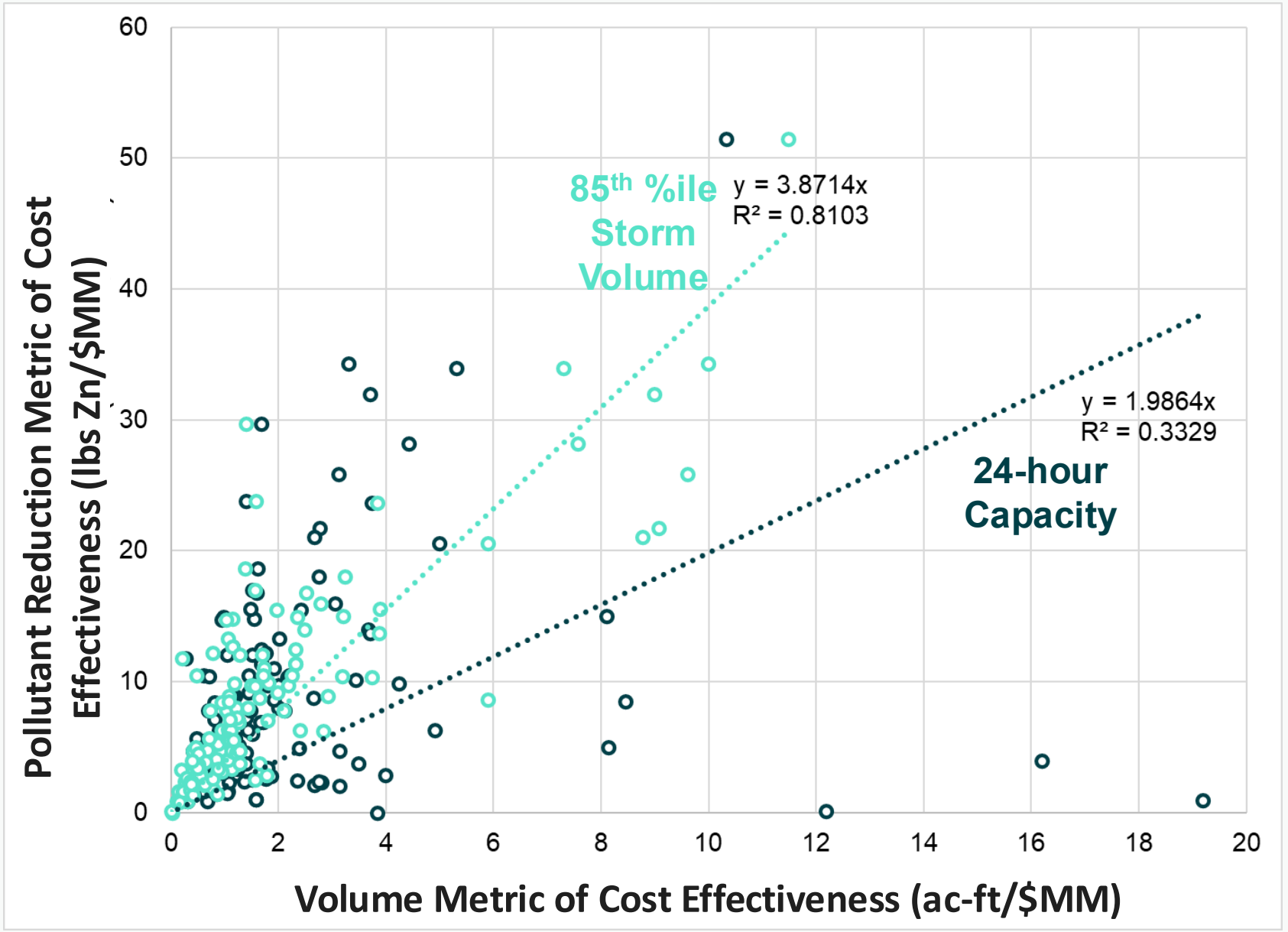
Alternative Scoring: Based on 85th Percentile Storm Capture Volume



Feasibility Study Guidelines: Management of the 24-hour event is considered the maximum capacity of a Project for a 24-hour period. For water quality focused Projects, this would typically be the 85th percentile design storm capacity

Alternative 2: Using 85th %-ile Storm Capture - FSG A.1.1

Insight: 85th %-ile storm volume better correlates with pollutant capture (i.e., Water Quality Benefit)



Alternative 2: Using 85th %-ile Storm Capture - FSG A.1.1

Approach

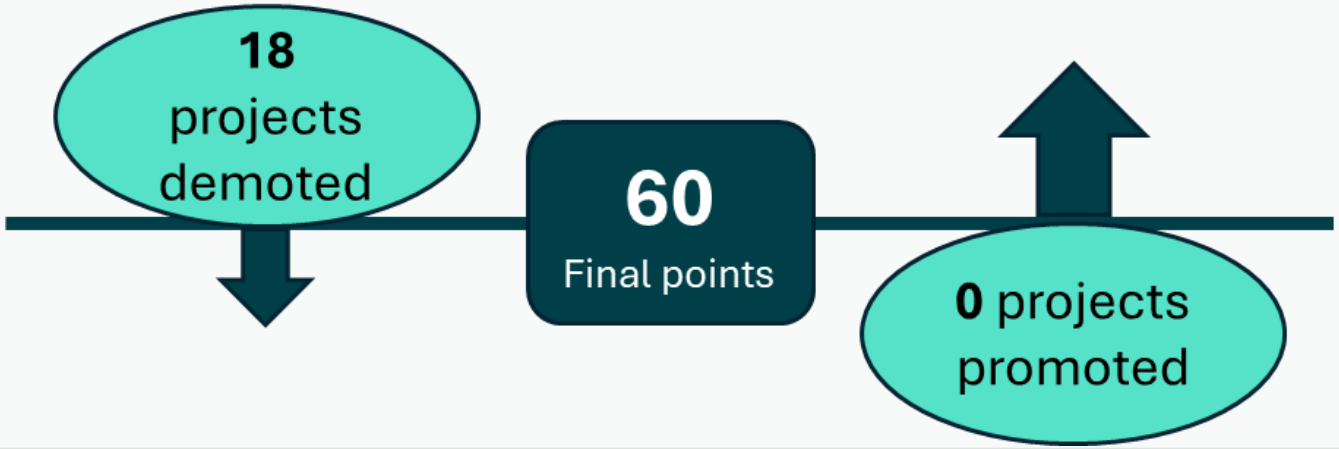
- Estimated 85th %-ile runoff volume (not capture) for all historical projects
- Used Alternative 1 rubric with 1-pt increments to compute score using runoff volume
- **NOTE: Project Module will include HydroCalc-based estimates of 85th %-ile storm capture volumes, whereas runoff volume to each project was used as a proxy in this preliminary scoring analysis.**

Alternative 2: Using 85th %-ile Storm Capture - FSG A.1.1

Impact: Tends to moderately decrease scores but better align with Water Quality Benefit*

	Change in Score of Historical Projects Under Alternative Criteria		
Scoring Rubric	**Greatest Decrease**	**Mean Change**	**Greatest Increase**
Using 85th %-ile w/Gradation	**-20**	**-1.9**	**9**
More Favorable of 85th %-ile or 24-hr Capacity w/Gradation	**0**	**1.3**	**9**

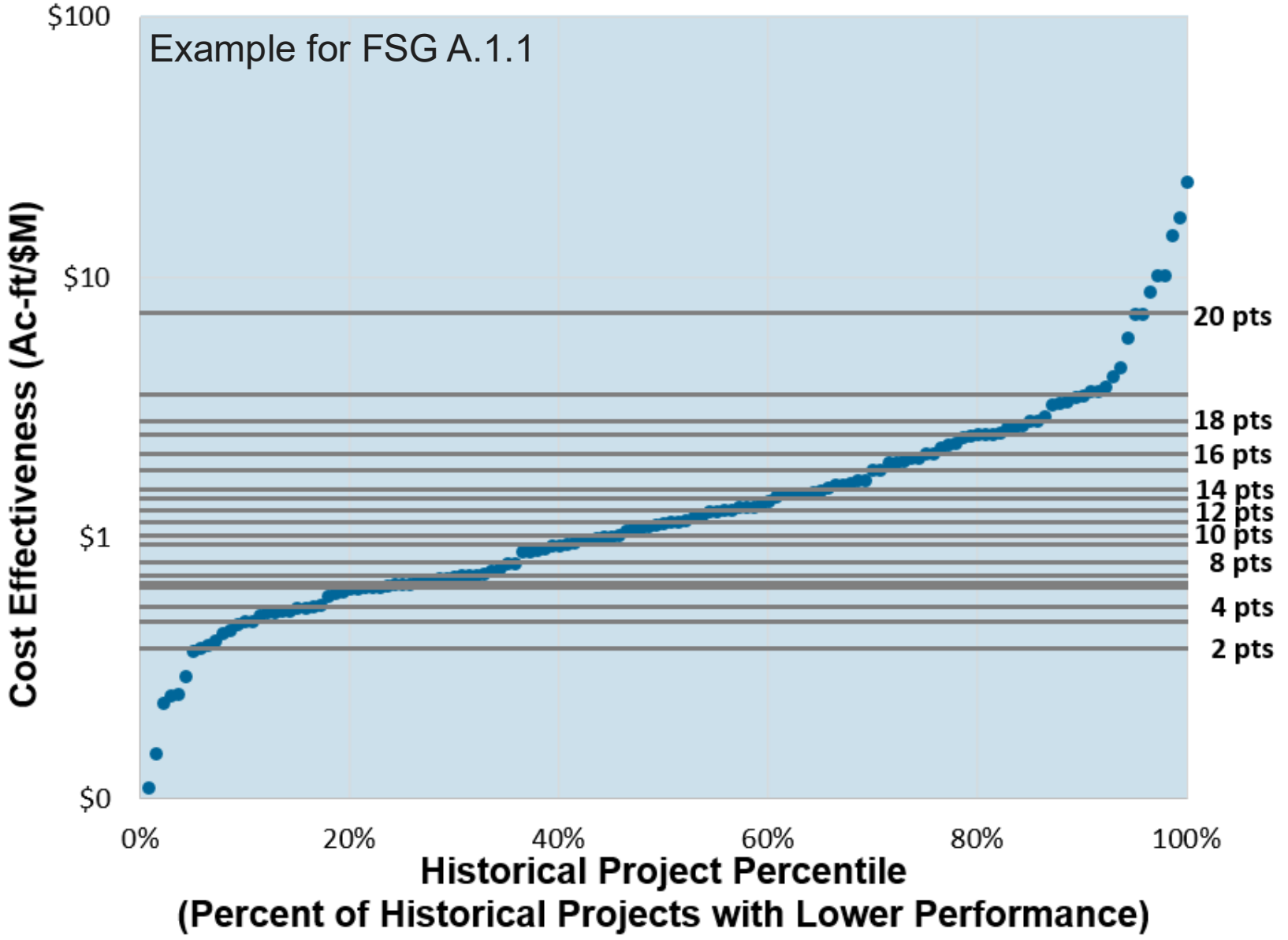
* Using BMP capture volume (instead of runoff volume) will further decrease scores but better align with benefits



