

FY 2017 WaterSMART Drought Response Program Drought Contingency Planning Grants

California

Bella Vista Water District, Drought Contingency Plan

Reclamation Funding: \$86,580

Total Project Cost: \$173,160

The Bella Vista Water District, in Shasta County, California, will work with local stakeholders to create a drought contingency plan for their water users. Water uses include agricultural, municipal, commercial and public uses. Over half the District's customers live within the city limits of Redding, California. The District depends on a contract with Reclamation from the Trinity Division of the Central Valley Project (CVP) for 80% of their water. This area faced severe drought from 2013 to 2016, during which the District's CVP allocations have at times been reduced to as low as 0% for agriculture and 25% for urban uses. The proposed drought contingency plan will help water managers monitor drought conditions identify possible mitigation measures, and formalize their planned actions during a drought.

City of Rialto, CA, Drought Contingency Plan

Reclamation Funding: \$200,000

Total Project Cost: \$404,474

The City of Rialto is located in San Bernardino County, in Southern California. Rialto is home to approximately 102,000 residents. Water is supplied by the City through Rialto Water Services (City), West Valley Water District, and the Fontana Water Company. Sources include groundwater and surface water as well as recycled wastewater. Surface water is imported to the City via the Baseline Feeder from the San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District. Residential use accounts for 69% of the total water use and 90% of the service area. The City plans to consider groundwater contaminants from a local Superfund site in their vulnerability assessment which will help guide the development of mitigation actions to decrease the likelihood of contaminants affecting their supply. This drought contingency plan, through the development of mitigation and response actions, will enable the City to provide water for public health and safety, and minimize impacts on economic activity and environmental resources, while protecting the interest of its citizens.

Shafter-Wasco Irrigation District, Drought Contingency Plan for the Poso Creek IRWM Plan Region

Reclamation Funding: \$200,000

Total Project Cost: \$456,500

The Poso Creek Integrated Regional Water Management Group (RWMG), represented by the Shafter-Wasco Irrigation District, will develop a drought contingency plan covering a 500,000 acre area in the southern San Joaquin Valley in California. The RWMG includes seven agricultural water districts, several of which receive water from Reclamation's Central Valley Project, and the planning area also includes several economically disadvantaged communities and a federal wildlife refuge. The RWMG plans to work with agricultural and municipal interests, non-profit entities, and Federal and state agencies to develop a comprehensive drought plan that includes a drought monitoring dashboard to facilitate a quick response to drought indicators. In recent years, this area has experienced severe drought which has caused water quality issues that raise public health concerns. Some communities in the planning area have no other water supplies available to them without incurring significant additional costs.

Sonoma County Water Agency, North Bay Drought Contingency Plan

Reclamation Funding: \$200,000

Total Project Cost: \$501,196

The Sonoma County Water Agency will serve as the lead agency and fiscal agent for the North Bay Drought Contingency Plan, and will convene a drought planning Task Force and advisory committee in collaboration with the North Bay Water Reuse Authority, which consists of a 3-county, 10 agency partnerships. The North Bay area contains some of California's most valuable agriculture, environmental resources and many diverse communities, all of which have been impacted by the recent 5-year drought. Less reliable surface water supplies impact the ability to import water, further limiting overall water availability in the region. In addition, reliance on groundwater supplies has increased at a time when groundwater levels are declining. This drought contingency plan will bring together a diverse group of stakeholders to address and mitigate the region's sensitivity to the impact of future droughts.

Southern California Edison Company, Catalina Water System Drought Contingency Plan

Reclamation Funding: \$100,000

Total Project Cost: \$200,000

Southern California Edison Company, in cooperation with Santa Catalina Island stakeholders, will develop a Drought Contingency Plan for Santa Catalina Island. Santa Catalina Island is situated 22 miles off the coast of Southern California, in Los Angeles County, California. The island has an area of 75 square miles. Nine of the past ten years have been classified as "dry" or "very dry" triggering mandatory 40% - 50% reductions. In the event of an interruption to water supplies, there are no feasible alternative sources of water other than enhancements to existing systems to achieve greater production capabilities through desalination or deeper groundwater wells. This drought contingency plan will enhance water management on the island by bringing together key island stakeholders to identify actions that will mitigate the impact of future droughts.

Montana

Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Building Regional Drought Resilience in the Greater Upper Clark Fork Basin

Reclamation Funding: \$150,000

Total Project Cost: \$300,000

The State of Montana, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation will partner with 15 organizations in 8 sub-basins of the Greater Upper Clark Fork region to develop a regional Drought Contingency Plan (DCP). Risks from drought conditions include impacts to water quantity and quality for tribal, agricultural, residential, environmental uses, including endangered species, and recreational uses. The basin is almost fully appropriated and new appropriations have been limited by the legislature in some areas. Reclamation's Missoula Valley Project and the Lake Como Reservoir and Dam, operated by Reclamation, are located within the planning area. To mitigate drought risks, the partners will use collaborative planning and National Drought Mitigation Center's approach to develop a DCP that improves the region's resilience to future droughts.