



— BUREAU OF —
RECLAMATION

Quarterly Implementation Update #11

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL, PL 117-58)

Inflation Reduction Act (IRA, PL 117-169)

March 7, 2024

Agenda for today:

- Review of open BIL and IRA funding opportunities
- Summary of BIL and IRA funding allocated today
- Reporting, results, metrics
- Buy America
- Staffing
- Other developments since last quarterly update on 12/7/23



Las Vegas Wash Erosion Control Structure, Nevada, allocated \$20 million from BIL under the Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Program within WaterSMART. Photo from project site, December 2023.



BIL funding opportunities, upcoming announcements:

- Large Scale Water Recycling NOFO second application period (no dollar cap) closes 5/31/24
- Planning and Design WaterSMART NOFO second application period (up to \$400,000) closes 5/21/24
- Planning and Design WaterSMART NOFO first application period selections announcement (grants up to \$400,000 per project), announcing selected projects in April
- Small Storage Program second application period announcing selected projects within days
- Large Scale Water Recycling NOFO first application period (no dollar cap) selections announcement, announcing selected projects in April
- Drought Resiliency NOFO selections announcement (\$10 million max per project), announcing selectees in April



BIL funding opportunities, upcoming announcements (cont'd):



Davis Aqueduct Parallel Pipeline construction underway, Utah. Project allocated \$23 million from fiscal year 2022 BIL Aging Infrastructure/Extraordinary Maintenance. Photo from project

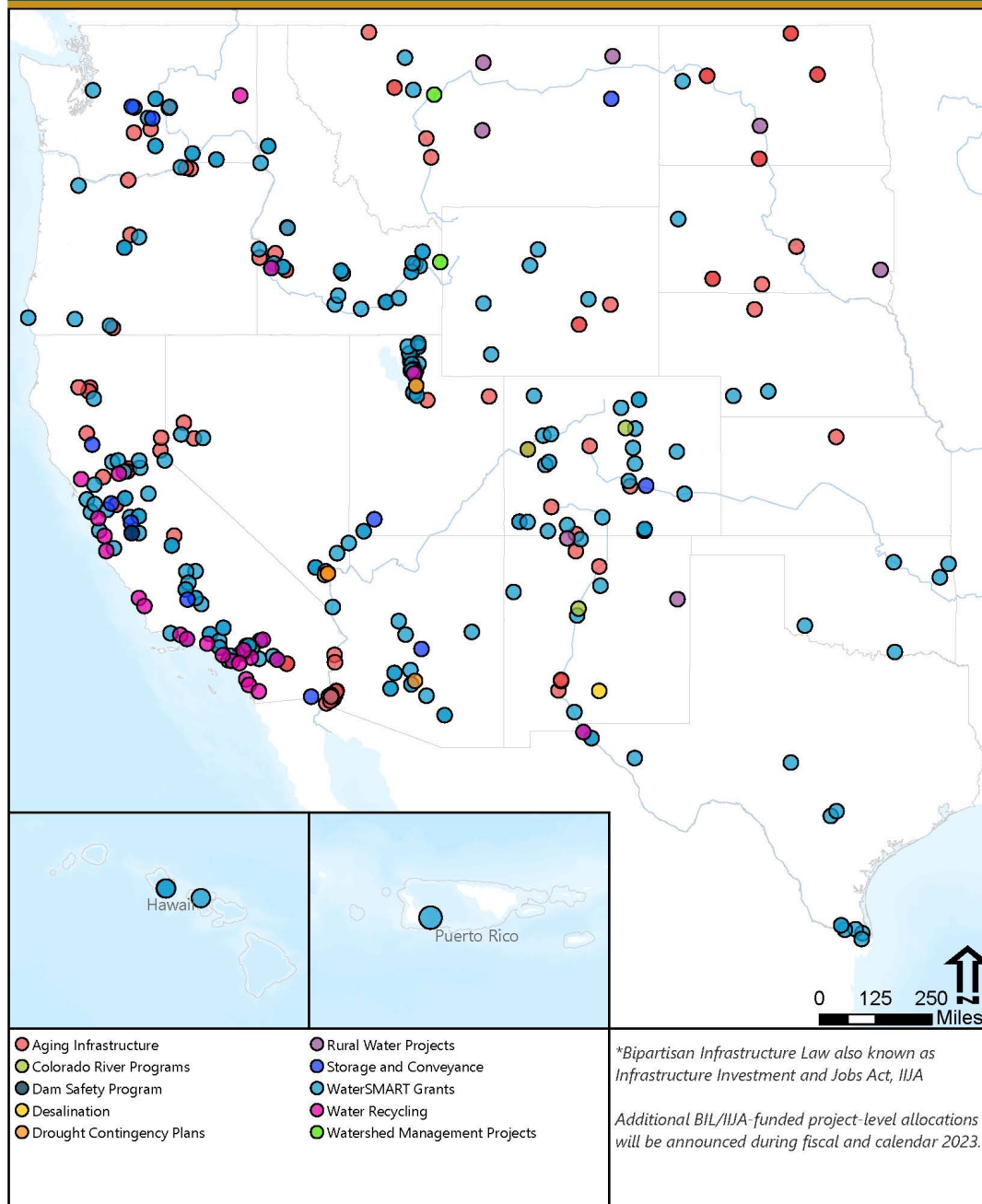
- Fiscal year 2024 Aging Infrastructure/ Extraordinary Maintenance project selections within days (\$520 million)
- Environmental Water Resources Projects NOFO open (multi-benefit + nature-based, \$6 million per project max), targeting opening April 2024
- Storage and Conveyance BIL Section 40902 fiscal year 2024 allocations
- In final development: Fiscal year 2025 BIL Spend Plan (\$1.66 billion) for publication with fiscal year 2025 budget justifications, expecting May 11, 2024, release



