

Subject Specific Grant Guide

Grants to Support Water and Western Projects

This guide identifies funding opportunities released in the previous year. Please note that this guide may not capture all available funding opportunities. Additionally, some programs may have changed or may not be released due to shifting administrative priorities among funding agencies. The grants included here represent traditionally offered opportunities intended to serve as a reliable foundation for your funding research.

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FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE

Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agency: U.S. Forest Service / Western Forestry Leadership Coalition

FY 2025 Landscape Scale Restoration (LSR) Competitive Grant Program

Grant Overview

This program supports collaborative, science-based restoration projects that focus on priority landscapes in the western United States and encourages the use of innovative cross-boundary approaches to support landscape restoration. Projects must focus on on-the-ground outcomes on nonfederal rural forest land, which is also considered non-industrial private forest land or state forest land. Eligible applicants include state forestry agencies, local governments, Indian Tribes, non-profit organizations, universities, and Alaska Native corporations.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2023	$4.2 million	19
2022	$3.8 million	11

Key Information

Total Funding: Unspecified
Award Range: $25,000 - $300,000
Match: One-to-one
Solicitation date: August 9, 2024
Proposal due: November 15, 2024

https://www.thewflc.org/landscape-scale-restoration-competitive-grant-program

Awardee Profile

Willamette Valley Oak Habitat Restoration, OR

AMOUNT: $300,000
YEAR: 2023

This project received funding to restore and enhance oak habitats, reducing hazardous fuels and improving ecosystem health.

Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agency: U.S. Forest Service / Western Forestry Leadership Coalition

FY 2025 Landscape Scale Restoration (LSR) Competitive Grant Program

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to support collaborative, science-based restoration projects that focus on priority landscapes in the western United States, and to encourage the use of innovative cross-boundary approaches to support landscape restoration. Projects must focus on on-the-ground outcomes on nonfederal rural forest land, which is also considered non-industrial private forest land or state forest land. For the purposes of this program, rural areas are areas other than urbanized areas such as cities or towns with populations of greater than 50,000 inhabitants. Applicants are encouraged to prioritize addressing one of the following objectives:

- Reduce the risk of uncharacteristic wildfires
- Improve fish and wildlife habitats, including for threatened and endangered species
- Maintain and improve water quality and watershed function
- Mitigate invasive species, insect infestation, and disease
- Improve important forest ecosystems
- Measure ecological and economic benefits, including air quality, soil quality, and productivity

Priority will be given to proposals that:

- Promote cross-boundary collaboration
- Coordinate with or are in proximity to other complementary landscape-scale projects on National Forest System lands, or lands under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior or a state
- Coordinate with or are in proximity to other complementary landscape-scale projects on state land
- Coordinate with Natural Resources Conservation Service programs and appropriate state-level programs

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are state forestry agencies, local governments, nonprofits, Indian tribes, universities, and Alaska Native corporations. Eligible applicants must be located in Alaska, American Samoa, Arizona, California, Colorado, the Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, the Northern Mariana Islands, Oregon, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Republic of Palau, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, or Wyoming.

Funding

In FY 2025, an unspecified amount of funding is available to support awards ranging from $25,000 to $300,000 through this program. Each state may submit up to five proposals; however, no state will receive more than 15 percent of the total funds available.

Project periods must be no longer than three years.

Match and Cost Share

Applicants must provide a one-to-one match of the total award amount via nonfederal cash or in-kind contributions. Any match waiver must be acquired directly from the appropriate U.S. Forest Service region. Applicants that leverage funding from multiple entities will receive priority.

Contact Information

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https://www.thewflc.org/landscape-scale-restoration-competitive-grant-program

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Interior
Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY 2023-2024 WaterSMART Planning and Project Design Grants

Grant Overview

The purpose of this program is to provide funding for collaborative planning and design projects to support water management improvements. Water Strategy Grants and Project Design Grants eligible applicants are divided into two categories. Category A applicants are states, Tribes, irrigation districts, and water districts; State, regional, or local authorities, the members of which include one or more organizations with water or power delivery authority; and other organizations with water or power delivery authority. Category B applicants are nonprofit conservation organizations that are acting in partnership with, and with the agreement of, an entity described in Category A. Drought Contingency Planning eligible applicants are a state, Tribe, irrigation district, water district, or other organization with water or power delivery.

Program History

This is a new program.

Key Information

Total Funding: $35 million
Award Range: Varies by project type up to $400,000
Match: up to 50 percent
Solicitation date: August 7, 2023
Proposal due: This NOFO covers two application submittal periods. Proposals received before October 17, 2023 will be considered for FY 2023 funding. Proposals received after October 17, 2023 and before April 2, 2024 will be considered for FY 2024 funding.

More information can be found here.

Tips

- Note that funding to develop a water marketing strategy – formerly funded through Water Marketing Strategy Grants, a stand-alone funding opportunity under WaterSMART - is now available through Water Strategy Grants.
- In exceptional circumstances and upon request of the applicant, Reclamation may reduce or waive the non-Federal cost share requirement, if an overwhelming Federal interest and a significant financial need are identified.

Department: U.S. Department of Interior
Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY 2023-2024 WaterSMART Planning and Project Design Grants

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to provide funding for collaborative planning and design projects to support water management improvements. This includes funding for:

- **Water Strategy Grants**: Projects to conduct planning activities to improve water supplies (e.g., water supplies to disadvantaged communities that do not have reliable access to water, water marketing, water conservation, drought resilience, and ecological resilience).
- **Project Design Grants:** Projects to conduct project-specific design for projects to improve water management or water supplies
- **Drought Contingency Planning:** Proposals to develop a new or update an existing Drought Contingency Plan

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are broken down as follows:

Water Strategy Grants and Project Design Grants

- **Category A applicants**: States, Tribes, irrigation districts, and water districts; State, regional, or local authorities, the members of which include one or more organizations with water or power delivery authority; and other organizations with water or power delivery authority. All applicants must be located in one of the following States or territories: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, the Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico.
- **Category B applicants**: Nonprofit conservation organizations that are acting in partnership with, and with the agreement of, an entity described in Category A. All Category B applicants must be located in the United States or the specific territories identified above. Category B applicants must include with their application a letter from the Category A partner stating that the Category A partner:
    - is acting in partnership with the applicant;
    - agrees to the submittal and content of the application;
    - and intends to participate in the project in some way, for example, by providing input, feedback, or other support for the project.

Drought Contingency Planning

- A State, Tribe, irrigation district, water district, or other organization with water or power delivery in one of the following states or territories: Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas,

Utah, Washington, Wyoming, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, or the Virgin Islands.

Funding

For FY 2023 and FY 2024, approximately $35 million is available to support an estimated 60-70 awards through this program. Awards are provided through two separate funding groups:

- Water Strategy and Project Design Grants:
  - Maximum Award: $400,000.00
  - Minimum Award: $100,000.00
- Drought Contingency Planning:
  - Maximum Award: $400,000.00
  - Minimum Award: $25,000.00

Project awards for Water Strategy Grants and Project Design Grants will be made through grants or cooperative agreements as applicable to each project. Project awards for Drought Contingency Planning will be made through cooperative agreements.

Matching and Cost Sharing

Applicant cost-share requirements for projects will depend on the project type as follows:

- Water Strategy Grants and Project Design Grants: Applicants must be capable of cost sharing 25 percent or more of the total project costs.
- For all other projects, applicants must be capable of cost sharing 50 percent or more of the total project costs.
- Drought Contingency Plans: In exceptional circumstances and upon request of the applicant, Reclamation may reduce or waive the non-Federal cost share requirement, if an overwhelming Federal interest and a significant financial need are identified.
- Proposals for the planning or design of projects the purpose of which is to provide domestic water supplies to disadvantaged communities may be eligible for 0% nonfederal cost share

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https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/projectdesign/index.html

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE

Department: U.S. Department of Interior
Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY 2023/2024 WaterSMART Grants: Title XVI WIIN Act Water Reclamation and Reuse Projects

Grant Overview

This program aims to stretch limited water supplies in the western United States and avoid conflicts over water by providing financial and technical assistance for the planning, design, and construction of water reclamation and reuse projects. Eligible applicants are state, regional, or local authorities, including states; Indian tribes; municipalities; irrigation districts; water districts; wastewater districts; and other organizations with water or power delivery authorities.

Program History & Tips

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2022	$310 million	25

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: $179 million
Award Range: Up to $30 million
Match: 75 percent
Solicitation date: September 28, 2023
Proposal due: December 7, 2023 (First Application Period), September 30, 2024 (Second Application Period)

- Eligible costs submitted for consideration must be for work conducted after the date of Reclamation's feasibility study review findings for the project.

https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/title/

Awardee Profile

Big Bear Area Regional Wastewater Agency, CA

AMOUNT: $8,267,112
YEAR: 2022

The Replenish Big Bear Project will help protect Big Bear Valley and the Santa Ana Watershed from the impacts of drought, variable precipitation, and climate change. Replenish Big Bear includes construction of advanced treatment facility upgrades at the existing wastewater treatment plant, conveyance pipelines for treated water and concentrate, a groundwater recharge facility, and monitoring wells.

Department: U.S. Department of Interior
Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY 2023/2024 WaterSMART Grants: Title XVI WIIN Act Water Reclamation and Reuse Projects

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to stretch limited water supplies in the western United States and avoid conflicts over water by providing financial and technical assistance for the planning, design, and construction of water reclamation and reuse projects. Projects should seek to develop and supplement urban and irrigation water supplies through water reuse, thereby improving efficiency, providing flexibility during water shortages, and diversifying the water supply. These projects will provide growing communities with new sources of clean water, which increases water management flexibility and makes water supplies more reliable.

Eligible costs may include those in the following budget categories:

- Personnel
- Fringe benefits
- Travel
- Equipment
- Supplies
- Contractual
- Construction
- Other direct costs
- Indirect costs

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are state, regional, or local authorities, including states; Indian tribes; municipalities; irrigation districts; water districts; wastewater districts; and other organizations with water or power delivery authorities.

Projects must be located in the Western United States. Eligible areas include the states or territories of American Samoa, Arizona, California, Colorado, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, the Northern Mariana Islands, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Washington, or Wyoming.

Applicants may submit multiple applications provided that the project scopes are not duplicative. In general, if an applicant is seeking funding for multiple project components, and the components are interrelated or closely related, the applicant should combine these in one application. However, if the projects are only loosely related, an applicant should submit them as separate applications.

Funding

In FY 2023 and FY 2024, approximately $179 million is available to support up to 30 grants or cooperative agreements of up to $30 million each. By request, the funding agency may also provide technical assistance after award of the project. Applicants planning to receive technical assistance must account for these costs in their budget.

