



— BUREAU OF —
RECLAMATION

Small Storage Program

Program Update

February 22, 2023

Getting Started

- Please note your cameras and microphones are muted.
- Questions and comments can be posted in the chat, or attendees can use the raise hand function during the Q&A.
 - Facilitators will unmute you when the time comes to ask your question.
- A copy of the slides will be available on our website:
<https://www.usbr.gov/smallstorage/>



Small Storage Program

- The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) enacted November 15, 2021.
 - Provides \$100 million from Fiscal Years 2022 to 2026 to establish and implement a new competitive grant program for small water storage and groundwater storage projects.
- Small storage projects are defined by:
 - Water storage capacity of not less than **200*** acre-feet and not more than 30,000 acre-feet and:
 - increases surface or groundwater storage; or
 - conveys water, directly or indirectly, to or from surface water or groundwater storage

**as amended by Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023 (P.L. 117-328)*



Small Storage Program

- Eligible Non-Federal project sponsors:
 - will include a state, regional, or local authority; Indian tribe or tribal organization; or other entities such as a water district or water association within the 17 Western States, Alaska, or Hawaii.
- Funding:
 - Awards are limited to the lesser of \$30 million or 25% of project costs.
 - Funding will be allocated through a competitive process.



Small Storage Program

- Priority shall be given to projects that meet 1 or more of the following criteria:
 - Projects that are likely to provide more reliable water supply
 - Projects that are likely to increase water management flexibility
 - Projects that are regional in nature
 - Projects with multiple stakeholders
 - Projects with multiple benefits



The Secretary of the Interior must determine:

- the feasibility study, and the process under which the study was developed, complies with Federal laws (including regulations) applicable to feasibility studies of small storage projects.
- the project is technically and financially feasible in accordance with the guidelines developed and reclamation law
- the project provides a federal benefit
- there is sufficient non-Federal funding to complete the project



How to Become Eligible for Small Storage Project Funding

- A completed feasibility study must be submitted and found to meet all requirements of Reclamation's Directives and Standards.

Directive & Standard	Reference
Small Surface Water and Groundwater Storage Projects Feasibility Study Review Process (CMP TRMR-127)	https://www.usbr.gov/recman/temporary_releases/cmpt_rmr-127.pdf
Review Process Flow Chart (CMP TRMR-127 Appendix A)	https://www.usbr.gov/recman/temporary_releases/cmpt_rmr-127-AppA.pdf



Small Storage Feasibility Study Requirements

- Report Contents:
 1. Introductory Information
 2. Statement of Problems and Needs
 3. Small Storage Opportunities
 4. Description of Alternatives
 5. Economic Analysis
 6. Selection of the Proposed Project
 7. Risk and Uncertainty
 8. Environmental Consideration and Potential Effects
 9. Legal and Institutional Requirements
 10. Sufficient Non-Federal Funding
- Flexibility Concerning Format



Next Steps

Submission of Small Storage Feasibility Studies

- Approved feasibility studies are required in order to apply for future funding opportunities.
- Reclamation accepts studies at any time, however the review process can take up to 180 days.

Notice of Funding Opportunity

- The Fiscal Year 2024 NOFO is currently under development.
- Anticipated release Summer/Fall 2023, with awards in 2024.
 - Will be posted to Small Storage Program Website:
 - <https://www.usbr.gov/smallstorage/>



Small Storage Program Resources

- Small Water Storage Program Website (including link to subscribe for more information):
 - <https://www.usbr.gov/smallstorage/>
- Additional funding opportunities can be found at www.grants.gov
- Program Coordinator:
 - Carrie Diroll, cdiroll@usbr.gov or (303) 445-2835
 - Small Storage Mailbox, bor-sha-smallstorage@usbr.gov



Questions?



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