2020 Drought Resiliency Grants

California

City of Chino, Well 14 On-site Wellhead Treatment
Reclamation Funding: $750,000  Total Project Cost: $12,104,000

The City of Chino, in southern California, will construct an on-site wellhead treatment facility to bring a well back into service that had been retired due to groundwater contaminants. The project will provide 3,705 acre-feet per year of treated water to the local potable supply. Almost half of the City’s supply is provided by groundwater and this project would support the City in increasing the reliability of its local supplies. The City has experienced extreme drought conditions in the last five years and was described as abnormally dry in fall 2019. The project is supported by the City’s 2015 Urban Water Management Plan Update and included in the City’s Water Quality Feasibility Study as a high priority project.

City of Clovis, Big Dry Creek Watershed Monitoring Project
Reclamation Funding: $126,652  Total Project Cost: $253,304

The City of Clovis, California, in cooperation with Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District, will construct six weather monitoring stations in the Big Dry Creek watershed northeast of the City of Clovis. This watershed is subject to atmospheric-river weather events but experiences abnormally dry or drought conditions 65% of the time. The data from the project, which will be used to develop a digital watershed model, will support District and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) decision-making on operational modifications needed at Big Dry Creek Reservoir, a USACE reservoir, to increase the long-term water supply and improve overall regional storage and conveyance capabilities. The project supports a goal in the Kings Basin Integrated Regional Water Management Plan.

City of Santa Ana, New Washington Well Construction
Reclamation Funding: $750,000  Total Project Cost: $6,590,117

The City of Santa Ana, in southern California, will construct a new groundwater well that will add 4,000 acre-feet per year in local supplies to the City’s drinking water supply. The City relies heavily on imported surface water originating in basins that have recently experienced drought. This project allows the City to supplement its surface water supplies with groundwater supplies during times of drought. The project is supported by the City’s Drought Action Plan and Metropolitan Water District of Southern California’s Integrated Water Resources Plan.
Inland Empire Utilities Agency, Local Water Supply Restoration Granular Activated Carbon Treatment Facility
Reclamation Funding: $750,000                    Total Project Cost: $2,731,687
The Inland Empire Utilities Agency and the Chino Basin Desalter Authority, in southern California, will utilize a granular activated carbon treatment facility to remove groundwater contaminants near the Chino Airport. The underlying groundwater at the Chino Airport has been contaminated, including seven volatile organic compounds, since 1989. The project will provide 1,452 acre-feet per year of treated water to the local potable water supply in an area that has experienced severe drought conditions since 2014. The project is supported by multiple planning documents in the Chino Basin.

Long Beach Water Department, North Long Beach Wells 13 and 14
Reclamation Funding: $750,000                    Total Project Cost: $8,135,000
The Long Beach Water Department in Los Angeles County, California, will construct two new production wells for the Central Groundwater Basin which will replace two low-producing wells. The new wells will add 6,947 acre-feet per year of local, high-quality water to the City’s drinking water supply. The project will include well construction and necessary pipeline improvements. Long Beach has experienced a variety of drought impacts, most recently in 2014, 2015, and 2017, such as potential shortages of drinking water supplies, increased risk of wildfires, and environmental concerns. Construction of the new groundwater production wells will increase the reliability of Long Beach’s water supply and maintain its pumping and treatment capacity. The project is supported by the Long Beach Water Department’s Urban Water Management Plan.

North Kern Water Storage District, 2020 Return Capacity Improvements for Regional Drought Resiliency
Reclamation Funding: $750,000                    Total Project Cost: $1,708,531
The North Kern Water Storage District, in California’s southern San Joaquin Valley, supplies surface water from the Kern River and groundwater to agricultural customers. The District will drill and equip two wells and connect two other wells to the District’s existing groundwater recovery network in Kern County to allow the recovery and delivery of banked surface water via Reclamation’s Friant-Kern Canal. In addition to supplying members of the District, the District has agreements with the Poso Creek Integrated Regional Water Management Group (IRWM), which includes Central Valley Project (CVP) contractors, to bank and recharge surplus CVP surface water during wet years and deliver it to the Poso Creek IRWM partners during critically dry years. The project area has experienced some intensity of drought for the past decade and this project will add capacity to deliver 4,034 acre-feet per year of banked supplies to CVP contractors.

