

## FY 2017 WaterSMART Drought Response Program Drought Resiliency Project Grants

### California

#### City of Torrance, CA, Torrance Van Ness Well Field

**Reclamation Funding: \$750,000**

**Total Project Cost: \$16,703,900**

The City of Torrance, located in Los Angeles County, California, will install three new groundwater wells and a four-mile municipal water main to pump and convey high quality groundwater from the Torrance Van Ness well field to an existing treatment and storage reservoir, thereby increasing local supply and reducing reliance on imported water. This project will expand the groundwater production capacity by 4,500 acre feet per year and represents approximately 19% of the City's total water supply. This project will allow the City to use more of its adjudicated supply of groundwater, and reduce its dependence on imported supplies in dry years, which is identified as a priority in the City's drought contingency plan. In wet years, the City will be able to "bank" a portion of its groundwater supplies to support conjunctive use during drought.

#### Alameda County Water District, Rubber Dam #3 Fish Ladder

**Reclamation Funding: \$750,000**

**Total Project Cost: \$7,121,600**

The Alameda County Water District of California will construct a fish ladder on the Alameda Creek, allowing the District to avoid lowering the dam during fish migration periods, thereby optimizing their ability to capture stormwater for aquifer recharge. The project is expected to provide an additional 1,000-2,000 acre-feet of water annually available for recharge, while providing sufficient bypass flows for migrating rainbow trout. The project will also benefit the sustainable management of the Niles Cone groundwater basin by reducing seawater intrusion to the aquifer, and will help the District to cope with periods of drought while reducing reliance on imported supplies. The project is consistent with multiple local and regional water management plans.

#### Blue Lake Rancheria Tribe, Development of a Smart Water Grid on Tribal Lands

**Reclamation Funding: \$300,000**

**Total Project Cost: \$600,000**

The Blue Lake Rancheria, a federally recognized Indian Tribe located in Humboldt County, California, near the town of Blue Lake, will develop a "smart water grid" and install water management devices to their existing water infrastructure. The grid will include SCADA and other technological improvements to existing infrastructure that will enhance water management flexibility for existing and newly developed supplies. The project also includes the installation of water treatment improvements and construction of water storage facilities. These improvements will help support water sustainability in the system and will assist the Tribe to better manage their water supplies. The project supports a goal of the Tribe's Drought Response Plan.

**Round Valley Indian Tribes, Mill Creek Streamflow & Riparian Corridor Restoration Project**  
**Reclamation Funding: \$689,101** **Total Project Cost: \$1,444,461**

The Round Valley Indian Tribes located in Mendocino County, California will establish a functional riparian corridor along the banks of Mill Creek. The project will restore riparian vegetation to its original state prior to the introduction of large-scale irrigation and natural resources development. The functional riparian corridor will ultimately reduce water temperatures, evaporation, and stabilize water table levels. The project will also provide ecological benefit for a variety of fish and wildlife species, including Chinook Salmon, Coho Salmon, and Steelhead, all federally-listed threatened or endangered species. The project supports a goal of the Round Valley Basin and Tribal Drought Management Plan.

**San Gabriel River Water Committee, San Gabriel Inlet Structure Project**  
**Reclamation Funding: \$300,000** **Total Project Cost: \$689,093**

The San Gabriel River Water Committee, located in southern California, will construct a new river gate inlet structure near the existing Azusa-Duarte Tunnel Inlet on the San Gabriel River. The original inlet gate was constructed in the 1880's and is inefficient and unsafe to operate. The new river gate inlet structure will replace the existing structure with a motorized weir gate. The project also includes the installation of SCADA technology and a new ditch gate structure to help manage water deliveries in real-time. Improved monitoring and real-time adjustments will result in better management of the Committee's water supplies. The project is consistent with multiple local water management plans.

