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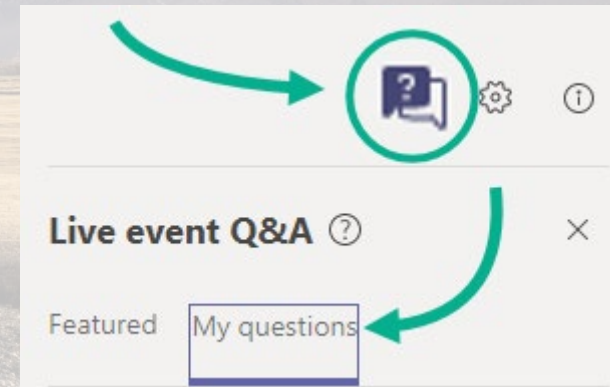
Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects NOFO

November 9, 2023

Getting Started

- To watch the recording, use the same link: [Join Live Teams Event](#)
- Attendees' cameras and microphones are muted
- A copy of the slides will be available on our website after the webinar:
<https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/>

- Questions and comments can be posted in the Q&A icon on the bottom of the menu bar



Today's Agenda

- **Overview of the Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects Funding Opportunity**
- **IMPORTANT Application Tips!**
- **Overview of Reclamation's WaterSMART Selection Process**
- **Financial Assistance Requirements**
- **Tools and Resources**
- **Question and Answer Period**



Eligible Applicants

Category A:

- States, Indian Tribes, irrigation districts, and 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.

Category B: 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 they are acting in partnership with the applicant and agree to the submittal and content of the proposal.*

To be eligible, applicants must also 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 – Partnership Letter

Category B applicants should include with their application a letter from the Category A partner, stating that the Category A partner:

1. Is acting in partnership with the applicant;
2. Agrees to the submittal and content of the application; and
3. Intends to participate in the project in some way, for example, by providing input, feedback, or other support for the project.

Note: Partners do not necessarily need to contribute cost share funding.



Eligible Projects

- **Eligible Project Types**

- 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.

Refer to Section C.5. of the NOFO for ineligible projects



Award Information

• Funding

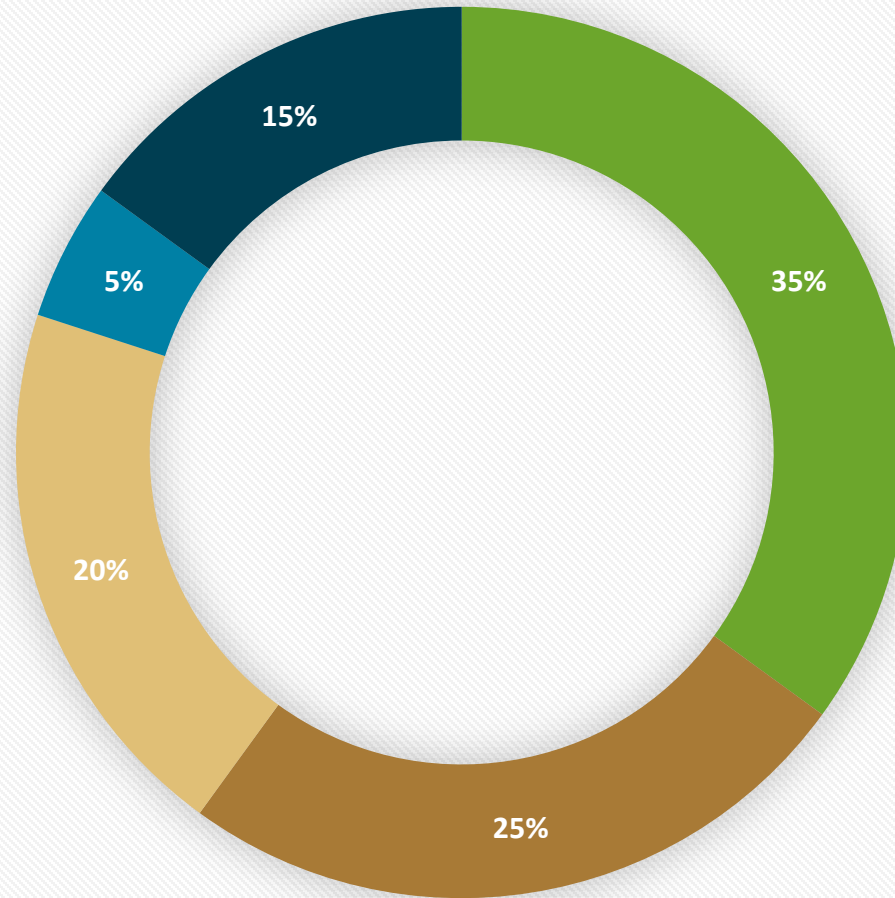
- Up to \$100k in Reclamation funds for 2-year projects
- Total project costs of \$225k
- 50% non-Federal cost share
- Approximately 50 awards per application period, depending on the number of applications received, amount requested by each applicant and the amount of funding available