Rancho California Water District, Upper Valle De Los Caballos Optimization Project Phase IV: Additional Recovery/Extraction Well
Reclamation Funding: $750,000                    Total Project Cost: $3,716,485
The Rancho California Water District in southern California will make enhancements to its Upper Valle De Los Caballos groundwater recharge and recovery project. For Phase IV, the District will install an additional 1,200 acre-feet per year recovery/extraction well. This additional water will provide the District with increased operational flexibility to utilize local groundwater when surface water is in short supply. The region just came out of a multi-year extreme drought and is still
experiencing dryer than normal conditions. The project is supported by the Upper Santa Margarita Watershed’s Integrated Regional Water Management Plan.

**Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District, Groundwater Banking and Conveyance Improvement Project**

**Reclamation Funding:** $750,000  
**Total Project Cost:** $3,096,933

Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District, located in southern San Joaquin Valley, will improve its ability to intercept high-flow surface runoff for storage through infiltration. The project will assist the District to better manage water supplies in wet years for use later in times of shortage. The project will include the construction of 115 acres of recharge ponds, the modernization of the Houghton Weir to provide increased capacity to the recharge ponds, and SCADA improvements to provide flow measurements at remote access locations. The project is expected to provide an average of 5,417 acre-feet per year of recharge. The area has experienced severe drought in recent years. In 2014, the District declared a drought emergency and initiated drought relief projects, including expediting the construction of 11 groundwater recovery wells and conveyance facilities to provide for emergency drought water needs.

**Stanislaus Regional Water Authority, Regional Surface Water Supply Project: Distribution to Turlock**

**Reclamation Funding:** $750,000  
**Total Project Cost:** $29,805,550

The Stanislaus Regional Water Authority, a joint powers authority comprised of the City of Turlock and the City of Ceres, in cooperation with Turlock Irrigation District, will complete the next phase of the Regional Surface Water Supply Project. The project, located in the San Joaquin Valley, includes construction of a transmission main line to the City of Turlock. Currently, the City of Turlock receives all its water from groundwater wells. Once this project has been completed, the City of Turlock will be able to meet a portion of its existing demands with surface water, diversifying its water supply and providing relief to an over-extracted groundwater basin. The project is specifically identified in the 2015 Turlock Urban Water Management Plan and in the East Stanislaus Integrated Regional Water Management Plan as a high priority project. The area has recently gone through several drought periods with 2015 having the lowest surface water flows in historical record for the watershed.

**New Mexico**

**Village of Tijeras, Well No. 3 Drilling, Testing, and Construction**

**Reclamation Funding:** $748,980  
**Total Project Cost:** $1,497,960

The Village of Tijeras in central New Mexico will construct a well to provide 50% of the Village’s drinking water supply. This project will provide resiliency during drought by replacing an existing well that cannot produce its full amount and is one of the Village’s two wells used for its entire drinking water supply. In 2011, a drought combined with wildfire and disruptions in production from one of the wells caused the aquifer level at the remaining well to drop by 75 feet. The Village recently completed a Drought Contingency Plan that identified this project as the top mitigation strategy.
Utah

Navajo Nation, Oljato Drought Resiliency Well  
Reclamation Funding: $300,000  
Total Project Cost: $691,783

The Navajo Nation’s Oljato Chapter will drill and equip a 450-foot drinking water well capable of producing 120 acre-feet per year. The well, which is located near the Utah-Arizona border, will increase the region’s available drinking water by more than 80%. Currently, during dry periods wells go dry and water must be hauled from far distances. This well is a high-priority mitigation project identified by the Nation to stabilize the public water system in Oljato.

Town of Genola, Genola Well and Tank Drought Resiliency Project  
Reclamation Funding: $300,000  
Total Project Cost: $2,550,300

The Town of Genola, located in central Utah, will install a new well and storage tank to increase water supply resiliency. Currently, the town has one well that is supplemented with water from a neighboring town and the storage tank is insufficient to meet emergency needs and provide drought resiliency. The area has experienced recent and severe drought and expects drought to continue or worsen into the future. This project will provide additional storage and operational flexibility to pump water from an additional well in the event of emergencies or maintenance requirements. The project is identified as a priority in the Town’s 2017 Culinary Water System Master Plan.