

**Department of the Interior -
Bureau of Reclamation
Implementation of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law**

Addendum (January-April 2024)

**WaterSMART: Applied Science, Planning & Design Grants and Drought Resiliency,
Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Program**

**Drought Contingency Plan for Lower & Upper Colorado; Storage & Conveyance;
Small Storage; Safety of Dams; and ESA for Colorado River**

May 16, 2024

This Addendum includes updates regarding allocations of several WaterSMART program areas:

- *WS1*: Applied Science Grants allocation (page 5 of the FY 2024 Spend Plan),
- *WS2*: Planning & Design (including Nature Based & Multi-benefit),
- *WS3*: Drought Resiliency (page 5), and
- *WS4*: Aquatic Ecosystem (page 6).

It also includes allocation updates regarding:

- *I*: Drought Contingency Plan (DCP) for the Lower Colorado River (pages 5-6),
- *II*: Drought Contingency for Upper Colorado (page 5-6),
- *III*: Small Surface Water Storage and Groundwater Storage (page 3),
- *IV*: Safety of Dams (pages 4-5: *D*), and
- *V*: Environmental Species Act on the Colorado River (page 6).

***WS1*: WaterSMART grants under Secure Water Act (Applied Science \$5.166 million in FY 2023 funds)**

Implementation FY 2024

Allocation: FY 2023 funds, \$5.166 million; Location – CA, ID, MT, NE, NV, NM, ND, SD, TX, UT, WA

Through Water SMART, Reclamation provides financial assistance on a competitive basis for Applied Science Grants. Through these grants, Reclamation provides funding for non-federal entities for the development of tools and information to support water management for multiple uses. The eligible projects include the development of modeling and forecasting tools, hydrologic data platforms and new data sets.

Applicants include states, tribes, irrigation and water districts, and other organizations with water or power delivery authority in the Western US and territories. Universities, nonprofit research organizations and other nonprofits organizations located in the US are also eligible if they partner with an entity with water delivery authority.

Reclamation posted a funding opportunity for Applied Science Grants to www.grants.gov on June 29, 2023, which closed on October 17, 2023. Sixteen of the proposed applications were selected for BIL funding, including from entities located in California, Idaho, Montana,

Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, and Washington.

Projects Recommended for Funding

Eligible applications submitted in response to the funding opportunity were evaluated against the criteria stated in the funding opportunity by an Application Review Committee. Once all proposals were scored, a list of top-ranked projects was developed and reviewed to identify concerns about individual proposals related to environmental compliance issues, the financial state of the applicant, or any other reason that a project might not be feasible.

Below is a table of 16 projects allocating \$5,166,156—of funds originally provided at the program level in the FY23 BIL Spend Plans—to Environmental Projects, a component program under the WaterSMART grants umbrella. BIL funding available under the FY 2023 BIL Spend Plan. The announcement of the Applied Science grant recipients (<https://www.usbr.gov/newsroom/news-release/4802>, dated 4/17/24) describes projects that are funded under both BIL and regular appropriations.

State	Applicant Name	Project Title	Federal Funds
NM	World Wildlife Fund	Prioritizing Nature-Based Solutions for Water Management: Assessing Potential Evapotranspiration Reductions through Riparian Restoration	\$398,999
NV	Nye County Water District	Improvements to the Pahrump Valley Basin 162 Groundwater Model, Predictive Model and Preserve Native Environments	\$225,000
ID	Henry's Fork Foundation	Optimizing Data Collection, Availability and Streamflow Forecasting to Enhance Fisheries in the Snake River Watershed	\$400,000
CA	Metropolitan Water District of Southern California	Interoperable Flow and Temperature Data for Salmonid Restoration Scenarios	\$390,000
MT	University of Texas at Arlington	Nature Based Climate Solution in Tribal Nations via Efficient Mapping and Modeling of Wetlands and Small Waterbodies	\$317,665
CA	Tuolumne County	Advancing Nature-Based Solutions for Building Watershed Health and Water Supply Reliability in the Tuolumne River Basin	\$397,993