Applications Due:

- Application Period 1: January 16, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. MST
- Application Period 2: July 9, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. MDT
- Application Period 3: January 14, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. MST
- Application Period 4: July 8, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. MDT



Evaluation Criteria



■ Criterion A. Project Benefits

■ Criterion C. Project Implementation

■ Criterion E. Presidential and Department of Interior Priorities

■ Criterion B. Planning Efforts Supporting the Project

■ Criterion D. Nexus to Reclamation



Evaluation Criteria

Criterion A – Project Benefits (35 points)

- Discuss
 - Benefits to Category A Applicant's water supply delivery system
 - Other benefits (e.g., broader benefits to supply reliability, increasing collaboration, benefits to other sectors, collaboration with NRCS)
- Does not require quantification of water savings, but do explain the significance of the benefits

Criterion B – Planning Efforts Supporting the Project (25 points)

- Prioritizes projects that are identified through local planning efforts and meet local needs
- Discuss
 - How was the plan developed?
 - How is the project supported by the plan?
- Discuss a specific plan/broad planning effort here, rather than focusing on the design for the project.



Evaluation Criteria

Criterion C – Project Implementation (20 points)

- Describe implementation plan including schedule and milestones
- Discuss required permits and compliance, describe any engineering and design work that has been performed
- Discuss any engineering or design work performed specifically in support of the proposed project and if additional engineering or design work is needed

Criterion D – Nexus to Reclamation (5 points)

- Describe the connection to Reclamation project activities and facilities, if applicable.



Evaluation Criteria

Evaluation Criterion E – Presidential and Department of the Interior Priorities (15 Points)

- Points will be awarded based on the extent that the project demonstrates 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.
- Sub-criterion No. E1: Climate Change
- Sub-criterion No. E2: Disadvantaged or Underserved Communities
- Sub-criterion No. E.3: Tribal Benefits

Note: We urge applicants to utilize the White House Council on Environmental Quality’s Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool to discover how communities in their project area may be classified as disadvantaged or underserved. [Explore the map - Climate & Economic Justice Screening Tool \(geoplatform.gov\)](https://www.geoplatform.gov)





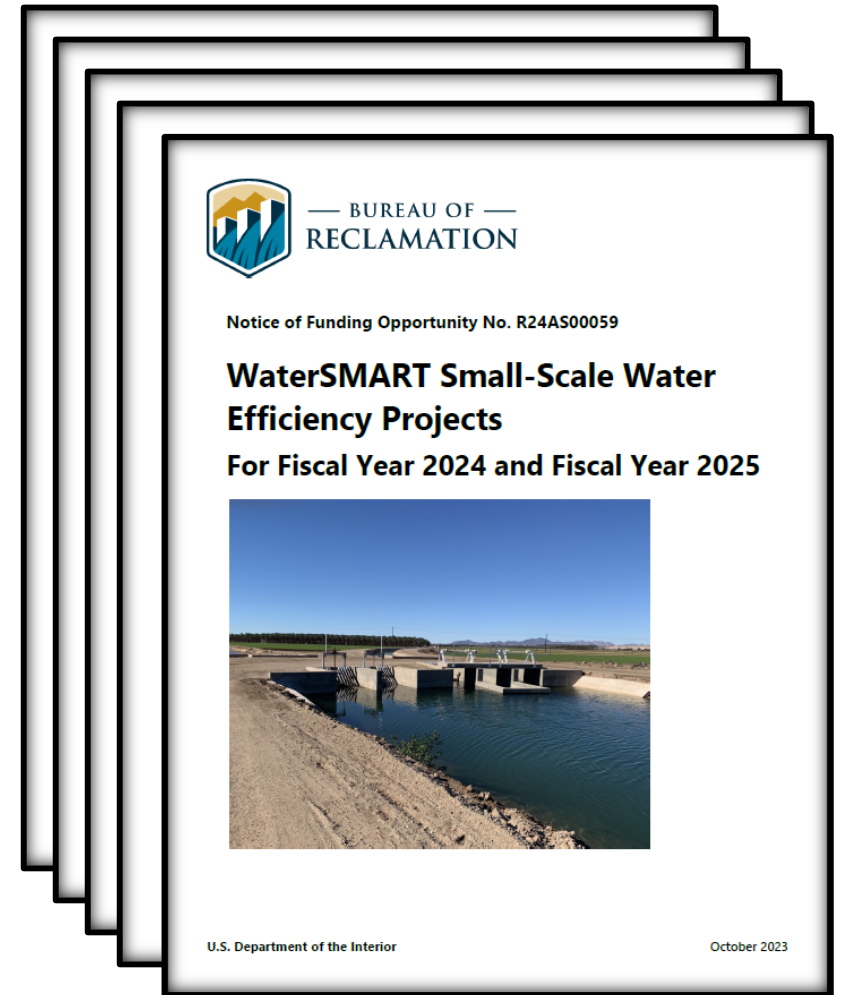
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WaterSMART Application Tips