For the first application submittal period, award announcements are expected to be made in May 2024, awards are expected to be issued in September 2024, and projects are expected to be completed in December 2026. For the second application submittal period, award announcements are expected to be made in April 2025, awards are expected to be issued in September 2025, and projects are expected to be completed in November 2027. Costs must be incurred after the date of the funding agency's feasibility determination and within three years from the application deadline for each application submittal period.

Matching and Cost Sharing

In general, applicants must provide at least 75 percent of the total project costs via cash, costs contributed by the applicant, or third-party in-kind contributions. Applicants in American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands are exempt from the matching requirement.

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https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/title/

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE

Department: U.S. Department of Interior
Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY 2025/2026 Bay-Delta Restoration Program (CALFED) Water Use Efficiency Grants

Grant Overview

The purpose of this program is to support feasible urban and agricultural projects that will improve ecosystem health, including protection of endangered and threatened species, water supply reliability, or water quality, in the California Bay-Delta. Eligible applicants are Indian tribes, irrigation districts, water districts, or other organizations with water or power delivery authority. Applicants must be located in the CALFED solution area.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2018	$1.5 million	6
2017	$1.5 million	6

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: $1.5 million
Award Range: Up to $500,000
Match: 50 percent
Solicitation date: December 17, 2024
Proposal due: February 13, 2025

- Priority will be given to projects that can be completed within two years of the date of awards.

https://www.bia.gov/atc/search/R25AS00432

Awardee Profile

Santa Margarita Water District
AMOUNT: $750,000
YEAR: 2017

The District received funding to expand the existing 3A Water Reclamation Plant to provide up to 3,000 acre-feet per year of recycled water and energy savings. The project included construction for expanding the existing facility. Annual water savings will be 390 acre-feet per year; lifetime water savings will be 19,500 acre-feet.

Department: U.S. Department of Interior
Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY2025/2026 Bay-Delta Restoration Program (CALFED) Water Use Efficiency Grants

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to support feasible urban and agricultural projects that will improve ecosystem health, including protection of endangered and threatened species, water supply reliability, or water quality, in the California Bay-Delta. Projects should seek to conserve and use water more efficiently, protect endangered and threatened species, and result in quantifiable and reliable water savings or improved water management.

Supported projects may include any type of implementation, demonstration, pilot water-use efficiency, or conservation projects that have benefits for the Bay-Delta. Eligible water conservation projects include:

- Canal lining/piping: projects that line or pipe canals, resulting in conserved water
- Municipal metering: projects that install meters, resulting in measurable water savings
- Irrigation flow measurement: projects that improve measurement accuracy and result in reduced spills and over-deliveries to irrigators
- Supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) and automation: projects that install SCADA and/or automation components that provide water savings when irrigation delivery system operational efficiency is improved to reduce spills, over-deliveries, and seepage
- Groundwater recharge: projects that provide savings when surface water storage evaporation is reduced and/or surface runoff is intercepted for recharge
- Small-scale water recycling and water reuse: small-scale projects that reclaim and reuse wastewaters or naturally impaired groundwater and surface water
- Landscape irrigation measures: projects that provide water savings by reducing outdoor water usage, typically promoted through rebates or direct-install programs

All projects must propose a detailed method or performance measure for quantifying the actual benefits of the proposed project.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are Indian tribes, irrigation districts, water districts, or other organizations with water or power delivery authority. Applicants must be located in the CALFED solution area. All projects must have a defined relationship with the California Bay-Delta region. A map is available here.

Funding

In FY 2025/2026, up to $1.5 million may be available in FY 2025 to support grants or cooperative agreements through this program. Funding for FY 2026 is contingent upon appropriations. Approximately two to four awards are expected to be made per fiscal year.

Applicants may receive multiple awards through this program. The maximum funding available is $500,000 per project and $1 million per award recipient.

Matching and Cost Sharing

Applicants must provide at least 50 percent of project costs via nonfederal cash and/or in-kind contributions.

Contact Information

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https://www.bia.gov/atc/search/R25AS00432

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE

Department: U.S. Department of Interior
Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY 2025-2026 WaterSMART Applied Science Grants

Grant Overview

This program supports projects to develop hydrologic information and water management tools and improve modeling and forecasting capabilities to increase water supply reliability as well as improving decision making for nature-based solutions. Eligible applicants are states, tribes, irrigation districts, water districts; state, regional, or local authorities whose members include one or more organizations with water or power delivery authority; and other organizations with water or power delivery authority. Universities, nonprofit research institutions, nonprofit organizations, and federally funded research and development centers that are acting in partnership and with the agreement of an eligible entity are also eligible to apply.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2023	$13.3 million	51
2022	$1.2 million	8

Key Information

Total Funding: $6-10 million for each round
Award Range: Up to $400,000
Match: 25 to 50 percent
Solicitation date: December 16, 2024
Proposal due: March 11, 2025 (First Round), February 10, 2026 (Second Round).

https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/appliedscience/index.html

Awardee Profile

Monterey County Water Resources Agency, CA

AMOUNT: $400,000
YEAR: 2023

This project received funding to develop Forecast Informed Reservoir Operations (FIRO) decision support tools to improve flood control operations at Nacimiento and San Antonio Dams and Reservoirs.

Department: U.S. Department of Interior
Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY 2025-2026 WaterSMART Applied Science Grants

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to invite eligible non-Federal entities to leverage their money and resources by cost sharing with Reclamation on applied science projects (Project) to improve access to and use of hydrologic data, develop and improve water management tools, improve modeling and forecasting capabilities. Results from these projects will be used by water managers to increase water supply reliability, provide flexibility in water operations, improve water management, and support nature-based solutions. Project results must be readily applicable by managers—resulting in tools and information that can be used to support: water supply reliability, water delivery management, water marketing activities, drought management activities, conjunctive use of ground and surface water, water rights administration, ability to meet endangered species requirements, watershed health, conservation and efficiency, support for nature-based solutions and other water management objectives.

For the purposes of the solicitation, nature-based solutions are sustainable environmental management and practices that weave natural features or processes into the built environment to promote adaptation and resilience.

To be eligible, projects must:

- Be designed for use by water managers located in the states or territories of Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, or the Virgin Islands.
- Be based on known and available ("mature") technologies and may not include the development of new or novel methods or technologies.
- Support one or more of the following water management objectives:
    - Water supply reliability,
    - Improved management of water deliveries,
    - Water marketing activities,
    - Drought management activities,
    - Conjunctive use of ground and surface water,
    - Water rights administration,
    - Ability to meet endangered species requirements,
    - Watershed health,
    - Restore a natural features or use a nature-based feature to reduce water supply and demand imbalances or the risk of drought or flood, conservation and efficiency, or
    - Other improvements to water supply reliability.

Eligible project types include:

- **Modeling:** Eligible projects can develop or enhance existing modeling capabilities and include model validation and analysis of model produced data. Modeling tool projects should be for the improvement of water supply reliability and be developed for use by water managers to help meet constraints or requirements (e.g., endangered species, administrative, climate change scenarios, or water delivery requirements). Projects may include improvements to the spatial and temporal resolution of a model, improvements to model calibration, enhancements to make a model more interactive and agile so that it can be used to answer specific questions as they arise, or other enhancements to modeling tools. Projects could include improvements to hydrologic models, reservoir operations models, or other types of water management models. Projects may also include costs to obtain training on how to use new tools and software.
- **Forecasting:** Eligible projects can develop, improve, or adapt forecasting tools and technologies to enhance management of water supplies and reservoir operations. Projects can include developing or adapting forecasting tools to meet the needs of water managers. Forecasting projects can be used to optimize operations and improve water management, manage risks, and inform water allocation strategies, or even water marketing. Applicants are encouraged to explore whether there are existing data sets and forecast products that may be leveraged. Projects may also include costs to obtain training on how to use new tools and software. Note: Applicants must demonstrate how the forecast or data will be used to enhance management of water supplies and reservoir operations, for example, by using the tool in connection with an operations model.
- **Data:** Eligible projects improve access to and use of water resources data or to develop new types of data to inform water management decisions. Eligible projects may include improvements to data acquisition, data analysis, and data delivery. Data acquisition projects may include incorporating or developing new or previously unavailable data, such as remote sensing imagery, hydrologic data acquired using unmanned aerial systems, or paleo reconstructions of naturalized flows, for example. Projects may include developing hydrologic databases or decision support tools that resource managers can use to query or analyze data to improve water management. Projects may also include improved data delivery, such as making data available to a broader audience, or improvements to make data systems compatible with existing systems (e.g., Federal or State databases). Projects may also include costs to obtain training on how to use new tools and software.
- **Nature-based solutions Decision Tools:** Eligible project can develop, improve, or adapt tools to improve nature-based solution decision making. These solutions can use natural features and processes to combat climate change, improve water quality, restore, and protect wetlands, stabilizes shorelines, and reduce flood risk. Nature-based solutions can be applied at a watershed or landscape-scale or at a site specific-scale. Projects may include decision support tools to assist in the application of a nature-based solution that supports a range of environmental improvements, including but not limited to biodiversity, water quality, and flood mitigation. Projects may also include costs to obtain training on how to use new tools and software.

Applicant Eligibility

There are two categories of eligible applicants for this program:

Category A: States, Indian tribes, irrigation districts, and water districts; state, regional, or local authorities, which include one or more organizations with water or power delivery authority as members; and other organizations with water or power delivery authority. Category A applicants must be located in the western states or territories of Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, the Virgin or Puerto Rico.

Category B: Universities, nonprofit research institutions, federally funded research and development centers, and non-profit entities (including 501(c)(3) organizations) that are acting in partnership with and with the agreement of an entity described in Category A. Category B applicants may be located anywhere in the United States and territories.

Funding

In FY 2025-2026, an estimated $6 to $10 million is available to support 15-25 awards of up to $400,000 through this program per each funding round.

For proposals submitted under the first application period the anticipated award date is December 2025 and the anticipated project completion date is December 2027.

For proposals submitted under the second application period, Reclamation expects to contact potential award recipients and unsuccessful applicants in June 2026 (or later if necessary). The anticipated award date is November 2026 and the anticipated project completion date is November 2028

Project periods may span up to two years.

Matching and Cost Sharing

Applicants must be capable of cost sharing 25 percent or 50 percent of the total project costs, depending on the project type.

Applied Science Grants with primarily ecological benefits are eligible for up to 75 percent Federal cost-share contribution. To qualify for this cost-share, the application must demonstrate that the project is for the purpose of a) increasing water supply reliability for ecological values (e.g. improving the timing or quantity of water available or improving water quality or temperature); b) is being developed as part of a collaborative planning process that included consideration of ecological values. This does not exclude projects that benefit ecological values AND agricultural, municipal, tribal, or recreational water uses.

For projects that do not meet the requirements necessary to qualify for 75 percent Federal cost share contribution, applicants must be capable of cost sharing 50 percent or more of the total project costs.