Reclamation's BIL program:

	Program area	BIL Section(s)	Program funding amount and type	Recipient type	Awarding process
	New or expanded water storage & conveyance	40901(1), 40902, 40903	\$1.15 billion; contracts and competitive grants	Contractors and non-federal agencies	FAR contracting and competitive
	Aging Infrastructure / Extraordinary Maintenance (XM)	40901(2), 40904	\$3.2 billion; contracts and grants	Contractors and operators of Reclamation transferred works	FAR contracting, repayment contracts
	Rural Water Projects (MT, ND, NM, SD, IA, and MN)	40901(3)	\$1 billion; grants	Contractors, tribes and non-federal agencies	Financial Assistance
	Water recycling and reuse	40901(4), 40901(5)	\$1 billion; competitive grants	Tribes and non-federal agencies	Competitive NOFO
	Desalination	40901(5), 40908	\$250 million; competitive grants	Tribes and non-federal agencies	Competitive NOFO
	Safety of Dams	40901(6)	\$500 million; contracts	Contractors and non-federal agencies	FAR contracting
	WaterSMART Grants	40901(7)	\$400 million; grants	Tribes and non-federal agencies	Competitive NOFO
	Colorado River Drought Contingency Plans (DCPs)	40901(8), 40906	\$300 million; contracts and grants	Contractors, tribes and non-federal agencies	Discretionary awards and NOFOs
	Cooperative Watershed Management	40901(9)	\$100 million; grants	Tribes and non-federal agencies	Competitive NOFO
	Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration	40901(10)	\$250 million; grants	Tribes and non-federal agencies	Competitive NOFO
	Multi-benefit projects for Watershed health	40901(11), 40907	\$100 million; grants	Tribes and non-federal agencies	Competitive NOFO
	Endangered Species in the Colorado River	40901(12)	\$50 million; contracts and grants	Contractors, tribes and non-federal agencies	Discretionary awards

Where is BIL funding going?



BIL reporting, results, metrics:

- BIL spending and project execution is tracked in several ways.
- Annual Spend Plans are published with every budget request at program level, and supplemented with project-specific spend plan addenda or project announcements throughout the year that flesh out the spend plan(s), providing project-level detail.
- BIL funded projects also have their own project plans or reporting streams specific to their program area (i.e., Aging Infrastructure, Dam Safety, etc.).
- Economic activity is associated with BIL reported in DOI's [BIL Economic Contributions report](#).
- Monthly Allocation and Obligation reports are sent to Congress per Division J Title III of the BIL.
- Quarterly implementation updates (today), e-mail alerts, FAQ's, and social media information is provided continually.