General Application Tips

- The most successful projects are those that fit well with the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO).
- Review the objective of the NOFO, the eligible project types, and the evaluation criteria carefully to choose the right NOFO.
 - Contact the Program Coordinator to discuss any questions about your project fit or applicant eligibility.
 - Look at past successful applications at www.usbr.gov/WaterSMART



Application Tips

General Considerations

- Important: Read **everything** in the NOFO!
 - Ask questions if something does not make sense.
- Give yourself plenty of time to write and submit the proposal.
- Do not assume the Application Review Committee knows you.
 - Committee is comprised of Reclamation staff from throughout the Western states.
- If your application is not awarded, ask for a debriefing to help prepare a better proposal.



Application Tips

Evaluation Criteria

- Make sure you respond to every criterion and every sub-criterion
- Your responses should:
 - Directly respond to the criterion – We recommend you copy and paste the criteria directly into your proposal and place your response immediately below each criterion/sub-criterion
 - Provide support in the form of quantification or citations to reference documents
 - Make the case for how your project meets the criterion – general statements without explanation or support will not score well
- Application Tip: Well-supported responses to the evaluation criteria are the key to writing a competitive proposal



Application Tips

Environmental and Cultural Resource Compliance

- All projects funded through WaterSMART funding opportunities must comply with Federal environmental and cultural resources laws and regulations. Reclamation regional and area office staff will ensure compliance. This compliance must occur prior to any ground-disturbing activities taking place.
- We highly recommend you discuss your project with compliance staff at your local Reclamation regional or area office. If you are uncertain who to contact, please contact the Program Coordinator identified in Section G of the funding opportunity.





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WaterSMART Financial Assistance Requirements



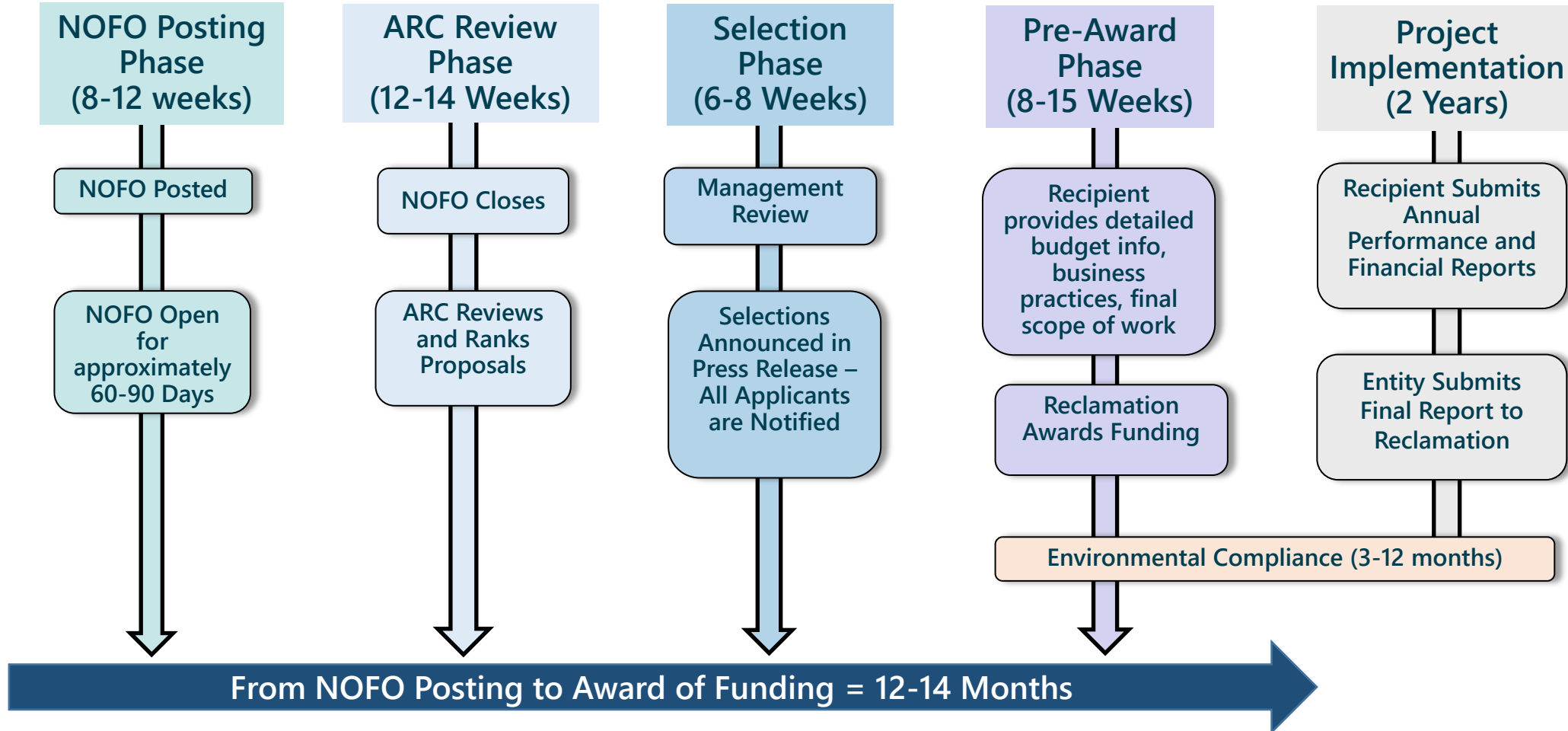
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What happens next?

