



— BUREAU OF —
RECLAMATION

FY 2024 Tribal Water Projects

Native American Affairs Emergency Drought Relief

California

Bishop Paiute, Conservation Open Space Area Water Supply Restoration

Reclamation Funding: \$499,989

Water supply to the Conservation Open Space Area has been reduced due to subsurface drainage lines becoming plugged and the cleanouts failing. Under this project, the Tribe proposes to replace 1,500 feet of drain line and accompanying cleanouts. This is a second phase of a Native American Affairs Technical Assistance project funded in 2018 that replaced a portion of the subsurface drainage system. The Tribe will also replace 4,400 feet of ten-inch irrigation pipe with high-pressure pipe. This section of line often breaks leading to reduced irrigation water availability. These improvements will increase flows to the open space for the benefit of endangered fish and wildlife. The improvements will also reduce the amount of water the Tribe must divert from its Los Angeles Department of Water and Power allocation to the open space and increase the reliability and availability of irrigation water. All of the work will be performed by the Tribe with its own equipment and manpower.

LaPosta Band of Diequeno Mission Indians, Wetland Restoration Drainage Units 24,25

Reclamation Funding: \$499,996

Erosion and sedimentation from nearby U.S. I-80 threatens Tribal lands and wetlands. LaPosta Road, an essential access road for the Reservation, has been damaged and is threatened with destruction due to the erosion and sedimentation caused by the run-off from the interstate. The Tribe's water supply well field is rendered inaccessible due to flooding and sedimentation as well. The Tribe proposes to design and construct improvements to drainage along LaPosta Road to manage run-off from the interstate in Drainage Units 24 and 25. These are the highest priority for the Tribe. The Tribe will contract for planning and design services and construction work. This project builds on a plan of action prepared by the Reclamation Sedimentation and River Hydraulics Group.

LaPosta Band of Diequeno Mission Indians, Erosion Control and Wetland Protection Drainage Units 30 and 33

Reclamation Funding: \$499,996

Erosion and sedimentation from nearby U.S. I-80 threatens Tribal lands and wetlands. LaPosta Road, an essential access road for the Reservation, has been damaged and is threatened with destruction due to the erosion and sedimentation caused by the run-off from I-80. The Tribe's water supply well field is rendered inaccessible due to flooding and sedimentation as well. Drain

Units 30 and 33 are the next highest priority. This project builds on a plan of action prepared by the Reclamation Sedimentation and River Hydraulics Group.

New Mexico

Pueblo of Zia, Upgrade 17 Rangeland Stock Watering Wells

Reclamation Funding: \$400,675

Zia Pueblo proposes to convert 17 range wells from wind to solar power to improve reliability and availability for livestock and wildlife and to reduce overgrazing and damages to riparian lands. Many wells are not functional and require ranchers to haul water to remote trough locations. The Pueblo will install submersible solar powered pumps, solar panels, controls, and a storage tank and trough at each well site. The Pueblo will contribute project management and field support. Reclamation's Albuquerque Area Office will provide environmental compliance support. Finishing and installing pumps, solar panels and control systems will be contracted.

South Dakota

Crow Creek Sioux Tribe, Tribe Irrigation System Improvements

Reclamation Funding: \$500,000

The Crow Creek Sioux Tribe irrigates approximately 3,840 acres of farmland using pivot irrigation systems. About 640 acres are out of production due to failed intake pumping and pivot equipment. The Tribe proposes to improve irrigation infrastructure as follows: Area A - Big Bend Irrigation System: Renovate three pivot to install sprinkler packages and renovate one drive system. Restore full irrigation to 320 acres. Area B - North Shore Irrigation System: Replace three pivots and replace one pump/motor/control installation. Restore full irrigation capacity to 360 acres. Area C - Fort Thompson Irrigation System: Replace intake pumping and piping infrastructure. Restore reliability and efficient operations for 800 acres. Lastly, the Tribe has no records for the existing irrigation piping in this system. The Tribe proposes to evaluate the existing piping to determine location and condition. This information will be used to create a management plan for the entire irrigation system.

