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Special Report

**Information on
WaterSMART
Programs and
Funding History**

June 2019

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Introduction

The WaterSMART Program is a program of the Bureau of Reclamation, within the Department of Interior, that focuses on improving water conservation and helping water-resource managers make sound decisions about water use. In order to assist you in applying for upcoming WaterSMART program solicitations, this package contains information on the funding that the WaterSMART program may receive in the upcoming appropriations process; a history of solicitation and application due dates for WaterSMART programs; as well as detailed summaries of each of the funding opportunities available under Reclamation's WaterSMART program. **It is never too early to start preparing to compete for these limited, yet highly valuable, funds!**

Throughout this package there are eight Bureau of Reclamation programs of interest included:

- WaterSMART Grants
 - Desalination Construction Projects Under the WIIN Act
 - Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects
 - Water and Energy Efficiency Grants
 - Water Marketing Strategy Grants
- Cooperative Watershed Management Program
- Basin Studies Program
- Drought Response Program
- Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse Program

More information on the WaterSMART program, including WaterSMART grants and other funding opportunities can be found [here](#).

Funding for WaterSMART in the 116th Congress

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2019, Congress approved \$104.06 million in total for the following funding opportunities: WaterSMART grants; the Cooperative Watershed Management Program; the Basin Studies Program; the Drought Responses Program; and Title XVI. For FY 2020, Congress is likely to approve significant increases for these same opportunities that fall under the WaterSMART program authority. The House Appropriations Committee has already advanced legislation that would include an additional \$36 million for the above programs.

The differences between FY 2019 enacted funding level for WaterSMART programs and the FY 2020 House Appropriations Committee approved funding levels can be seen here:

Program	FY 2019 Enacted Funding Level	House Appropriations Approved FY 2020 Funding
WaterSMART Grants	\$34,000,000	\$60,000,000
Cooperative Watershed Management Program	\$2,250,000	\$2,250,000
Basin Studies	\$5,200,000	\$5,200,000
Drought Response Program	\$4,000,000	\$9,000,000
Title XVI	\$58,617,000	\$63,617,000
Total Funding	\$104,067,000	\$140,067,000

WaterSMART Program Solicitation Dates

There are currently 2018 and 2019 solicitations for each of these programs, and the 2020 solicitations are likely to be released around the same time of year as the opportunities' previous solicitations. Below is a complete list of all of the various WaterSMART funding opportunities with a brief description of each, the amount of funds available for the most recent solicitation (either 2019 or 2018), and each program's recent solicitation and application due dates.

Program Name	Brief Description	Most Recent Solicitations	
		Date Solicited	Application Due
WaterSMART: Desalination Construction Projects Under the WIIN Act	Provides sponsors of ocean and brackish water desalination projects the opportunity to request cost-shared funding for the planning, design, and/or construction of those projects.	April 29, 2019	June 28, 2019
		February 27, 2018	May 1, 2018
		May 30, 2018	July 27, 2018
	<i>Total Funding FY 2019: \$12 million</i>	November 3, 2016	January 12, 2017
WaterSMART: Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects	Provides cost-share funding for small water efficiency improvements that have been identified through previous planning efforts.	January 24, 2019	April 24, 2019
		March 19, 2018	July 31, 2018
	<i>Total Funding FY 2019: \$3 million</i>	November 17, 2016	May 15, 2017
WaterSMART: Water and Energy Efficiency Grants	Provides funding for projects that conserve and use water more efficiently, increase hydropower, mitigate conflict risk, and accomplish benefits that contribute to water supply reliability.	January 31, 2019	March 19, 2019
		March 19, 2018	May 10, 2018
		November 17, 2016	January 18, 2017
	<i>Total Funding FY 2019: \$24 million</i>	November 3, 2015	January 20, 2016
WaterSMART: Water Marketing Strategy Grants	Provides assistance to conduct planning activities to develop water marketing strategies.	May 9, 2019	July 31, 2019
		March 27, 2018	July 17, 2018
	<i>Total Funding FY 2019: \$3 million</i>	February 14, 2017	April 19, 2017