Alternative 3: Calibrating to Historical Projects with Added Gradation

Approach

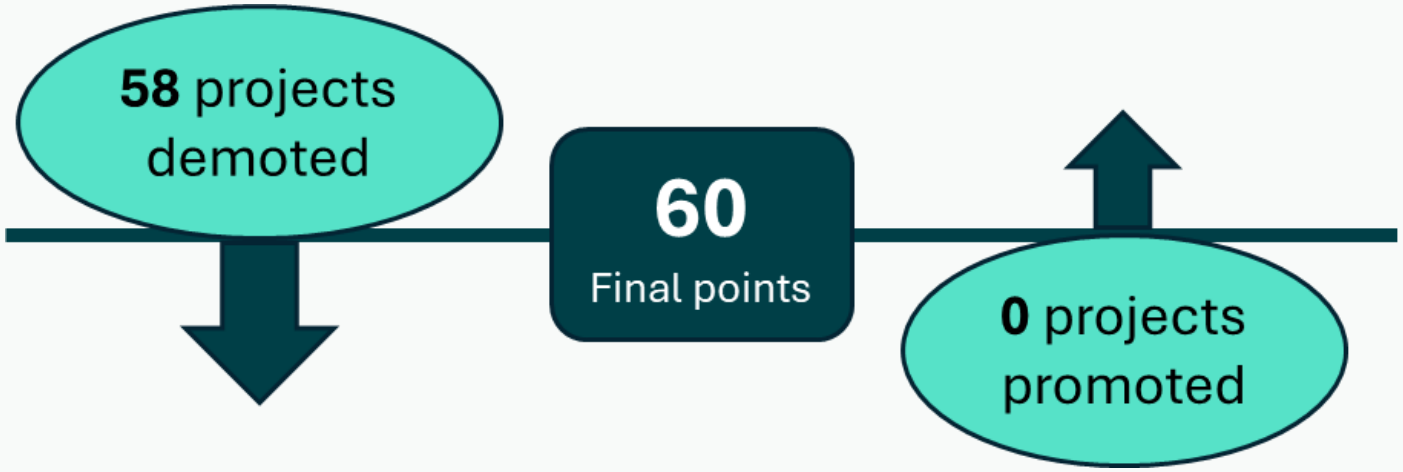
- Evenly distribute point scale based on range of proposed Infrastructure Program project performance
- Comparable to "grading on a curve"
- Also provide 1-pt increments



Alternative 3: Calibrating to Historical Projects with Added Gradation

Impact: Tends to severely decrease scores because majority of historical projects achieve upper range of points under current rubric

	Change in Score of Historical Projects Under Alternative Criteria		
Scoring Category	**Greatest Decrease**	**Mean Change**	**Greatest Increase**
Cost Effectiveness	**-11**	**-3.6**	**2**
Water Quality Benefit	**-19**	**-8**	**2**

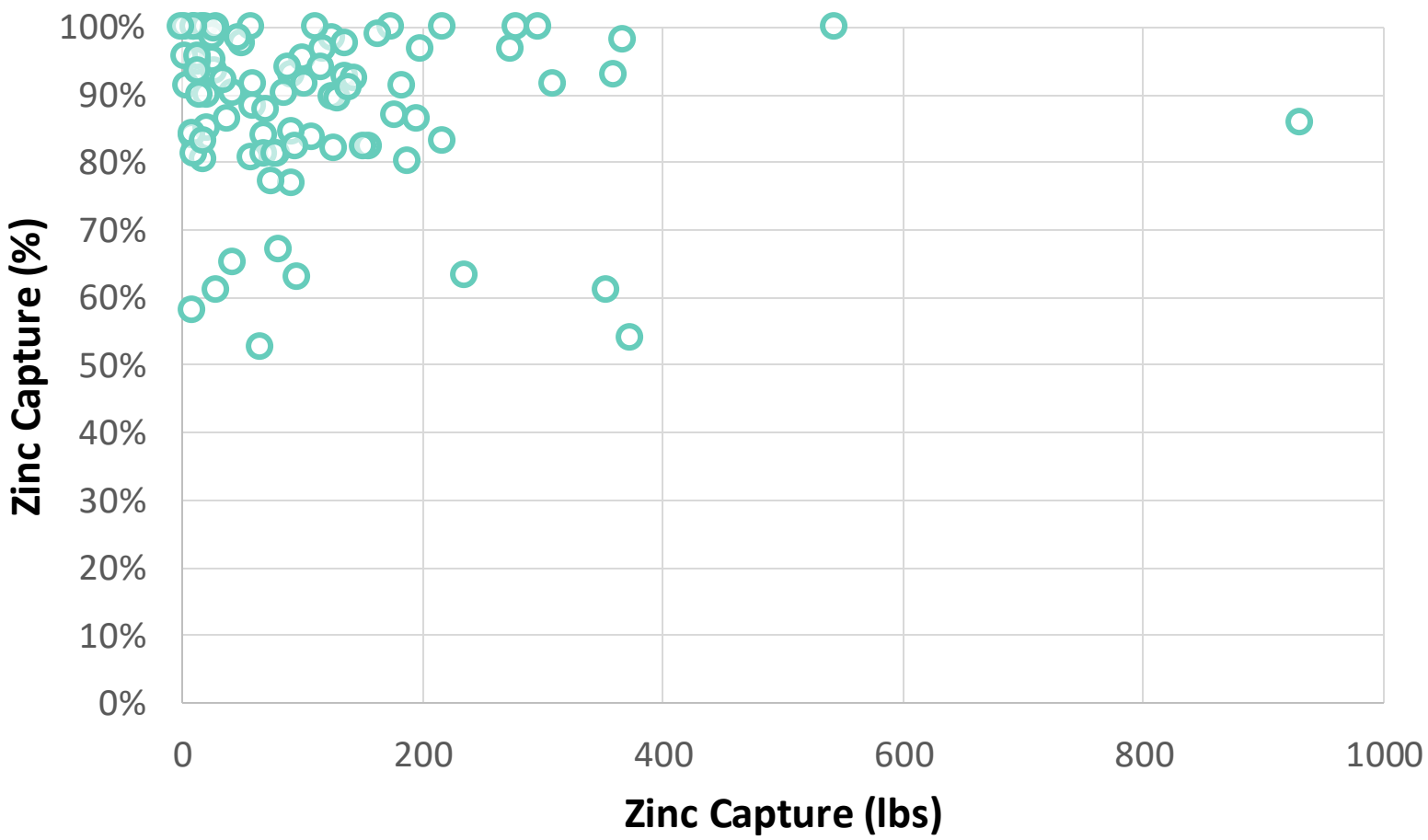


Alternative 4: Using Pollutant Mass with Added Gradation

Approach

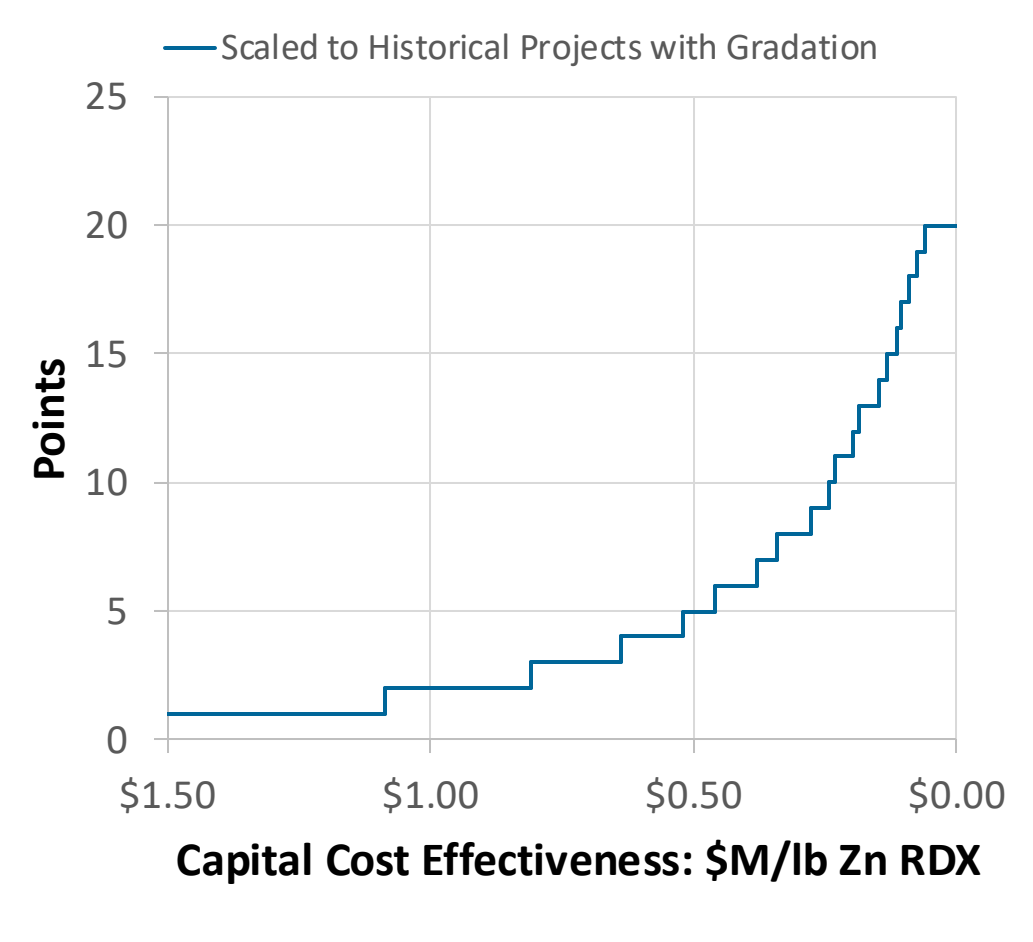
- Estimate total mass (not % capture) of pollutant capture by each project
- Evenly distribute point scale based on range of proposed Infrastructure Program project performance