In-kind contributions may be in the form of equipment, supplies, and other expendable property, as well as the value of services directly benefiting and specifically identifiable to the proposed project.

Contact Information

Questions regarding application and submission information and award administration may be submitted to the Grants Officer:

Nathan Moeller
986-256-2916
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Questions regarding applicant and project eligibility and application review may be submitted to:

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https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/appliedscience/index.html

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE

Department: U.S. Department of Interior
Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY 2025 WaterSMART Cooperative Watershed Management Program (CWMP) Phase I Grants

Grant Overview

The purpose of this program is to promote water reliability and cooperation to reduce conflict between watershed groups, facilitate solutions to complex water issues, and stretch limited water supplies by supporting watershed groups to encourage diverse stakeholders to form local solutions to address their water management needs. Eligible applicants are states, Indian tribes, local and special districts, irrigation districts, water districts, water conservation districts, local government entities, interstate organizations, institutions of higher education, and nonprofit organizations. Applicants must be located in the Western United States.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2022	$3.8 million	21
2021	$2.6 million	27

Key Information

Total Funding: Unspecified
Award Range: Up to $300,000
Match: Not required
Solicitation date: January 8, 2025
Proposal due: May 20, 2025 (first application period); September 30, 2025 (second application period)

https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/cwmp/index.html

Awardee Profile

The Chicksaw Nation
Ada, Oklahoma

AMOUNT: $199,831
YEAR: 2022

The Chickasaw Nation received funding to establish the Lake Texoma Watershed Management Association to address water quantity and quality concerns in the lake and Upper Red River Basin that spans parts of New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas.

Department: U.S. Department of Interior
Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY 2025 WaterSMART Cooperative Watershed Management Program (CWMP) Phase I Grants

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to promote water reliability and cooperation to reduce conflict between watershed groups, facilitate solutions to complex water issues, and stretch limited water supplies by supporting watershed groups to encourage diverse stakeholders to form local solutions to address their water management needs. Funding will support projects to develop a watershed group, complete watershed restoration planning activities, and design watershed management projects. All projects must seek to conserve and use water more efficiently and accomplish other benefits that contribute to water sustainability in the western United States.

For the purposes of this program, a watershed group is defined as a grassroots, non-regulatory entity that addresses water availability and quality issues within the relevant watershed, is capable of promoting the sustainable use of water resources in the watershed, makes decisions on a consensus basis, and represents a diverse group of stakeholders.

Activities must fall under one or more of the following task areas:

- Task A: watershed group development: eligible activities include:
    - Developing a mission statement, vision statement, and goals for the watershed group
    - Developing articles of incorporation, bylaws, and business practices
    - Conducting outreach activities, creating outreach plans, and conducting stakeholder meetings to establish broad-based, diverse membership
    - Gathering information about issues and needs related to water quality and quantity within the watershed
    - Conducting pre-planning activities
- Task B: watershed restoration planning: eligible activities include:
    - Completing a watershed restoration plan or updating an existing plan
    - Developing general watershed management project concepts or performing analyses to identify and prioritize such projects
    - Conducting monitoring activities

- Conducting mapping and other technical analyses
- Obtaining project management services or software technology required to formulate the watershed restoration plan
- Interviewing watershed group members and stakeholders to gain an idea of projects that would improve the watershed
- Working with watershed group members, landowners, federal agencies, and state or local governments to determine how the watershed can be improved
- Reviewing watershed-specific best management practices established by federal, state, and local government agencies

- Task C: watershed management project design: eligible activities include:
  - Completing an analysis to identify specific project locations
  - Completing site-specific project design and engineering
  - Developing project timelines and milestones
  - Researching what type of site-specific environmental compliance will be necessary to implement a project

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are states, Indian tribes, local and special districts, irrigation districts, water districts, water conservation districts, local government entities, interstate organizations, and nonprofit organizations. Institutions of higher education that sponsor watershed groups are also eligible to apply.

Applicants must be located in the western states of Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, or Wyoming; or the U.S. territories of American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, or the U.S. Virgin Islands. Nonprofit organizations need not be located in these states or territories; however, all projects must take place in these states or territories.

Applicants must apply as a new watershed group or as an existing watershed group. In general, applicants should apply as a new watershed group if the group is just getting started, has completed little or no watershed restoration planning, and requires more substantial support for building the capacity of the watershed group and completing outreach to stakeholders. Applicants that are an existing watershed group or are a participant in an existing watershed group that has been active in the watershed for several years and have previously conducted some watershed planning should apply as an existing watershed group.

Funding

In FY 2025 an unspecified amount of funding is available to support 25-30 awards per application round of up to $300,000 with up to $100,000 made available to the recipient per year.

For the first round of applications, awards are anticipated to be provided on March 31, 2026, and the anticipated project completion date is March 31, 2029. For the second round of applications, awards are anticipated to be provided on July 31, 2026, and the anticipated project completion date is July 31, 2029.

Match and Cost Sharing

No match is required under this program.

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https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/cwmp/index.html

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE

Department: U.S. Department of Interior
[Subtitle] Agency: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

FY 2025 Implementation of the Quagga and Zebra Mussel Action Plan (QZAP) in the Western United States (Select States)

Grant Overview

The purpose of this program is to help reduce or minimize the threat of quagga and zebra mussels to Western U.S. waters. Eligibility is unrestricted. However, projects must serve states within the boundaries of the Western Regional Panel within the United States, including Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

Program History

No award history is available.

Key Information

Total Funding: Up to $2.2 million
Match: Not required
Solicitation date: July 8, 2025
Proposal due: September 5, 2025

https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/359947

Tips

- Matching funds are not required for this program.
  However, leveraged resources will be considered during the application evaluation process. Applicants must identify any third-party cash or in-kind contributions in the budget that a partner or other entity will contribute to the project and describe how the contributions directly and substantively benefit completion of the project.

Department: U.S. Department of Interior
Agency: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

FY 2025 Implementation of the Quagga and Zebra Mussel Action Plan (QZAP) in the Western United States (Select States)

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to help reduce or minimize the threat of quagga and zebra mussels to Western U.S. waters. Funding will be provided for projects in the following principal areas that fulfill the top priorities in the QZAP for Western U.S. waters:

- Limiting the spread of invasive mussels through containment, especially by inspection and decontamination of watercraft moving from invaded water bodies to jurisdictions currently free of Dreissenid mussels, and the coordination between states or other jurisdictions to this end;
- Protecting western ecosystems through support and/or establishment of prevention programs for invasive mussels at identified high-risk control points;
- Limiting the spread of invasive mussels through containment by increasing compliance with federal, state, local, and tribal laws;
- Increasing the effectiveness of outreach and education efforts to help advance prevention efforts;
- Building capacity to detect and respond to new invasive mussel infestations; and
- Conducting research that benefits the priorities listed above, including social science research to evaluate the effectiveness of invasive species prevention messaging and research on non-target-species impacts of invasive mussel control treatments.

Eligibility is limited to projects that serve states within the boundaries of the Western Regional Panel within the United States, including Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming. Refer to page 4 of the QZAP file for a map of the eligible areas.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligibility is unrestricted. However, projects must serve states within the boundaries of the Western Regional Panel within the United States, including Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

Funding Details

In FY 2025, approximately $2.2 million is available to support an expected 15 awards ranging from $50,000 to $600,000 through this program.

The project period may last up to 18 months and is expected to begin on October 31, 2025, and end on April 30, 2027. Minimization of overhead and other indirect costs is encouraged and will be considered during the application ranking process.

Cost Sharing and Matching

Matching funds are not required for this program. However, a project's incorporation of significant leveraging of resources, such as cross-programmatic collaboration, external partner contributions, and volunteers, will be considered during the application evaluation process. In their budget narrative, applicants must identify any third-party cash or in-kind contributions that a partner or other entity will contribute to the project and describe how the contributions directly and substantively benefit completion of the project.

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https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/359947

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Interior
Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY 2025 Small Surface Water and Groundwater Storage Projects (Small Storage Program)

Grant Overview

This program provides funding to enhance water storage opportunities for future generations in support of the Department of Interior's priorities. Eligible applicants are state governments, county governments, city or township governments, special district governments, independent school districts, institutions of higher education, Native American Tribal governments and organizations, public housing authorities/Indian housing authorities, nonprofits, Individuals, for-profit organizations and small businesses. Joint powers authorities organized pursuant to state law are also eligible.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2024	$35 million	5

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: $43.5 million
Award Range: Up to $30 million
Match: 75 percent
Solicitation date: September 4, 2024
Proposal due: Period 1: December 12, 2024. Period 2: July 15, 2025.

- Applications received after December 12, 2024, and before July 15, 2025 will be considered under Period 2.

https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/356327

Awardee Profile

Rancho California Water District

AMOUNT: $9,100,000

YEAR: 2024

The Rancho California Water District's Pauba Valley Groundwater Banking Project receive funding to provide approximately 5,000 acre-feet of excess imported water to recharge the Pauba Valley groundwater subunit. This water will be available for use during dry years to help serve potable water demands in the district, including agricultural demands.

Department: U.S. Department of Interior
Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY 2025 Small Surface Water and Groundwater Storage Projects (Small Storage Program)

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to invite sponsors of small surface water and groundwater storage projects to request cost-shared funding for the planning, design, and/or construction of those projects. Eligible projects under this program include the planning, design, and construction of small surface water and groundwater storage facilities. Eligible projects must meet the following requirements:

- A project must have a completed small storage feasibility study submitted to Reclamation for review by August 15, 2024 for applications submitted under the first submittal period, and by April 30, 2025 for applications submitted under the second submittal period.
- Completed small storage feasibility studies must be found by Reclamation to meet the all of the requirements of CMP TRMR-127 by November 15, 2024 for applications submitted under the first submittal period, and by July 15, 2025 for applications submitted under the second submittal period.
- Projects must be located in the Western United States as identified in the Reclamation Act of June 17, 1902, as amended and supplemented; specifically: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.
- Projects must be ready to proceed once a financial agreement is in place.
- Projects must have water storage capacity of not less than 200 acre-feet and not more than 30,000 acre-feet, and increase surface water or groundwater storage, or convey water, directly or indirectly, to or from surface water or groundwater storage.
- The project must increase yield, on average, above existing conditions to identified beneficiaries and the environment.

This program also advances the Biden-Harris Administration's Justice40 Initiative with a goal that 40 percent of the overall benefits of certain Federal investments, such as climate, clean energy, and other areas, flow to disadvantaged communities that are overburdened by pollution and marginalized by underinvestment.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are state governments, county governments, city or township governments, special district governments, independent school districts, institutions of higher education, Native American Tribal governments (Federally recognized) and organizations, public housing authorities/Indian housing authorities, nonprofits, Individuals, for-profit organizations and small businesses. Joint powers authorities organized pursuant to state law are also eligible.

