



Drought Resiliency Projects vs. Small Storage Program

Use the table below to determine if a water storage project is eligible under the Drought Resiliency Program or the Small Storage Program. If the project appears eligible for both funding opportunities, you may apply to whichever program best fits the needs of the project sponsor (e.g. timing of funding opportunity, cost share requirements, project cost). Applying to one program does not exclude you from applying to the other; however, the same project or Scope of Work cannot receive funding from both programs.

	Drought Resiliency Program	Small Storage Program
Types of Storage Projects	Storing water and/or recharging groundwater supplies. Projects that enable the capture or storage of additional water supplies that can be made available during drought.	Water storage capacity that increases surface water or groundwater storage
Program Overseen By	Water Resources and Planning Office (WRPO)	Reclamation Law Administration Division (RLAD)
Feasibility Study Required?	No	Yes (see Small Surface Water and Groundwater Storage Projects Feasibility Study Review Process)
Project's Storage Capacity	n/a	Between 200 and 30,000 AF
Maximum Project Costs	\$10,000,000 (if the project is a phase of a larger project, the larger (overall) project cannot exceed \$10M)	n/a
Available Federal Funding Per Project	Up to \$3,000,000	Up to \$30,000,000
Federal Cost Share	Up to 50%. Cost-share cannot include any Federal funds.	Up to 25%. Cost-share cannot include any Federal funds.
Projects must be completed within this timeframe	2-3 years, depending on funding group	Approximately 3 years
Eligible Applicants	Non-Federal entities such as a state, regional, or local authority; Indian tribe or tribal organization; or other entities such as a water district or water association; or a nonprofit conservation group who partners with an entity listed above, within the 17 Western States, Alaska, or Hawaii, or in insular areas such as the U.S. Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, and North Mariana Islands.	Non-Federal entities such as a state, regional, or local authority; Indian tribe or tribal organization; or other entities such as a water district or water association with water delivery authority within the 17 Western States, Alaska, or Hawaii.
Competitive or Noncompetitive	Competitive	Competitive

Typical Number of Applications	Approximately 60-80	Less than 10
Typical Funding Frequency	Yearling funding announcement	Yearly funding announcement

This fact sheet is meant to provide a brief comparison of both programs in relation to water storage projects. Please refer to both Funding Opportunities for full eligibility requirements, and reach out to the respective Program Coordinator for more information.

Contacts

Drought Resiliency Projects

<https://www.usbr.gov/drought/>

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Small Storage Program

<https://www.usbr.gov/smallstorage/>

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