Crow Creek Sioux Tribe, Wildlife Habitat Improvements

Reclamation Funding: \$500,000

Drought conditions on the Crow Creek Sioux Reservation pasture and range lands threaten the Tribe's ability to provide adequate water supplies for their cattle, bison and elk herds. The Tribe depends on these operations to provide food sources for Tribal members. The Tribe proposes drilling wells and constructing stock watering dams to improve habitat for the herds in three areas. Big Bend Wildlife Area: The Big Bend area does not currently support bison and elk herds due to lack of water supply. To supply water for the new herd in this area, the Tribe plans to construct two stock dams and drill three wells. The cattle could also be expanded in this area with these additional water sources. Fort Thompson Wildlife Area: The Fort Thompson wildlife area has eight stock dams used by the bison and elk herds. It is proposed that a new stock dam be constructed in the area. Additionally, a new well would be drilled to provide water for the new stock dam. Land and Cattle: The Tribe has cattle herds that serve as an important source of

food for the Tribe. The Tribe wants to construct three (3) stock dams on the pastureland used to raise these cattle to ensure the herd has an ample water supply.

Washington

Confederated Tribes of the Colville Indian Reservation, Groundwater Monitoring Program

Reclamation Funding: \$342,395

The lack of groundwater data severely limits the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation's (CTCR) ability to evaluate the impact of drought conditions on Tribal lands. Under this project, CTCR will develop an inventory of wells on the Reservation by consolidating existing data and confirming unrecorded well locations. The proposed project will provide for a groundwater resource monitoring program to assess the impact of drought on the primary drinking water supply for Reservation lands. The monitoring program will identify long-term trends of groundwater availability through data collection of increasing, stable, or declining groundwater levels. The technical and project management tasks will be completed by staff of the Tribe's various departments. CTCR staff will measure groundwater levels and test water quality from a selection of mapped wells to represent the geographic conditions of the Reservation. With this information, the CTCR staff will be able to establish a baseline of groundwater levels. After developing the groundwater mapping and monitoring program through grant funding, the CTCR intends to fund these activities by including the monitoring program in their ongoing Tribal water assessment reporting.

Native American Affairs Technical Assistance Program

Arizona

Hopi Tribe Water Systems Training/Testing Center

Reclamation Funding: \$397,476

The Hopi Tribe is located in a remote area of northern Arizona. Because of the location, Hopi tribal water system operators must travel great lengths for everyday activities and for specialized training, often resulting in the need to travel off reservation for several days at a time to receive adequate training. This Technical Assistance Grant will establish an on-site training and testing center at Hopi that would provide individuals with the opportunity to take drinking water or wastewater operator exams, specialized trainings, and receive Tribal Utility Management certifications, as well as provide training to ensure successful testing experiences. Access to such training would provide career advancement opportunities, education, and employment opportunities, which would result in effective capacity building.

California

Barona Band of Mission Indians Domestic Water System Mapping Project

Reclamation Funding: \$398,500

The project will consist of an extensive, system-wide survey of underground water conveyance infrastructure serving the Barona community. Currently, the Tribe does not have a comprehensive inventory of its utility system. This project will consist of data review, data collection and curation, and the creation of a GIS database and associated analytical tools. The survey team will collect and review all existing computer-aided design, GIS, and As Built information of aboveground and belowground infrastructure from the Tribe. The team will then collect and curate data on the ground to build a GIS database of the utility network. Data will be collected using a variety of means such as ground penetrating radar and survey mapping. This network will allow the Tribe to evaluate the existing condition of the system and plan for future improvements, expansions, and enhancements.

Bear River Band of Rohnerville Rancheria Flood Mitigation and Erosion Control Infrastructure

Reclamation Funding: \$394,859

Bear River Band of Rohnerville Rancheria requests Reclamation funding to implement flood mitigation and erosion control measures throughout the Rancheria. There are six sites identified for this project. With funding, the Tribe will hire an engineer to design final minor infrastructure solutions and will hire a contractor to implement the solutions. With implementation of this project climate resilience will be increased and flood risks will be reduced. Damage to homes roads and other community infrastructure will be mitigated and reduced. Other project benefits include reduced nonpoint source pollution and reduction of health risks by diverting drainage away from homes to functional drainage areas.

Bishop Paiute Tribe Replacement of Falling Reservation Water Pumps

Reclamation Funding: \$400,000

The Bishop Paiute Tribe is seeking financial assistance to replace ten (10), ten-year old rebuilt booster pumps for our existing 70+ year old drinking water distribution system. Presently when one of the booster pumps fails all residents are affected. Tribal residences are experiencing low water pressure most of the year and especially extremely low water pressure during the summer months. The Tribe will benefit by increased reliability and pumping capacity of the system. The new pumps will also allow the Tribe to more efficiently manage their water system and protect human health and safety.