Insight: current scoring based on % reduction of what enters the BMP is not correlated with total Water Quality Benefits

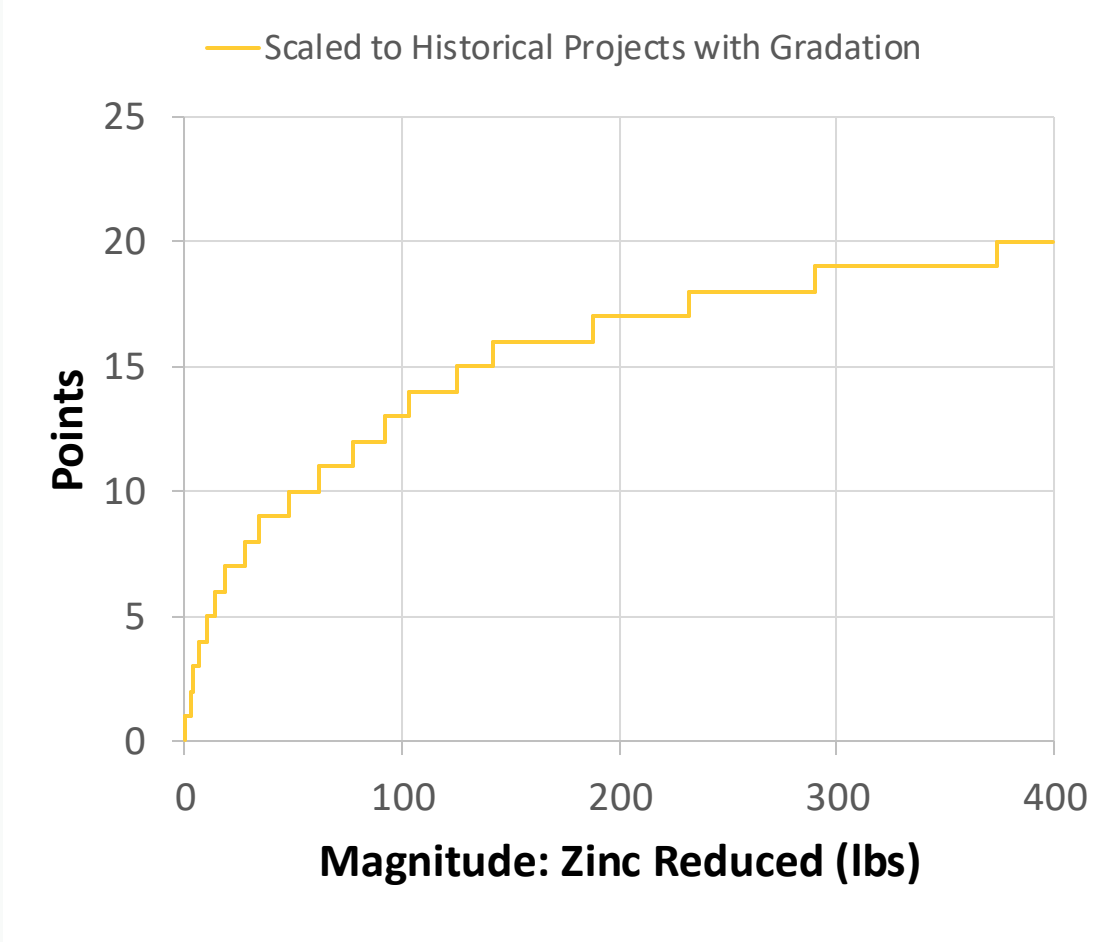


Alternative 4: Using Pollutant Mass with Added Gradation

FSG A.1.1/A.2.1



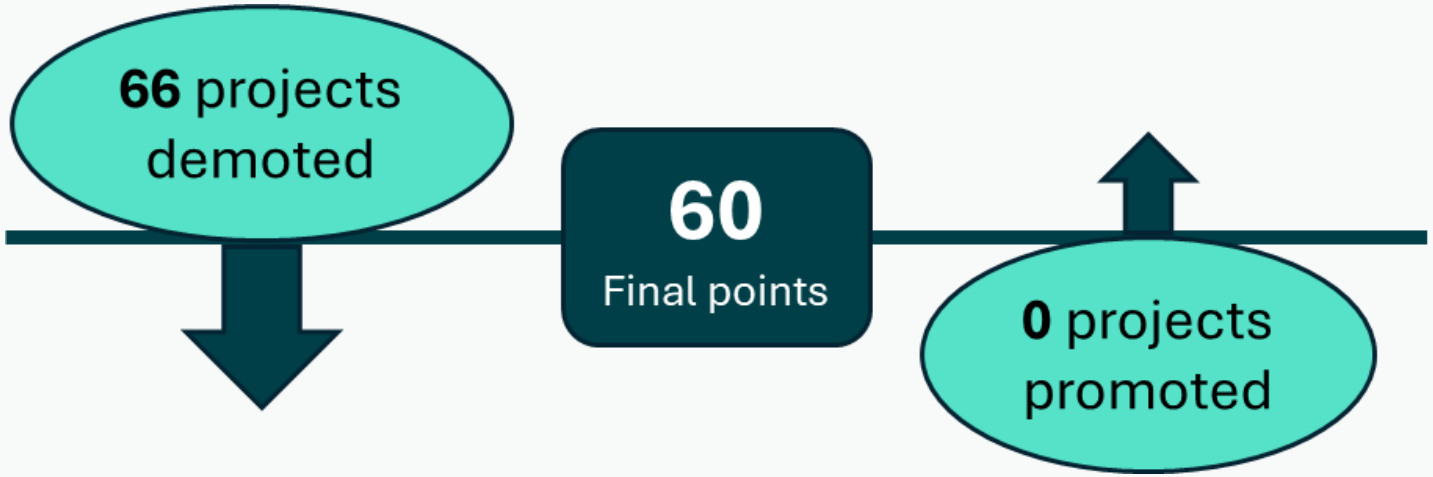
FSG A.1.2/A.2.2



Alternative 4: Using Pollutant Mass with Added Gradation

Impact: Best aligns with Water Quality Benefits, but tends to severely decrease scores because majority of historical projects achieve upper range of points with current rubric

	Change in Score of Historical Projects Under Alternative Criteria		
Scoring Rubric	**Greatest Decrease**	**Mean Change**	**Greatest Increase**
Cost Effectiveness	**-19**	**-3**	**17**
Water Quality Benefit	**-29**	**-9.8**	**10**



Considerations for Adaptation of Water Quality Scoring

Considerations for Adaptation of Water Quality Scoring

- **Near Term:** Encourage gradual adaptation by adding 1-pt scoring increments and allowing the option to use 85th %-ile design storm capture volume
- **Long Term:** Evaluate results of pilot scoring using design storm capture and consider adjusting point scale to enable range of project sizes/types while still encouraging projects with substantial Water Quality Benefits and cost effectiveness

Water Quality Scoring Pilot Adaptation:

- Fiscal Year 2026-2027 (Due July 2025)
- Regional Program Applicants have option to use pilot rubric w/gradation and design storm capture volumes