Program Name	Brief Description	Most Recent Solicitations	
		Date Solicited	Application Due
Cooperative Watershed Management Program	<p>Provides funding for watershed group development, watershed restoration planning, and watershed management project design.</p> <p><i>Total Funding FY 2018: \$2.1 million</i></p>	October 10, 2018 (Phase II)	January 30, 2018
		November 15, 2017 (Phase I)	January 31, 2018
		December 15, 2016 (Phase II)	February 15, 2017
		March 1, 2016 (Phase I)	May 4, 2016
Basin Studies	Provides funding for pilot studies that will allow entities that have completed a basin study to build on the analyses and strategies developed in the basin study.	March 13, 2019	April 15, 2019
Drought Response Program – Drought Resiliency Project Grants	<p>Funding is available for projects that build long-term resilience to drought and reduce the need for emergency response actions, this includes developing and updating comprehensive drought plans and implementing projects that will build long-term resiliency to drought.</p> <p><i>Total Funding FY 2019: \$4 million</i></p>	January 24, 2019	March 27, 2019
		November 16, 2017	February 13, 2018
		November 15, 2016	February 14, 2017
		February 10, 2016	April 11, 2016
Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse Projects	<p>Provides funding for the planning, design, and construction of water recycling and reuse projects in partnership with local government entities.</p> <p><i>Total Funding FY 2019: \$35 million</i></p>	March 4, 2019	April 22, 2019
		May 30, 2018	July 27, 2018
		October 27, 2016	December 15, 2016
		October 16, 2015	December 10, 2015

Detailed Summaries on WaterSMART Funding Opportunities

Below are profile and summaries for each of the following WaterSMART funding opportunities, many of which currently have open solicitations and others that will likely be solicited in the upcoming year. Information on the following opportunities is included, as well as links to each program's website:

- [WaterSMART: Desalination Construction Projects under the WIIN Act](#)
- [WaterSMART: Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects](#)
- [WaterSMART: Water and Energy Efficiency Grants](#)
- [WaterSMART: Water Marketing Strategy Grants](#)
- [Cooperative Watershed Management Program](#)
- [Basin Studies Program](#)
- [Drought Response Program – Drought Resiliency Project Grants](#)
- [Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse Projects](#)

Eligible applicants under each of the WaterSMART programs include states, Indian tribes, irrigation districts, water districts, or other organizations with water or power delivery authority located in the Western United States, including 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, and the Virgin Islands.

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Interior

Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY 2019 WaterSMART Grants: Desalination Construction Projects Under the WIIN Act

Grant Overview

The purpose of this program is to support ocean and brackish water desalination projects that may include planning, design, and/or construction activities. Projects should address water resources infrastructure that is critical to the nation's economic growth, health, and competitiveness. Eligible applicants are states, and public agencies that are located in the western states and territories.

Program History

Not available at this time.

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: \$12 million

Match: 75 percent

Solicitation date: April 29, 2019

Proposal due: June 28, 2019

- Applicants must have completed a feasibility study that has been reviewed by the funding agency and transmitted to Congress
- Projects must be included in a state-approved plan

<https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/desalination/index.html>



Awardee Profile

See a list of approved feasibility studies [here](#).

Department: U.S. Department of Interior

Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY19 WaterSMART Grants: Desalination Construction Projects Under the WIIN Act

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to support ocean and brackish water desalination projects that may include planning, design, and/or construction activities. Projects should address water resources infrastructure that is critical to the nation's economic growth, health, and competitiveness.

Desalination projects will develop and supplement municipal and irrigation water supplies through the treatment of ocean or brackish water, thereby providing a local supply and flexibility during water shortages and diversifying the water supply portfolio. Projects will provide growing communities with new sources of clean water and increase water management flexibility, making the nation's water supply more reliable.

Funding will be provided for the planning, design, and construction of facilities to desalinate ocean or brackish water, including groundwater. Supported projects must meet the following requirements:

- Have a completed feasibility study that has been reviewed by the funding agency
- Be located in the western states identified in the Reclamation Act of June 17, 1902 as amended
- Be included in a state-approved plan, or have federal assistance for the project requested by the governor of the state in which the project is located
- Be ready to proceed within a reasonable amount of time once an award agreement is in place

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are states, departments of states, subdivisions of states, and public agencies organized pursuant to a state law. Eligibility is limited to applicants located in the western states and territories identified in the Reclamation Act of June 17, 1902, as amended: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, and American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Virgin Islands.

Applicants must have completed a feasibility study that has been reviewed by the funding agency and transmitted to Congress.

Funding

In FY19, \$12 million in appropriations is available to support approximately two to six grants or cooperative agreements through this program, with up to a maximum of \$20 million per project. Applicants must provide at least 75 percent of the total project costs via cash or in-kind matching contributions.

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FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Interior

Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY 2019 WaterSMART Grants: Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects

Grant Overview

Through the WaterSMART Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects Reclamation provides 50/50 cost share funding to irrigation and water districts, tribes, states and other entities with water or power delivery authority for small water efficiency improvements that have been identified through previous planning efforts. Eligible applicants are states, tribes, irrigation districts, water districts, and other organizations with water or power delivery authority.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2018	\$3.7 million	58
2017	\$3.6 million	57

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: \$3 million

Award Range: Up to \$75,000

Match: 50 percent

Solicitation date: January 24, 2019

Proposal due: April 24, 2019

- Proposed projects are generally in the final design stage, environmental and cultural resources compliance has been initiated or already completed, and the non-Federal funding, necessary permits, and other required approvals have been secured

<https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/swep/>



Awardee Profile

City of Avondale, AZ

AMOUNT: \$75,000

YEAR: 2018

The City of Avondale received \$75,000 to update two water treatment/booster station wells within their system. They will be connected to the City's current supervisory control and data acquisition system to help them better manage their water supplies.