From NOFO to Selection

WaterSMART Selection Process

Sample schedule



Pre-award Documentation

What to expect if selected for funding

You may be asked to provide:

- Additional budget clarifications
- Pre-award system survey (if no audit is required) or single audit if not available on the Federal Audit Clearinghouse
- Cost-share documentation
- Explanation of requested pre-award costs
- All reports up to date on other Reclamation awards



Financial Assistance (FA) Office

Primary Role of the FA Office

- Answer questions about financial assistance requirements during the application process
- Conduct Initial Screening and remove applications that do not meet the completeness, eligibility and timeliness for submission requirements of the NOFO.
- Notify Applicants of Application status based on the contact information provided on the SF-424 Form



Before you Begin

Register in SAM.gov

Account Set Up

- “Sign Up” in Sam.gov (Login.gov)
- Obtain a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)
- [Register Entity in SAM.gov](#)
- [Entity Registration Checklist](#)
- If you have difficulties – document communications with help desk.
- Include communications with your application

NOTE: For all new registrants, creating the account with SAM.gov may take up to several weeks for the account to be approved and considered as ACTIVE!



Before you Begin

Register in Grants.gov

- [Grant Applicants | GRANTS.GOV](#)
- [Applicant Registration | GRANTS.GOV](#)



The screenshot shows the Grants.gov website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for HOME, LEARN GRANTS, SEARCH GRANTS, APPLICANTS (highlighted), GRANTORS, SYSTEM-TO-SYSTEM, FORMS, CONNECT, and SUPPORT. A search bar is located in the top right corner. Below the navigation bar is a large banner image of the U.S. Capitol building with the text "FOR APPLICANTS" overlaid. The main content area is divided into several sections:

- Check Your Eligibility:** "Are you or your organization eligible for a grant? Learn how to check your eligibility here." Link: [Check Your Applicant Eligibility >](#)
- Get Registered:** "To apply, you need to register an account with Grants.gov. Begin registering today." Link: [Applicant Registration >](#)
- Apply for Grants:** "Ready to apply? Create a workspace to apply for a grant." Link: [Apply for a Grant Opportunity Today >](#) and [Workspace Overview >](#)
- Track Your Application:** "Enter your Grants.gov tracking number to follow the progress of up to five applications at a time." Link: [Track Your Application >](#)
- Adobe Compatibility:** "Ensure your Adobe Reader or Acrobat software is compatible with Grants.gov." Link: [Adobe Compatibility Tip Sheet >](#)
- Applicant Training:** "Access training materials, tips and other resources that will help you successfully navigate Grants.gov." Link: [Applicant Training >](#) and [Grants.gov Online User Guide >](#)
- Applicant FAQs:** "If you have questions, you are not alone. Here are the answers to frequently asked questions." Link: [Applicant FAQs >](#)
- Manage Subscriptions:** "Subscribe to funding opportunities, saved searches, RSS feeds, and communications." Link: [Sign Up Now >](#)

At the bottom, there is a footer with social media links (Blog, Twitter, YouTube, Alerts, RSS, XML Extract, Get Adobe Reader) and contact information for Health & Human Services, Community, and a "Frequently Asked Questions" link.



How to Apply

Where to Start?



Search for Funding Opportunity
R24AS00059



Reclamation partnered with grants.gov to bring you [this webinar](#) to help familiarize yourself with the site and to provide an overview of how to submit a grant application. [View the Powerpoint](#)



View Grant Opportunity

Reference: R23AS00362 CWMP Phase I
R23AS00106 AERP



www.grants.gov

View
SYNOPSIS
for key information

GRANTS.GOV™
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SEARCH: Grant Opportunities ▾ Enter Keyword... GO

HOME LEARN GRANTS SEARCH GRANTS APPLICANTS GRANTORS SYSTEM-TO-SYSTEM FORMS CONNECT SUPPORT

GRANTS.GOV > Search Grants

VIEW GRANT OPPORTUNITY

R23AS00362
WaterSMART Cooperative Watershed Management Program Phase I for Fiscal Year 2023
Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation

Apply Subscribe

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SYNOPSIS VERSION HISTORY RELATED DOCUMENTS PACKAGE

Print Synopsis Details ?