Water Supply Scoring Adaptations

Water Supply Scoring Adaptations

Review of Current Water Supply Scoring Criteria

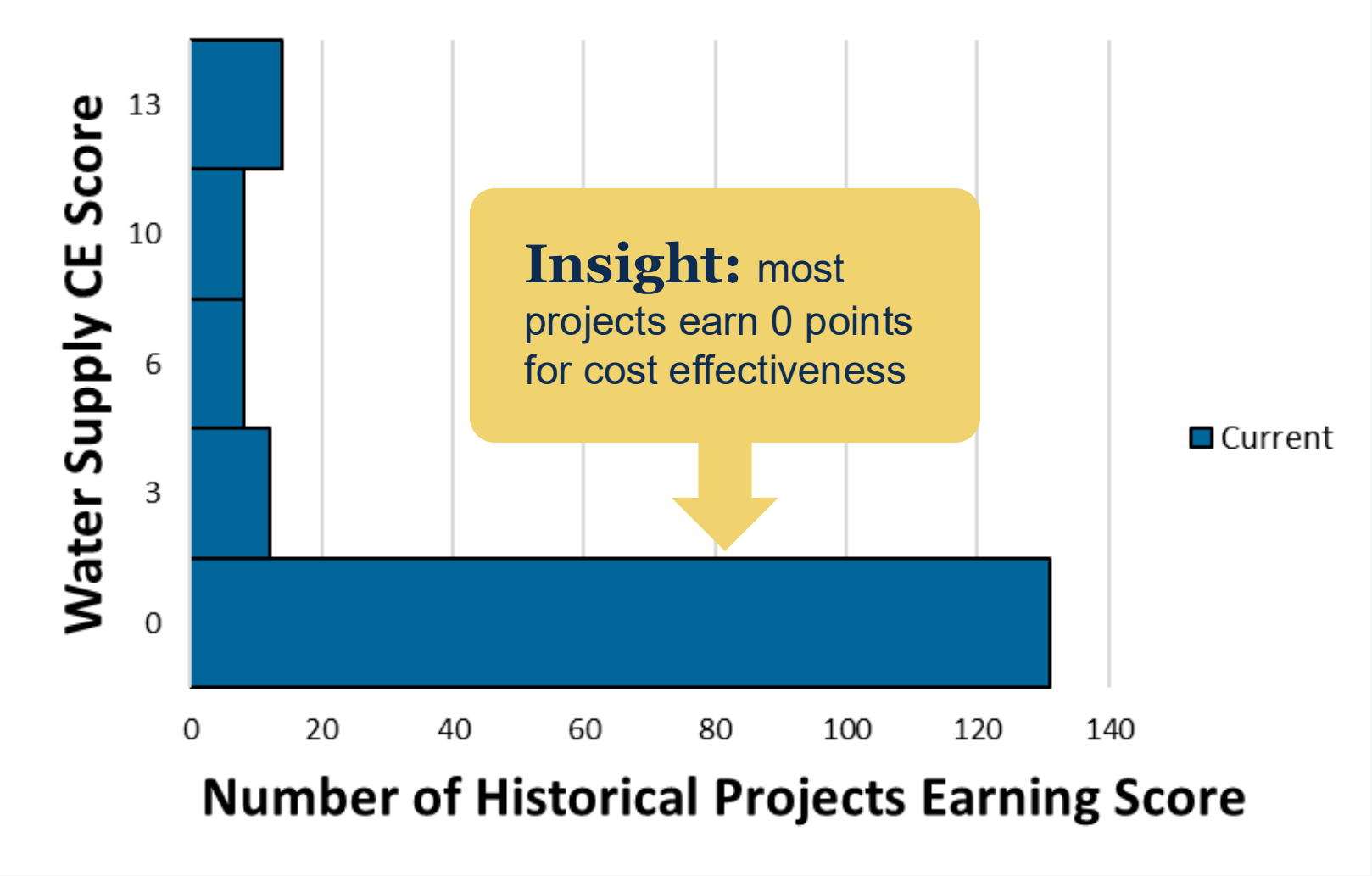
Drivers for Water Supply Scoring Adaptation

Alternative Water Supply Scoring Rubric

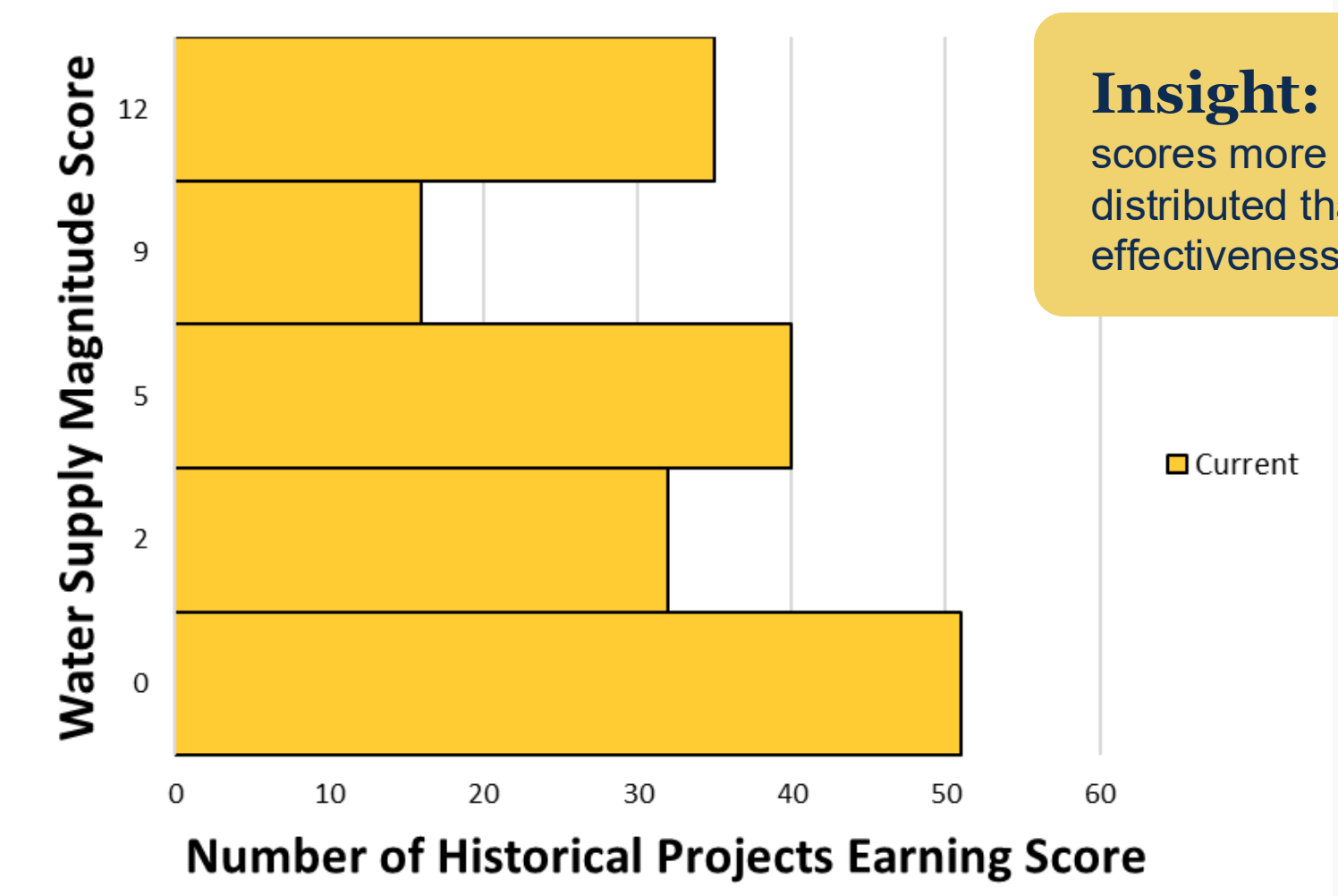
Considerations for Adaptation of Water Supply Scoring

Review of Current Water Supply Scoring Criteria

Review of Current Water Supply Scoring Criteria
FSG B.1
Cost Effectiveness



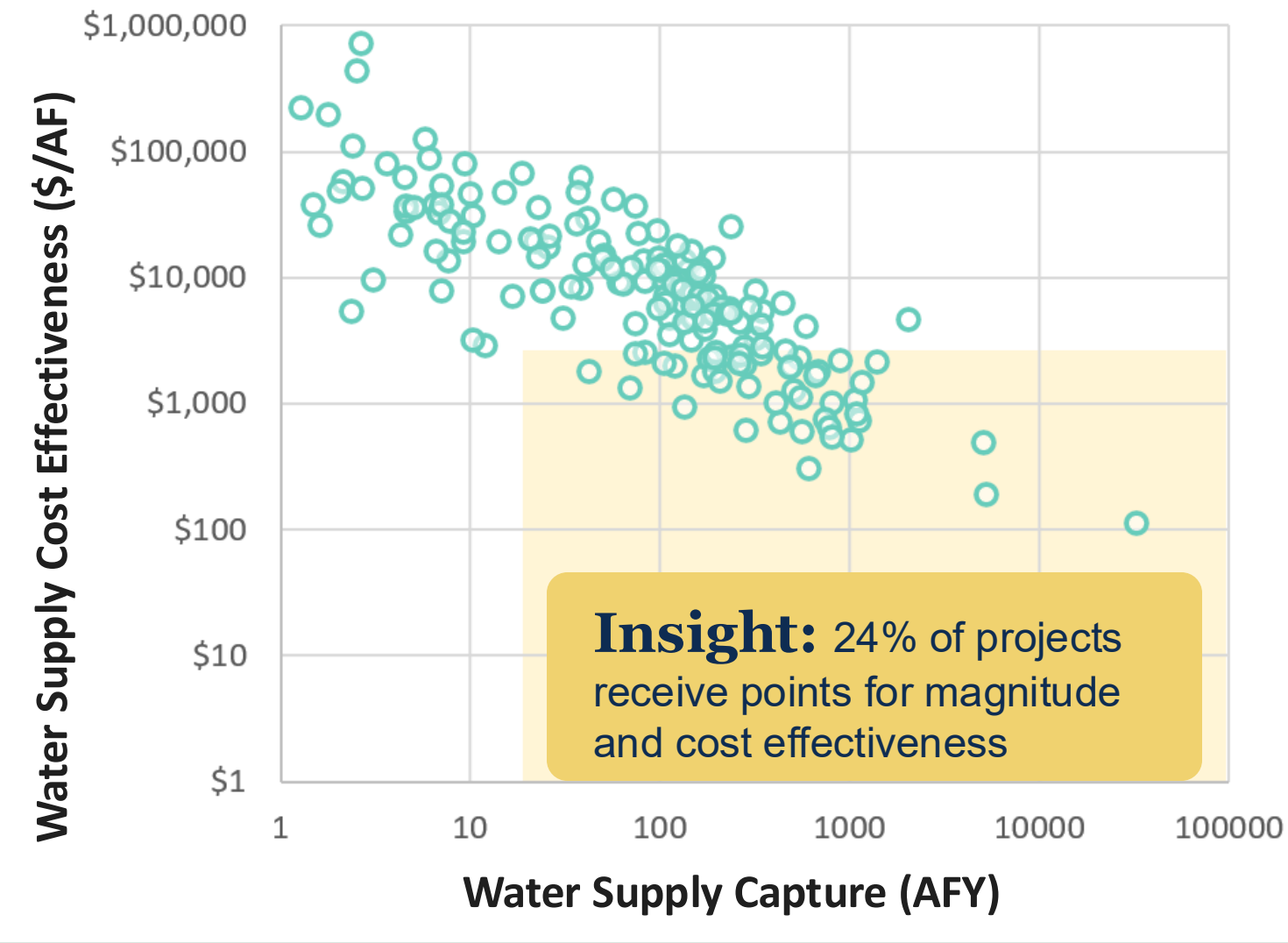
Review of Current Water Supply Scoring Criteria
FSG B.2
Magnitude



