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ADEQ Announces Applications Being Accepted for Water Quality Improvement Grants in FY2014

PHOENIX (July 1, 2013) – Arizona Department of Environmental Quality officials announced today that applications are being accepted for \$1.2 million in Water Quality Improvement Grants (WQIG) during fiscal year 2014.

Three web-based seminars about the grants will be conducted Monday, July 15 from 2 p.m. until 3:30 p.m.; Wednesday, July 17 from 10 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.; and Monday, July 22 from 2 p.m. until 3:30 p.m. Registration is required two days before each webinar. Please contact Jake Breedlove at (602) 771-4243 or sb12@azdeq.gov to register and for more information.

Pre-proposals for the grants will be due on Friday, Aug. 9 and final applications on Friday, Sept. 20. The grant awards are expected to be announced in February 2014. Priority for funding is being given to areas where ADEQ has established watershed implementation plans including Granite Creek near Prescott, Oak Creek near Sedona, San Francisco River near Clifton and San Pedro River near St. David.

Each year, ADEQ allocates funding to public and private entities in Arizona through the WQIG program to improve and protect water quality in the state by addressing a nonpoint source of water pollution. Nonpoint source pollution is the nation's largest source of water quality problems and occurs when rainfall or runoff picks up pollutants and deposits them in rivers, lakes or other groundwater sources.

“The Water Quality Improvement Grants provide much-needed funding at the local level to implement creative approaches to protect and improve watersheds,” said ADEQ Director Henry Darwin. “These funds help us keep Arizona’s precious water resources clean and safe.”

Information about the WQIG program, including the grants manual and application forms, are available on ADEQ’s website at <http://azdeq.gov/environ/water/watershed/improvement.html> or by calling ADEQ at (602)771-4243 or 1-800-234-5677, Ext. 771-4243.