Fort Mojave Indian Tribe, Replacement of Irrigation Intake Pumps and Related Equipment

Reclamation Funding: \$400,000

The Fort Mojave Indian Tribe reservation lands near Needles are located in three states along the lower Colorado River. The Tribe depends on income from agricultural crops for providing Tribal members with essential services. Decreasing levels of water along the river due to extended drought conditions necessitates the revamping of pumping stations used to supply water to the agricultural fields. The existing pumps were installed in the 1980's have are reaching the ends of their useful lives. This project involves lands on the California side of the river, and includes replacement of the pumps, motors, and supporting structures. The existing

components will be removed in their entirety and replaced, enabling intakes to be lowered and thereby ensuring availability of irrigation waters for the associated agricultural fields. Due to the advances in technology involved, the new pumps will also be substantially more energy efficient. The Avi Kwa Ame Farms will work closely with the Bureau of Reclamation during this project.

Jamul Indian Village of California Watershed Assessment and Erosion Control Project Reclamation Funding: \$284,850

Jamul Indian Village of California Watershed Assessment and Erosion Control Project aims to develop a watershed assessment and associated implementation activities that will guide current and future water quality issues. Nearly all local ground waters of the region have been intensively developed for municipal or agricultural supply purposes, and water quality is an increasing concern. This project will investigate and measure impacts from erosion and sedimentation to develop a watershed assessment and a feasibility assessment. Additionally, on-the-ground installation will also take place to mitigate environmental issues that are degrading water resources on the Reservation.

Tolowa Dee-ni' Nation Pollution Exposure Assessment and Mitigation Plan Reclamation Funding: \$242,500

The Lower Smith River Pollution Exposure Assessment and Mitigation Plan investigate impacts to the lower Smith River watershed, tributaries, and adjacent creeks. There are concerns about pesticides, nutrients, and sediment impacts from agricultural land uses and the potential impacts to water quality, aquatic organisms, and human health. This project will involve the development of a sampling plan, sampling activities, an exposure assessment and mitigation plan, and community outreach and education.

Colorado

Southern Ute Indian Tribe, Water Resources Staff Education and Training Project Reclamation Funding: \$62,015

The Southern Ute Tribe desires to provide its Water Resources Division staff with education and training opportunities. Water Resources Division staff would like to increase their knowledge and understanding of state and federal water rights, water conservation, canal control and measurement, and heavy equipment operation and safety. Training and education that staff are interested in include Colorado Water Law, the Irrigation Training and Research Center Cal Poly Flow Measurement and Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition Training, the Forge Heavy Equipment Operator Training, and several Bureau of Reclamation training courses including Basics in Flow Measurement, Canal Operations and Control, and Concrete and Concrete Repair. By gaining more education and training in these areas, the staff will be able to further protect the Southern Ute Indian Tribe's water rights, accurately control, measure, and collect flow data, and safely operate machinery on various canal projects. Utilization of these funds will improve the staff's understanding of water operations and their ability to protect the Southern Ute Indian Tribe's water rights and safely and effectively monitor and improve the distribution of irrigation water to Tribal and non-tribal irrigators within the Southern Ute Indian Reservation

Ute Mountain Ute, Red Arrow Regulating Reservoir Planning and Design

Reclamation Funding: \$272,434

The Ute Mountain Ute Tribe Farm and Ranch Enterprise is seeking Reclamation funds to design the 1,000 acre-feet Red Arrow Regulating Reservoir that will help stabilize irrigation water supply. The reservoir will be designed to bank water during wet years and capture the operational spill at the end of the 39.9-mile Towaoc- Highline Canal. The Canal transports the Tribe's allocation of Dolores Project water and periodically spills an average of 107 AF per irrigation season due to rain events, power outages, and excess water deliveries. Reclamation funds will support this phase of work, which includes hydrological and geotechnical assessments and the completion of 30% and 60% engineering designs. Once constructed, the reservoir will help create a more reliable irrigation water supply during water-short years by providing up to 1,000 AF of buffer when water supplies are insufficient to meet agricultural demands. The reservoir will also allow for more efficient water use by capturing unanticipated Canal flows that would otherwise be spilled. As a result, the reservoir will improve internal water management; protect the Tribe's irrigation water allocation; build drought and community resiliency; and sustain agricultural revenue and jobs for the Tribe and its members.