Department: U.S. Department of Interior

Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY19 WaterSMART Grants: Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects

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. Priority will be given to projects that are supported by an existing water management and conservation plan, system optimization review, or other planning efforts led by applicants. This will ensure that projects are well-thought-out, have public support, and have been identified as the best ways to address water management concerns.

Examples of eligible projects include: canal lining/piping; municipal metering; irrigation flow measurement; supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) and automation; and irrigation measures.

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.

In addition, projects that complement work done in coordination with the National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) in the area may receive additional consideration during the application evaluation process. Specifically, applicants should describe any on-farm efficiency work that is currently being completed or is anticipated to be completed using NRCS assistance through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) or other programs.

All projects must comply with federal environmental and cultural resource laws and other regulations.

As applicable, projects should address the following Department of Interior priorities:

- Creating a conservation stewardship legacy
- Utilizing our natural resources
- Restoring trust with local communities
- Striking a regulatory balance
- Modernizing our infrastructure

This program supports small-scale water efficiency projects that have been prioritized through planning efforts led by the applicant. These projects are generally in the final design stage, environmental and cultural resources compliance have been initiated or already completed, and the non-Federal funding, necessary permits, and other required approvals have been secured.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are states, tribes, irrigation districts, water districts, and other organizations with water or power delivery authority.

Eligibility is limited to applicants located in the western states and territories, which are identified in the Reclamation Act of June 17, 1902, as amended and supplemented, which include 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.

Funding

In FY19, an estimated \$3 million is available through this program to support grants and cooperative agreements of up to \$75,000 each. Total project construction costs should be no more than \$200,000. In general, projects must be completed within two years of awards. Applicants must provide at least 50 percent of the total project costs via nonfederal cash or in-kind contributions, including third-party contributions.

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<https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/swep/>

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Interior

Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY 2019 WaterSMART Grants: Water and Energy Efficiency Grants

Grant Overview

The Water and Energy Efficiency Grants funding opportunity provides funding for projects that result in quantifiable water savings and support broader water reliability benefits; eligible applicants include states, water and irrigation districts, and other organizations in the 17 western states. These projects conserve and use water more efficiently; increase the production of hydropower; 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.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2018	\$26.5 million	54
2017	\$21 million	43

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: \$24 million

Award Range: Up to \$300,000 (funding group I)

Up to \$1.5 million (funding group II)

Match: 50 percent

Solicitation date: January 31, 2019

Proposal due: March 19, 2019

- Provides funding for projects that result in quantifiable water savings and support broader water reliability benefits
- Must be able to quantify benefits and have studies or methodology to back up quantifications

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



Awardee Profile

City of Bakersfield, CA

AMOUNT: \$743,300

YEAR: 2018

The City of Bakersfield will receive \$743,300 to install monitoring devices with telemetry at 20 locations along the Kern River and a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition system to accurately and remotely measure Kern River diversions. The \$1.6 million project will result in an annual water savings of 4,592 acre-feet that will be used to replenish the local groundwater and make more water available to users, helping to reduce the potential for water-related conflicts in the area.

Department: U.S. Department of Interior

Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY19 WaterSMART Grants: Water and Energy Efficiency Grants

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to support projects that 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 in the future, including improvements that may be eligible for Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) funding; and accomplish other benefits that contribute to water supply reliability in the western United States.

Applicants may submit proposals under the following two funding groups:

- Funding Group I: smaller on-the-ground projects
- Funding Group II: larger, phased on-the-ground projects

Applications may include any one, or a combination, of the following types of projects:

- Water conservation projects: projects that result in quantifiable and sustained water savings or improved water management, including:
 - Canal lining/piping
 - Municipal metering
 - Irrigation flow measurement
 - Supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) and automation
 - Irrigation measures
- Hydropower projects: projects that increase the use of hydropower in managing and delivering water, including hydropower projects related to water management and delivery. Hydropower projects related to water management and delivery include, but are not limited to:
 - Installing a small-scale hydroelectric facility that enables use of renewable energy sources (e.g., installing low-head hydrokinetic power generation units in a water system)

Projects including delivery system improvements that complement on-farm improvements supported by the National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) through programs such as the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) may receive additional consideration in the evaluation process. Specifically, consideration will be given to projects describing on-farm efficiency work that is currently or expected to be completed in collaboration with NRCS, and that has a direct connection to the district's water supply.