State	Applicant Name	Project Title	Federal Funds
MT	Clark Fork Coalition	Integrating Water Data to Enhance Ecological Flows in the Upper Clark Fork River Basin	\$112,884
WA	Snoqualmie Indian Tribe	Snoqualmie Tribe Ancestral Forest-Data Driven Headwaters Management	\$400,000
SD	West Dakota Water Development	Watershed Modeling for Deerfield and Pactola Reservoirs to Evaluate Environmental and Water User Benefits of Operations in Future Changing Conditions	\$262,291
CA	Monterey County	Enhancing Predictive Tools and Operational Strategies for the Nacimiento and San Antonio Dams and Reservoirs	\$400,000
TX	Texas A&M Corpus Christi	Development of a Reservoir Storage Forecasting System for Integrated Water Resources Management in the Nueces River Basin	\$399,986
ND	University of North Dakota	Water Supply Forecasting of the Cannonball River Watershed	\$351,345
UT	Washington County Water Conservancy District	Gunlock Groundwater Study for Water Supply Optimization	\$300,188
CA	University of California Davis	Modeling Impact of Stream Inflows on Water Quality under a Changing Climate	\$400,000
NE	Tri-Basin Natural Resources Department	Development of a Net Groundwater Recharge Management Tool for the Tri-Basin Natural Resources District in South Central Nebraska	\$300,000
MT	Sun River Watershed	Quantifying Water Conservation and Water Quality Improvements for Muddy Creek	\$109,805
		Total	\$5,166,156

WS2: WaterSMART grants under Secure Water Act (Planning & Design, Nature-based, Multi-benefit for a Total of \$10.28 million in FY 2023 funds)

Allocation: FY 2023 funds (Planning & Design – \$6.98 million, Nature-based - \$2.06 million and Multi-benefit \$1.24 million), Total \$10.28 million; Location – AK, AZ, CA, CO, ID, KS, MT, NM, TX, UT, and Guam

Through Water SMART, Reclamation provides financial assistance on a competitive basis for Project Planning & Design Grants. Through these Project Design grants, Reclamation provides funding for non-federal entities for the development of designs to 60% and information to support water management for multiple uses. Project Design Grants offers cost sharing with Reclamation for the site-specific final design of medium and large-scale on-the ground water supply construction (including domestic water supply projects for Tribes, insular areas, and disadvantaged communities), water management construction, and restoration projects.

Through Water Strategy Grants, Reclamation provides financial assistance for water supply projects, water marketing activities, water management projects, and/or activities and river restoration activities, including planning projects to restore a natural feature or to use a nature-based feature to reduce water supply and demand imbalances or the risk of drought or flooding; and projects that otherwise mitigate against the impacts of climate change to fish and wildlife habitats. This includes planning projects that will provide benefits to multiple sectors, such as agricultural, municipal, Tribal, or recreation water uses.

Reclamation posted a funding opportunity for Planning & Design Grants to www.grants.gov on August 7, 2023, which closed on October 17, 2023. Of the total 50 proposals received, 32 were deemed eligible and selected from entities located in Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, New Mexico, Texas, Utah, and Guam. The projects were announced on April 23, 2024 (<https://www.usbr.gov/newsroom/news-release/4809>).

Projects Recommended for Funding

Eligible applications submitted in response to the funding opportunity were evaluated against the criteria stated in the funding opportunity by an Application Review Committee. Once all proposals were scored, a list of top-ranked projects was developed and reviewed to identify concerns about individual proposals related to environmental compliance issues, the financial state of the applicant, or any other reason that a project might not be feasible.

