

# WaterSMART Program

## WaterSMART Program



Provides a framework for Interior to support water supply reliability for multiple water users.



## **Upcoming Opportunities**

### Winter 2022/2023

- Environmental Water Resources Projects
- Aquatic Ecosystems Restoration
- Planning & Project Design

## WaterSMART Funding Opportunity Calendar can be found at:

https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/index.html





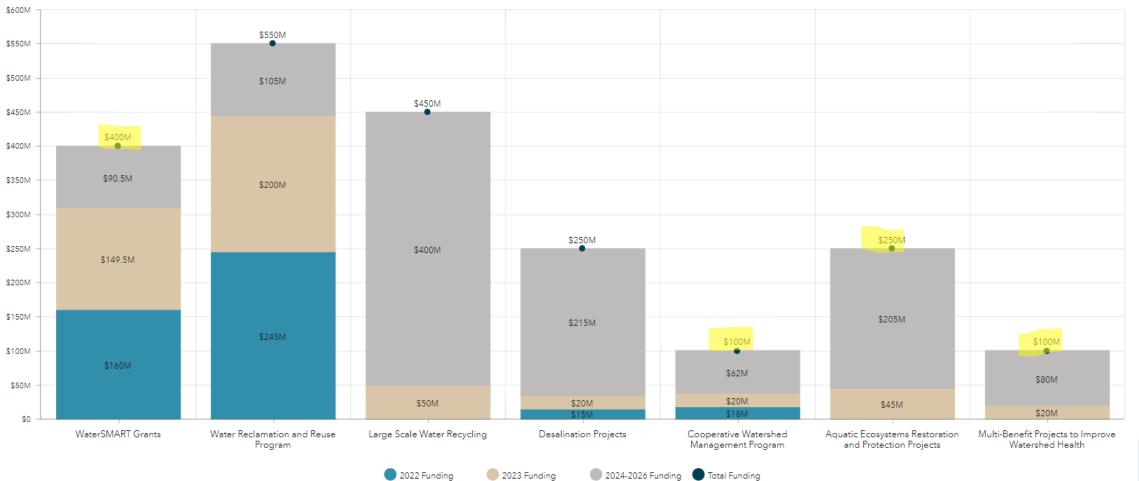
## Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Funding for WaterSMART & Aquatic Ecosystems

WaterSMART Programs Receiving Infrastructure Funding		
Program Area	Funding Amount (Over Five Years)	Activities Funded
WaterSMART Grants	\$400 million	Water conservation and efficiency, renewable energy, natural and nature-based features
Cooperative Watershed Management Program	\$100 million	Watershed planning and restoration projects for watershed groups
Aquatic Ecosystems Restoration and Protection Projects	\$250 million	Aquatic ecosystem restoration and protection projects to improve habitat
Multi-Benefit Projects to Improve Watershed Health	\$100 million	Restoration projects to improve watershed health