Insight: magnitude scores more evenly distributed than cost effectiveness scores

Drivers for Water Supply Scoring Adaptation

Review of Current Water Supply Scoring Criteria



MMS Recommendation 2.A

Drivers

- In first few rounds of SCW Program, most Regional Project applications earned no Water Supply Cost-Effectiveness points
- Cost-based scoring criteria were developed in 2018, and do not currently consider inflation and economic changes
- Interested parties suggested that Water Supply Benefits and scoring are challenging in some Watershed Areas

WATER SUPPLY BENEFIT SCORE BENCH-MARKING

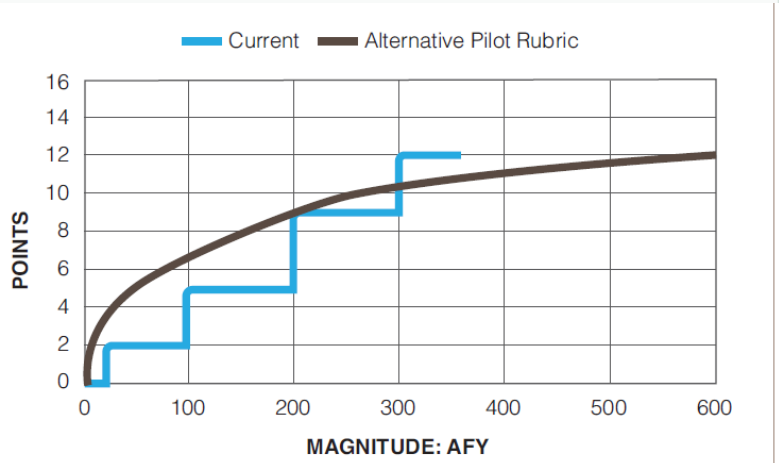
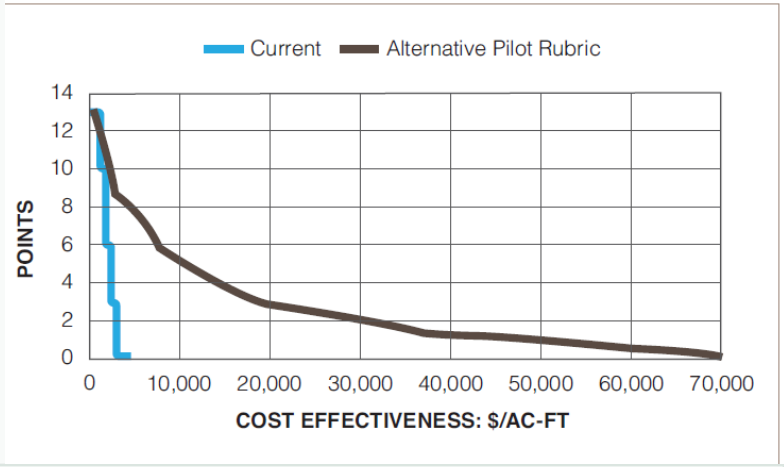


Figure 6. Current and Alternative Pilot Rubric for Water Supply Magnitude

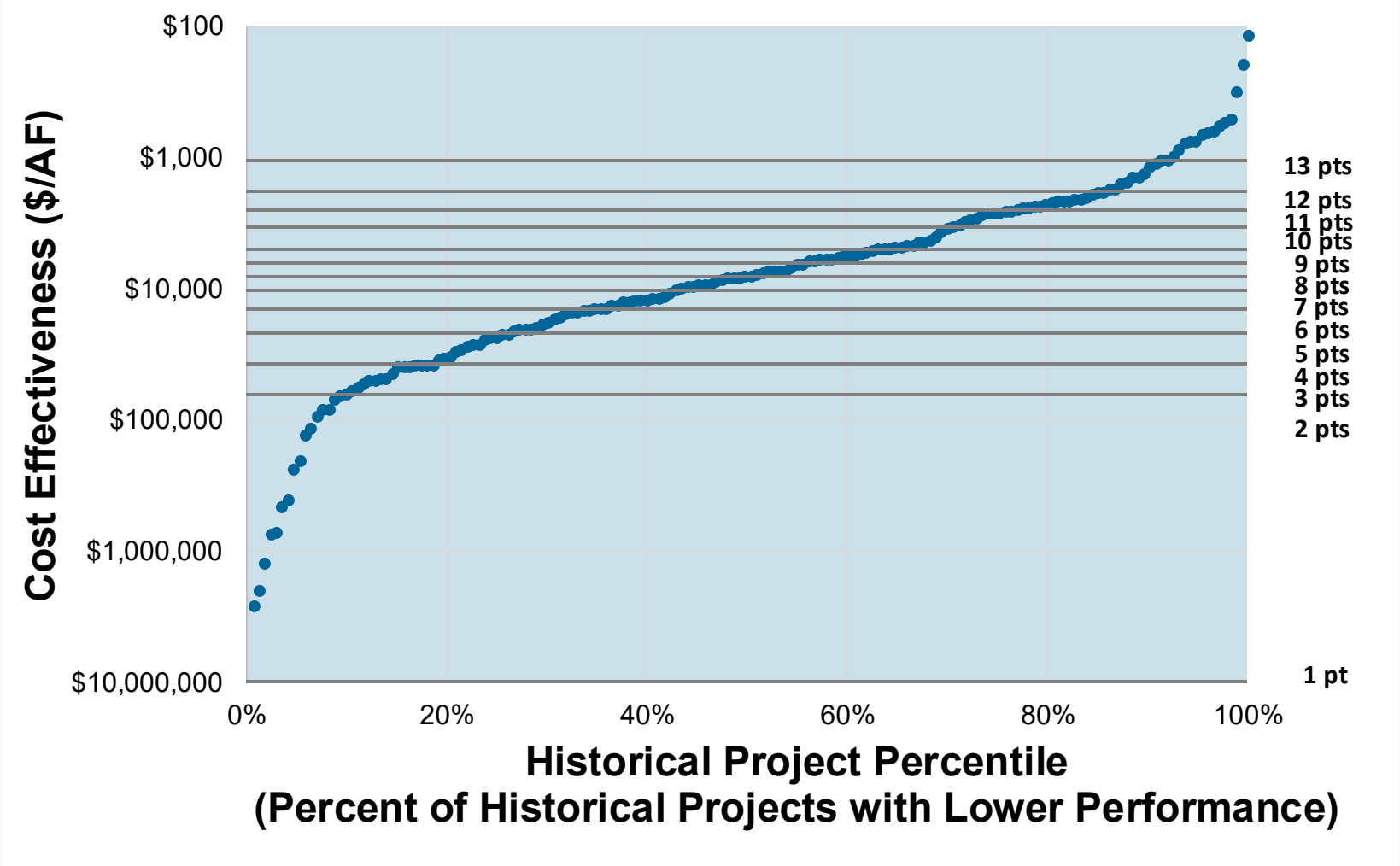


Alternative Water Supply Scoring Rubric

Alternative: Add Gradation and Calibrate to Historical Projects

Approach

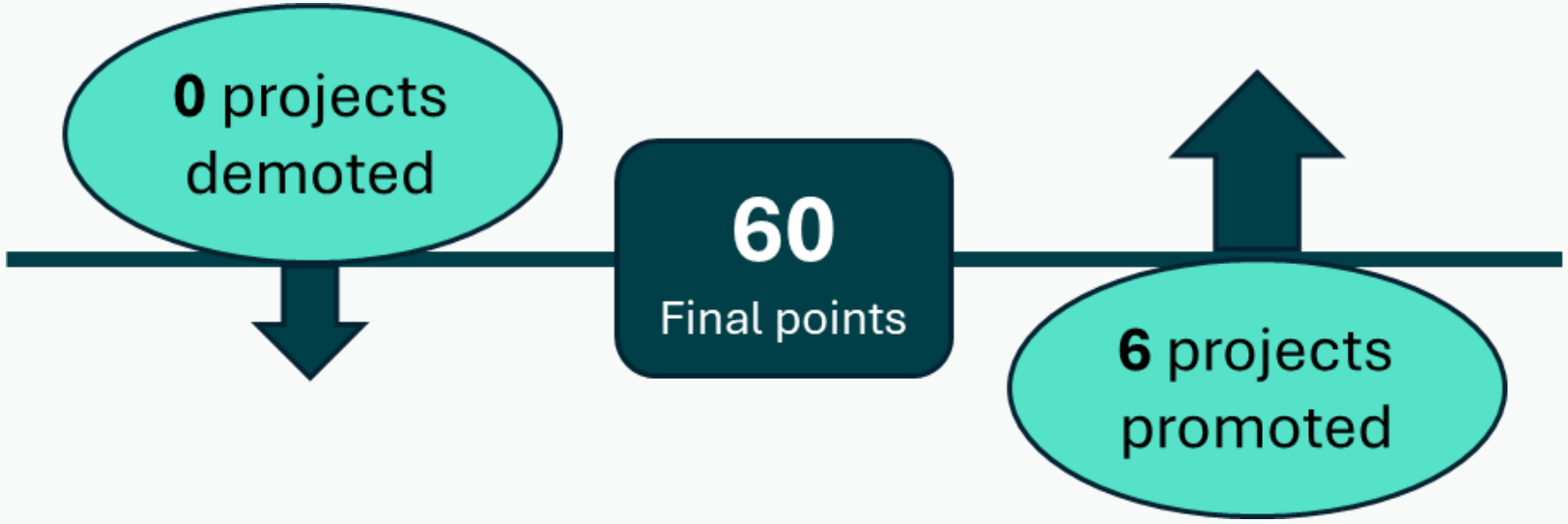
- Evenly distribute point scale based on range of proposed Infrastructure Program project performance
- Provide 1-pt scoring increments
- Comparable to "grading on a curve"