Funding

In FY 2025, approximately $43.5 million is available to support an estimated 3 – 7 awards of up to $30 million through this program.

The funding agency may award the maximum award amount in Federal funds to an applicant over the 5-year period, with no more than $25,000,000 available per fiscal year. The average amount of funding per Federal award, based on previous funding opportunities, is about $5,000,000.

The anticipated award and completion dates are as follows:

- First Application Submittal Period, closing date December 12, 2024
    - Anticipated Award Date: July 2025
    - Anticipated Project Completion Date: December 2027
- Second Application Submittal Period, closing date July 15, 2025
    - Anticipated Award Date: March 2026
    - Anticipated Project Completion Date: July 2028

The Federal share of any small surface water or groundwater storage project shall not exceed 25 percent of the total project cost, or $30 million.

Matching and Cost-Sharing

Applicants must be capable of cost sharing 75 percent or more of the total project costs. The total project cost is defined as the total allowable costs incurred under a federal award and all required cost share and voluntary committed cost-share contributions, including third-party contributions.

Applicants may cost share through cash, costs contributed by the applicant, or third-party in-kind contributions. Third-party in-kind contributions are the value of non-cash contributions of property or services that benefit the Federally assisted project and are contributed by non-Federal third parties, without charge. The applicant should secure and ensure cost-share funding from sources outside the applicant's organization (e.g., loans or State grants) is available prior to award.

Other sources of Federal funding received by the applicant for the project may not be counted towards the required non-Federal cost share. The exception to this requirement is where the Federal statute authorizing a program specifically provides that Federal funds made available for a program can be applied to matching or cost-sharing requirements of other Federal programs, such as awards to tribal organizations under PL 93-638, as amended. If Reclamation determines that the Federal funding cannot be applied towards the non-Federal cost share, the work associated with the funding may be removed from the proposed project or the Federal funding will be counted toward the 25 percent Federal cost share for the project.

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https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/356327

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE

Department: U.S. Department of Interior
Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY 2024 Water Conservation Field Services Program: Financial Assistance

Grant Overview

This program provides funding for the planning, prioritizing, demonstrating technology/projects, and design of projects that conserve and use water more efficiently; mitigate conflict risk in areas at a high risk of future water conflict; and accomplish other benefits that contribute to sustainability in the Western U.S. Eligible applicants are states, Indian tribes, irrigation districts, water districts, and other organizations with water or power delivery authority located within the Lower Colorado Basin or the State of Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2019	$505,359	7

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: $700,000
Award Range: Up to $100,000
Match: 50 percent
Solicitation date: March 11, 2024
Proposal due: June 3, 2024

- Priority is given to water user entities that receive water supplies from Reclamation projects or have water contracts with Reclamation.

Water Conservation | Bureau of Reclamation (usbr.gov)

Awardee Profile

Coachella Valley Water District, Palm Desert, CA

AMOUNT: $100,000
YEAR: 2019

The District will create a demonstration pilot project to evaluate a new leak detection technology that uses raw microwave satellite images. If this technology is proven to be successful at effectively and efficiently identifying leaks, the District could expand its use to the entire distribution system and deploy it routinely to quickly identify leaks.

Department: U.S. Department of Interior
Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY 2024 Water Conservation Field Services Program: Financial Assistance

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to provide funding for the planning, prioritizing, demonstrating technology / projects, and design of projects that conserve and use water more efficiently; mitigate conflict risk in areas at a high risk of future water conflict; and accomplish other benefits that contribute to sustainability in the Western U.S. Applicants should leverage existing funding and resources by cost-sharing water conservation planning activities with Reclamation to make more efficient use of existing water supplies.

Projects should address one of the following task component areas:

- Water Management and Conservation Planning: This component involves developing a written water management and/or conservation plan. Water management and conservation plans provide entities an opportunity to document data on current water supply and demand, prepare a forecast for future water demands, identify water conservation goals, and determine conservation measures (e.g., cost/pricing of water, water accounting, landscape efficiency, information and education, water use regulation, etc.). Priority is given to an entity having a water delivery contract in the Lower Colorado Basin that is required to develop a water conservation plan.
- System Optimization Review: This component provides funding to complete a system optimization review. A System Optimization Review (SOR) is a review of an applicant's water delivery system and processes. The SOR assesses the potential for water management improvements and identifies a plan of action containing recommendations for implementing specific improvements that have the potential to enhance water management. Eligible activities include gathering information, identifying, describing, and prioritizing water management issues, and identifying, evaluating, and prioritizing potential improvement projects with the aim to mitigate the identified deficiencies and accomplish targeted goals.
- Designing Water Management Improvements: This component provides funding for the design of previously identified water management improvement projects such as pipelines, canal lining, water measurement structures, or other improvement projects that enhance water management. This includes necessary preliminary tasks needed to prepare a design such as surveying and acquiring pertinent site specific. Eligible subtasks under this activity also include peer-review for the design, cost estimate preparation, including cost scoping for regulatory compliance activities, and identification of necessary regulatory requirements.
- Demonstrating Conservation Project Technologies: This component provides funding for activities that include the installation or application of a particular technology in an innovative way, or in a unique setting, with the intent of sharing the results with others for possible adoption. The activity should demonstrate innovative technologies in water conservation that increase technical understanding of unfamiliar water management and practices that have not been previously used locally. In order to qualify as a demonstration project, the applicant must not have conducted any

portion of the proposed project or used the technology in the past or plan to conduct a large portion/phase of the project as a demonstration project.

Proposals for the development of planning studies, on-the-ground construction activities, and projects focused on normal operations, maintenance and replacement are not eligible for funding under this program.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are states, Indian tribes, irrigation districts, water districts, and other organizations with water or power delivery authority located within the Lower Colorado Basin including southern California, Nevada, and Arizona, or the State of Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands.

Funding

In FY 2024, an estimated $700,000 in funding is available to support approximately 12 awards of up to $100,000 through this program.

The project period for this program is two years.

Matching and Cost Sharing

Applicants must be capable of cost sharing 50 percent or more of the total project costs. Cost share may be made through cash, costs contributed by the applicant, or third-party in-kind contributions.

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Water Conservation | Bureau of Reclamation (usbr.gov)

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE

Department: U.S. Department of Interior
Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY 2025 WaterSMART Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Projects

Grant Overview

WaterSMART Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Projects provide funding for the restoration and protection of aquatic ecosystems. Eligible applicants are states, tribes, irrigation districts, water districts, and other organizations with water or power delivery authority located in Reclamation States, including entities and organizations that own a dam that is eligible for upgrade, modification, or removal. Nonprofit conservation organizations working in partnership with the entities listed above or that notify entities listed above are also eligible to apply.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2024	$91.96 million	19

Key Information

Total Funding: $95,000,000
Award Range: Up to $10 million depending on category
Match: 35 percent
Solicitation date: December 10, 2024
Proposal due: April 15, 2025 (First application period)

https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/aquatic/index.html

Awardee Profile

City of Sacramento, Programmatic Evaluation and Design of Juvenile Salmonid Rearing Habitat Restoration Sites

AMOUNT: $650,000
YEAR: 2024

The City of Sacramento will carry out a programmatic evaluation and produce restoration site designs for 30-acres of rearing habitat for juvenile salmonids on a 17-mile stretch of the lower American River in Sacramento. The City plans to create optimal salmonid rearing habitat and restore natural riparian conditions by conducting a baseline assessment of the area and carrying-out wetland delineation.

Department: U.S. Department of Interior
Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY 2025 WaterSMART Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Projects

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to support the study, design, and construction of aquatic ecosystem restoration projects that are collaboratively developed; have widespread regional benefits; and are for the purpose of improving the health of fisheries, wildlife, and aquatic habitat through restoration and improved fish passage. As used here, "aquatic ecosystem" refers to freshwater and brackish water habitats such as lakes, ponds, rivers, streams, wetlands, swamps, and estuaries and the adjacent floodplains, riparian corridors, deltas, and shallow aquifers that interact with surface water.

To be eligible under this funding opportunity, the project must be for the purpose of improving the health of fisheries, wildlife and/or aquatic habitat, including through habitat restoration and/or improved fish passage via the removal or bypass of barriers.

Projects proposed for funding must have a clear nexus to aquatic ecosystems and be transformational in nature, providing clear and significant ecological benefits. Generally, project footprints should be limited to riparian, floodplain, and/or in-stream restoration work or other activities. Upland or dryland restoration projects with limited connection to aquatic ecosystems may be better suited for other Federal grant opportunities. Proposed projects will be reviewed by the Program Office to determine whether the application is eligible for evaluation.

Applicants can apply for funding for projects in one of two task areas:

- Task A: Study and Design: Projects must include study and design activities to develop an aquatic ecosystem restoration project, resulting in the development of a study and design package that can be used to apply for funding under Task B. To be eligible for Task B: Construction, applicants must have conducted study and design activities resulting in a design package at a 60 percent design level. A 60 percent design package should include technical study and design documentation supporting the preferred alternative in sufficient detail to be able to obtain the necessary permits and estimate funding required for project implementation. Prior to applying for Task A: Study and Design funding, it is expected that applicants will have already performed some general planning work and preliminary studies (e.g., a watershed restoration plan, planning on a river/stream-reach scale, or other planning effort) that was inclusive of stakeholder input and that led to the identification of a specific restoration concept and prioritization of the restoration project(s). Eligible activities may include, but are not limited to:
    - Project Outreach
    - Restoration Project Design Alternatives Analysis
    - Project Analysis and Design

  - Complete site-specific design and engineering of the restoration project to reach a target 60 percent level of final project design
  - Preparation of project cost estimates and development of project construction plan
  - Legal and Institutional Requirements Research

- Task B: Construction: Projects must include the construction of aquatic ecosystem restoration projects that are collaboratively developed, have widespread regional benefits, and are for the purpose of improving the health of fisheries, wildlife, and aquatic habitat through restoration and improved fish passage. Proposed projects submitted by the April 15, 2025 application deadline should not have an estimated construction start date that is prior to December 31, 2025, and proposed projects submitted by the February 17, 2026 application deadline should not have an estimated construction start date that is prior to November 1, 2026. Projects eligible for funding under Task B may include the following activities:
  - Completion of Final Design for Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Construction
  - Outreach to Affected Stakeholders
  - Restoration Activities
    - Removal or Modification of Barriers to Fish Passage
    - Restoration of Connectivity
    - Restoration of Aquatic Habitat
    - Improvement of Water Availability, Quality, and Temperature
    - Monitoring Plan Development, Baseline Assessment, and Equipment Installation

Projects that include the removal or modification of a dam must submit documentation verifying the dam owner has agreed to the study, design, or construction of the project and that impacted water or power delivery customers have been notified.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are divided into Categories outlined below.