Idaho

Nez Perce Tribe Streamflow Monitoring to Inform Management Decisions

Reclamation Funding: \$397,433

The Nez Perce Tribe is seeking funding to support responsibilities outlined by the Tribal Water Code, including enhancing streamflow monitoring abilities, improving Tribal water rights allocation, and advancing staff capacity to make informed water management decisions. The Tribe proposes to extend coverage of stream monitoring by reinstating the U.S. Geological Survey gage at Clear Creek in Kooskia and installing telemetry gages on six of the thirteen currently monitored streams (Sweetwater, Cottonwood, Jim Ford, Little Canyon, Threemile, and Sevenmile Creeks) that are prioritized for hatchery and cultural purposes, allowing for real-time and year-round data monitoring. The Tribe will also install new pressure transducers in the remaining seven streams that use the same software as the telemetry gages allowing for streamlined data integration. Funds will be used to purchase the equipment mentioned above, support staff time to complete stream flow surveys and analyze collected data, and cover costs for data analysis software that will help disseminate information to interested parties. Finally, the Program requests funds to support staff time to continue administering, allocating, and protecting the water resources the Nimiipuu people rely on.

Montana

Fort Belknap Indian Community, Three Mile Reservoir Pump Station Rehabilitation

Reclamation Funding: \$398,389

The Fort Belknap Indian Irrigation Project consists of 10,435 acres of irrigated farmland. The Project receives water from Reclamation's Milk River Project. During times of low flow in the Milk River, the crest of the diversion dam on the Milk River near the agency is not high enough to take the entire water right of the Fort Belknap Indian Community by gravity flow. Therefore,

the Tribe stores water when possible in the Three Mile Reservoir. However, the pumping facilities and equipment needed to deliver water to the Reservoir were designed and built in the late 1940's and are no longer functional. This severely limits the ability of the Tribe to deliver its full share of irrigation water. Under this project, the Tribe proposes to rehabilitate and modernize the Three Mile pump station to enable restore its ability to pump water to the Reservoir.

New Mexico

Pueblo of Jemez, Water Resources Management and Restoration Plan for Climate Resilience

Reclamation Funding: \$359,838

The Pueblo of Jemez desires to improve water resources management and climate resilience in the Jemez River watershed through collaborative restoration initiatives with an emphasis on the river reach within the Jemez Pueblo. In that respect, the Project has three main objectives: (1) develop a comprehensive understanding of the river-based ecosystem and anthropogenic activity at both local and system scale, (2) identify, evaluate, and prioritize riparian and aquatic restoration opportunities, and (3) strengthen collaboration in the watershed to improve water resources management and climate resilience. The Project will consist of three main outputs: a water resources management plan for the watershed, specifications for the implementation of ecosystem restoration on Jemez Pueblo, and the formation of a watershed committee. Each task has subtasks and deliverables. Prior to initiating the Project, environmental compliance will be reviewed. No permit is expected to be required. A contractor will be identified to conduct all activities under the supervision of the Pueblo's Natural Resources Director.

Oklahoma

The Chickasaw Nation, Water Needs Assessment and Capacity Study of Antlers Aquifer

Reclamation Funding: \$400,000

The Antlers Aquifer in southern Oklahoma is experiencing supply instability due to over pumping resulting from the rapidly increasing population in north Texas. To remedy this, the Chickasaw Nation is seeking federal funding to partner with the Southern Oklahoma Water Corporation, Arbuckle Master Conservancy District and the city of Ardmore, Oklahoma to develop a collaborative water needs assessment and evaluate potential interconnection pathways. This project would provide interconnection evaluations to expand the regional water supply to encompass several counties in southern Oklahoma. Project funds will allow the Chickasaw Nation to protect and manage diminishing groundwater supplies, to accomplish invaluable community water assessments and to develop a regional water management plan that will safeguard critical community water supplies within the Southern Water Planning Region.