As applicable, projects should address the following Department of Interior priorities:

- Creating a conservation stewardship legacy
- Utilizing our natural resources
- Restoring trust with local communities
- Striking a regulatory balance

- Modernizing our infrastructure

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants include: States; Indian tribes; Irrigation districts; Water districts; and other organizations with water or power delivery authority.

Applicants must be located in the western United States or territories, specifically 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.

Funding

In FY19, approximately \$24 million is available to support awards through this program. Approximately \$2 million of the total funding available will be allocated for additional phases of projects previously supported through this program.

Award amounts will vary according to funding group, as follows:

- Funding Group I: awards of up to \$300,000, with a 2-year project period
- Funding Group II: awards of up to \$1.5 million, with a 3-year project period

Applicants may submit multiple project proposals; however, no more than \$1,500,000 will be awarded to any one applicant. It is expected that more awards will be made for projects in Funding Group I than Funding Group II, and that only a small number of awards will be made for projects in Funding Group II.

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

FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Interior

Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY 2019 WaterSMART Grants: Water Marketing Strategy Grants

Grant Overview

The Bureau of Reclamation provides assistance to states, tribes, and local governments to conduct planning activities to develop water marketing strategies that establish or expand water markets or water marketing activities between willing participants, in compliance with state and Federal laws. Eligible applicants are states, tribes, irrigation districts, water districts, and other organizations with water or power delivery authority.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2018	\$1.3 million	7
2017	\$2.1 million	9

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: \$3 million

Award Range: Up to \$200,000 (Funding group I)
Up to \$400,000 (Funding group II)

Match: 50 percent

Solicitation date: May 10, 2019

Proposal due: July 31, 2019

- Strategies that will provide significant benefits (such as meeting an important water supply need, meeting the needs of multiple sectors, or decreasing the likelihood of conflicts over water) will also be prioritized

<https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/watermarketing/index.html>



Awardee Profile

County of Madera, CA

AMOUNT: \$199,999

YEAR: 2018

Madera County Department of Water and Natural Resources will support collaborative planning efforts to develop an economic feasibility analysis leading to a pilot program for a water market strategy that will proactively address water supply reliability, groundwater storage and recharge, as well as increase water management flexibility between agricultural entities.

Department: U.S. Department of Interior

Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY19 WaterSMART Grants: Water Marketing Strategy Grants

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to proactively address water supply reliability and increase water management flexibility by supporting the development of water marketing strategies that will establish or expand water markets or water marketing activities between willing participants. Water markets between willing buyers and sellers can be used to help water users meet demands efficiently in times of shortage, thereby helping to prevent water conflicts.

Applicants may submit proposals under the following two funding groups:

- Funding Group I: water marketing strategies that are relatively smaller in scope or less complex
- Funding Group II: complex water marketing strategies that are broader in scope

A “water marketing strategy” is a framework for implementation of water marketing activities. Development of a water marketing strategy may include:

- Outreach and partnership building
- Scoping and planning activities (e.g. hydrologic, economic, legal and other types of analysis)
- Development of a water marketing strategy document describing how water marketing activities will be implemented.

Pilot activities integral to the development of a strategy (e.g., the movement of water on a pilot basis in compliance with applicable laws) can be included as an optional project component under scoping and planning activities. Water marketing strategies may be scaled to meet the needs of the applicant and may build on work completed to date.

Water marketing strategies that include participation by multiple stakeholders will be prioritized under this program to encourage more comprehensive plans that address issues important to different sectors (e.g., agricultural, municipal, commercial/industrial, tribal and environmental). Strategies that will provide significant benefits (e.g., meeting an important water supply need, meeting the needs of multiple sectors, or decreasing the likelihood of conflicts over water) will also be prioritized..

As applicable, projects should address the following Department of Interior priorities:

- Creating a conservation stewardship legacy
- Utilizing our natural resources
- Restoring trust with local communities
- Striking a regulatory balance
- Modernizing our infrastructure

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are states, tribes, irrigation districts, water districts, and other organizations with water or power delivery authority. Applicants must be located in the western United States or territories, specifically 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.

Funding

In FY19, approximately \$3 million is available through this program to support 10 to 12 awards. Award amounts and project periods will vary according to funding group, as follows:

- Funding Group I: awards of up to \$200,000, with project periods of up to two years
- Funding Group II: awards of up to \$400,000, with project periods of up to three years

Applicants must provide at least 50 percent of the total project costs via nonfederal cash or in-kind contributions or donations from the applicant or third-party partners.