WaterSMART

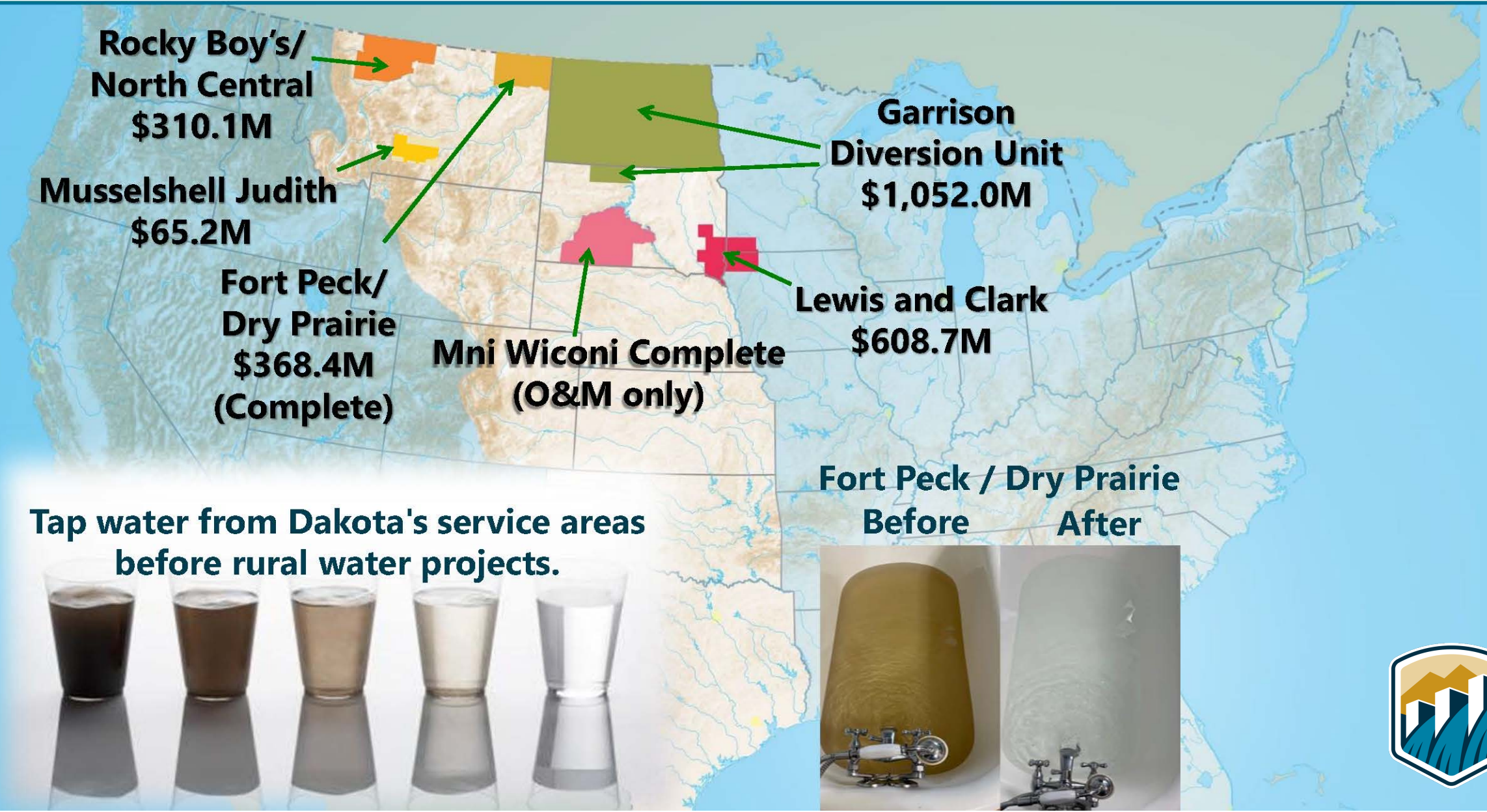
- To date, 256 WaterSMART projects have been selected for a total of \$655 million in BIL funding
- BIL funded WaterSMART projects to date are expected to conserve more than 100,000 acre-feet of water per year, enough to supply about half a million people



Universal City, Texas – recipient of BIL-funded WaterSMART Small Scale Water Efficiency Grant for advanced metering project. Site visit November 2023.



Rural Water Projects



BIL project results and metrics:



The Trinity River Fish Hatchery, California. Project received Reclamation's largest single allocation, \$65.9 million, for Aging Infrastructure/Extraordinary Maintenance in fiscal year 2023. Photo from project site, December 2023.

- BIL funded rural water projects will collectively serve more than 800,000 people in Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa, Minnesota, and New Mexico when complete
- BIL funded small storage projects are expected to produce tens of thousands of acre-feet of new local water supplies; at least two more years of awards pending
- BIL funded water storage and conveyance projects are expected to produce hundreds of thousands of acre-feet of new water supplies
- Reclamation BIL funding supported 13,128 jobs in fiscal year 2023 and contributed \$1.39 billion to gross domestic product



IRA Sec. 50231 Domestic Water Supply Projects

Tribal Domestic Water Supply Grant Program



Klamath River

- Under development now
- Announcement expected very soon in the form of a Dear Tribal Leader letter
- Applications will be accepted from Tribes until early summer of 2024
- Grants will be available for planning, design and construction of domestic water supply projects