Oregon

Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation, Planning and Design for Water Efficiency improvements in the Little Walla Walla Canal System, Walla Walla River Irrigation District

Reclamation Funding: \$350,500

The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation seek to restore and protect culturally important fisheries in the Walla Walla River. The proposed project will perform planning and engineer design for water efficiency projects in the Little Walla Walla canals managed by the Walla Walla River Irrigation District. The proposed project will advance work funded with a previous Reclamation grant which provided funding to initiate a design process. The funding requested in this proposal will complete the initiated design process from about 33% design through final design and initiate environmental permit related surveys and applications. The project is located along the existing canal system for the District. The canals along the Little Walla Walla system are losing from 10 to 49% of measured flow to seepage and evaporative losses. Additionally, the system is run continuously to fulfill water user demand at any time, regardless of use. The system requires updating to reduce waste in the system, and other efficiency improvements. All water savings will be transferred to an instream water right, which will formally protect currently unprotected instream flows bypassed at District's point of diversion. Minimum bypass flows were negotiated between local irrigation districts and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service to protect species listed under the Endangered Species Act. The instream flow will protect and preserve fisheries that are an important trust resource for the Tribe.

South Dakota

Crow Creek Sioux Tribe, Water System Modeling and Condition Assessment Study

Reclamation Funding: \$399,595

The Crow Creek Sioux Tribe strives to provide a sustainable water system which meets the current needs of their customers, provides required fire protection, and looks toward future expansion needs. Geographic Information System data collection has started, but additional system information needs to be collected and added to allow the Tribe to better manage the overall system. The Tribe will use collected GIS data to develop a water model that will describe the current main sizes, materials, pipe age, system inefficiencies, and evaluate adequate water pressures to meet recommended pressure and fire protection standards. The location and condition of appurtenances such as hydrants, valves, and meters will be included in model. The model will assist the Tribe in planning for improvements and enhancement to minimize water loss, provide adequate fire protection, system redundancy and operational maintenance needs. Strategically placed meters in the system will allow monitoring of the system for leakage and illegal connections. Due to the vast area of the Reservation and water service to many communities and scattered sites, development of a Rural Water system will also be analyzed.

Washington

Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, Toppenish Lateral Canal Water Conservation and Instream Flow Project

Reclamation Funding: \$100,000

This Yakama Nation seeks funding for design of irrigation system improvements on the Toppenish Lateral Canal. The improvements will support development of construction-ready designs. The project will take one year from inception and be complete by July of 2026. Once designs are complete, the Yakama Nation will seek additional funding to complete construction by winter of 2028. The project will take place on Tribal Trust land and will improve a Bureau of Indian Affairs irrigation system, the Wapato Irrigation Project. This project is intended to increase instream flow and irrigation water supply and operational flexibility. It will conserve 250 to 450 acre feet of water annually from Toppenish Creek by piping 3,250 feet of open canal. It will also increase the maximum canal conveyance capacity from 20 to 30 cubic feet per second by reshaping and deepening another 2,100 canal feet. It will give the Yakama Nation increased water management capability to increase instream flow for ESA listed middle Columbia River steelhead, provide additional water to farmers, and increase the volume of water for a managed aquifer recharge project

Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakima Nation, White Salmon River Watershed Resource Assessment and Management Plan

Reclamation Funding: \$300,000

The Yakama Nation is seeking funding to develop a water management plan for the White Salmon River basin in Klickitat County in south-central Washington State. The purpose of the Assessment is to evaluate current and future water supply and demand in the White Salmon River basin and adjacent areas that receive water from the basin, as well as anticipated future demand and range of impacts from current and future climate scenarios. In addition, the Assessment aims to characterize the connectivity of groundwater and surface waters, the effect of instream flows on habitat suitability for aquatic life, and to identify information gaps and vulnerabilities that can lead to better planning and building resiliency into the system to address any current or projected imbalances. The Assessment and Management Plan will provide necessary analysis and identify a path forward for the Nation to better develop, manage and protect the Tribe's vital treaty-reserved aquatic resources in the White Salmon River basin, which include Endangered Species Act listed fish.

Utah

Ute Indian Tribe, Water Treatment Plants Assessment and Repairs, Utility Rate Study and Water Agreement Evaluation

Reclamation Funding: \$400,000

This grant will provide the necessary funding to complete an assessment and minor repairs to the Ute Tribe water system treatment plants that will benefit the Tribe drinking water system. The following tasks will be completed as part of this project: (1) project management and grant administration (2) assessing and making minor repairs to the Tribe's water treatment plants and (3) conducting a water rate study and water agreement evaluation. Natural Resources Consulting Engineers will provide technical support to the Tribe by managing the projects, providing grant and contract administration, and conducting the water rate study and water

agreement evaluation. The Tribe does not anticipate doing any construction for the projects, so the projects should not require environmental compliance or permitting.