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<https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/watermarketing/index.html>

FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Interior

Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY 2018 WaterSMART Grants: Cooperative Watershed Management Program (Phase I)

Grant Overview

The Cooperative Watershed Management Program (CWMP) contributes to the WaterSMART strategy by providing funding to watershed groups to encourage diverse stakeholders to form local solutions to address their water management needs. Watershed Group Development and Watershed Restoration Planning (Phase I) provides funding for watershed group development, watershed restoration planning, and watershed management project design. A watershed group is a self-sustaining, non-regulatory, consensus-based group that is composed of a diverse array of stakeholders, which may include, but is not limited to, private property owners, non-profit organizations, Federal, state, or local agencies, and tribes.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2018	\$	19

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: \$1.5 million

Award Range: Up to \$100,000

Match: Not required

Solicitation date: November 15, 2017

Proposal due: January 31, 2018

- Phase I Funding Opportunity Announcement expected to be posted in April 2019

<https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/cwmp/>



Awardee Profile

Nisqually River Foundation
Olympia, WA

AMOUNT: \$79,940

YEAR: 2018

The Nisqually River Council (NRC), an Existing Watershed Group in Western Washington State, is applying for funding to support information gathering and stakeholder outreach to inform watershed planning activities for the next seven to ten years.

Department: U.S. Department of Interior

Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY18 WaterSMART Grants: Cooperative Watershed Management Program (Phase I)

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to promote sustainable development of water resources, improve the ecological resilience of rivers and streams, and conserve water for multiple uses by supporting collaborative conservation efforts involving the formation and development of watershed groups. Watershed groups are non-regulatory entities that address water availability and quality issues within the relevant watershed.

Applicants may apply for funding for one or more of the following task areas supported under Phase I of this program:

Watershed group development: Watershed group development activities include, but are not limited to:

- Hiring a watershed group coordinator to organize the group and coordinate its activities
- Developing a mission statement, vision statement, and goals for the watershed group
- Hiring a facilitator to assist with outreach to stakeholders
- Conducting outreach activities, such as the creation of an outreach plan and information materials (e.g., brochures, advertisements, website, videos) 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 (e.g., through research, talking to government agencies and local universities)
- Conducting pre-planning activities, including outlining a watershed restoration plan, researching existing plans related to the watershed, collecting baseline information, and identifying restoration needs for the watershed

Watershed restoration planning: Watershed restoration planning activities may include, but are not limited to:

- Completing a watershed restoration plan, improving on existing restoration plans, or conducting water quality or quantity studies needed to provide baseline information about the watershed
- Conducting mapping and other technical analyses, including obtaining data, performing modeling, or developing goals and benchmarks for the restoration plan
- 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
- Developing general watershed management project concepts or performing an analysis of the watershed to identify and prioritize watershed management projects

Watershed management project design: Project design activities can include, but are not limited to:

- Completing an analysis in order to prioritize watershed management projects and 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, particularly if the applicant intends to seek Federal funding to implement the project in the future (e.g., under Phase II of this program)

If some monitoring, measurement, or other field work (e.g., water quality monitoring, vegetation surveys) is needed to inform the watershed restoration planning activities, such work may be eligible for funding so long as it comprises only a minor part of the work described in the proposal. Applicants should note that these activities may require environmental and cultural resource compliance.

Applicant Eligibility

Applicants eligible to receive an award as a New Watershed Group include states, Indian tribes, local and special districts (e.g., irrigation and water districts), local governmental entities, interstate organizations, and non-profit organizations. To be eligible, applicants must also meet all of the following requirements:

- Significantly affect or be affected by the quality or quantity of water in a watershed
- Be capable of promoting the sustainable use of water resources
- Be located in the western United States or Territories as identified in the Reclamation Act of June 17, 1902, as amended and supplemented; specifically: 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

In order to be eligible to receive an award as an Existing Watershed Group, the applicant must be an eligible entity as described immediately above and must be either: an existing watershed group, (i.e., a grassroots, non-regulatory legal entity that otherwise meets the definition of a watershed group or a participant in an existing watershed group that meets the definition of a watershed group.

Funding

In FY18, an estimated \$1.5 million is expected to be available to support grants or cooperative agreements of up to \$100,000 for a project period of up to two years. Within nine months of initial awards, the funding agency will make a determination on whether or not award recipients have made sufficient progress to justify the second year of funding. There are no matching requirements for this program; however, applicants may provide voluntary, nonfederal matching funds using cash or in-kind contributions.

