

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

WaterSMART

Drought Response Program & WaterSMART Grants



July 22, 2015



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation

Overall Funding & Process

- Funding

- Allocated through a competitive process
- Minimum 50% non-federal cost-share
- Federal share up to stated maximum

- Process

- Post Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) on www.grants.gov
- Evaluate eligible applications
- Notify applicants
- Execute financial assistance agreements

Drought Response Program

New Focus on proactive pre-drought planning and mitigation

- Provides financial assistance to:
 - Develop/Update Drought Contingency Plans
 - Implement Drought Resiliency Projects
- Fiscal Year 2015 Funding: \$5M
 - Drought Contingency Plans: ~\$2M; Up to \$200K per Plan
 - Drought Resiliency Projects: ~\$3M; Up to \$300K per Project

Drought Response Program

Eligible Applicants

Program Element	Eligible Applicants
Drought Contingency Planning	States, Indian tribes, irrigation districts, water districts, or other organizations with water or power delivery authority located within the Reclamation States and Hawaii
Drought Resiliency Projects - WaterSMART Grants	States, Indian tribes, irrigation districts, water districts, or other organizations with water or power delivery authority located in the western United States or Territories as identified in the Reclamation Act of June 17, 1902, as amended

Drought Contingency Planning

Funding is competitively awarded to assist development/updating Drought Plans addressing:

1. Drought Monitoring
2. Vulnerability Assessment (including Climate Change)
3. Mitigation Actions
4. Response Actions
5. Operational and Administrative Framework
6. Plan Update Process

Note: The applicable FOA provides details associated with addressing these 6 steps.

Drought Contingency Planning

2015 Criteria for evaluating applications include:

- Degree of need for plan/update based on status of existing planning and the risks to be addressed**
- Involvement and support of stakeholders**
- Connection to Reclamation Projects/activities**
- That the proposal can be implemented and completed within the 2-year time-frame**
 - Applicable FOA provides full criteria and details**

Drought Resiliency Projects

Funding is competitively awarded to assist projects that build resiliency to drought by:

- Increasing the amount/reliability of water supplies
- Improving water management
- Facilitating the sale, transfer, or exchange of water
- Providing benefits for fish and wildlife and the environment

Water and Energy Efficiency Grants Projects primarily focusing on water conservation are NOT eligible for Drought Resiliency Project funding.

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Drought Resiliency Projects

Criteria for evaluating applications include:

- Quantifiable benefits – measure of water added or better managed; benefitted species/ habitat; etc.)
- Project reflects comprehensive drought planning
- Drought susceptibility/severity and impacts project will mitigate or minimize
- That the proposal can be implemented and completed within the 2-year time-frame
 - Applicable FOA provides full criteria and details

Drought Response Program

Contact Information

Program website:

www.usbr.gov/drought

Contacts:

Program Coordinator

Avra Morgan

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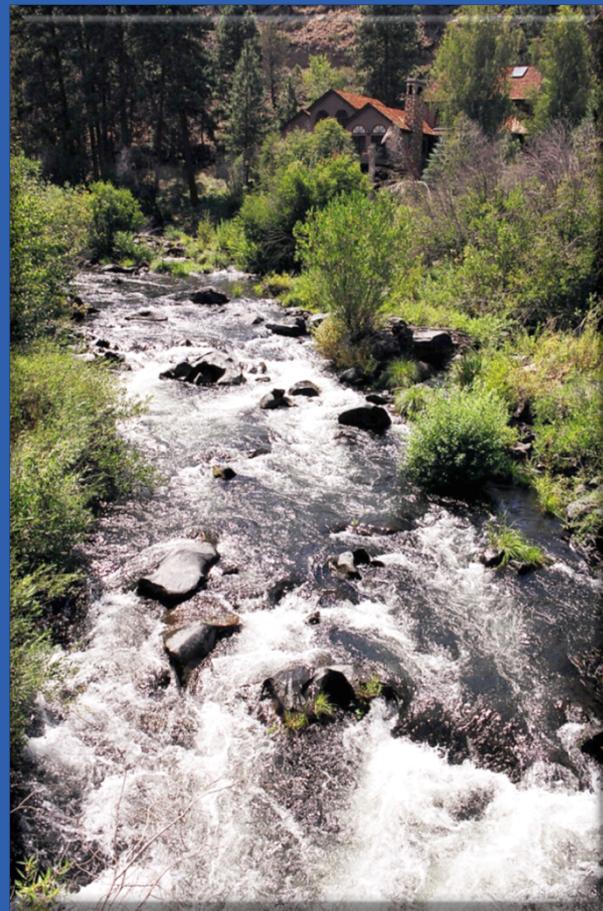
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Regional contacts:

<http://www.usbr.gov/drought/contacts>



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WaterSMART Grants

Funding is competitively awarded to assist projects that:

- Conserve and use water more efficiently,
- Increase use of renewable energy or increase energy efficiency in water management/delivery

Funding Groups in Fiscal Year 2015:

1. Up to \$300,000 cost-share for smaller projects to be completed within 2 years
2. Up to \$1M cost-share for larger, phased projects that may take up to 3 years to complete (no more than \$500,000/fiscal year; out-year funding contingent on appropriations)

WaterSMART Grants

Distinguishing WaterSMART Grants from Drought Resiliency Projects: conservation or drought resiliency?

- **Conservation:** canal lining, on-farm irrigation efficiency programs, turf replacement, rebates for landscaping, etc.
- **Drought resiliency:** back-up supplies with new wells, increased recharge, etc.; improved drought modelling; infrastructure such as lower reservoir intakes or new interties; etc.
- **For similar project types (e.g., measuring upgrades; water marketing programs):** what is the emphasis?
 - **Some projects may be eligible for either but compete better under one based on emphasis**

WaterSMART Grants

2015 Criteria for evaluating applications include:

- **Quantifiable Water Conservation**
- **Energy-Water Nexus (renewables/efficiency related to water management/delivery)**
- **Benefits to Endangered Species**
- **Water Marketing**
- **Other Contributions to Water Supply Sustainability**
- **Implementation and Results**
 - **Applicable FOA provides full criteria and details**

WaterSMART Grants Since 2010

	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
Total Proposals Received	197	178	167	185	138	130
Number of Projects Funded	38	58	32	33	32	50
Funded Total Project Costs	\$58,186,324	\$80,106,375	\$46,381,914	\$67,482,593	\$80,041,114	\$133,363,094
Funded Federal Share	\$13,201,168	\$25,335,164	\$10,292,196	\$21,844,654	\$17,808,731	\$21,307,697
Estimated water saved (AF per year)	139,904	100,763	61,423	100,300	67,275	86,159

WaterSMART Grants Program Contact Information

Program website:

www.usbr.gov/watersmart/weeg

Program Coordinator

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The FY 2016 FOA for WaterSMART Grant applications is expected to be posted in October- November 2015.

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