Alternative: Add Gradation and Calibrate to Historical Projects

Impact: Tends to increase scores, particularly for cost effectiveness

	Change in Score of Historical Projects Under Alternative Criteria		
Scoring Category	**Greatest Decrease**	**Mean Change**	**Greatest Increase**
Cost Effectiveness	**0**	**5**	**10**
Magnitude	**-2**	**1.8**	**4**



Considerations for Adaptation of Water Supply Scoring

Considerations for Adaptation of Water Supply Scoring

- **Calibrating rubric to historical projects and adding gradation:**
  - Better aligns scoring rubric with multi-benefit project performance and cost
  - Accounts for economic changes
  - Enables scoring at 1-pt increments
- **Consider updating calibration every 1-2 years**
- **Many Watershed Areas constrained by "what counts" as a new, locally available water supply (see Interim Guidance and Supplemental Guidance)**

Water Supply Scoring Pilot Adaptation:

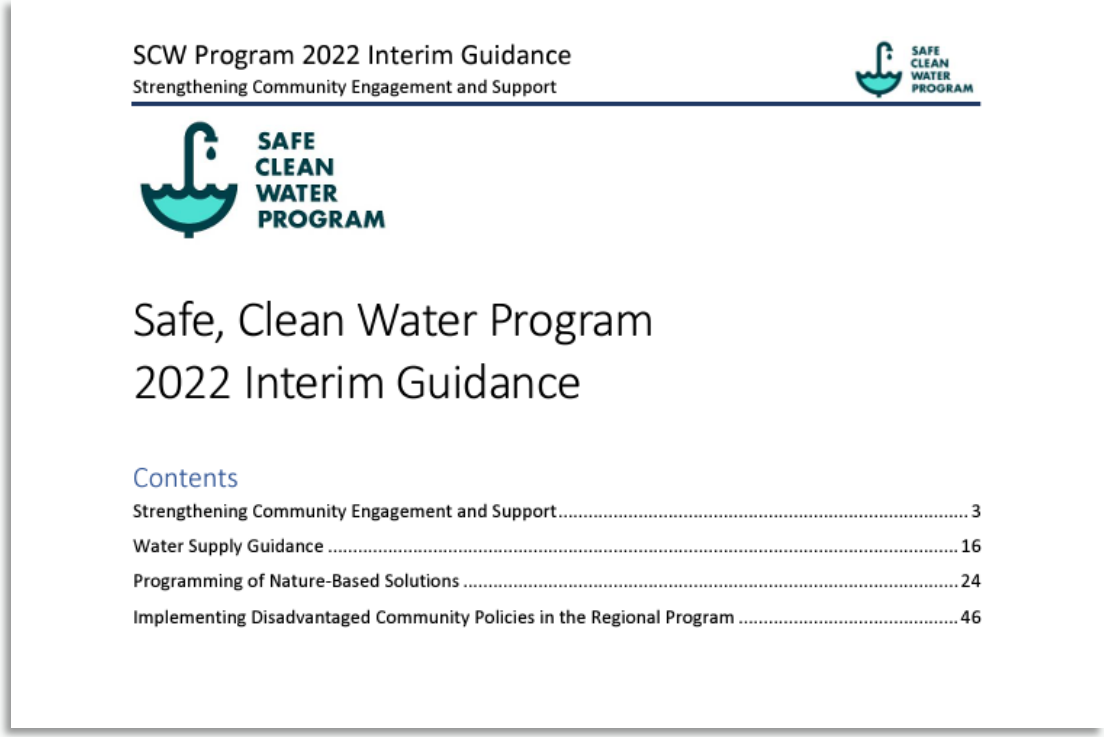
- Fiscal Year 2026-2027 (Due July 2025)
- Regional Program Applicants have option to use pilot rubric w/gradation calibrated to historical projects

Interim Guidance Update

Interim Guidance Update

Drivers

- The Program has undergone drastic evolution since the *2022 Interim Guidance*
- Numerous concurrent efforts to clarify definitions and inform implementation
- *Feasibility Study Guidelines* must also be supplemented with new performance measures and pilot scoring criteria


SCW Program 2022 Interim Guidance
Strengthening Community Engagement and Support

SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM

Safe, Clean Water Program
2022 Interim Guidance

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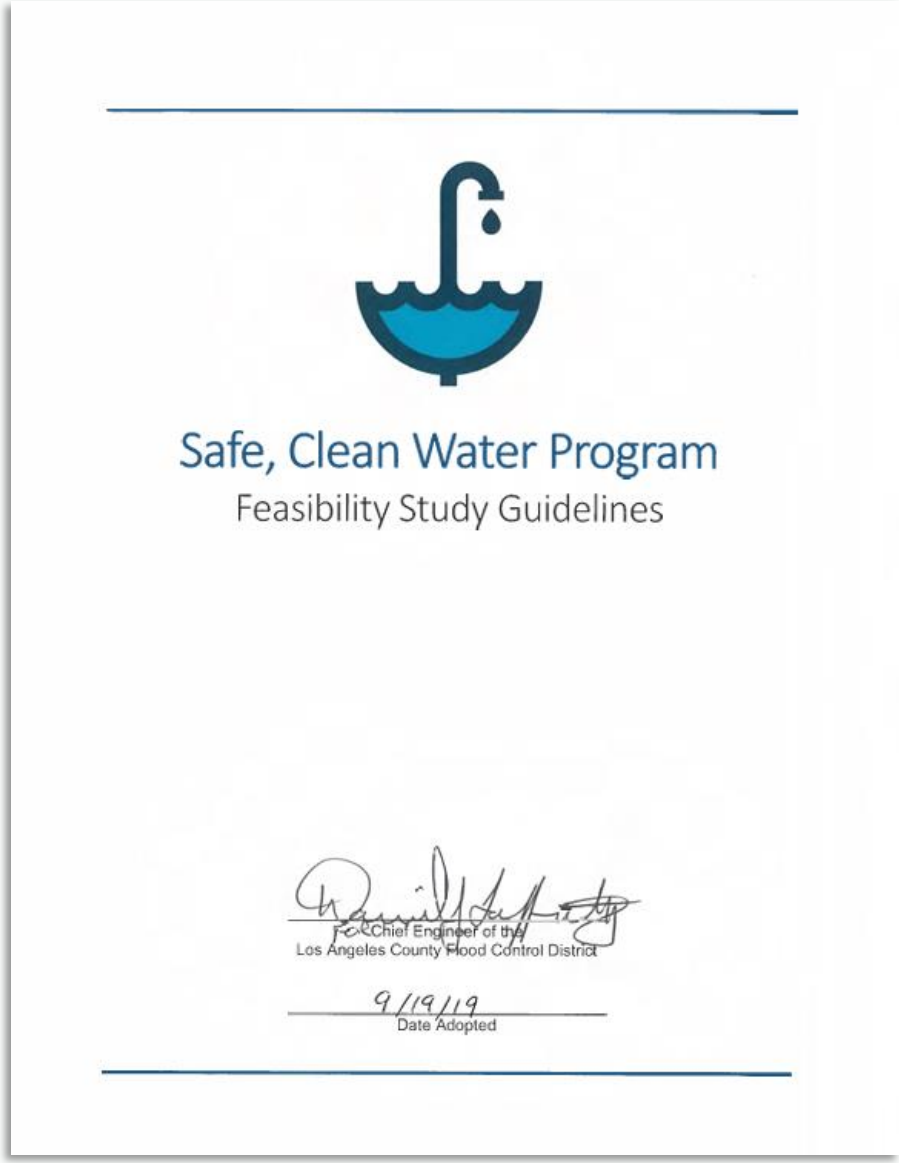
Implementing Disadvantaged Community Policies in the Regional Program 46