- Category A applicants: States, Tribes, irrigation districts, and water districts; state, regional, or local authorities, the members of which include one or more organizations with water or power delivery authority; agencies established under State law for the joint exercise of powers; and other entities or organizations that own a dam that is eligible for upgrade, modification, or removal.
- Category B applicants: Nonprofit conservation organizations that are acting in partnership with and with the agreement of an entity described in Category A. Category B applicants must include with their application a letter from the Category A partner stating that the Category A partner:
  - Is acting in partnership with the applicant;
  - Agrees to the submittal and content of the application; and
  - Intends to participate in the project in some way, for example, by providing input, feedback, or other support for the project.

All applicants must be located in a Reclamation State. The Reclamation States are defined as the following 17 States and 4 Territories: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, or the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Funding

In FY 2025 and FY 2026, up to $95 million of funding is available to support approximately 10 to 20 projects during each application submittal period. Project awards will be made through grants or cooperative agreements as applicable to each project. Task A project awards are anticipated to range from $500,000 - $2 million per project and Task B project awards are anticipated to range from $3 million to $10 million per project. Task A projects are expected to be completed in two years and Task B projects are expected to be completed in five years.

The anticipated award date from the first application deadline is January 30, 2026. Task A projects will have an anticipated project completion date of January 30, 2028, and Task B projects will have an anticipated project completion date of January 30, 2031. The anticipated award date from the second application deadline is November 20, 2026. Task A projects will have an anticipated project completion date of November 20, 2028, and Task B projects will have an anticipated project completion date of November 20, 2031.

Matching and Cost Sharing

Applicants must be capable of cost sharing 35 percent or more of the total project costs. The total project cost is defined as the total allowable costs incurred under a Federal award and all required cost share and voluntary committed cost share contributions, including third-party contributions. This cost-sharing requirement is not applicable to American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, or the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Cost share may be made through cash, costs contributed by the applicant, or third-party in-kind contributions. Third-party in-kind contributions include the value of non-cash contributions of property or services that benefit the Federally assisted project and are contributed by non-Federal third parties, without charge. Cost-share funding from sources outside the applicant's organization (e.g., loans or state grants) should be secured and available to the applicant prior to award.

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https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/aquatic/index.html

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Interior
Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY 2025 WaterSMART Drought Response Program Drought Resiliency Project Grants

Grant Overview

The WaterSMART Drought Response Program supports a proactive approach to drought by providing financial assistance to develop and update comprehensive drought plans and implement projects that will build long-term resilience to drought. Eligible applicants are states, tribes, irrigation districts, water districts, and other state, regional, or local authorities with water or power delivery authority located in the Western United States, as well as nonprofit conservation organizations working in partnership with the entities listed above.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2024	$147.6 million	42
2023	$84 million	36
2022	$20.5 million	13

Key Information

Total Funding: Unspecified
Award Range: Varies by category
Match: 50 percent
Solicitation date: July 24, 2024
Proposal due: October 7, 2024

https://www.usbr.gov/drought/

Awardee Profile

City of Gallup, New Mexico

AMOUNT: $9.5 million
YEAR: 2024

The City of Gallup received funding to construct a new well for potable water supplies to provide water to the city, the Navajo Nation, and parts of McKinley County.

Department: U.S. Department of Interior
Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY 2025 WaterSMART Drought Response Program Drought Resiliency Project Grants

Detailed Summary

The WaterSMART Drought Response Program supports a proactive approach to drought by providing financial assistance to develop and update comprehensive drought plans and implement projects that will build long-term resilience to drought. This program will support projects that that can increase water management flexibility and reliability to help entities prepare for and address the impacts of drought and water supply shortages.

Projects that may be funded under this program are divided into four task areas:

- Task A: Increasing the reliability of water supplies through infrastructure improvements, including:
    - System modifications or improvements
        - Constructing or modifying surface water intakes to access supplies when water levels are low (e.g., at dead pool), or to allow access at different locations.
        - Constructing new conveyance system components (pipelines, canals, pumping plants, etc.) to increase flexibility to deliver water from different sources, to facilitate voluntary water marketing or to deliver water from alternative sources.
        - Constructing interties between water conveyance systems to increase options for water deliveries.
        - Installing barriers or other facilities to prevent saltwater intrusion into surface supplies.
    - Storing water and/or recharging groundwater supplies
        - Developing or expanding small-scale surface water storage facilities such as off-stream storage ponds.
        - Installing water towers and storage tanks to store water for municipal and domestic use.
        - Installing recharge ponds or injection wells to increase recharge of surplus, inactive, or reclaimed water. Recharged water can serve multiple purposes such as sustainable conjunctive use in times of drought, deterring saltwater.
    - Developing alternate sources of water supply including water treatment
        - Constructing or expanding small-scale water treatment facilities to treat impaired groundwater, municipal wastewater, stormwater runoff, for environmental, agricultural, or potable purposes.
        - Constructing stormwater capture and reuse systems, including green stormwater infrastructure solutions such as rain gardens, cisterns, and bioswales
        - Installing residential grey water and rain catchment systems.
- Task B: Increasing the reliability of water supplies through groundwater through:
    - Constructing wells to provide back-up water supplies during times of drought.

    - Constructing extraction wells at groundwater banks or other recharge areas to improve extraction and return capabilities during dry years.
    - Constructing an aquifer storage and recovery well.
    - Treating impaired groundwater for beneficial use.
- Task C: Improving water management through decision support tools, modeling, and measurement, including:
    - Developing water management and modeling tools to help communities evaluate options and implement strategies to address drought.
    - Installing water measurement equipment and monitoring instrumentation devices to accurately track water supply conditions.
- Task D: Construction of domestic water supply projects of which the primary purpose is to provide domestic water supplies to Tribal or disadvantaged communities that do not have reliable access to water supplies. This can include the development of new supplies and/or associated infrastructure for treatment and delivery.

Proposed projects must include activities beyond routine water management required by state law for conservation and efficiency and must have ongoing benefits to build long-term resilience to drought. In addition, projects should help avoid the need for emergency response actions, such as water hauling programs and temporary infrastructure. Applicants must also demonstrate that the proposed project is supported by an existing drought planning effort.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are states, tribes, irrigation districts, water districts, and other state, regional, or local authorities with water or power delivery authority. Applicants must be located in the western U.S., which includes the states and territories of Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Virgin Islands. Additionally, nonprofit conservation organizations that are acting in partnership and with the agreement of an entity described above are eligible.

Applicants may seek funding under one application for multiple project components that include one or a combination of tasks if the project components are interrelated or closely related (e.g., a project to construct a new storage and conveyance system [Task A] coupled with a decision support tool for operation of the system [Task C]). However, if the projects are only loosely related, separate applications need to be submitted.

Funding

In FY 2025, an unspecified amount of funding is available to support an estimated 20-40 awards through this program. Awards are provided through separate funding groups:

For Categories A through C:

- Group I: Up to $750,000 will be available for projects generally completed within two years
- Group II: Up to $3,000,000 will be available for projects completed within three years and funded on an annual basis, contingent upon future appropriations

Category A entities are limited to a total of $3,000,000. Category B applicants may be considered for multiple awards up to a total of $15,000,000, if the Category A partners are different for each project selected

For Category D:

- Up to $10,000,000 will be available for the construction of domestic water supply projects for Tribes or disadvantaged communities that do not have reliable access to water supplies and will be completed within three years

The anticipated award date is September 1, 2025.

Matching and Cost-Share

Applicants applying for funding under Tasks A-C must be capable of cost sharing 50 percent or more of the total project costs. Applicants applying for funding through Task D must provide a five percent cost-share of the total project's costs.

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FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE

Department: U.S. Department of Interior
Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY 2025 WaterSMART Environmental Water Resources Projects

Grant Overview

WaterSMART Environmental Water Resources Projects provides funding for projects focused on environmental benefits and that have been developed as part of a collaborative process to help carry out an established strategy to increase the reliability of water resources. Eligible applicants are states, tribes, irrigation districts, water districts, and other organizations with water or power delivery authority located in the Western United States. Nonprofit conservation organizations working in partnership with the entities listed above or that notify entities listed above are also eligible to apply.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2022	$36.1 million	27
2023	$51.1 million	30

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: Unspecified
Award Range: Up to $5 million
Match: 25 percent
Solicitation date: April 18, 2024
Proposal due: For application period 2 the due date is March 11, 2025

https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/ewrp/index.html

Awardee Profile

City of Pocatello, Idaho

AMOUNT: $1,635,276
YEAR: 2023

The City of Pocatello, Idaho, will implement a river restoration project on the Portneuf River in downtown Pocatello. Restoration will be accomplished by moving the river's existing riprapped levee, constructed in 1968 by the US Army Corps of Engineers, to an area of City-owned property. A wetland and side channel will be installed adjacent to the levee, along with ADA-accessible river access for anglers and floaters.

Department: U.S. Department of Interior
Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY 2025 WaterSMART Environmental Water Resources Projects

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to leverage their money and resources by cost sharing with Reclamation on Environmental Water Resources Projects, including water conservation and efficiency projects, water management and infrastructure improvements, and river and watershed restoration and nature-based solution projects that provide significant ecological benefits, have been developed as part of a collaborative process, and help carry out an established strategy to increase the reliability of water resources. Nature-based solutions are sustainable environmental management practices that weave natural features or processes into the built environment to promote adaptation and resilience. This program also prioritizes projects that provide benefits to multiple water use sectors.

Eligible projects include on-the-ground implementation projects where a primary purpose is to benefit ecological values or improve watershed health and have a nexus to water resources. This includes projects that benefit plant and animal species; fish and wildlife habitat; riparian areas; ecosystems; commercial, recreational, subsistence, or Tribal ceremonial fishing; and river-based recreation, which are supported by rivers, streams, or other water sources, or that are directly influenced by water resources management. This may include, but is not limited to, projects that improve the timing or quantity of water available; improve water quality and temperature; improve stream or riparian conditions for the benefit of plant and animal species, fish and wildlife habitat, riparian areas, watershed health, and ecosystems; implementation of a nature-based solution; and projects that otherwise mitigate against the impacts of climate change to fish and wildlife habitats. This includes projects that provide benefits to multiple sectors, such as projects that benefit agricultural, municipal, Tribal, or recreational water users in addition to providing ecological benefits.