General Information

Document Type:	Grants Notice	Version:	Synopsis 6
Funding Opportunity Number:	R23AS00362	Posted Date:	Aug 07, 2023
Funding Opportunity Title:	WaterSMART Cooperative Watershed Management Program Phase I for Fiscal Year 2023	Last Updated Date:	Aug 25, 2023
Opportunity Category:	Discretionary	Original Closing Date for Applications:	Dec 05, 2023 First application period: Tuesday, December 5, 2023, 4:00 p.m. Mountain Standard Time. Second application period: Tuesday, September 3, 2024, 4:00 p.m., Mountain Daylight Time. Electronic applications must be submitted no later than 4:00 p.m., MDT, on the listed application due date.
Opportunity Category Explanation:		Current Closing Date for Applications:	Sep 03, 2024 First application period: Tuesday, December 5, 2023, 4:00 p.m. Mountain Standard Time. Second application period: Tuesday, September 3, 2024, 4:00 p.m., Mountain Daylight Time. Electronic applications must be submitted no later than 4:00 p.m., MDT, on the listed application due date.
Funding Instrument Type:	Cooperative Agreement Grant	Archive Date:	
Category of Funding Activity:	Natural Resources	Estimated Total Program Funding:	
Category Explanation:		Award Ceiling:	\$300,000
Expected Number of Awards:		Award Floor:	\$10,000
CFDA Number(s):	15.554 -- Cooperative Watershed Management		
Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement:	No		

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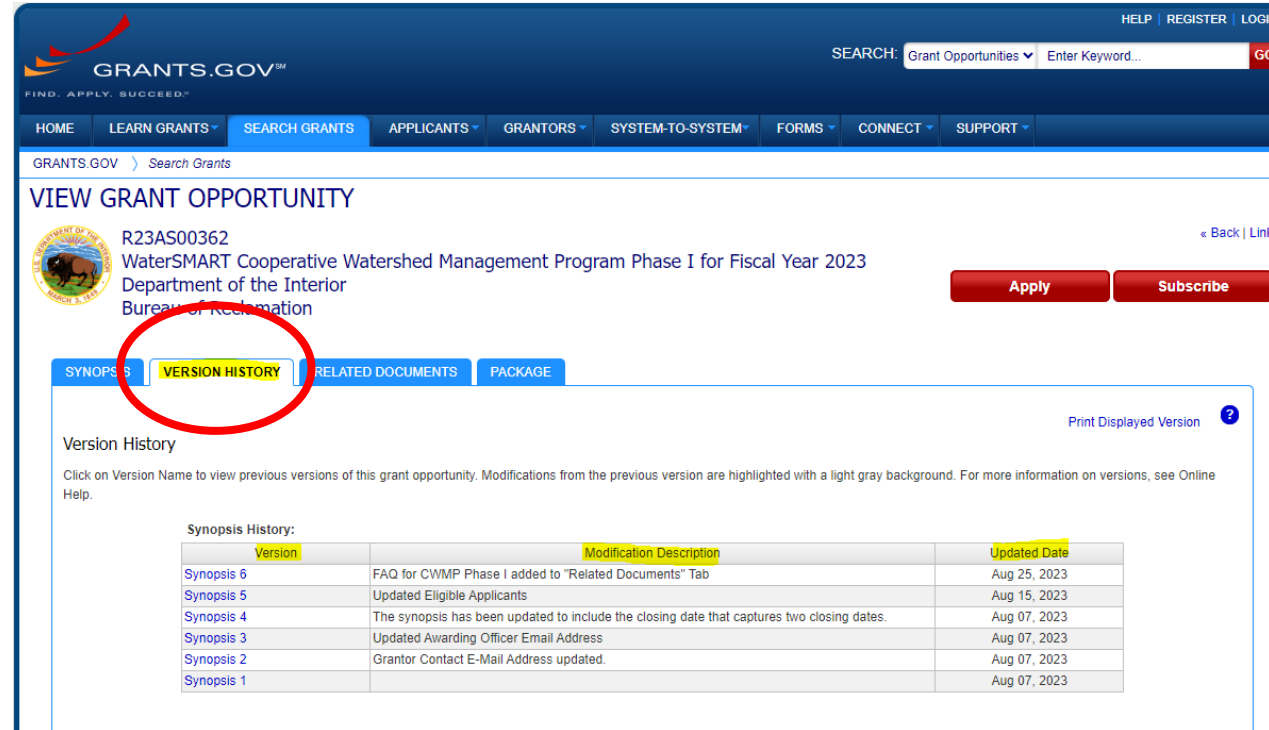
View Grant Opportunity

Reference: R23AS00362 CWMP Phase I
R23AS00106 AERP



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R23AS00362
WaterSMART Cooperative Watershed Management Program Phase I for Fiscal Year 2023
Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation

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SYNOPSIS **VERSION HISTORY** RELATED DOCUMENTS PACKAGE

Print Displayed Version ?