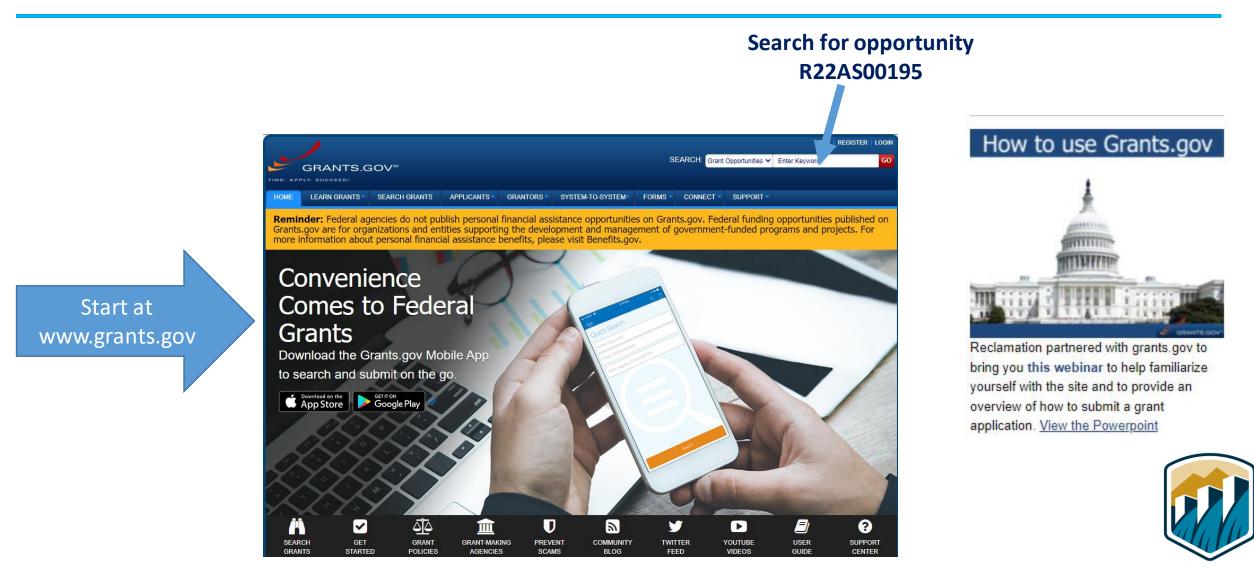
WaterSMART and Aquatic Ecosystems Infrastructure Funding

## \$2.1B over 5 years (2022-2026)





### Application Tips Where to Start



## WaterSMART Program Resources

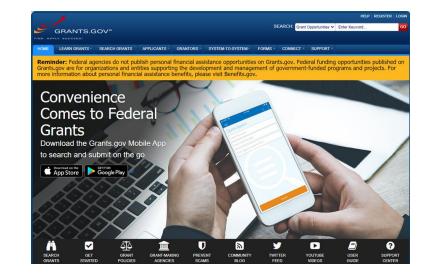
For General Information:

https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/index.html

For information about upcoming WaterSMART Funding Opportunities, send an email to <u>watersmart@usbr.gov</u> with your name and email address

To find and apply for Funding Opportunities: <u>www.grants.gov</u>

Help with using grants.gov can be found at <u>https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart</u>





bring you this webinar to help familiarize yourself with the site and to provide an overview of how to submit a grant application. <u>View the Powerpoint</u>



## **Questions**?

Nickie McCann, Program Coordinator nmccann@usbr.gov (303) 445-3733



— BUREAU OF — RECLAMATION

## **Eligible Applicants**

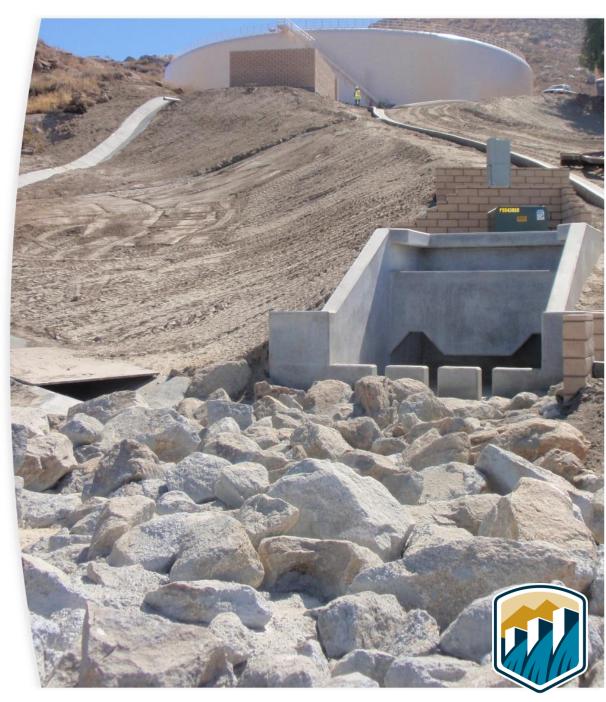
#### **Eligible Applicants**

#### **Category A**

- States, Indian Tribes, irrigation districts, and water districts;
- State, regional, or local authorities, whose members include one or more organizations with water or power delivery authority; and
- Other organizations with water or power delivery authority.