Applicants can apply for funding for project components in one or more of the following three categories:

- Category A: Ecologically Focused Water Conservation and Efficiency Projects: To be eligible under this task area, a primary project purpose must be to provide more reliable water supplies for ecological benefits. Some means of ensuring that the conserved water will be made available for ecological benefits is required. This could include a formal mechanism to commit conserved water to instream flows (e.g., instream water right) or other types of assurances (e.g., Memorandum of Understanding between applicable water right holders and stakeholders). Eligible activities include:
    - Canal lining or piping
    - Irrigation flow measurements
    - Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) automation
- Category B: Ecologically Focused Water Management and Infrastructure Improvements: To be eligible under this task area, a primary project purpose must be to provide ecological benefits. Eligible activities include:

- Improving fish passage, including installation and/or modification of fish screens, ladders, bypasses, or removing small barriers to fish passage (e.g., diversion dams).
- Improving fish hatcheries (e.g., chillers, holding pens, transport, disease control, or prevention).
- Water management changes or infrastructure improvements that will improve water supply reliability and provide ecological benefits (e.g., installing a new diversion location downstream from critical temperature control points, treating return flows to improve water quality, water storage to improve streamflow, or improving the timing or volume of available flows at particular locations).
- Salinity or temperature control projects to provide ecological benefits (e.g., salinity barriers, temperature curtains, dam temperature shutters, powerplant bypass structures) and to aerate ecologically sensitive areas where dissolved oxygen levels are low.

- Category C: Restoration and Nature-Based Solution Projects: To be eligible under this task area, projects must have a clear nexus to water resources or water resources management. Eligible activities include:
  - Restoration of the riparian area, riverbanks, channels, and floodplains to bolster aquatic and riparian habitat and build natural resiliency.
  - Restoration of connectivity between the river and disconnected floodplains and wetlands to improve environmental flows, build system resiliency, and improve the lateral mobility of a river channel.
  - Implementation of nature-based solutions (e.g., installation of beaver dam analogs, post-assisted log structures, wetland construction for treatment of irrigation water or stormwater flows)
  - Restoration projects that improve water temperature, water quality, or the timing or volume of available flows to improve aquatic conditions.
  - Restoration projects that enhance commercial, recreational, subsistence, or Tribal ceremonial fishing, and river-based recreation.
  - Removing of invasive species, protection against invasive species, and restoration of native species. Projects must have a clear nexus to water resources or water resources management. Reclamation can only provide funding for invasive species removal one time per geographic footprint; secondary removal is considered operations and maintenance and is not eligible
    - Projects that include removal of invasive vegetation must include revegetation with native species at the removal site OR must provide a clear explanation of why revegetation is not necessary for the specific ecosystem in which the project is located.
    - Projects that include removal of non-vegetation invasive species must include measures to prevent reintroduction (e.g., fencing, fish barrier).
  - Forest management activities to protect water resources. Projects must have a clear nexus to water resources or water resources management. Reclamation can only provide funding for forest management activities one time per geographic footprint; additional treatments are considered operations and maintenance and are not eligible. Eligible activities include:
    - Fuels management to reduce the risk of severe wildland fire, through mechanical and/or chemical treatments.

- Post-wildland fire restoration activities, including measures to stabilize soil, reduce erosion, and remove post-fire sedimentation; invasive species removal; planting and seeding native vegetation; forest stabilization; and reforestation. Projects that include removal of post-wildland fire sediment must also (1) implement revegetation/reforestation and erosion control techniques to reduce future sedimentation and (2) complete habitat restoration in any river or reservoir from which sediment is removed.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are divided into Categories outlined below.

- Category A applicants: States, Tribes, irrigation districts, and water districts; state, regional, or local authorities, the members of which include one or more organizations with water or power delivery authority; and other organizations with water or power delivery authority.
- Category B applicants: Nonprofit conservation organizations, including watershed groups, that are acting in partnership with and with the agreement of an entity described in Category A. Category B applicants must include with their application a letter from the Category A partner stating that the Category A partner:
    - Is acting in partnership with the applicant;
    - Agrees to the submittal and content of the application; and
    - Intends to participate in the project in some way, for example, by providing input, feedback, or other support for the project.
- Category C applicants: Nonprofit conservation organizations submitting an application for a project to improve the condition of a natural feature such as wetlands on Federal land without a Category A partner must demonstrate that entities described in Category A from the applicable service area have been notified and do not object to the project.

Applicants must be located in the states and territories of Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, the Virgin Islands, or Puerto Rico.

Funding

In FY 2024 and FY 2025, an unspecific amount of funding is available to support approximately 20-40 awards during each application period. In general, up to $3,000,000 in Federal funds may be awarded for projects to be completed within three years and with total project costs no greater than $6,000,000. The budget must include the cost of all equipment, materials and supplies, and labor or contractual costs to complete the project. Up to $5,000,000 in Federal funds may be awarded to a watershed group for projects to be completed within five years, with no total project cost limitation. The Application Review Committee has final discretion to determine whether a project meets the total project cost limitation.

Multiple applications for funding may be submitted for consideration under this funding opportunity, provided that the project scopes are not duplicative. Category A entities are limited to a total of $3,000,000 in Federal funding per Application Period through this NOFO. Category B applicants may be considered for multiple

awards up to a total of $15,000,000 per Application Period, if the Category A partners are different for each project selected.

This funding opportunity has two application submittal periods. For proposals submitted under the first application period, the Bureau of Reclamation expects to contact potential award recipients and unsuccessful applicants in November 2024 (or later if necessary). The anticipated award date is April 30, 2025. The anticipated project completion date is April 30, 2028, with April 30, 2030 being the anticipated project completion date for Watershed Groups.

For proposals submitted under the second application period, the Bureau of Reclamation expects to contact potential award recipients and unsuccessful applicants in August 2025 (or later if necessary). The anticipated award date is January 31, 2026. The anticipated project completion date is January 31, 2029, with January 31, 2031 being the anticipated project completion date for Watershed Groups.

Matching and Cost Sharing

Projects that fit one of the eligible project types, provide significant ecological benefits, have been developed as part of a collaborative process, and help carry out an established strategy to increase the reliability of water resources are eligible for up to a 75 percent Federal cost-share contribution.

Applications must be capable of cost sharing 25 percent or more of the total project costs. The total project cost is defined as the total allowable costs incurred under a Federal award and all required cost-share and voluntary committed cost-share contributions, including third-party contributions.

Cost share may be made through cash, costs contributed by the applicant, or third-party in-kind contributions. Third-party in-kind contributions include the value of non-cash contributions of property or services that benefit the federally assisted project and are contributed by non-Federal third parties without charge. Cost-share funding from sources outside the applicant's organization (e.g., loans or state grants) should be secured and available to the applicant prior to award.

Contact Information

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https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/ewrp/index.html

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE

Department: U.S. Department of Interior
Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY 2024/25 WaterSMART Small-Scale Water Efficiency Grants

Grant Overview

This program supports small-scale on-the-ground projects that seek to conserve, better manage, or otherwise make more efficient use of water supplies. Eligible applicants are states, tribes, irrigation districts, water districts, local authorities, and other organizations with water or power delivery authority in the Western United States.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2021	$5.5 million	82
2020	$3.3 million	52

Key Information

Total Funding: $12,000,000
Award Range: Up to $100,000
Match: 50 percent
Solicitation date: November 2, 2023
Proposal due: January 16, 2024; July 9, 2024; January 14, 2025; July 8, 2025

https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/swep/index.html

Awardee Profile

Cortaro Water Users' Associatio
Arizona
AMOUNT: $75,000
YEAR: 2021

This project received funding to install nine automatic, supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) controlled gates within the Cortaro-Marana Irrigation District. These solar powered gates will be connected to an existing SCADA system and allow for constant monitoring and automatic adjustment of flow rates.

Department: U.S. Department of Interior
Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY 2024/25 WaterSMART Small-Scale Water Efficiency Grants

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to support small-scale on-the-ground projects that seek to conserve, better manage, or otherwise make more efficient use of water supplies. These projects conserve and use water more efficiently, mitigate conflict risk in areas at a high risk of future water conflict, and accomplish other benefits that contribute to water supply reliability in the Western United States.

Reclamation will provide funding for small-scale on-the-ground water efficiency projects which seek to implement work identified in an applicant's water planning efforts. Example projects include, but are not limited to:

- Canal lining/piping
- Municipal metering
- Irrigation flow measurement
- Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition and Automation (SCADA)
- Landscape Irrigation measures
- High-Efficiency Indoor Appliances and Fixtures
- Upgrades to Commercial Cooling Systems to Improve Water Use Efficiency

Other projects that are similar to those tasks listed above may be submitted for consideration and will be allowed to the extent that they are consistent with program authorization and goals.

Proposed projects that are supported by an existing water management and conservation plan, System Optimization Review, or other planning effort led by the applicant are prioritized. This prioritization aims to ensure that projects funded under this program are well thought out, have public support, and have been identified as the best way to address water management concerns.

Consideration will be given for proposals that describe on-farm efficiency work that is currently being completed or is anticipated to be completed in collaboration with the Natural Resources Conservation Service in the area (e.g., with a direct connection to the district's water supply).

Additional points will be awarded to projects demonstrate support for the Biden-Harris Administration's priorities, including E.O. 14008: Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad, E.O. 13985: Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government, and the President's memorandum, Tribal Consultation and Strengthening Nation-to Nation Relationships. Points will be allocated

based on the degree to which the project supports the priorities listed, and whether the connection to the priority(ies) is well supported in the application.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are states, tribes, irrigation districts, water districts, any state, regional, or local authority whose members include one or more organizations with water or power delivery authority, and other organizations with water or power delivery authority. Applicants must be located in the western U.S., which includes the states and territories of Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, the Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico.

Additionally, nonprofit conservation organizations that are acting in partnership and with the agreement of an entity described above are eligible.

Funding

In FY 2024 and 2025, approximately $12 million is available to support an estimated 40 to 50 awards of up to $100,000 through this program per application period, contingent on appropriations. To be considered a small-scale project, total project costs should generally be $225,000 or less. Projects that have a total project cost greater than $225,000 should be submitted under the WaterSMART Grants: Water and Energy Efficiency Grants Program.

In general, proposed projects should be completed within two years of award. Applications for projects requiring more time will be considered for funding only under limited circumstances.

Applicants may submit multiple project proposals, provided the project scopes are not duplicative,

Matching and Cost Share

Applicants must be capable of cost sharing 50 percent (50%) or more of the total project costs at the time of award. Cost share may be made through cash, costs contributed by the applicant, or third-party in-kind contributions.

Contact Information

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https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/swep/index.html

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE

Department: U.S. Department of Interior
Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY 2024/2025 WaterSMART Water and Energy Efficiency Grants

Grant Overview

This program supports projects that result in quantifiable and sustained water savings, implement renewable energy components, and support broader sustainability benefits. Projects will conserve and use water more efficiently, increase the production of renewable energy, mitigate conflict risk in areas at a high risk of future water conflict, and accomplish other benefits that contribute to sustainability in the Western United States. Eligible applicants are states, tribes, irrigation districts, water districts, any state, regional, or local authority whose members include one or more organizations with water or power delivery authority, and other organizations with water or power delivery authority located in the Western United States, as well as nonprofit conservation organizations working in partnership with the entities listed above.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2023	$140 million	84

Key Information

Total Funding: Unspecified
Award Range: Varies by funding type
Match: 50 percent
Solicitation date: November 15, 2023
Proposal due: February 22, 2024 (Application Period 1), November 13, 2024 (Application Period 2)

https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/weeg/

Awardee Profile

City of Hemet, CA

AMOUNT: $100,000
YEAR: 2023

This project received funding to implement a rebate program for residential and commercial water users to convert up to 90,000 square feet of turf lawns to drought tolerant landscaping. The project is expected to result in annual water savings of 8 acre feet, which will reduce the city's need to pump groundwater.

