



2022 Drought Resiliency Projects – Phase 1 Selections

California

Bella Vista Water District, Drought Mitigation, Water Management and Storage Improvements

Reclamation Funding: \$2,000,000

Total Project Cost: \$5,650,000

The Bella Vista Water District (District) in Shasta County, California, will construct a new 3-million-gallon water tank and add supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) functionality to three existing wells. The project will facilitate conjunctive use and will improve operational management of groundwater and surface water supplies providing an additional average annual water supply of 2,618 acre-feet. The project will also provide emergency water supplies, facilitate water transfers, and improve water supply reliability and drought mitigation. The proposed water tank was one of the highest ranked drought mitigation actions in the 2021 Drought Contingency Plan developed by the District with assistance from a WaterSMART Drought Contingency Planning grant.

Casitas Municipal Water District, Ventura-Santa Barbara Counties Intertie Project

Reclamation Funding: \$2,000,000

Total Project Cost: \$15,444,723

Casitas Municipal Water District (District), located in Southern California, will construct an intertie, connecting two independent water systems in neighboring counties that will allow for bi-directional conveyance between the District and Carpinteria Valley Water District. The project will enable the District to access its State Water Project (SWP) supply, making an additional 2,000 acre-feet per year available to help mitigate drought vulnerabilities and provide drinking water during drought periods or other emergencies. This project is supported by the Santa Barbara County Integrated Regional Water Management Plan, the Casitas Water Efficiency Allocation Plan, and the Casitas 2020 Urban Water Management Plan.

City of Fresno, City of Fresno Recycled Water Retrofit Project

Reclamation Funding: \$293,450

Total Project Cost: \$613,811

The City of Fresno (City), located in the Central San Joaquin Valley of California, will install purple pipes and retrofit irrigation systems at City Hall, Fink-White Park, and Fulton Street to connect

these three urban green spaces to the existing recycled water transmission lines, converting these areas from potable water to reclaimed water for irrigation. This will offset the City's potable water use by 48 acre-feet per year. The City aims to use recycled water in place of potable water to assist in protecting the City's vulnerable water supplies. This project supports the goals for recycled water use outlined in multiple water resource management plans for the City. The City is subject to frequent moderate to extreme drought periods, and this project will assist the City in preparing for climate change and protecting the economic foundations of the City.

Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District, Turnipseed Water Bank Phase VI

Reclamation Funding: \$2,000,000

Total Project Cost: \$4,094,066

The Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District (District), located in Delano, California, will expand its Turnipseed Water Bank by constructing an additional 148-acre recharge facility and three groundwater monitoring wells. This project will increase the District's recharge capacity by an annual average of 4,315 acre-feet. The recharged water can subsequently be used in drought years, offsetting surface water supply shortages for either the District or its water banking partners. Implementation of this project provides drought resiliency for a region that is currently experiencing exceptional drought. This project is listed as a mitigation action in the Poso Creek Integrated Regional Water Management Group's Drought Contingency Plan (DCP). The DCP is being developed with assistance from a WaterSMART Drought Contingency Planning grant.

North Kern Water Storage District, 2022 Return Capacity Improvements Project

Reclamation Funding: \$500,000

Total Project Cost: \$1,035,711

North Kern Water Storage District (NKWSD), located in Bakersfield, California, currently operates a groundwater banking program whereby the District actively participates in groundwater recharge and storage through the use of spreading ponds and in-lieu recharge activities. To better manage and improve access to previously stored water, the District will construct the Return Capacity Improvements Project consisting of three wells and associated pipelines to integrate the wells into the existing conveyance network. The project will increase water supply reliability and add drought resiliency to the region. NKWSD estimates on average that this project will recover 1,845 acre-feet of previously banked water per year. Of this amount, 615 acre-feet will be reserved for in-district use and 1,230 acre-feet will be allocated to neighboring districts. This project is supported by the Poso Creek Integrated Regional Water Management Group's Drought Contingency Plan (DCP). The DCP is being developed with assistance from a WaterSMART Drought Contingency Planning grant.

Rancho California Water District, Upper Valle De Los Caballos Optimization Project: Well #173

Reclamation Funding: \$2,000,000

Total Project Cost: \$5,630,548

The Rancho California Water District (District), located in Temecula, California, operates the Upper Valle De Los Caballos Recharge Facility that consists 115 acres and five recharge ponds. The recharge facility allows the District to recharge surplus surface water supplies for later beneficial use. The District will construct well #173, immediately down-gradient from existing

recharge facilities, enabling the District to recover up to 1,200 acre-feet of water a year of previously stored water. The extraction and distribution of the previously stored water will increase the overall sustainability of the District's local supplies, decrease the District's dependence on drought-stricken imported supplies, and reduce the threat of water shortage impacts. Located in southern California, the District is in an area of moderate drought and often experiences imported surface water supply shortages. This project supports the Upper Santa Margarita Watershed's Integrated Regional Water Management Plan goals of diversifying water supplies and maximizing groundwater potential for improved drought resiliency.

San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District, Santa Ana River Enhanced Recharge (SARER), Phase 1B

Reclamation Funding: \$2,000,000

Total Project Cost: \$33,115,646

San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District, located in San Bernardino County, California, will construct 337.4 acres of new recharge basins and improve existing infrastructure to allow for stormwater recharge of approximately 10,807 acre-feet per year on average. The stormwater captured by this project and recharged into the San Bernardino Basin will benefit approximately 400,000 people that rely on local groundwater sources when surface water allocations are reduced. The SARER Phase 1B Project is the result of regional collaboration and has been developed in concert with state agencies such as Department of Water Resources and Department of Fish and Wildlife. The project is supported in the 2021 Regional Water Management Plan, and its implementation is critical in preparing the region for drought and climate change. The project area is experiencing a prolonged drought, ranging from abnormally dry to severe drought conditions.