State/ Territory	Applicant – Project Sponsor	Project	Type-Grant	Federal Funds (\$ FY23)
CA	Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District	Corydon Well Rehabilitation Design Project	Project Planning & Design	\$400,000
CA	Western Municipal Water District of Riverside County	Maximizing Local Supplies and Improving Water Management: Project Design for Well 6 Project	Project Planning & Design	\$388,613
CA	City of Stockton	Delta Water Treatment Plant Groundwater Recharge Improvement Project Design	Project Planning & Design	\$400,000

State/ Territory	Applicant – Project Sponsor	Project	Type-Grant	Federal Funds (\$ FY23)
NM	Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority	Arroyo del Oso Aquifer Storage and Recovery Project	Project Planning & Design	\$400,000
CA	Orland Artois Water District	Orland Artois Water District's Infrastructure Expansion Design Project	Project Planning & Design	\$300,000
Guam	Guam Waterworks Authority	Santa Rita Springs Rehabilitation	Project Planning & Design	\$400,000
CA	East Valley Water District	Widening Availability Through Engineered Resiliency: Increasing Drought Resiliency Through New Well Design	Project Planning & Design	\$225,000
CA	Lindsay-Strathmore Irrigation District	Planning and Design for the Rancho de Kaweah Groundwater Banking Project	Project Planning & Design	\$400,000
CO	City of Gunnison	City of Gunnison Water Treatment Plant Project	Project Planning & Design	\$400,000
CO	City of Glenwood Springs	Glenwood Springs Veltus Park Groundwater Wells Project	Project Planning & Design	\$200,000
CA	San Geronio Pass Water Agency	Brookside West Recharge Facility Expansion	Project Planning & Design	\$400,000
AK	City of North Pole	North Pole Water Main Upgrade Design	Project Planning & Design	\$164,471
UT	Providence City	Providence City Culinary Well Project 2023	Project Planning & Design	\$400,000
CA	Westland Water District	Westland's Lateral Interconnection Project	Project Planning & Design	\$200,000
CA	San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District	Devil Creek and Sweetwater/Devil Canyon Basins Improvements Project	Project Planning & Design	\$400,000
KS	Southwest Kansas Groundwater Management District No. 3	SmartPLAN: A Plan for Action to Address the Declining High Plains Aquifer in Southwest Kansas	Planning & Design – Water Strategy	\$306,554
CA	Rancho California Water District	Address Murrieta-Temecula Water Quality for Long-Term Supply Reliability Phase I	Planning & Design – Water Strategy	\$400,000
CA	Monterey County Water Resources Agency	Nacimiento and San Antonio Watersheds Weather Modification	Planning & Design – Water Strategy	\$266,965
CO	Town of Paonia	Watershed and Water System Strategy Plans for Resiliency in the Face of Change	Planning & Design – Water Strategy	\$250,000

State/ Territory	Applicant – Project Sponsor	Project	Type-Grant	Federal Funds (\$ FY23)
TX	La Fiera Irrigation District Cameron County No. 3	New Water Strategy Plan for the La Fiera Irrigation District	Planning & Design – Water Strategy	\$175,810
UT	Woods Cross City	South Davis County Water Sustainability and Resilience Planning Project	Planning & Design – Water Strategy	\$204,950
CA	City of Long Beach	Long Beach Utilities Department Water Resources Plan	Planning & Design – Water Strategy	\$300,000
ID	City of Pacatello	Portneuf River Oxbow Restoration Project	Multi-benefit Plan & Design	\$391,875
OR	City of Klamath Falls	Recycled Water Strategy for Groundwater Conservation and Klamath River Nutrient and Temperature Reduction Project	Multi-benefit Plan & Design- Water Strategy	\$345,000
NM	Santo Domingo Pueblo	Santo Domingo Pueblo Natural Resources Department - Strategic Water Management Plan Development	Multi-benefit Plan & Design- Water Strategy	\$299,958
MT	Sun River Watershed	Project Planning and Prioritization for Resilience in the Sun River Watershed	Multi-benefit Plan & Design- Water Strategy	\$200,000
NM	The Nature Conservancy	San Juan River Ecosystem Restoration Project Planning and Design	Nature Based - Plan & Design	\$399,550
CO	Coalition for the Poudre River Watershed	Phase 2- Fish Passage & River Resiliency Design for the Whitney and B.H Eaton Reach of the Cache la Poudre River	Nature Based - Plan & Design	\$287,211
CO	Left Hand Watershed Oversight Group	Haldi Intake Engineered Designs	Nature Based - Plan & Design	\$375,000
ID	Friends of the Teton River	Developing a Teton Creek Community Water Plan: Addressing Water Use, Supply, and Conservation for Municipal, Agricultural, and Ecosystem Benefits in the Upper Teton Watershed	Nature Based - Plan & Design	\$400,000
AZ	Watershed Management Group	Enhancing mountain front and shallow groundwater recharge for climate resiliency	Nature Based - Plan & Design	\$263,911
CA	Moulton Nigel Water District	OASIS Water Resources Center: Runoff Diversion Planning Study	Nature Based - Plan & Design	\$337,500
	Total			\$10,282,368