Department: U.S. Department of Interior
Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY 2024/2025 WaterSMART Water and Energy Efficiency Grants

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to support projects that result in quantifiable and sustained water savings, implement renewable energy components, and support broader sustainability benefits. Projects should conserve and use water more efficiently; increase the production of hydropower; mitigate conflict risk in areas at a high risk of future water conflict; enable farmers to make additional on-farm improvements; and accomplish other benefits that contribute to water supply reliability in the western United States. Ultimately, the aim of the funding agency is to stretch and secure water supplies for future generations.

Eligible projects under this program include:

- Water conservation projects: projects that result in quantifiable and sustained water savings or improved water management, including:
    - Canal lining/piping projects that line or pipe canals, resulting in conserved water
    - Municipal metering projects that line or pipe canals, resulting in conserved water
    - Irrigation flow measurement projects that line or pipe canals, resulting in conserved water
    - Supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) and automation projects that line or pipe canals, resulting in conserved water
    - Landscape irrigation measures projects that provide water savings by reducing outdoor water usage. These measures include turf removal, smart irrigation controllers (weather or soil-moisture based) and high-efficiency nozzles (sprinkler heads).
    - High-efficiency indoor appliances and fixtures projects that promote installation of high-efficiency indoor appliances and fixtures to provide water savings for municipal water entities where there is significant potential for replacing existing non-efficient indoor appliances and fixtures
    - Commercial cooling systems projects to retrofit or replace large evaporative cooling units (cooling towers) to reduce consumptive water use and energy, such as conversion to air-cooled units or high-efficiency cooling towers

- Renewable energy projects: projects that increase the use of renewable energy sources in managing and delivering water and/or projects that upgrade existing water management facilities resulting in quantifiable and sustained energy savings. Projects include but are not limited to:
    - Developing new hydropower capacity by installing a new hydropower facility or uprating (i.e., increasing) the capacity of an existing hydropower facility
    - Bringing existing mothballed hydropower capacity back online through facility investment
    - Installing solar-electric, wind energy, or geothermal power systems

Projects that include renewable energy components will typically require additional permitting not needed for water management improvements. Improvement to federal facilities must comply with all additional federal requirements.

This program prioritizes projects that address a specific water and/or energy sustainability concern(s), including enhancing drought resilience, addressing the current and future impacts of climate change, and resolving water related conflicts in the region. Points will be awarded for other project benefits that demonstrate support for the Biden Administration's priorities including combatting the climate crisis, supporting disadvantaged or underserved communities, and providing tribal benefits.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are classified under two categories.

Category A - applicants include states, tribes, irrigation districts, water districts, any state, regional, or local authority whose members include one or more organizations with water or power delivery authority, and other organizations with water or power delivery authority.

Category B - applicants include nonprofit conservation organizations that are acting in partnership with, and with the agreement of an entity described in Category A.

Applicants must be located in the western U.S., which includes the states and territories of Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, the Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico.

Funding

In FY 2024 and FY 2025, an unspecified amount of funding is available to support awards through this program. Reclamation will determine the final amount of funding available based on final FY 2024 and FY 2025 appropriations, as well as funding available under the Bipartisan Infrastructure law in FY 2024 and FY 2025. An estimated 40-50 awards will be available in each application period.

Category A applicants are limited to a total of $5,000,000 in Federal funding per application period while Category B applicants may be considered for multiple awards up to a total of $15,000,000 per application period, if the Category A partners are different for each project selected.

Awards are provided through three separate funding groups:

- Funding Group I: An unspecified amount of funding is available for awards of up to $500,000 in funding with a project period of 2 years.
- Funding Group II: An unspecified amount of funding is available for awards of up to up to $2,000,000 in funding with a project period of 3 years.
- Funding Group III: An unspecified amount of funding is available for awards of up to $5,000,000 in funding with a project period of 3 years.

The anticipated award date for application period one projects is December 31, 2024 and the anticipated award date for application period two projects is October 31, 2025. Proposed projects for Application Period 1 should not have an estimated construction start date that is prior to December 31, 2024. Proposed projects

for Application Period 2 should not have an estimated construction start date that is prior to October 31, 2025.

Matching and Cost-Share

Applicants must be capable of cost sharing 50 percent or more of the total project costs. Cost share may be made through cash, costs contributed by the applicant, or third-party in-kind contributions. Third-party in-kind contributions include the value of non-cash contributions of property or services that benefit the federally assisted project and are contributed by non-Federal third parties, without charge. Applicants from the American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, or the Virgin Islands are not required to provide a match.

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https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/weeg/

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE

Department: U.S. Department of the Interior
Agency: Bureau of Land Management

FY 2025 Bureau of Land Management Aquatic Resource Management

Grant Overview

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Aquatic Resource Management Program supports riparian and wetland areas, aquatic habitats, and water resources to ensure water availability. The program also supports tools to inform efficient and effective environmental reviews and to restore degraded water resources. Eligible applicants are state, county, and city or township governments; Native American tribal governments and tribal organizations; public, state, and private institutions of higher education; and non-profits with or without 501(c)(3) status with the IRS.

Program History

No award history is available.

Key Information

Total Funding: $3 million
Award Range: $25,000 - $500,000
Match: Not required
Solicitation date: June 23, 2025
Proposal due: July 23, 2025

https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/359786

Tips

- Applicants should anticipate a high level of collaboration with the BLM throughout the life of the project. Involvement may include joint collaboration, training of recipient personnel, review and approval by the BLM, participation in selecting recipient project staff, directing or redirecting of recipient work, ability to halt work, and close monitoring and operational involvement.

Department: U.S. Department of the Interior
Agency: Bureau of Land Management

FY 2025 Bureau of Land Management Aquatic Resource Management

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to ensure water availability to sustain healthy riparian and wetland areas, aquatic habitats, and beneficial uses; advance innovative decision support tools to inform efficient and effective environmental reviews, the use of BLM-managed lands, the protection of remaining high-quality habitats, and the strategic restoration of degraded systems; and restore degraded water resources, riparian and wetland areas, and aquatic habitats, with a focus on process based approaches supporting the BLM's multiple use and sustained yield mission.

This program supports riparian and wetland areas, aquatic habitats, and water resources for a combination of balanced and diverse uses including the Nation’s need for domestic sources of minerals, food, timber, fiber, fish and wildlife habitat, recreation, and the long-term needs of future generations. Program staff collaborate with Federal, State, Tribal, and local governments, and non-governmental partners to guide efficient environmental reviews and permitting actions on public lands, ensure water of suitable quality and quantity is available for beneficial uses, improve habitat for fish and wildlife, and control aquatic invasive species.

BLM’s Aquatic Resources Program has opportunities to work with partner organizations to assist with decision support to guide efficient environmental reviews and permitting actions on public lands, invasive species management, and habitat improvements for fish and wildlife. Specifically:

Decision Support – The collection, analysis, and use of monitoring data to inform and streamline permitting decisions, resource improvements, adaptive management, and other management actions. State-specific needs include, but are not limited to:

- Alaska: Identifying and refining field and remote sensing tools to quantify the condition and trend of riparian and aquatic resources on non-wadable river systems consistent with BLM’s National Aquatic Monitoring Framework and AIM Strategy.
- Arizona, New Mexico, and Nevada: Implementing the BLM’s Assessment, Inventory, and Monitoring (AIM) strategy for lotic (e.g., streams) systems.
- California, Montana, and the Dakotas: Inventorying, assessing, and monitoring water resources, riparian and wetland areas, and aquatic habitats.
- Colorado:
    - Monitoring the chemical, physical, and biological conditions of springs.
    - Assessing amphibian populations with environmental DNA.
- Utah:
    - Monitoring populations of sensitive aquatic species.
    - Monitoring shallow groundwater levels to inform aquatic species habitat needs.
    - Monitoring hydrologic responses to low-tech, process-based restoration.
- Wyoming:

- Assessing the effectiveness of restoration efforts to mitigate salinity and selenium impacts to water quality and stream ecosystems.
- Surveying Fatmuckets mussels (*Lampsilis siliquoidea)* in the Bighorn and Wind River watersheds.

Invasive Species – Efforts to prevent, control, and eradicate aquatic invasive species. State-specific needs include, but are not limited to:

- Arizona, California, Colorado, Oregon, Washington, and Utah: Controlling and eradicating riparian and aquatic invasive species.
- Headquarters/Eastern States: Preventing aquatic invasive species through education and outreach at national scales.

Restoration – Efforts to restore the physical and ecological processes of functioning riparian and wetland areas, aquatic habitats, and water resources. State-specific needs include, but are not limited to:

- Arizona: Restoring riparian and wetland areas and aquatic habitats. Protecting riparian and wetland areas and aquatic habitats.
- California, Montana, and the Dakotas: Restoring riparian and wetland areas and aquatic habitats.
- Colorado and Utah: Using low-tech, process-based techniques to restore riparian and wetland areas and aquatic habitats.
- Oregon/Washington: Restoring aquatic and riparian habitat through the placement of large wood and boulders, culvert upgrades to provide for fish passage, invasive weed treatments, beaver dam analogs, etc.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are state, county, and city or township governments; Native American tribal governments and tribal organizations; public, state, and private institutions of higher education; and non-profits with or without 501(c)(3) status with the IRS.

Funding Details

In FY 2025, an estimated $3 million is expected to be available to support approximately 75 awards ranging from $25,000 to $500,000 through this program. Projects will be funded through cooperative agreements with a start date of September 1, 2025, and end date no later than August 30, 2030.

Cost Sharing and Matching

There is no match required for this program.

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https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/359786

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE

Department: Department of the Interior
Agency: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services

FY 2025 Golden Mussel Prevention and Control in the Western United States

Grant Overview

The purpose of this program is to provide funding to support a systematic and unified approach to prevent the spread of golden mussels into and within the Western United States. Eligibility for this program is unrestricted: all legal entities are eligible to apply.

Program History

There is no program history available.

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: $500,000
Award Range: $50,000 - $500,000
Match: Not required
Solicitation Date: August 6, 2025
Proposal Due: October 6, 2025

Applications will only be accepted via GrantSolutions.

Click here for more information.

Tips

- Prior to applying, applicants should review presidential actions and DOI Secretary's Orders to confirm awareness of and compliance with all currently effective and applicable executive and secretary orders.
- Projects are limited to the waters of the Western United States.

