

Recent Prize Competitions

New Concepts for Remote Fish Detection

Quantifying Drift Invertebrates for Fish Species

Detecting Soil Movements within Earthen Dams, Canals, and Levees

Downstream Fish Passage at Tall Dams

Preventing Rodent Burrows in Earthen Embankments

DataApp: A Mobile App Framework for Field Data Capture

Indirect Estimates of Reservoir Water Storage

More Water, Less Concentrate

Arsenic Sensor

Long-Term Corrosion Protection of Existing Hydraulic Steel Structures

Sub-Seasonal Climate Forecast Rodeo

Eradication of Mussels in Open Water

Detecting Leaks and Flaws in Water Pipelines

Pathogen Sensing

Prize Competitions

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Prize Competitions

What is a Prize Competition?

Prize competitions are a unique tool for accelerating research to address elusive mission and operations challenges through private sector and “citizen solvers.” By tapping into a wealth of knowledge through on-line crowdsourcing techniques, prize competitions help Federal agencies advance research and development and drive innovation.

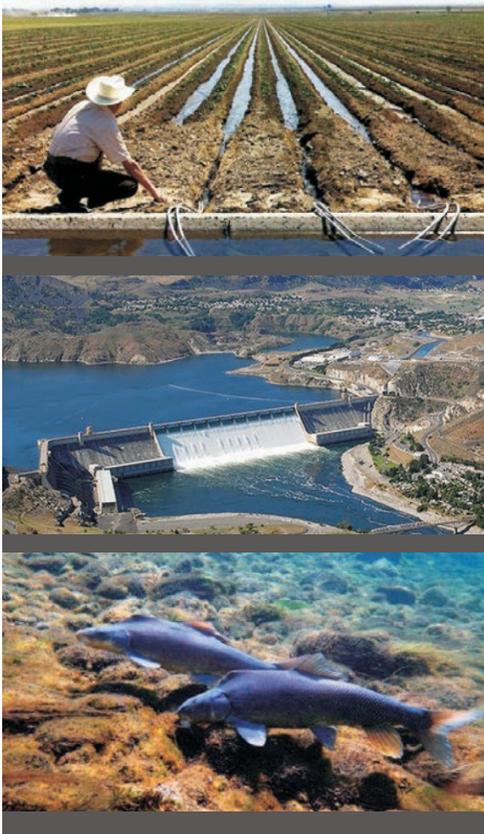
Why are Reclamation’s Prize Competitions Important?

Established in 1902, Reclamation is best known for the dams and powerplants it constructed in the 17 western states. Today, it is a contemporary water management agency. Prize competitions help us solve some of the most critical water and water-related resource problems facing the Nation.

Why are the Benefits?

Prize competitions generate a wealth of technical ideas and theoretical concepts quickly and in a relatively low cost manner. The benefit gained by Reclamation from prize competitions thus far is estimated to be between \$15,000 and \$30,000 per conceptual solution received.

Reclamation estimates the total value of solutions obtained from prize competitions to date as \$7.2 million. The value of prize competitions will continue to increase as the results progress from concept to tangible new technologies.



Theme Areas

Water Availability

Critical to meeting the needs of a growing population and economy, this area supports water managers facing significant challenges in meeting current and future water demands from agriculture, municipal, industrial, Native American, rural, recreation, power generation, and ecosystem needs.

Infrastructure Sustainability

A safe, well-maintained, and reliable inventory of dams, pipelines, hydropower generation facilities, canals, and levees is key to making water available to meet the needs of the Western U.S. and the Nation as a whole.

Environmental Compliance

Water managers face significant challenges to operate in ways that ensure watersheds are healthy and able to continue producing water supplies that are necessary to meet the competing uses for water in the arid Western United States. This includes complying with State and Federal laws requiring the protection and recovery of threatened and endangered aquatic species.