WS3: WaterSMART grants under Secure Water Act (Drought Resiliency \$15 million in FY 2023/2024)

Allocation: FY 2023 funds, \$5 million and FY 2024 \$10 million; Location – CA

Through Water SMART, Reclamation provides financial assistance on a competitive basis for Drought Resiliency Grants. Through these grants, Reclamation provides cost-shared funding for non-federal entities to implement projects that are supported by an existing drought contingency plan for program funding. The eligible projects include the following goals: increase reliability of water supplies, improve water management or provide benefits for fish and wildlife and the environment.

Applicants include states, tribes, irrigation and water districts, and other organizations with water or power delivery authority in the Western US and territories. Reclamation posted a funding opportunity for Drought Resiliency Grants to www.grants.gov on August 7, 2023, which closed on October 17, 2023. Of the total of 121 proposals received, 3 were deemed eligible for BIL funding and selected from entities all three are located in California. Funding was also provided through the IRA for 13 projects and annual appropriations.

Projects Recommended for Funding

Eligible applications submitted in response to the funding opportunity were evaluated against the criteria stated in the funding opportunity by an Application Review Committee. Once all proposals were scored, a list of top-ranked projects was developed and reviewed to identify concerns about individual proposals related to environmental compliance issues, the financial state of the applicant, or any other reason that a project might not be feasible.

Below is a table of 3 projects allocating \$15 million of funds originally provided at the program level in the FY23 and FY24 BIL Spend Plans, a component program under the WaterSMART grants umbrella. BIL funding available under the FY 2023 BIL Spend Plan. The announcement of the Drought Resiliency grant recipients, (<https://www.usbr.gov/newsroom/news-release/4821>, dated May 6, 2024), describes projects that are funded under BIL, IRA and regular appropriations.

Applicant Name	Project Name	Federal Funds
Fresno Irrigation District	Hornor and Laub Recharge Basins	\$5,000,000
City of San Buenaventura	State Water Interconnection Project	\$5,000,000
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California	Foothill Pump Station Intertie to Improve Regional Drought Resilience and Improve Flexibility	\$5,000,000
All in CA	Total	\$15,000,000

WS4: Water SMART Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Program

Allocation: \$9.2 million for 2 projects use FY 2024 Spend Plan Funding

Through WaterSMART, the Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration program was authorized by Public Law 116-260. The program supports voluntary, collaborative restoration projects by providing funding to eligible applicants for the design, study and construction of fish passage improvements and aquatic habitat

restoration. WaterSMART grants are cost shared with the states, Tribes, and other entities, and they are expected to have widespread regional benefits that result in the improvement of the health of fisheries, wildlife, and aquatic habitat.

Upper Columbia River United Tribes (WA and ID): This project was announced on Sep. 21, 2023. It used \$1 million in FY23 funds and \$5 million in FY24 funds, and it supports Tribally led efforts to restore healthy and abundant salmon populations in the Upper Columbia River Basin. The agreement between the United States, the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, the Coeur d'Alene Tribe, and the Spokane Tribe of Indians will fund efforts to study the feasibility of reintroducing salmon in blocked habitats in the Upper Basin. If confirmed, a phased approach to additional construction of facilities and habitat improvements will be pursued. See link for more information.

<https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/biden-harris-administration-tribes-reach-historic-agreement-supporting-efforts-restore>.