Version History

Click on Version Name to view previous versions of this grant opportunity. Modifications from the previous version are highlighted with a light gray background. For more information on versions, see Online Help.

Synopsis History:

Version	Modification Description	Updated Date
Synopsis 6	FAQ for CWMP Phase I added to "Related Documents" Tab	Aug 25, 2023
Synopsis 5	Updated Eligible Applicants	Aug 15, 2023
Synopsis 4	The synopsis has been updated to include the closing date that captures two closing dates.	Aug 07, 2023
Synopsis 3	Updated Awarding Officer Email Address	Aug 07, 2023
Synopsis 2	Grantor Contact E-Mail Address updated.	Aug 07, 2023
Synopsis 1		Aug 07, 2023





R23AS00106

WaterSMART Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Projects for Fiscal Year 2023

Department of the Interior

Bureau of Reclamation

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Notification History:

Type	Date	Modification Description
Related Documents	Aug 02, 2023	The following updates have been made to the NOFO. See attachment. • Title change • Removed column in Application Checklist • Adds BIL Authority • A.4. Updated Planning Program Description • B.6. Updated Technical Assistance • C.4.1.1 Permits are not an allowable activity • C.4.2. Updated Construction start date • C.5 Updated Ineligible studies • C.5.1. Inserted Small Surface Water Storage Projects • F.2.2 Environmental costs considered project costs removed • F.2.8.2 Added Cost Share/Match Waiver for Insular Areas
Related Documents	May 01, 2023	An FAQ that was developed based on questions we received during the AERP Webinar and in calls and emails.
Related Documents	Apr 20, 2023	There was a minor change to the fourth bullet in Section C.1.1. Category A Applicants. The word "dam" was replaced with "facility" to reflect the exact language in the statutory authority.
Related Documents	Apr 11, 2023	The AERP NOFO was updated to add Section C.5.1 – Ineligible Studies.

Click on the following file link(s) to download the related document(s):

File Description	File Name	Last Updated Date/Time	File Size
Folder: Full Announcement - Full Announcement	R23AS00106-Full Announcement - Full Announcement.zip	Aug 02, 2023 05:27:31 PM EDT	957.2 KB
AERP_NOFO_FY23_rev4_07.31.2023_re_Policy	AERP_NOFO_FY23_rev4_07.31.2023_re_Policy.pdf	Aug 02, 2023 05:27:31 PM EDT	973.6 KB
Folder: Other Supporting Documents - Other Supporting Documents	R23AS00106-Other Supporting Documents - Other Supporting Documents.zip	Aug 03, 2023 10:53:42 AM EDT	295.9 KB
Attachment A - Budget Detail and Narrative template.xlsx	Attachment A - Budget Detail and Narrative template.xlsx	Mar 14, 2023 03:38:55 PM EDT	83.4 KB
Attachment B - Budget Narrative Guidance.pdf	Attachment B - Budget Narrative Guidance.pdf	Mar 14, 2023 03:39:19 PM EDT	232.1 KB
Folder: Other Supporting Documents - Policy Approval	R23AS00106-Other Supporting Documents - Policy Approval.zip	May 01, 2023 06:00:34 PM EDT	27.0 KB
FAQ's based on questions received during the AERP Webinar, and in calls and emails.	AERP - FAQs for Website- 508.docx	May 01, 2023 06:02:25 PM EDT	32.5 KB





Select Grant Opportunity Package

PLEASE READ BEFORE APPLYING!

If you view and complete your application package using Grants.gov downloadable PDF forms, you MUST have Adobe Reader installed. You may receive a validation error using incompatible versions of Adobe Reader. To prevent a validation error, it is now recommended you uninstall any earlier versions of Adobe Reader and install the latest compatible version of Adobe Reader. If more than one person is working on the PDF forms, ALL applicants must be using the same Adobe Reader version. [Click for more information on Adobe Reader Compatibility.](#)

Opportunity Package(s) Currently Available for this Funding Opportunity:

CFDA	Competition ID	Competition Title	Opportunity Package ID	Opening Date	Closing Date	Actions
15.554	R23AS00362	WaterSMART Cooperative Watershed Management Program Phase I for Fiscal Year 2023	PKG00282794	08/07/2023	09/03/2024	Preview Apply

Preview Opportunity Package Details

Opportunity Package Details:

Agency Contact Information: Christina Munoz

Who Can Apply: Organization Applicants

PACKAGE FORMS:

Mandatory Forms
(Click to Preview)

- » [Application for Federal Assistance \(SF-424\) \[V4.0\]](#)
- » [Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs \(SF-424A\) \[V1.0\]](#)
- » [Assurances for Non-Construction Programs \(SF-424B\) \[V1.1\]](#)
- » [Project Narrative Attachment Form \[V1.2\]](#)
- » [Budget Narrative Attachment Form \[V1.2\]](#)

Mandatory Forms are:

SF-424 Application for Federal Assistance

Plus, either the forms for Non-Construction projects

- Budget Information for Non-Construction (SF-424A)
- Assurances for Non-Construction (SF-424B)

OR the forms for Construction projects

- Budget Information for Construction Programs (SF-424C)
- Assurances for Construction Programs (SF-424D)

Close



Application Tips

Before you Submit

Verify that your Application is Complete!