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FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Interior

Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY 2018 WaterSMART Grants: Cooperative Watershed Management Program (Phase II)

Grant Overview

The Cooperative Watershed Management Program (CWMP) contributes to the WaterSMART strategy by providing funding to watershed groups to encourage diverse stakeholders to form local solutions to address their water management needs. Implementation of Watershed Management Projects (Phase II) provides cost-shared financial assistance to implement on-the-ground projects, collaboratively developed by members of a watershed group, address critical water supply needs and water quality concerns, helping water users meet competing demands and avoid conflicts over water.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2017	\$	7

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: \$2.1 million

Award Range: Up to \$300,000

Match: 50 percent

Solicitation date: October 10, 2018

Proposal due: February 20, 2019

- All projects must comply with federal environmental and cultural resources laws and other regulations

<https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/cwmp/>



Awardee Profile

Truckee River Watershed Council
Truckee, CA

AMOUNT: \$99,998

YEAR: 2018

The Truckee River Watershed Council (TRWC) will remove levees to increase areas subject to overbank flow; complete minor bank grading to reduce streambank erosion and improve floodplain functions and habitat; introduce analog beaver dam to increase water surface elevations; and restore targeted plant communities.

Department: U.S. Department of Interior

Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY18 WaterSMART Grants: Cooperative Watershed Management Program (Phase II)

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to support established watershed groups in implementing on-the-ground watershed management projects. Projects should be collaboratively developed by members of the watershed group, that will address critical water supply needs, water quality concerns, restoration needs, helping water uses meet competing demands, and avoid conflicts over water. The program is designed to encourage diverse stakeholders to form local solutions to address their water management needs.

Projects should address the following Department of Interior priorities:

- Creating a conservation stewardship legacy second only to Teddy Roosevelt
- Utilizing our natural resources
- Restoring trust with local communities
- Striking a regulatory balance
- Modernizing our infrastructure

Funding will support the following types of primary projects:

- Improving stream channel structure and complexity
- Improving channel/floodplain connectivity
- Protecting or stabilizing stream and river banks
- Reducing erosion
- Improving water delivery systems to increase efficiency or other projects to address water supply needs
- Providing fish passages
- Removing invasive species and restoring vegetation
- Influencing water temperature or improving the timing or volume of available flows at particular locations to improve aquatic conditions
- Other watershed management projects that will address program priorities

Projects may also include some monitoring, mapping, and modeling activities to supplement on-the-ground project components.

Funds may be used for salaries and wages, fringe benefits, travel, equipment, supplies and materials, contractual/construction costs, other direct costs, and limited indirect costs. Monitoring, mapping, and modeling costs may not exceed 30 percent of total project costs.

Applicant Eligibility

An eligible applicant is an established watershed group as defined in the Section 6001(5) of the Cooperative Watershed Management Act. In summary, the applicant must be a grassroots, non-regulatory entity that addresses water availability and quality issues within the relevant watershed, represents a diverse group of stakeholders, and is capable of promoting water supply reliability in the watershed. The applicant must also have approved articles of incorporation, bylaws, and a mission statement; hold regular meetings; and have developed a restoration plan and project concepts for the watershed.

Applicants must also be located in the Western United States or Territories as identified in the Reclamation Act of June 17, 1902, as amended and supplemented; specifically: 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.

Funding

In FY18, an estimated \$2.1 million is expected to be available to support six to ten grants and/or cooperative agreements of up to \$300,000 through this program. Awards will be provided on a reimbursement basis. In general, project periods may span up to two years. Applications for projects requiring three years for completion may be considered if support can be provided for why more time is required. Applicants must provide at least 50 percent of the total project costs via nonfederal cash or in-kind contributions. Third-party in-kind contributions may include equipment, supplies, and other expendable property, as well as the value of services directly benefiting and specifically identifiable to projects.

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<https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/cwmp/>

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Interior

Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY 2019 WaterSMART: Basin Studies

Grant Overview

The purpose of the Basin Studies is to work with state and local partners in the 17 Western States to evaluate future water supply and demand imbalances, assess the risk and impacts of climate change on water resources, and develop and analyze potential mitigation and adaptation strategies to meet future demands.

Program History

# of Studies Funded	
2017	2
2016	1

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: This program assists in cost-share

Solicitation date: March 13, 2019

Proposal due: April 15, 2019

- Basin studies are not a financial assistance program; therefore, Reclamation's share of the study costs may only be used to support work done by Reclamation or its contractors

<https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/bsp/index.html>



Awardee Profile

Lower Santa Cruz River Basin Study

YEAR: 2015

There are seven cost-share partners for this study which encompasses the groundwater basin designated as the Arizona Department of Water Resources 'Tucson Active Management Area.'