#### Category B

 Nonprofit conservation organizations that are acting in partnership with and with the agreement of an entity described in Category A. Category B applicants must include with their application a letter from the Category A partner, stating that they are acting in partnership with the applicant and agree to the submittal and content of the proposal.



## WaterSMART Grants

Water and Energy Efficiency Grants –

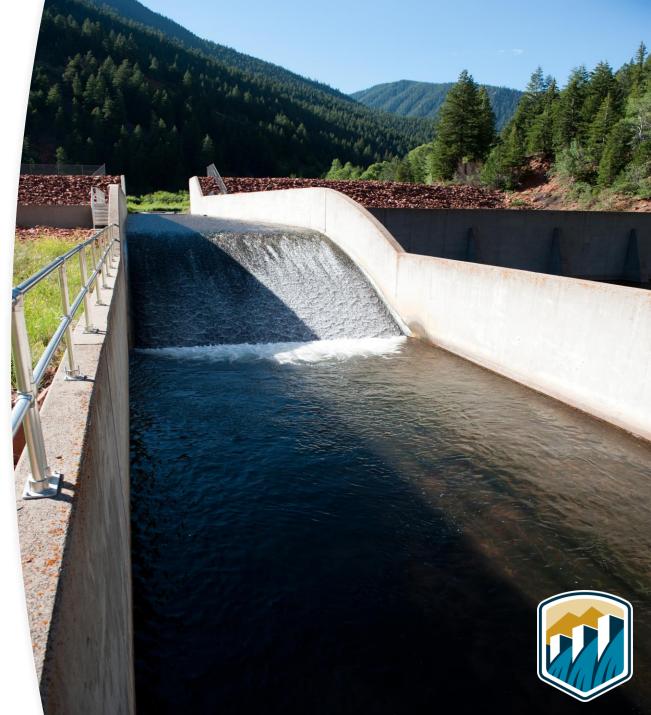
#### **Eligible Project Types**

- Water Conservation Projects
  - Canal lining/piping
  - Municipal metering
  - Irrigation flow measurement
  - Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition and Automation (SCADA)
  - Landscape irrigation measures
  - High-Efficiency Indoor Appliances and Fixtures
  - Commercial Cooling Systems
- Renewable Energy Projects
  - Hydropower
  - Solar, wind energy

#### Funding

- Funding Group I: Up to \$500k in 2 years
- Funding Group II: Up to \$2 million in 3 years
- Funding Group III: Up to \$5 million in 3 years
- Non-Federal Cost Share: 50% or greater

#### Criteria focus on quantifying water savings



## WaterSMART Grants

Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects

#### **Eligible Project Types**

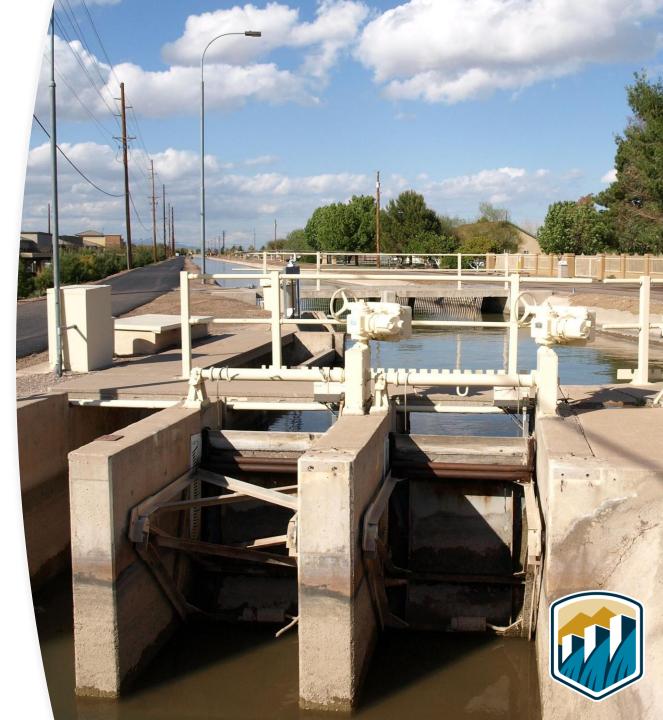
- Canal lining/piping
- Municipal metering
- Irrigation flow measurement
- Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition and Automation (SCADA)
- Landscape irrigation measures
- High-Efficiency Indoor Appliances and Fixtures
- Commercial Cooling Systems