- SAM.gov Registration is ACTIVE
- Grants.gov Registration account set up
- SF-424 (remember signature)
- SF-424A and SF-424C (Non-Construction projects)
- SF-424B and SF-424D (Construction projects)
- Technical Proposal ([» Project Narrative Attachment Form \[V1.2\]](#))
- Budget Narrative ([» Budget Narrative Attachment Form \[V1.2\]](#)
Budget Narrative or Budget Detail and Narrative Excel)



Financial Assistance – First Level Screening

All application packages will be screened to ensure:

- The applicant meets the completeness, eligibility, and timeliness requirements
- The applicant meets the Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) and SAM registration requirements
- The application meets the content requirements
- The application contains completed mandatory forms



Financial Assistance – Selection Notification

- Once Initial screening is complete,
 - Ineligible applicants will be notified by the Grants Officer, and
 - Eligible applicants will move on to the Merit Review
- All successful applications will be notified by the Grants Officer of selection.
- The Financial Assistance Office will reach out to the applicant regarding next steps for entering a Financial Assistance award.





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For Questions relating to the Application Process,
SF-424 and Application Forms, Grants.gov, and SAM
Registration,
please reach out to the
Reclamation Financial Assistance Contact:

bor-sha-fafoa@usbr.gov

****Please include the NOFO number in the subject of your
email.****

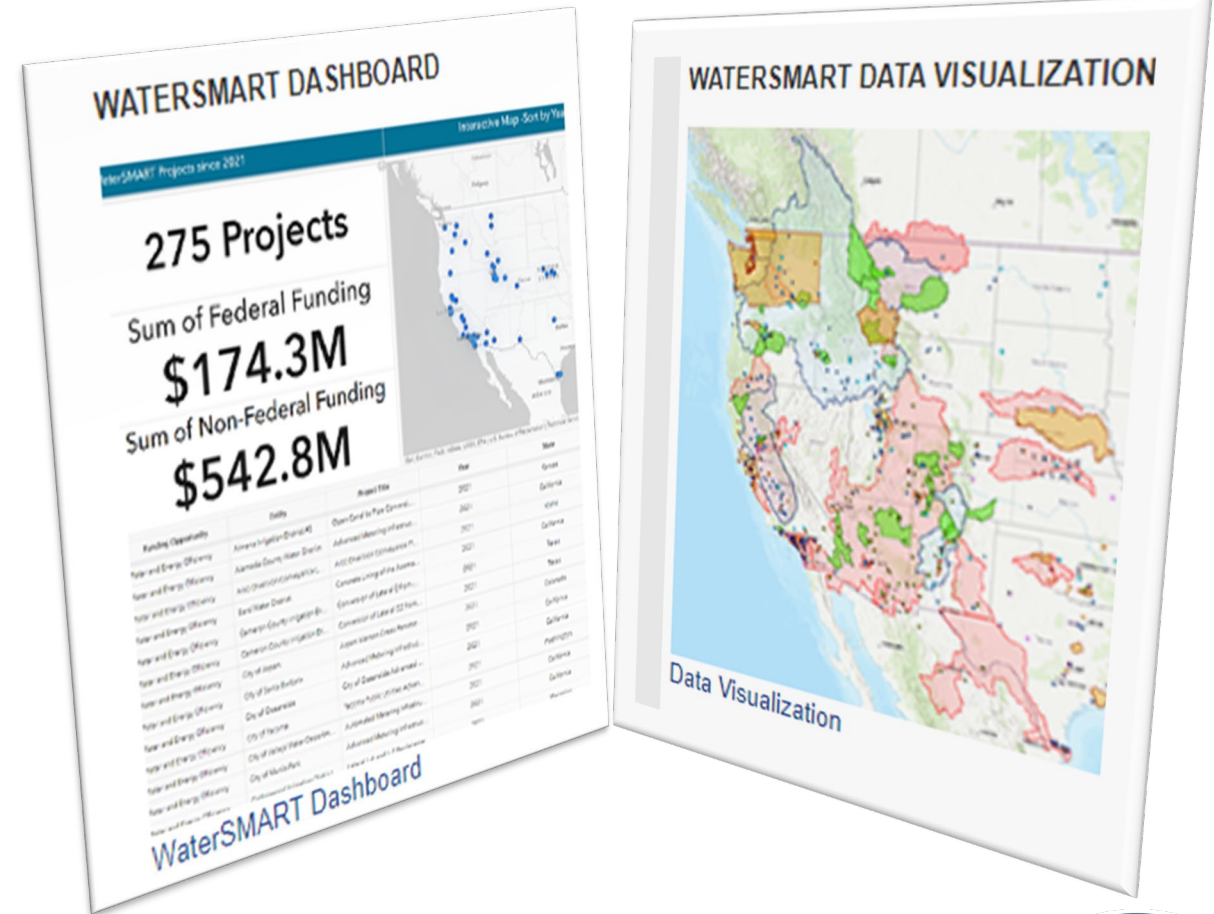
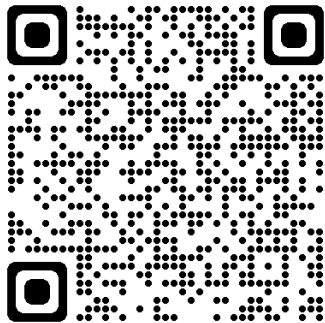