Department: U.S. Department of Interior

Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY19 WaterSMART: Basin Studies

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to work with state and local partners in the 17 Western States to evaluate future water supply and demand imbalances, assess the risks and impacts of climate change on water resources, and develop and analyze potential mitigation and adaptation strategies to meet future demands. Basin studies should specifically include consideration of the risks and impacts of climate change. Basin studies must include the development of adaptation and mitigation strategies. Adaptation strategies could include changes to the operation of water supply systems, water conservation, water reuse and system optimization, modifications to existing facilities, and development of new facilities, among other options. Each Basin Study must include four basic components:

1. Projections of water supply and demand within the basin, including an assessment of risks to the water supply relating to climate change
2. Analysis of how existing water and power infrastructure and operations will perform in the face of changing water realities, such as population increases and climate change
3. Development of appropriate adaptation and mitigation strategies to meet future water demands
4. A trade-off analysis of the options identified and findings and recommendations as appropriate. This includes an analysis of all proposed alternatives in terms of their relative costs, environmental impact, risk, stakeholder response, or other attributes common to the alternatives

Reclamation will use the following two-step process to select Basin Studies for funding:

- **Step 1 – Letters of Interest:** Reclamation's regional offices will seek letters of interest from states and major stakeholders throughout the 17 Western States. All non-Federal entities interested in cost-sharing with Reclamation to conduct a Basin Study will be required to prepare and submit a letter of interest to their regional Reclamation office. The regional offices will review the letters and notify the non-Federal study proponents whether their study concepts will proceed to Step 2 of the selection process. The requirements of preparing a letter of interest are described below, along with a description of the criteria that the regions will use to evaluate the letters.
- **Step 2 – Study Proposal:** The regional offices will work with those selected in Step 1 to develop a short (20 pages maximum) study proposal for consideration by a Reclamation Application Review Committee (ARC). The ARC will be made up of staff from across Reclamation with technical expertise relevant to the Basin Study process. The ARC will prioritize the proposals based on the selection criteria established in the Basin Studies Framework and listed below. Proposals that meet program requirements but do not rank high enough to receive funding in the FY 2013 may be reconsidered in FY 2014 upon request by the non-Federal study proponents.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are states, tribes, irrigation districts, water districts, and other organizations with water or power delivery authority.

Eligibility is limited to applicants located in the western states and territories, which are identified in the Reclamation Act of June 17, 1902, as amended and supplemented, which include 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.

Priority will be given to river basins or sub-basins where water supply and demand imbalances exist. A river basin can be defined as any topographically distinct watershed of land, aquifers, or streams and rivers that channel water to a single or primary waterway. Projections of water demands may include demands for agricultural, municipal, environmental, recreational water uses, and other uses. Projects of water supply will consider all potential water sources, including both ground and surface water.

Funding

Basin studies will be cost-shared on a 50/50 basis with willing state, tribal, and local partners, and will generally be two years in duration. **Basin studies are not a financial assistance program; therefore, Reclamation's share of the study costs may only be used to support work done by Reclamation or its contractors.** In exceptional circumstances, the Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner may waive or reduce the non-federal cost-share requirement if an overwhelming Federal interest and a significant financial need are identified.

Contact Information

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<https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/bsp/index.html>

FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Interior

Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY 2019 WaterSMART Grants: Drought Response Program Drought Resiliency Project Grants

Grant Overview

Funding is available as part of its WaterSMART Drought Response Program for projects that build long-term resilience to drought and reduce the need for emergency response actions. The program supports a proactive approach to drought by providing assistance to water managers to: develop and update comprehensive drought plans and implement projects that will build long-term resiliency to drought. Eligible applicants are states, tribes, irrigation districts, water districts, and other organizations with water or power delivery authority.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2018	\$8.3 million	15

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: \$9 million

Award Range: Up to \$300,000 (Funding group I)
Up to \$750,000 (Funding Group II)

Match: 50 percent

Solicitation date: January 24, 2019

Proposal due: March 27, 2019

- Projects are generally in the final design stage, environmental and cultural resources compliance have been initiated or already completed, and the non-Federal funding, and necessary permits and approvals

<https://www.usbr.gov/drought/projects.html>



Awardee Profile

Coachella Valley Water District,
California

AMOUNT: \$300,000

YEAR: 2016

Coachella Valley Water District's (CVWD) "Bermuda Dunes In-Lieu Groundwater Recharge Project" aims to improve regional drought resiliency by reducing groundwater overdraft. The project will do this by substituting non-potable water for groundwater that would otherwise be pumped and used for irrigation.

Department: U.S. Department of Interior

Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY19 WaterSMART Grants: Drought Response Program Drought Resiliency Project Grants

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to support projects that build long-term resilience to drought and reduce the need for emergency response actions. Resiliency projects are intended to increase the reliability of water supplies; improve water management; and provide benefits for fish, wildlife, and the environment to mitigate impacts caused by drought.