Interim Guidance Update

Approach

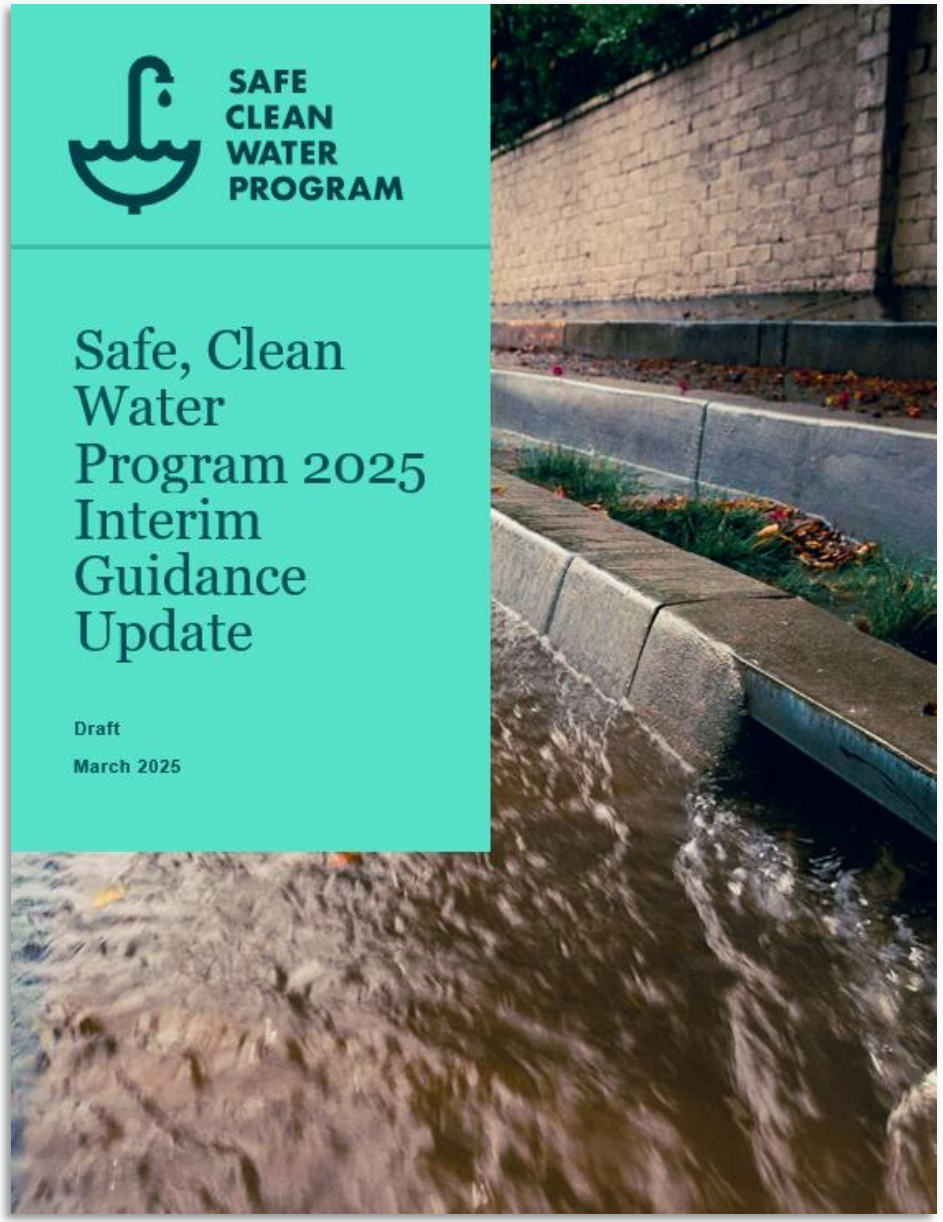
- Update, amend, append *2022 Interim Guidance* with advancements from preceding strategies and…
  - MMS and Equity White Paper
  - Initial Watershed Plans
  - NBS Blue Ribbon Committee
  - Watershed Planning
  - Others



Interim Guidance Updates

What to Expect

- New format and organization
- Detailed glossary
- Additional guidance and clarity on:
  - Required activities
  - Recommended activities



Interim Guidance Updates

What's New: Community Engagement & Support

- Incorporation of select recommendations from the *Equity in Stormwater Investments* white paper
- Refined best practices for engagement
- Alignment of outreach/engagement expectations with project phases
- Considerations for applying the ongoing Community Strengths and Needs Assessment (CSNA)

Interim Guidance Updates

What's New: Water Supply

- Discussion of new performance measures to better quantify and evaluate Water Supply Benefits
- Clarification of definitions related to Water Supply Benefits and "locally available water supply"

What Counts?

New locally available water supply and a Water Supply Benefit include (claims to be confirmed through modeling, geotechnical analysis, and/or engagement):

- **Net water used onsite for potable offset** (not including offset of project-created water supply demand).
- **Water that is diverted to existing treatment/reuse plants**.
- **Water that is diverted to future planned treatment/reuse plants operational within 10 years** with concurrence from treatment/reuse plant on timeline and capacity.
- **Water infiltrated to managed useable groundwater aquifers**.
- **Water infiltrated to unmanaged aquifer** with geotechnical analysis and/or community acknowledgement to confirm infiltration and use.
- **Water that is treated and discharged to storm drain or receiving water** when tributary to a downstream water recharge facility in the project facilitates the recharge of water that would otherwise not be used to augment water supply.

Interim Guidance Updates

What's New: Water Supply

- Discussion of new performance measures to better quantity and evaluate Water Supply Benefits
- Clarification of definitions related to Water Supply Benefits and "locally available water supply"

What Doesn't Count?

The following **do NOT count towards new locally available water supply** but do provide Water Quality Benefits:

- **Water that would have already captured downstream of a project by an existing water recharge facility** (see adjustment factors in Watershed Planning Framework and Supplemental Guidance to Support Feasibility Study Guidelines that can be used to prorate the net new local water supply when captured upstream from existing facilities)
- **Maintenance of existing infrastructure** (i.e. sediment removal behind dams).

Environmental Water: Water that is allocated and managed specifically for improvements to the ecological health of receiving waters.

- Environmental water does not count as locally available water supply nor a Water Quality Benefit unless analysis proves that discharging clean water to channels to support ecological functions will offset potable supplies. Environmental water may provide a Water Quality Benefit if site-specific studies demonstrate improvement in flow ecology.

Interim Guidance Updates

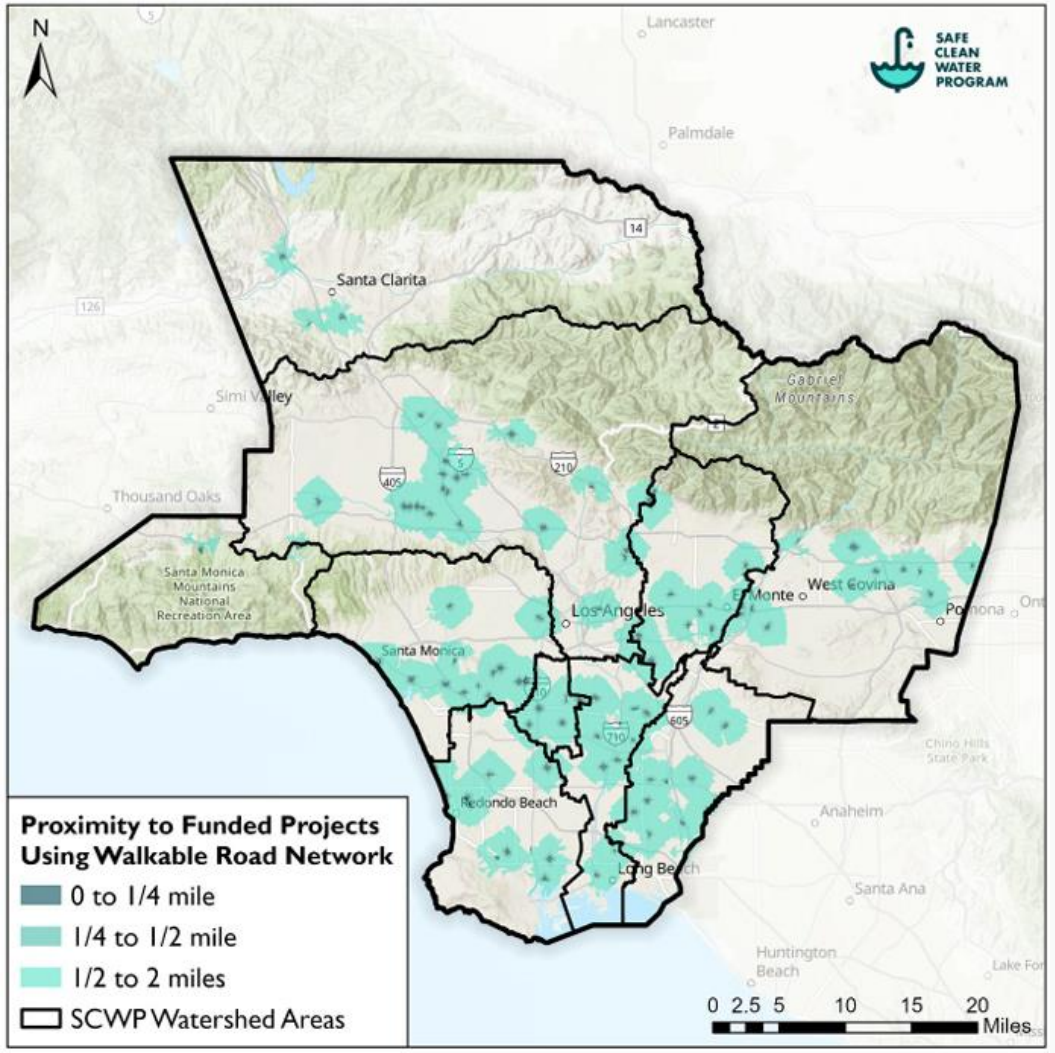
Programming of Nature-Based Solutions

- At this time, a Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) Blue Ribbon Panel is being convened by Public Works to establish Countywide NBS standards
- Outcomes of the panel are expected to be incorporated into subsequent interim guidance in late 2025 or early 2026; as such
- Accordingly, no new updates in current version

Interim Guidance Updates

What's New: Implementing Disadvantaged Community Policies in the SCW Program

- Incorporation of place-based measures (i.e., "walksheds") to help quantify potential benefits to surrounding communities
- Discussion of select recommendations and best practices from the *Equity in Stormwater Investments* white paper
- Discussion of the CSNA as a tool to support evaluating benefits to Disadvantaged Community