Department: Department of the Interior
Agency: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services

FY 2025 Golden Mussel Prevention and Control in the Western United States

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to provide a systematic and unified approach to prevent the spread of Golden Mussels (*Limnoperna fortunei*) (GM) into and within the Western United States both now and in the future. GM are an aquatic freshwater/brackish invasive bivalve species first discovered in California's Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta) in October 2024. This discovery is the first known occurrence of golden mussel in North America and was likely introduced to California via ballast water from a commercial ship traveling from an international port. Now that GM are present in the Delta, they can be easily transported via trailered watercraft to areas that have not yet been invaded. This program will fund projects in the listed principle areas of the Western United States towards the fulfillment of the top priorities similar to those identified in the State of California's Golden Mussel Response Framework.

This program will work towards limiting the spread of invasive mussels through containment, especially by inspection and decontamination of watercraft moving from invaded water bodies to jurisdictions currently free of Dreissenid mussels, and the coordination between states or other jurisdictions. Eligible priority projects include:

- Protecting western ecosystems through support and/or establishment of prevention programs for invasive GM at identified high risk control points.
- Limiting the spread of invasive GM through containment by increasing compliance with federal, state, local and tribal laws.
- Increasing the effectiveness of outreach and education efforts to help advance prevention efforts.
- Building capacity to detect and respond to new GM infestations.
- Conducting research that benefits the priorities listed above, including research on non-target species impacts of invasive mussel control treatments. Efforts to address the risks and impacts of these invasive species are on-going.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligibility for this program is unrestricted. All legal entities are eligible to apply. Certified Local Governments are encouraged to prioritize projects in support of the celebration of America's 250th birthday (American250). This may include, but is not limited to, preservation, planning, interpretation, public engagement, and rehabilitation projects that recognized and honor the nation's founding, history, and cultural heritage.

Funding

In FY 2025, approximately $500,000 in funding is available to support awards ranging from $50,000 to $500,000.

Matching and Cost Sharing

There is no matching or cost sharing requirement.

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Click here for more information.

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE

Department: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Agency: Region 9, San Francisco Bay Program Office

FY 2025 San Francisco Bay Grant Program

Grant Overview

The purpose of this program is to support a broad array of project types that improve ecosystem functions and address water quality impacts from nutrients, stormwater, urban pesticide use, and habitat loss within the San Francisco Bay. Eligible applicants are state, local agencies, special districts, Federally recognized Tribes, Public or nonprofit agencies, institutions, and organizations. Project must be located within the nine SF Bay counties (Marin, Napa, Sonoma, Solano, Contra Costa, Alameda, Santa Clara, San Mateo, and San Francisco) that drain to SF Bay.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2024	$14 million	15-20
2023	$30 million	20-25

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: $33 million
Match: 25%
Solicitation date: January 07, 2026
Application due: March 03, 2026

https://www.epa.gov/sfbay-program

Awardee Profile

The Watershed Project
Contra Costa County, CA

AMOUNT: $1,000,748
YEAR: 2023

Funds will support the creation of two community-based groups that will plan, design, and implement a new watershed action plan for the Wildcat Creek watershed in the underserved community of Richmond. Community meetings and workshops will be held to recruit and train a community advisory board and a “friends of Wildcat Creek” group.

Department: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Agency: Region 9, San Francisco Bay Program Office

FY 2025 San Francisco Bay Grant Program

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this funding opportunity is to seek applications that align with the Administration's "Five Pillars" from the "Powering the Great American Comeback" initiative; to support the SF Bay program priorities; and to align with appropriate statutory authorities. The SF Bay Program aims to support a broad array of project types that improve ecosystem functions and address water quality impacts from nutrients, stormwater, urban pesticide use, and habitat loss.

EPA's SF Bay Geographic Program supports water quality improvements for the Bay through competitive grants to projects that protect and restore wetlands, reduce polluted runoff, remediate shorelines, advance landscape scale watershed restoration and more.

SF Bay Program Funding Priorities:

- SF Bay Program priorities: Applications should include environmental and/or public health benefits under one or more of the following:
    - Wetlands Regional Monitoring Program
    - Beneficial Reuse of Dredged Material Support
    - Nutrient Management
    - Subtidal Habitat, Eelgrass and Oyster Reef Restoration
    - Bay Restoration Regulatory Integration Team (BRRIT)
    - Large Scale Tidal Wetlands Restoration
    - In-Bay Monitoring of Pollutants, including Trash, and Algal Species under the Regional Monitoring Program
    - Large Scale Shoreline Resilience, Multi-Benefit Projects
    - Large Scale Implementation of Urban Green Stormwater Infrastructure
    - Special Studies/Projects for Addressing PFAS in SF Bay
    - Special Studies/Projects for Addressing PCBs under TMDL Implementation Plan
- Consistency with CCMP: All applications must be consistent with San Francisco Estuary Partnership's (SFEP's) Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) and must indicate the CCMP objective(s) and action(s) to be implemented under the project. Examples of eligible project types include, but are not limited to, the following:
    - Beneficial reuse of dredged material
    - Projects to reduce nutrient inputs into SF Bay (e.g., pilot-scale wastewater treatment plant technologies, agricultural land BMPs, etc.)
    - Restoration of subtidal habitat through sediment remediation and/or debris removal
    - Installation of green stormwater infrastructure features to manage stormwater
    - Removal of trash from the Bay and its watersheds
    - Multi-benefit shoreline projects that restore habitat, provide flood protection and/or reduce pollutants

- Contaminated site cleanup that leads to improvement of waters of the SF Bay
- Large-scale restoration projects that protect and restore wetlands and waters
- Developing, utilizing or expanding on artificial intelligence (AI) and/or machine learning for efforts related to SF Bay Program priorities, including water quality monitoring and water quality modeling

Environmental Outputs and Outcomes: Applicants are required to describe how funding will help EPA achieve outputs and outcomes. These outputs and outcomes will be included as deliverables in the grant workplan if the application is selected for award. Recipients will be expected to report progress toward the attainment of project outputs and outcomes during the project performance period. Outputs and outcomes are defined as follows:

- Outputs: An environmental activity, effort, and/or associated work product related to an environmental goal or objective that will be produced or provided over time or by a specified date. Outputs may be quantitative or qualitative but must be measurable during the project period. The expected outputs for the grants awarded under these guidelines may include but are not limited to: number of presentations made, number of participants at an event or workshop, draft and final technical reports produced, tools and/or guidance documents for decision makers, and draft and final reports.
- Outcomes: The result, effect, or consequence that will occur from carrying out the activities under the grant. Outcomes may be environmental, behavioral, health-related, or programmatic; outcomes must be qualitative or quantitative; outcomes may not necessarily be achievable during the project period. EPA anticipates the outcomes from the projects awarded under this announcement may include, but are not limited to:
    - Pollutant load reductions, attainment of water quality objectives, or other numeric indicators of water quality improvement.
    - Improved flood protection in the form of shoreline and/or stormwater management.
    - Acres of habitat restored.
    - Improved water quality as a result of shoreline site remediation.
    - Percentage of land area where green stormwater infrastructure has been or will be implemented to achieve water quality improvements and/or community benefits.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are state, local agencies, special districts, Federally recognized Tribes (non-federally recognized Tribes represented by a nonprofit institution), public or nonprofit agencies, institutions, and organizations.

Projects must be carried out entirely within one or more of the nine SF Bay counties (Marin, Napa, Sonoma, Solano, Contra Costa, Alameda, Santa Clara, San Mateo, and San Francisco) that drain to the Bay.

Funding Details

In FY 2025, approximately $33 million is expected to be available to support an anticipated 15 to 20 grant awards ranging from approximately $1 million to $5 million through this program. Awards funded under this opportunity are expected to have a 3–5-year project period.

Selections are anticipated to be made in April 2026, and award notifications are anticipated to be made in June 2026.

Cost Sharing and Matching

Matching funds of 25% of the total project cost are required under this competition based on the requirements of Section 125 of the CWA, 33 U.S.C § 1276a.

Contact Information

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https://www.epa.gov/sfbay-program

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE

Department: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Agency: Office of Water Management

FY 2025 Water Technical Assistance (WaterTA)

Grant Overview

The purpose of this program is to ensure all communities have access to clean, safe, and reliable water by providing technical assistance that will help communities to address challenges in providing safe drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater services to their residents. Rather than providing monetary awards, this program will provide free technical assistance services that will support communities and their water utilities. Eligible applicants are local governments and communities; drinking water, wastewater and stormwater utilities and systems; states and territories; tribes; and nongovernmental organizations.

Program History

Program history is unavailable.

Key Information

Total Funding: Rather than providing monetary awards, this program will provide free technical assistance services
Match: Not required
Proposal due: Rolling

https://www.epa.gov/water-infrastructure/water-technical-assistance-waterta

Awardee Profile

Gila County, Arizona

YEAR: 2024

Technical assistance was provided to help launch the Cesspool Remediation Project, funded through the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona (WIFA). This initiative aims to protect public health and enhance community safety by addressing and replacing aging septic systems and cesspools on private properties.

Department: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Agency: Office of Water Management

FY 2025 Water Technical Assistance (WaterTA)

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to ensure all communities have access to clean, safe, and reliable water by providing technical assistance that will help communities to address challenges in providing safe drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater services to their residents. Rather than providing monetary awards, this program will provide free technical assistance services that will support communities and their water utilities to:

- Identify lead pipes for removal
- Enhance resilience against cybersecurity threats
- Identify climate adaptation strategies
- Provide resources for workforce development
- Address stormwater challenges
- Comply with the Safe Drinking Water and Clean Water Acts

The program aims to assist communities with applications for federal funding, quality infrastructure, and reliable water services in partnership with drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater utilities, and local governments. The program's ongoing TA initiatives include:

- Environmental finance centers
- Training and technical assistance for small systems
- Rural, small, and tribal (RST) technical assistance for wastewater systems
- Creating resilience water utilities (CRWU)
- Area-wide optimization system (AWOP)
- Water infrastructure and resiliency finance center
- Cybersecurity
- Drinking water rule implementation and compliance assistance
- Water resilience
- Drinking water capacity development
- Utility workforce development

TA will be provided for the following types of systems/projects:

- Drinking water
- Wastewater
- Stormwater
- Source water protection
- Nonpoint source
- Decentralized wastewater/septic systems
- Multiple types of systems/projects

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are local governments/communities, drinking water utilities/systems, wastewater utilities/systems, stormwater utilities/systems, states and territories, tribes, and non-governmental organizations.

Funding

Rather than providing monetary awards, this program will provide free technical assistance services that will support communities and their water utilities.

Matching and Cost Sharing

There are no matching requirements for this program.

Contact Information

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https://www.epa.gov/water-infrastructure/water-technical-assistance-waterta