South Coast Water District, Recycled Water Distribution Improvements Phase II Project

Reclamation Funding: \$2,000,000

Total Project Cost: \$4,331,353

The South Coast Water District (District), located in Orange County, California, will expand the district's recycled water system by installing 5,700 feet of new pipelines and replacing a pressure reducing valve, resolving low-pressure issues that limit the amount of water that can be delivered. This will allow the district to expand the recycled water system to deliver water to the City of Dana Point. The project is expected to provide an additional 347 acre-feet of recycled water, alleviating demands on potable water supplies. Eighty percent of the District's water supply is imported surface water that is subject to frequent reductions related to drought and other water delivery challenges. The project is supported by the District's 2020 Urban Water Management Plan and the South Orange County 2018 Integrated Regional Water Management Plan.

Southern San Joaquin Municipal Utility District, Regan Groundwater Recharge Facility for Regional Drought Resiliency

Reclamation Funding: \$2,000,000

Total Project Cost: \$4,409,725

The Southern San Joaquin Municipal Utility District (SSJMUD), located in Kern County, California, will improve existing conveyance facilities and construct 75 acres of recharge ponds to increase

recharge capacity by an average of 6,120 acre-feet per year. The project will also expand the recovery of recharged water by connecting the existing well at the project site to the District's conveyance system. The project will improve operational flexibility by capturing excess surface supplies in wet years and providing a conveyance mechanism for subsequent return in dry years. Located in the San Joaquin Valley, SSJMUD is currently experiencing exceptional drought conditions and significant surface water supply reductions. This project is supported by the Poso Creek Integrated Regional Water Management Group's Drought Contingency Plan (DCP). The DCP is being developed with assistance from a WaterSMART Drought Contingency Planning grant.

Colorado

City of Grand Junction, Kannah Creek and Purdy Mesa Flow Lines Intertie Project **Reclamation Funding: \$300,000** **Total Project Cost: \$624,415**

The City of Grand Junction, located in western Colorado, will increase its delivery system capacity by installing new pipelines and constructing a new intertie between its two water supply lines, the Purdy Mesa Flow Line and the Kannah Creek Flow Line, providing increased operational flexibility at the Grand Junction Water Treatment Plant. The conveyance capacity of the current system is 5 million gallons per day (MGD); the intertie will increase capacity to 9.7 MGD when conveying through the Kannah Creek Flow Line. The project will enable delivery of an additional 6,945 acre-feet per year from the Juniata Reservoir through the Kannah Creek Flow Line to meet municipal water demands during times of drought. Mesa County recently experienced extreme drought conditions, and this project is supported by the Gunnison Basin Implementation Plan.

New Mexico

City of Gallup, Gallup Ground Water Well, Professional Services, Design & Construction

Reclamation Funding: \$2,000,000 **Total Project Cost: \$4,000,000**

The City of Gallup (City), located in McKinley County, New Mexico, will construct a new production well for the Navajo Gallup Water Supply Project. The new well will provide 217 acre-feet per year of drinking water for the City and the surrounding areas that it serves, increasing the water supply reliability for the region. The City has no access to surface water supplies, and failing infrastructure and declining water quality pose a significant threat to public health and safety. A significant number of residents in the City's service area live below the federal poverty level and rely heavily on water hauling. The City has experienced a variety of drought impacts including shortages in drinking water supplies, increased risks of wildfires, and other environmental concerns—most recently in 2018 through 2021. The development of new wells to ensure safe drinking water supplies is the number one priority in the Gallup/Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project Water Commons Drought Contingency Plan.

Oregon

Deschutes River Conservancy, Establishment of the Central Oregon Water Bank to Increase Drought Resiliency in the Deschutes River Basin

Reclamation Funding: \$1,370,473

Total Project Cost: \$2,740,973

The Deschutes River Conservancy, located in Bend, Oregon, in conjunction with the Deschutes Basin Board of Control (DBBC), will establish and administer a water bank for the Deschutes Basin of Central Oregon. The water bank will work with the DBBC, its member irrigation districts, municipalities, and other stakeholders to deploy a suite of time and resource-efficient mechanisms to move water between users to meet the resource needs particular to drought. This includes the establishment of modeling efforts for current conditions and forecasting and enhanced real-time data collection for monitoring reservoirs and river flows through the installation of Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition systems at various locations throughout the basin. Modeling results with available GIS data for land and water uses, and real-time flow conditions will be incorporated into a web-based decision support platform that will provide water managers with the most accurate water resources data in the Deschutes Basin. The water bank will enable flexible, voluntary, market-based reallocation of water, particularly during drought conditions.

Utah

Bear River Water Conservancy District, Culinary Water Production Wells and Tank Project

Reclamation Funding: \$2,000,000

Total Project Cost: \$4,157,750

The Bear River Water Conservancy District (District), located in Box Elder County, Utah, will construct and equip two new production wells, one replacement well, and a 500k gallon storage tank. This infrastructure will be located in three unincorporated areas within the District's service area: Collinston, Harper Ward, and South Willard. The District has historically relied upon agreements with neighboring water providers to deliver culinary water to its customers in dry years. However, due to persistent drought conditions, agreements with other water suppliers have been either terminated or no water is available under the agreement for delivery to the District. The new infrastructure is needed so that the District can continue to blend water supplies to stay below the maximum contaminant level for arsenic and to deliver water to residents in dry years. This project will help prepare for current and future drought conditions by providing access to an estimated 807 acre-feet per year of safe drinking water. Box Elder County is currently experiencing extreme to exceptional drought conditions, with 2021 being the driest year to date in 127 years. This project includes top ranked mitigation actions in the District's Drought Resiliency Plan.