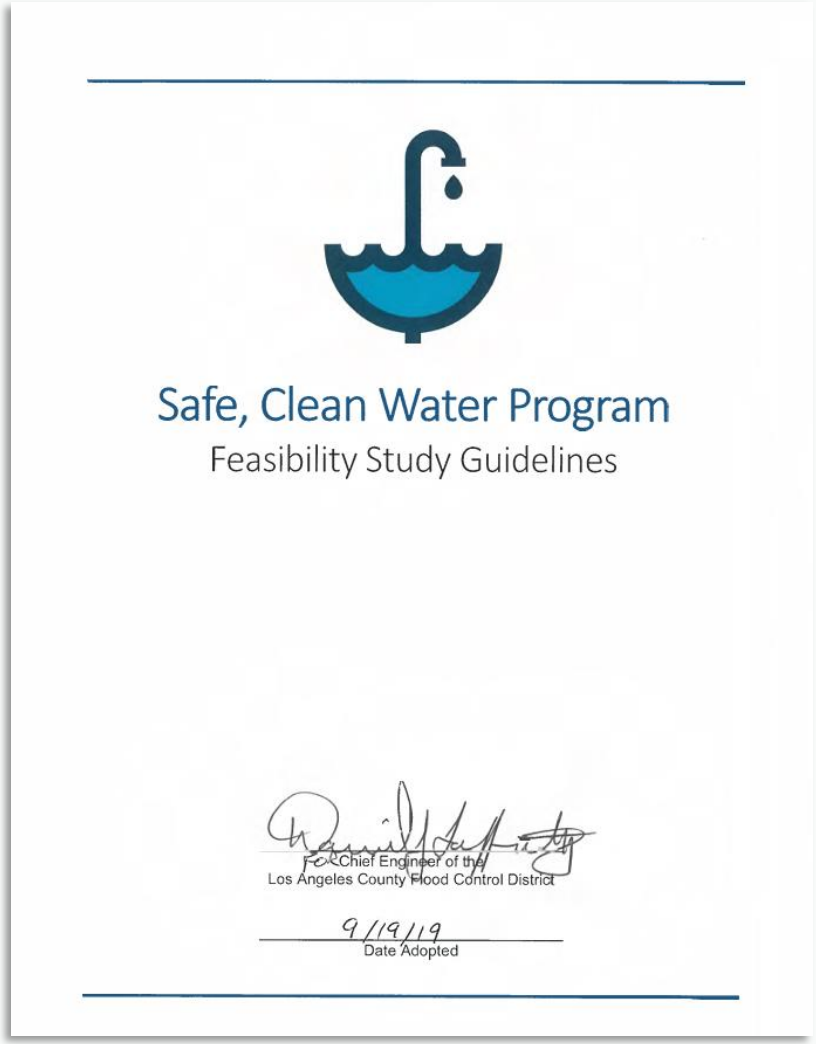


Supplemental Guidance to Support Feasibility Study Guidelines

Feasibility Study Guideline Adaptation Process

"The Chief Engineer shall develop and adopt guidelines for the preparation of Feasibility Studies (Feasibility Study Guidelines), including required contents, and shall update those guidelines from time to time, consistent with the purposes and goals of the SCW Program. Prior to adopting or updating the guidelines, the Chief Engineer shall provide not less than thirty (30) days' advance public notice of the proposed guidelines or revisions."

– SCWP Implementation Ordinance Section 18.07.6.3



Feasibility Study Guideline Adaptation Process

Drivers & Approach

- *Feasibility Study Guidelines* must be supplemented with:
  - Phase-specific guidance
  - Technical guidance for new performance measures
  - Scoring pilot adaptations
- Supplemental Guidance created as precursor to formal adaptation of *Feasibility Study Guidelines*

"Revised Regional Program application processes, feasibility study guidelines, and Scoring Criteria to account for additional performance indicators and distinct Project phases."

- LA County Board of Supervisors Motion: Progress and Adaptive Management of the Safe Clean Water Program

Supplemental Guidance to Support Feasibility Study Guidelines

Phase-Specific Guidance

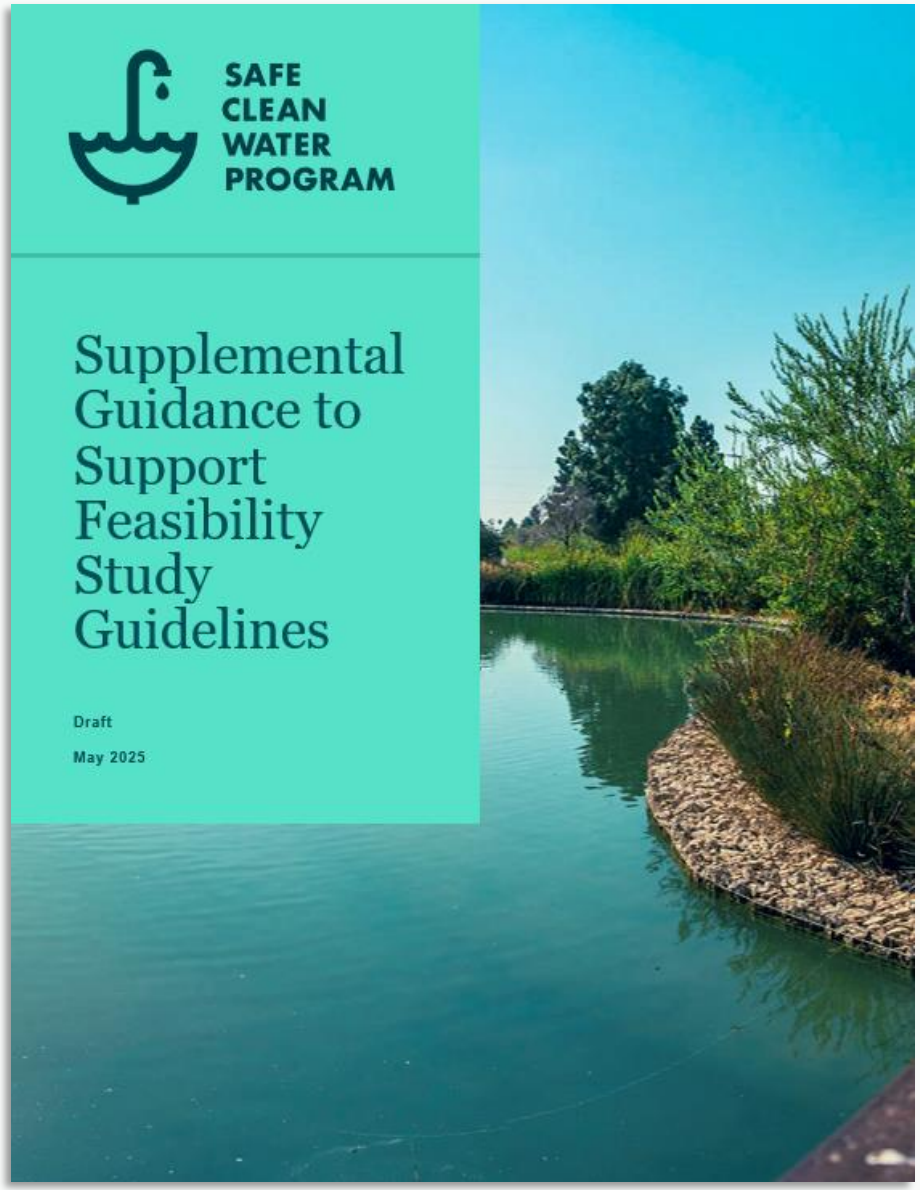
- Design-Only & Construction/O&M application requirements

Technical Guidance for Metrics & Measures

- Resources to estimate new Performance Measures
- How to accurately account for upstream/downstream projects

Scoring Pilot Adaptations

- Summary of scoring analysis
- Pilot rubrics



Supplemental Guidance to Support Feasibility Study Guidelines

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Performance Measures
(many calculated by Module)

Example Subset of Performance Measures Summarized in Supplemental Guidance

CATEGORY	METRIC	METRIC or SUBMETRIC TEXT	UNITS	REQUIRED FOR	
				DESIGN ONLY	CONSTRUC-TION/O&M
Increase Drought Preparedness	Stormwater Used On-Site for Potable Offset	Stormwater Capture Used On Site for Potable Offset	acre-feet/year	Y	Y
	Other Stormwater Capture	Stormwater Capture Other	acre-feet/year	Y	Y
Improve Public Health	Net Area of Park Created, Enhanced, or Restored	Created Park Space	acres	Y	Y
		Enhanced Park Space	acres	Y	Y
		Restored Park Space	acres	Y	Y
	Net New Green Space Created		acres		Y
	Net Change in Canopy at Maturity	Quantity of Trees Planted	acres		Y
		Quantity of Trees Removed	acres		Y
		Net Change in Canopy at Maturity	acres	Y	Y
	Net New Green Space and Tree Canopy on School Grounds	Project on School Grounds?	Y/N	Y	Y
		Net Area of New Tree Canopy at Maturity on School Grounds	acres	Y	Y
		Net New Green Space on School Grounds	acres	Y	Y
	Area of Accessible Park or Green Space	Is the Project Publicly Accessible	Y/N	Y	Y
		Is the Entire Project Site Publicly Accessible	Y/N	Y	Y
		Area of Publicly Accessible Park or Green Space	acres		Y
	Type and Number of Enhanced or New Recreational Opportunities	Select Opportunity Type (Drop-down)	count	Y	Y
	Public Access to Waterway Provided	Select Access Type (Drop-down)	count	Y	Y
	Net New Area of Cooling/Shading Surfaces	Net New Area of Manmade Shade Structures	acres		Y

Adaptation Progress & Next Steps

2025 Adaptive Management Strategies	Summary	Status/ Deadlines
WASC SIP Programming Guidelines	Enhanced Financial Oversight, Prioritization Considerations	Completed March 2025
Reporting & Projects Module Updates	New Mid-Year Reports, Metrics & Measures section, New Performance Measure Guidance	Reporting Complete: Jan 2025 Projects Module: May 2025
Scoring Criteria Pilot Adaptations	Water Quality Water Supply Project Phases Future Considerations	Pilot Adaptations: May 2025 Future Consideration: Dec 2025
Interim Guidance Update(s)	Next pilot scoring release Phased revisions to 2022 Interim Guidance, as needed and in line with Watershed Planning	Phase 1: May 2025 Phase 2: Dec 2025
Supplemental Guidance to Support Feasibility Study Guidelines	Scoring Criteria pilot adaptations, Feasibility Study requirements	May 2025

2025 Adaptive Management Strategies	Summary	Status/ Deadlines
Post-Construction Monitoring Guidance	TBD	Dec 2025 (TBD)

Questions & Discussion

Thank you

QUESTIONS?

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