#### Funding

- Up to \$100k in Reclamation funds
- Maximum total project costs of \$225k per project

#### **Evaluation Criteria**

- Simplified evaluation criteria
- Benefits to applicant
- Previous planning efforts supporting the project



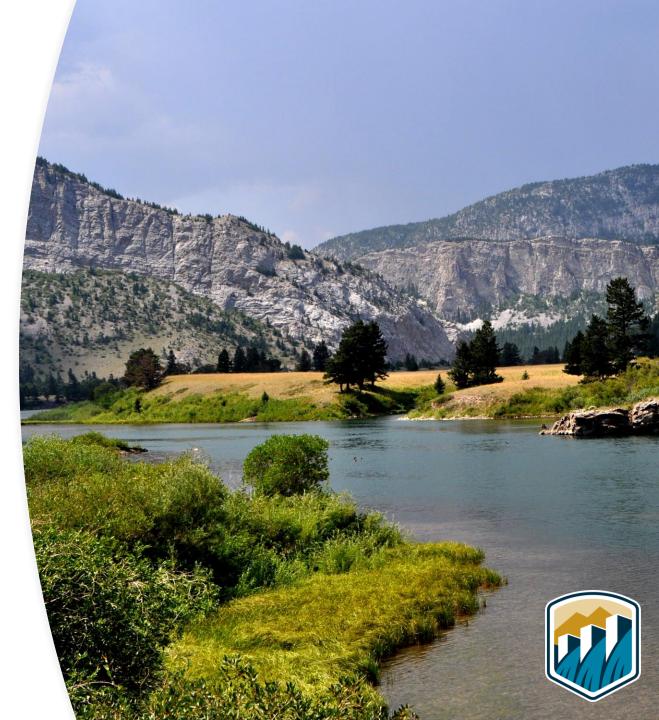
### Drought Response Program Drought Contingency Planning

### **Eligible Projects**

 Funding for development, or update, of comprehensive drought plans.

### Funding

- Non-Federal Cost Share: 50% or greater
  - Cost share reduction/waiver available for applicants with financial hardship and a significant Federal interest
- Up to \$200,000