Efforts to build resiliency that are eligible for support include the following tasks:

- Increasing the reliability of water supplies through infrastructure improvements, including:
 - System modifications or improvements
 - Strong water and/or recharging groundwater supplies
 - Developing alternate sources of water supply
- 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
 - Developing a water marketing tool or program that would provide a mechanism for willing participants to buy, sell, lease, or exchange water to avoid or reduce water conflicts
- Providing benefits for fish and wildlife and the environment, including:
 - Installing and/or modifying fish screens, ladders, bypasses, and modifications to water intakes
 - Improving fish hatcheries
 - Improving habitat, including restoring habitat to pre-drought conditions

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, even if they also address an immediate drought concern. In addition, projects should decrease vulnerabilities and costs of drought by giving water managers flexibility in times of low water supply, and help avoid the need for emergency response actions, such as water hauling programs and temporary infrastructure.

These projects are generally in the final design stage, environmental and cultural resources compliance has been initiated or already completed, and the non-Federal funding, necessary permits, and other required approvals have been secured.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are states, tribes, irrigation districts, water districts, 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 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.

Funding

In FY19, approximately \$9 million is available to support 10-15 cooperative agreements through this program. Awards are provided through two separate funding groups:

- Group I: Up to \$300,000 will be available for projects generally completed within two years
- Group II: Up to \$750,000 will be available for projects completed within three years and funded on an annual basis, contingent upon future appropriations

Applicants may receive multiple awards through this program; however no more than \$750,000 will be awarded to any one applicant.

Applicants must provide nonfederal cost share of 50 percent or more of project costs using cash or in-kind contributions. Cost share from sources outside the applicant's organization should be secured and available to the applicant prior to the award. Generally, the nonfederal share of project costs must be expended at the same or greater rate as the federal share of project costs.

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<https://www.usbr.gov/drought/projects.html>

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Interior

Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY 2019 WaterSMART Grants: Title XVI Congressionally Authorized Water Reclamation and Reuse Projects

Grant Overview

Title XVI, provides authority for Reclamation's water recycling and reuse program, titled "Title XVI." Through the Title XVI program, Reclamation identifies and investigates opportunities to reclaim and reuse wastewaters and naturally impaired ground and surface water in the 17 Western States and Hawaii. Title XVI includes funding for the planning, design, and construction of water recycling and reuse projects in partnership with local government entities.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2018	\$35.3 million	6
2017	\$20.9 million	6

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: \$35 million

Match: 75 percent

Solicitation date: March 4, 2018

Proposal due: April 22, 2019

- Eligible applicants are Sponsors of any one of the 53 Title XVI Projects specifically authorized by the Title XVI Act

<https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/title/index.html>



Awardee Profile

City of Escondido, CA

AMOUNT: \$5,000,000

YEAR: 2018

The City of Escondido's proposed Membrane Filtration Reverse Osmosis (MFRO) Project will provide an additional water supply source to the City's agricultural users. The project will treat recycled water using membrane filtration and reverse osmosis technologies to produce high quality recycled water that is low in total dissolved solids (TDS) and chlorides.

Department: U.S. Department of Interior

Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY19 WaterSMART Grants: Title XVI Congressionally Authorized Water Reclamation and Reuse Projects

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to ensure that water resources in the western United States are stretched and secured for future generations. Awards will be provided to local water agencies for the planning, design, and construction of water reclamation and reuse projects. Projects will result in the development and supplementation of urban and irrigation water supplies through water reuse, thereby improving efficiency, providing flexibility during water shortages, and diversifying local water supplies. Projects will provide growing communities with new sources of clean water, thus increasing water management flexibility and making water supplies more reliable.

The program also facilitates investment in technology and enables broader-scale use of recycled water, which supports the goal of promoting the reliable supply and delivery of water in the west.

Priority will be given to projects that address the funding agency's priorities, including:

- Creating a conservation stewardship legacy second only to Teddy Roosevelt
- Utilizing America's natural resources
- Restoring trust with local communities
- Striking a regulatory balance
- Modernizing America's infrastructure

Additional consideration will also be given to projects that benefit rural or economically disadvantaged communities.

Funds may be used for:

- Salaries and wages
- Fringe benefits
- Travel
- Equipment
- Materials and supplies
- Contractual costs
- Other direct costs
- Indirect costs

Applicant Eligibility

Sponsors of any one of the 53 Title XVI Projects specifically authorized by the Title XVI Act; provided that the Title XVI Project has not reached its Federal funding ceiling as specified in the Title XVI Act. For a list of authorized projects please visit the Title XVI website, <https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/title/authorized.html>.

Funding

In FY19, approximately \$35 million is available to support grants and cooperative agreements through this program. The Federal share (i.e., Reclamation's share in addition to any other sources of Federal funding), of any Title XVI Project, shall not exceed 25 percent of the total Project cost. 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. Cost share may be made through cash, costs contributed by the applicant, or third-party in-kind contributions.

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<https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/title/index.html>