Lower Snake River, Water Supply Replacement Study: \$4.2 million to work with the State of Washington. This project was chosen and approved in February/March of 2024.

II: Drought Contingency Plan Upper Colorado River projects (\$29.75 million in FY 2024)

Allocation: FY 2024 funds, Upper Colorado; Location –UT, CO, WY, AZ, NM

Reclamation announced \$29.75 million for data-gathering and analyses needed in the Upper Basin (<https://www.usbr.gov/newsroom/news-release/4799>, dated April 16, 2024). The funding will help re-activate and install up to 60 stream gages in critical reaches of the basin and expand eddy-covariance tower/weather station networks for improved accuracy and greater confidence in consumptive water use estimates. In addition, the funding will be used to for new monitoring technology to track water diversion, soil moisture, and snowpack in the Upper Basin, improving forecasting and water-balance analyses.

III: Small Surface Water Storage and Groundwater Storage Projects (\$35 million – FY 2024)

Allocation: \$35 million in FY 2024 funds (with \$10 million from Reserve); Location – CA, UT

Projects submitted for consideration under the new Small Surface Water Storage and Groundwater Storage program were evaluated and selected through a competitive process based upon project plans, significant accomplishment potential, and criteria provided by the funding opportunity. By providing more groundwater management opportunities, the \$35 million in FY 2024 BIL funding (<https://www.usbr.gov/newsroom/news-release/4786>, dated March 27, 2024) will result in additional water supply reliability for future generations. Small storage projects are defined by having water storage capacity of not less than 200 acre-feet and not more than 30,000 acre-feet and increasing surface or groundwater storage; or conveying water, directly or indirectly, to or from surface water or groundwater storage. Awards are limited to the lesser of \$30 million or 25% of eligible project costs.

Collectively, construction activities will include pipeline connections, construction of water treatment plants and intakes, pump systems, reservoir construction, and more. The table below provides award details for the FY 2023 BIL funding allocations.

State	Applicant Name-Sponsor	Project	Storage Capacity	Federal Funds
CA	Imperial Irrigation District	Upstream Operational Reservoir Storage	2100 acre-feet	\$7,020,000
CA	Groundwater Banking-Joint Powers Authority	Kern Fan Groundwater Storage Project (Phase 1)	2482 acre-feet	\$3,910,000
CA	Rancho California Water District	Pauba Valley Groundwater Banking Project	5000 acre-feet	\$9,120,000
UT	Washington Co. Water Conservancy District	Ash Creek Project	1759 acre-feet	\$6,710,000
CA	San Benito Water District	Accelerated Drought Response Project	1035 acre-feet	\$6,690,000
CA	Del Puerto Water District	Orestimba Creek Recharge & Recovery	1485 acre-feet	\$1,280,000
			Total	\$35,000,000

IV: Safety of Dams Projects (\$5.5 million in FY 2024)

Allocation: \$5.5 million; Location – MT, CA

Reclamation allocated a total of \$5.5 million of FY 2024 BIL Safety of Dams; \$2.1 million of the total was allocated to Willow Creek Dam in Montana for Risk Reduction Measures, and a contract modification for ongoing work at B.F. Sisk Dam in California was allocated a total of \$3.415 million.

(<https://www.usbr.gov/newsroom/news-release/4784>, dated March 22, 2024).

V: Endangered Species recovery and conservation, Colorado River Basin (\$20 million in FY24 funds and \$1 million in FY23 funds)

Allocation: \$21 million; Location – AZ, CA, NM, CO, UT

Funds are provided for work benefitting endangered species in the Colorado River Basin. For the Lower Colorado Basin, funds are provided for the Multi-species Conservation Program for Growout Ponds. The Upper Colorado have various programs for Recovery including the razorback sucker (\$1 M) and northern pike (\$1.2 M), as well as hatchery improvements (Ouray NFM for \$600K and Wahweap State Hatchery for \$2 M). In addition, the Upper Basin has \$5.2 million for the San Juan River Basin Recovery Implementation program for fish passage (<https://www.usbr.gov/newsroom/news-release/4818>, dated May 3, 2024).