**Merced Irrigation District, Merced River Instream & Off-Channel Drought Habitat Project**  
**Reclamation Funding: \$744,489** **Total Project Cost: \$2,707,763**

The Merced Irrigation District in California's Central Valley will rehabilitate an estimated 0.5 acres of salmonid spawning habitat and 6 acres of riparian and upland habitat. This includes rehabilitation and enhancement of channel, floodplain and riparian ecosystem processes and critical habitats for juvenile and adult salmonids and reduction of invasives that provide habitat for predators of native fish. The project will help reestablish floodplain and main channel connectivity, reduce mined channel features that attract non-native predators, improve channel temperatures, and increase native riparian vegetation. In doing so, the District will mitigate and minimize potential drought-related impacts and provide a sustainable environment for native anadromous fish that are most vulnerable to periods of deficient water supplies.

**Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians, West Fork Russian River Bank Stabilization and Habitat Restoration**

**Reclamation Funding: \$300,000** **Total Project Cost: \$600,000**

The Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians in northern California will improve the conditions of the West Fork of the Russian River, which is located within Reservation boundaries. The project will stabilize the most critically drought impacted portions of the embankment, manage and enhance native vegetation, and install stream flow deflectors to enhance pools and riffles. The project will significantly reduce siltation of the river, which is an important source for the Tribe and the surrounding area. The quality of the riparian corridor has been greatly stressed by the most recent drought and this project will improve the riparian environment, making it more resilient for future droughts. In addition, this project will improve the habitat for Chinook Salmon and Steelhead, both federally-listed threatened species. The project addresses a need identified in the Tribe's Pre-disaster Hazard Mitigation Plan.

## **Colorado**

### **Central Colorado Water Conservancy District, Northeast Colorado Walker Recharge Project - Phase I**

**Reclamation Funding: \$750,000**

**Total Project Cost: \$7,000,000**

The Central Colorado Water Conservancy District, located in northeastern Colorado, will construct a recharge facility for flows diverted from the South Platte River. The project will allow the District to conjunctively manage up to an additional 15,000 acre feet of water annually, which will increase the reliability of irrigation water supplied to the District's agricultural users. It will also allow the District to store water in wet years to use during dry years, providing resiliency to the drought conditions frequently encountered in northeastern Colorado. The project supports a goal from the State of Colorado's Drought Mitigation and Response Plan.

## **Nevada**

### **Big Bend Water District, Riverbank Filtration to Improve Water Quality**

**Reclamation Funding: \$300,000**

**Total Project Cost: \$1,308,317**

The Big Bend Water District in southern Nevada will install a well adjacent to the Colorado River which will utilize riverbank filtration as a pretreatment technique before water enters the drinking water treatment facility. In riverbank filtration, aquifer sediments act as a natural filter removing contaminants such as turbidity, pathogens, organic matter, algae, algal toxins, and other trace organic contaminants. The Colorado River is the source of all the District's drinking water and prolonged drought in the basin has negatively affected the District's water quality. This project will help ensure water quality remains safe for the District's customers during drought periods. The project supports a need identified in Southern Nevada Water Authority's Water Resource Plan to construct and/or expand facilities and infrastructure to meet the community's current and long-term water resource needs.

## **Oklahoma**

### **City of Bartlesville, OK, Caney River Water Augmentation and Intake Improvements**

**Reclamation Funding: \$750,000**

**Total Project Cost: \$7,152,097**

The City of Bartlesville, in northeastern Oklahoma, will construct an effluent pump station and conveyance pipeline, improve the City's Caney River Pump Station by adding variable frequency drives to the existing pumps, and construct a pretreatment facility to reduce the impact of drought and seasonal flow variations on Caney River water quality. The project will provide the City a more reliable water supply during drought periods to better serve its 36,600 customers. The proposed project will augment the Caney River flows and provide up to 4,481 acre-feet of additional water supply annually for the City.

### **Mountain Park Master Conservancy District, Groundwater Supply Augmentation Project**

**Reclamation Funding: \$300,000**

**Total Project Cost: \$618,500**

Mountain Park Master Conservancy District in southwest Oklahoma seeks to establish an emergency drought supply through the development of a series of wells immediately downstream from Reclamation's Tom Steed Reservoir. These wells will provide supplemental water supply to Altus and Snyder, Oklahoma. During the recent record drought, the District struggled to meet demand due to declining lake levels. These proposed wells will assist in meeting water demands in future droughts by supplying a steady and reliable source of water. The project was identified as part of the Southwest Oklahoma Water Action Plan's Groundwater Supply Augmentation strategy.