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Additional Opportunities, Tools and Resources

WaterSMART Program Resources

- WaterSMART Program Website: <https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart>
 - Previously funded applications for all programs
 - Interactive Data Visualization Tool
 - WaterSMART Dashboard
 - WaterSMART mailing list
 - Recent announcements
 - Funding opportunity calendar



WATERSMART

WaterSMART

Contacts

Water and Energy Efficiency Grants

Water Marketing Strategy Grants

Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects

Environmental Water Resources Projects

Title XVI

Desalination

Basin Studies

Baseline Assessments and Pilots

Reservoir Operation Pilots

Applied Science Grants

Cooperative Watershed Management Program

WaterSMART

The American West faces serious water challenges. Wide-spread drought, increased populations, aging infrastructure, and environmental requirements all strain existing water and hydropower resources. Adequate and safe water supplies are fundamental to the health, economy, and security of the country. Through WaterSMART, Reclamation will continue to work cooperatively with states, tribes and local entities as they plan for and implement actions to increase water supply through investments to modernize existing infrastructure and avoid potential water conflicts.

Join the WaterSMART Mailing List

You may complete this [form](#) to receive WaterSMART program notification from the Bureau of Reclamation.

WaterSMART Project Selections Overview

Since January 2021, Reclamation has selected 255 projects to be funded with \$500 million in WaterSMART funding, in conjunction with \$314.3 million in non-Federal funding, across the western states.



OPEN FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

None at this time

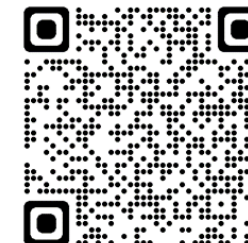
FUNDING OPPORTUNITY CALENDAR



Click [here](#) to view a detailed status of all current and upcoming WaterSMART funding opportunities.



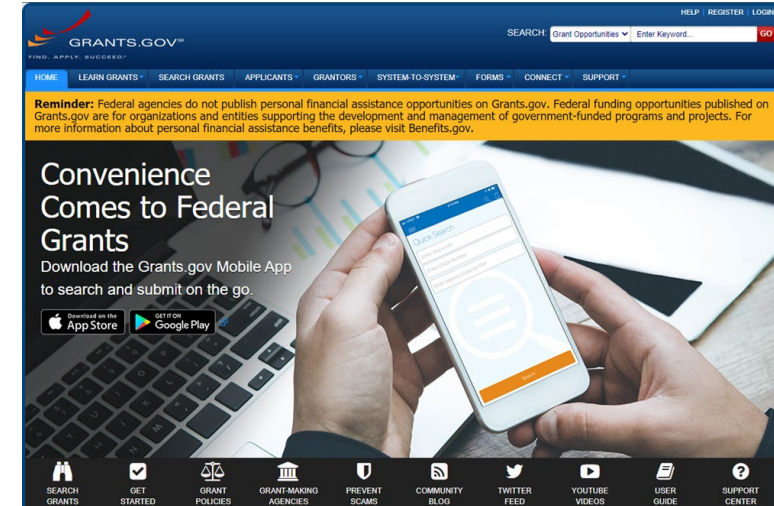
Reclamation partnered with grants.gov to host a [webinar](#) to help familiarize you with the site and to provide an opportunity to submit a grant [view the Powerpoint](#)



WaterSMART Program Resources

Additional Resources

- All open Funding Opportunities can be found at:
www.grants.gov
 - General guide on how to submit a grant application on Grants.Gov located on WaterSMART website.
- Climate Mapping and Resilience and Adaptation:
<https://resilience.climate.gov/>
- Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool:
<https://screeningtool.geoplatform.gov/en/#3/33.47/-97.5>



FUNDING OPPORTUNITY CALENDAR



[Click here](#) to view a detailed status of all current and upcoming WaterSMART funding opportunities.



Reclamation partnered with grants.gov to bring you **this webinar** to help familiarize yourself with the site and to provide an overview of how to submit a grant application. [View the Powerpoint](#)



Thank you!

Questions regarding project and applicant eligibility:

Nickie McCann; nmccann@usbr.gov; (303)445-3733



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Questions?

Please utilize the Q&A Function to ask questions.