IRA Sec. 50231 Domestic Water Supply Projects

WaterSMART Grants

- Fiscal year 2023 Planning and Project Design Grants closed Oct. 17, 2023; For fiscal year 2024, closes May 21, 2024
- Fiscal year 2024 Drought Response Program, Drought Resiliency Projects closed Nov. 7, 2024
- Initial funding announcements anticipated in April of this year



IRA Sec. 50231

Domestic Water Supply Projects

Aid to U.S. Territories

- Notice of Funding Announcement under development now with publication expected before spring
- Funding will provide for up to 100% of the cost of planning, design, or construction of a domestic water supply project
- Project awards will be made through Federal Financial Assistance grants or cooperative agreements
- Funding announcements will be made this year



Pago Pago Harbor, America Samoa



IRA Sec. 50231

Domestic Water Supply Projects

Whole of Government Efforts

- Reclamation is working with the Indian Health Service to accomplish a whole of government approach to solving the drinking water crises in the West
- Project announcements expected in 2024



IRA Sec. 50232

Canal Improvement Projects

The generation of power from solar energy is rapidly expanding as a major form of renewable energy in the United States. In relation to water canal facilities, solar panels can be installed next to or above the canals.



- Proposed projects will place solar panels over canals associated with Reclamation projects as a pilot or demonstration for Reclamation
- December 2023 announced \$5.65 million for Gila River Indian Community, Solar-Over-Casa Blanca Canal Project
- Additional announcement anticipated in March or April



IRA 50233 Drought Mitigation Colorado River Investments and Status

- **Salton Sea Agreement:** \$250 million allocated via a memorandum of agreement with California, Imperial Irrigation District, and Coachella Valley Water District for aquatic restoration, dust mitigation, and technical capacity building.
 - \$72 Million obligated: \$70 million for a project with California and \$2 million for technical capacity for the Torres Martinez Tribe. Remaining \$128 million will be enabled by additional conservation from the Imperial Irrigation District.
- **Lower Colorado System Conservation and Efficiency Program:**
 - Bucket 1 (short-term conservation): 24 agreements have been announced to conserve up to 1.58 million acre-feet through 2026. Total estimated investment is \$670.2 million. Additional agreements in development.
 - Bucket 2 (long-term projects): 84 proposals received for over \$5 billion. Working through review. Announcements will be on a rolling basis based on complexity of projects. Initial announcements expected this spring.
- **Upper Colorado System Conservation and Efficiency Program:**
 - Bucket 1 (short-term conservation): In 2023: 64 conservation agreements for 37,800 acre-feet (\$15.8 million); In 2024, 120 proposals received for \$31.8 million. Upper Colorado Basin Region working with Upper Colorado River Commission on proposal review. Agreements expected in spring.
 - Bucket 2 (long-term projects): In development. Two tracks 1) ecosystem restoration projects 2) water conservation.



Drought Mitigation in Other Basins

- Evaluating opportunities for significant investments in basins with long-term drought comparable to the Colorado River Basin
- Working through complex but strategic approaches in some of the basins to maximize use of our IRA funding
- Rolling announcements will begin in May



Section 80004

Emergency Drought Relief for Tribes



- \$12.5 million through Sept. 30, 2026, for near-term drought relief actions to mitigate drought impacts for Tribes impacted by the operation of Reclamation water projects
- None of the funds provided are subject to cost-sharing or matching requirements
- Notice of funding opportunity currently open on [grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) (R24AS00051), closes April 11, 2024.



Buy America Update:

New activity on Buy America waivers in the last four weeks:

- WaterSMART Public Interest Waiver approved for previously planned projects. Expires: Feb. 14, 2026. For awards or amendments obligated on or after the effective date of the waiver, expires Feb. 14, 2025.
- Rural Water Projects Public Interest Waiver went out for comment Feb. 21, 2024, through March 5, 2024.
- More info at <https://www.doi.gov/grants/BuyAmerica>



Davis and Weber Counties Canal Company, Utah. Project encloses 1,995 feet of open canal, funded with \$1.8 million from BIL WaterSMART in fiscal year 2023. Photo from project site February 2024.



Staffing Update

- Human capital remains central to Reclamation's BIL and IRA implementation
- 301 BIL-related new hires since 2022
- 80 active Reclamation postings on USAJobs as of March 6, 2024
- Archeologists, engineers, environmental specialists, project management specialists, contract specialist positions are in high demand



Thanks for your participation!

- BIL resources: <https://www.usbr.gov/bil> - see the FAQ's or e-mail us at usbr.bil@usbr.gov
- IRA resources: <https://www.usbr.gov/inflation-reduction-act> or e-mail us at usbr.ir.act@usbr.gov
- WaterSMART: <https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/>
- Small Storage Program: <https://www.usbr.gov/smallstorage>



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