Reclamation’s WaterSMART Program

December 12, 2018
Colorado River Water Users Association
Avra Morgan
Program Analyst
Policy and Administration, Water Resources and Planning
WaterSMART Program

Supports Reclamation’s mission through collaboration with stakeholders to improve water management, increase conservation, and stretch scarce water resources.
What’s New in WaterSMART?

- **Small-Scale Water Efficiency Grants**
  - added in FY 2017

- **Water Marketing Strategy Grants**
  - added in FY 2017

- **Cooperative Watershed Management Program Phase II Grants** for on the ground restoration projects
  - added in FY 2017

- **Water and Energy Efficiency Grants**
  - Criteria out for public comment
  - More flexibility to earn points for projects that complement NRCS funded projects
# FY 2019 WaterSMART Program Tentative Schedule and Funding Available

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<th>Program</th>
<th>Opportunity</th>
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<td>WaterSMART Grants $34 Million</td>
<td>Water and Energy Efficiency Grants</td>
<td>January 2019</td>
<td>March 2019</td>
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<td>Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects</td>
<td>December 2018</td>
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<td>Water Marketing</td>
<td>December 2018</td>
<td>February 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cooperative Watershed Management Program (CWMP) $2.25 million</td>
<td>Phase I (Watershed group development and restoration planning)</td>
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<td>Phase II (Watershed Management Projects)</td>
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<td>Drought Response Program $9 million</td>
<td>Drought Contingency Planning Grants</td>
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<td>Drought Resiliency Projects</td>
<td>December 2018</td>
<td>February 2019</td>
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WaterSMART Data Visualization Tool

Reclamation Programs

Data visualization site is an interactive companion to this report:

- Interactive maps
- Featured project tours
- Program growth over time

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

Data Visualization Tool: arcg.is/1TcT68S
WaterSMART Grants
(FY19 Appropriations $34 M)
### WaterSMART Grants

#### Eligible Applicants
- States, Indian Tribes, Irrigation Districts, Water Districts, Other organizations with water and power delivery authority.

#### Cost Share
- 50% non-Federal cost-share requirement (in kind contributions are allowed)

#### Time Frame for Completion
- 2-3 years depending on the program and funding group

#### Funding Amounts
- Amount of Federal funding that may be requested per project varies, ranging from $75k to $1 million

#### Prioritization Criteria
- Criteria vary by program, but generally include project benefits, stakeholder support and/or planning, project implementation, and Department of the Interior Priorities.
WaterSMART Grants
Water and Energy Efficiency Grants (approx. $25M)

- Water and Energy Efficiency
- Canal lining/piping
- Municipal metering
- Irrigation flow measurement
- SCADA
- Landscape irrigation measures
- Hydropower

- 50/50 cost share –
  - Funding Group I: Up to $300k in two years;
  - Funding Group II: Up to $1 Million in 3 years

- Criteria: Quantify water savings

Evaluation criteria currently available for public comment!
Comment period closes on December 20, 2018.
WaterSMART Grants
Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects (approx. $3M)

- Small-scale on-the-ground projects
  - Canal lining/piping
  - Automation
  - Metering and flow measurement
  - Landscape irrigation measures

- 50/50 cost share - up to $75K in Federal funds; maximum total construction costs of $200K per project

- Streamlined Application Process
  - Simplified Evaluation Criteria
  - Clarified necessary budget documentation
WaterSMART Grants

Water Marketing Strategy Grants ($3M)

- Strategies to establish or expand water markets or water marketing activities
- 50/50 cost share
- Funding Group I – Up to $200k for a 2-year project
- Funding Group II – Up to $400k for a 3-year project

- Funding may be used for planning activities, including:
  - Outreach and partnership building
  - Scoping and planning activities
  - Development of a framework (processes, approach, agreements, etc) for implementation
WaterSMART
Cooperative Watershed Management Program
(FY19 Appropriations $2.25 million)

Phase I
• Watershed group development, restoration planning, and watershed management project design

Phase II
• Implement watershed management projects

Note: Applicant eligibility differs from other programs
WaterSMART - What’s New Cooperative Watershed Management Program

- Implement watershed management projects
- Enhance riparian vegetation
- Invasive species control
- Increase in-stream flows
- Example Projects
  - Improving stream channel structure and complexity
  - Improving water delivery systems
  - Providing fish passage

Funding opportunity is currently open! Applications are due January 30, 2019.
Drought Response Program

- Drought Contingency Planning
- Drought Resiliency Projects
- Emergency Response Actions
Drought Response Program - Drought Contingency Plans

The **East Bay Municipal Utility District** and other regional water management agencies within the Bay Area in California developed a drought contingency plan.


The **Dolores Water Conservancy District in Colorado** developed a drought contingency plan with the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe Farm and Ranch Enterprise, and the Montezuma Valley Irrigation Company.
Drought Response Program - Drought Resiliency Projects

Eligible Projects Include:

- Infrastructure Improvements
  - Modifying surface water intakes
  - New conveyance system components
  - Additional water storage
  - Recharge facilities
  - Capture and treat alternative supplies

- Decision Support Tools & Modeling
  - Tools to support water marketing
  - Tools to convey water supply information
  - Measurement

- Environmental Protection
  - Improve habitat
  - Install fish screens and ladders

Projects build resilience to drought
Projects supported by a drought plan are more competitive

Funding Level I: $300k
Funding Level II: $750k
NRCS Collaboration

- The purpose of the partnership is to maximize the benefits of the water conservation & efficiency programs of both agencies through collaboration.
- Reclamation provides funding through WaterSMART Grants to irrigation and water districts for improvements to delivery systems that conserve water.
- NRCS works with producers within the delivery system area or district to increase on-farm efficiencies.
- In 5 states (AZ, CA, CO, NM, UT, and WY), between FY 2016 – 2018, $19 million in Federal funding has been obligated to EQIP/WaterSMART contracts or agreements.
## WaterSMART Program – Website Links

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Thank You!

Avra Morgan
303-445-2906
aomorgan@usbr.gov
WaterSMART:

- Increase water supply reliability through investments and attention to local water conflicts
- Supports water conservation and water management improvements to help meet competing demands for water
- Leverages Federal and non-Federal funding
- Relies on collaboration with stakeholders to develop local solutions to water supply problems