## Drought Response Program

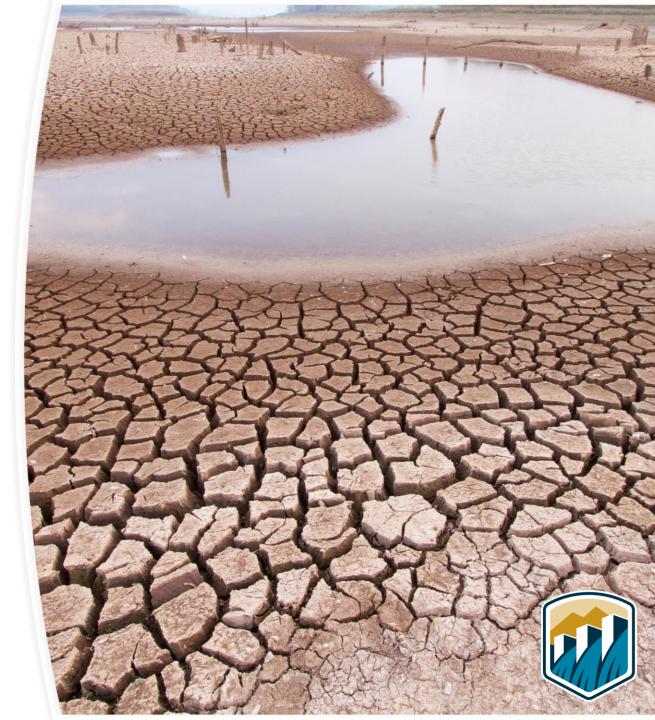
Drought Resiliency Projects –

#### **Eligible Project Types**

- Infrastructure Improvements
- New conveyance system components
- Additional water storage
- Recharge facilities
- Capture and treat alternative supplies
- Decision Support Tools & Modeling
- Environmental Protection

#### Funding

- Non-Federal Cost Share: 50% or greater.
- Funding Level I: \$500k 2 years
- Funding Level II: \$2 million 3 years
- Funding Level III: \$3 million 3 years



## **Cooperative Watershed** Management Program Phase I – Watershed Group Formation and Restoration

Planning

#### **Eligible Project Activities**

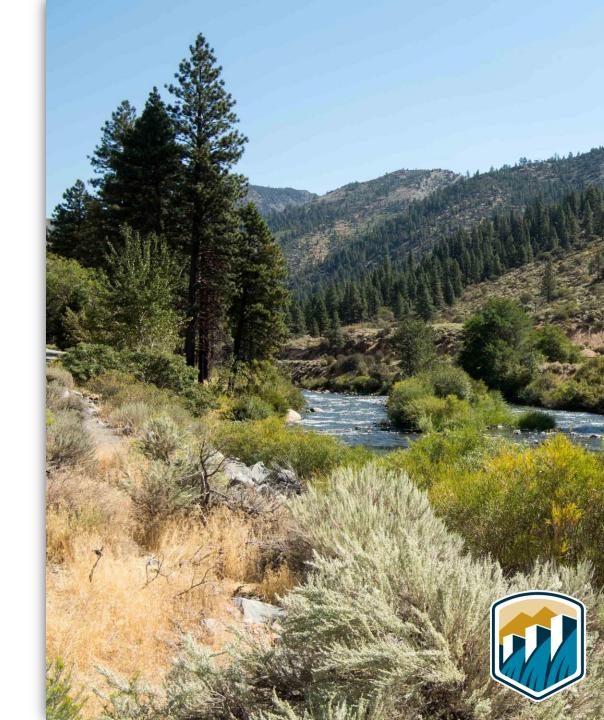
- Watershed group development
- Conducting outreach activities
- Gathering data about the watershed •
- Watershed restoration plans
- **Project design**

#### Funding

- 0% Non-Federal cost share required
- Up to \$200,000 in Reclamation funding over 2 years
- Sufficiency review required for second year funding

#### **Eligible Applicants:**

Existing OR proposed watershed groups, states, Indian Tribes, local and special districts (e.g., irrigation and water districts), local governmental entities, interstate organizations, and nonprofit organizations.



### Environmental Water Resources Projects

### **Eligible Project Types**

- Water conservation and efficiency projects that increase reliability for ecological values
- Improvements to mitigate drought-related impacts to ecological values
- Watershed management or restoration projects benefitting ecological values
- Projects to improve the condition of a natural feature or nature-based feature

### Funding

- Federal funding comes from WaterSMART Grants and Cooperative Watershed Management Program (CWMP)
- Non-Federal Cost Share: 25% to 50%



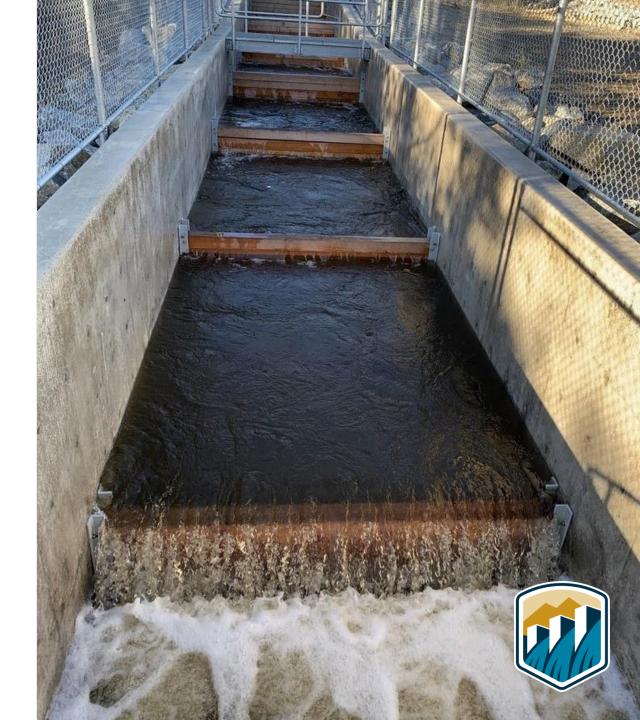
### Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Projects

### **Eligible Project Types**

- Funds the study, design, and construction of large-scale aquatic ecosystem restoration and protection projects
- Projects should improve habitat or fish passage, including through the removal or bypass of fish barriers
- Prioritizes projects that provide regional benefits (across multiple basins), are a component of an aging infrastructure strategy, or benefit an underserved community

### **Non-Federal Cost Share: Two Phases**

- <u>Planning and Design</u>: NO Federal Cost Share
- <u>Construction:</u> 35% Non-Federal Cost Share



## **Applied Science Grants**

### **Eligible Projects**

- Improve or enhance modeling capabilities
- Improve or adapt forecasting tools and technologies
- Improve access to and use of water resources data

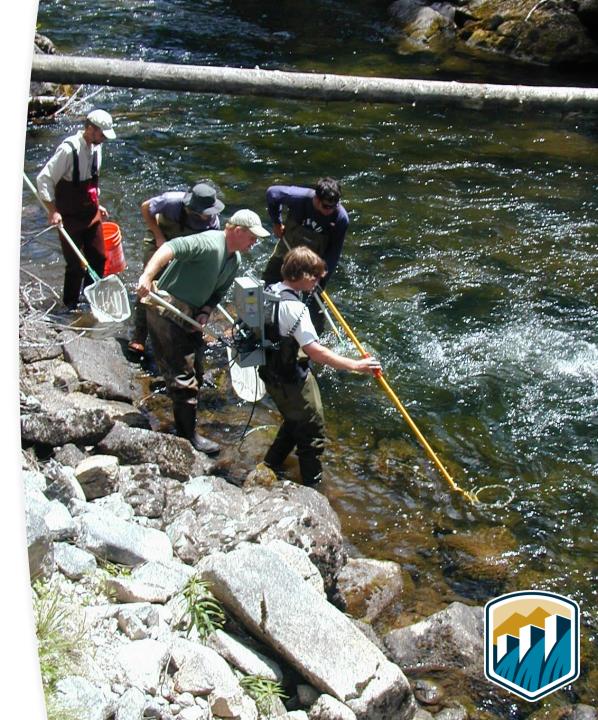
### Funding

- 50% non-Federal cost share required
- Up to \$200k for a 2-year project

### **Eligible Applicants**

 Entities with water delivery authority can partner with universities, non-profits, and research institutes

Funding Opportunity Coming Early 2023



## Planning & Project Design

### **Eligible Projects**

- Water Marketing, Supply, and Restoration Planning
- Drought Contingency Planning
- Project Design
  - Environmental Water Resources Projects
  - Water management and Conservation Projects
  - Drought Resiliency Projects

### 50% non-Federal cost share

