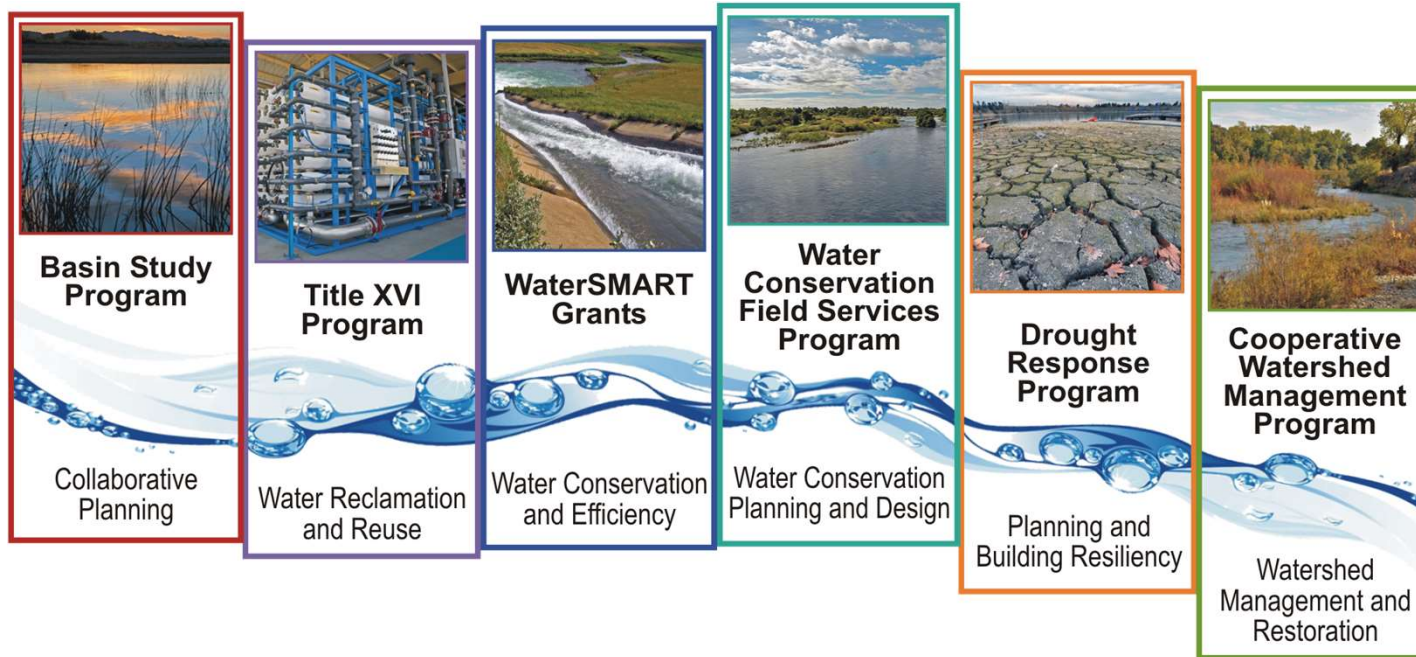




— BUREAU OF —
RECLAMATION

Bureau of Reclamation's WaterSMART Program

WaterSMART Program



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



WaterSMART Program Overview

- Increases water supply reliability through investments and attention to local water conflicts
- Supports water conservation and water management improvements to help meet competing demands for water
- Leverages Federal and non-Federal funding
- Relies on collaboration with stakeholders to develop local solutions to water supply issues



Growing Populations



Restoration Needs



Drought



Build a Foundation Through WaterSMART

Planning

- CWMP Phase I
- Drought Contingency Plans
- Water Marketing Strategy Grants
- Water Conservation Field Services Program

Science and Tools

- Applied Science Tools
- Drought Resiliency Projects
- Reservoir Operations Pilots
- Water Management Options Pilots

On-the-Ground Projects

- Drought Resiliency Projects
- Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects
- Water and Energy Efficiency Grants
- Environmental Water Resources Projects



WaterSMART Program Basics

- ➔ **Most WaterSMART activities are grant programs**
- ➔ **Generally a 50% non-Federal cost share is required for grants under WaterSMART**
- ➔ **Applicants include entities such as states, tribes, cities, water districts, irrigation districts, watershed groups, non-profits, and flood control districts within the 17 Western United States**
- ➔ **Funding is allocated through annual competitive processes**



Basin Study Program

2 sub-activities

- Water Management Options Pilots
- Applied Science Grants



Basin Study Program

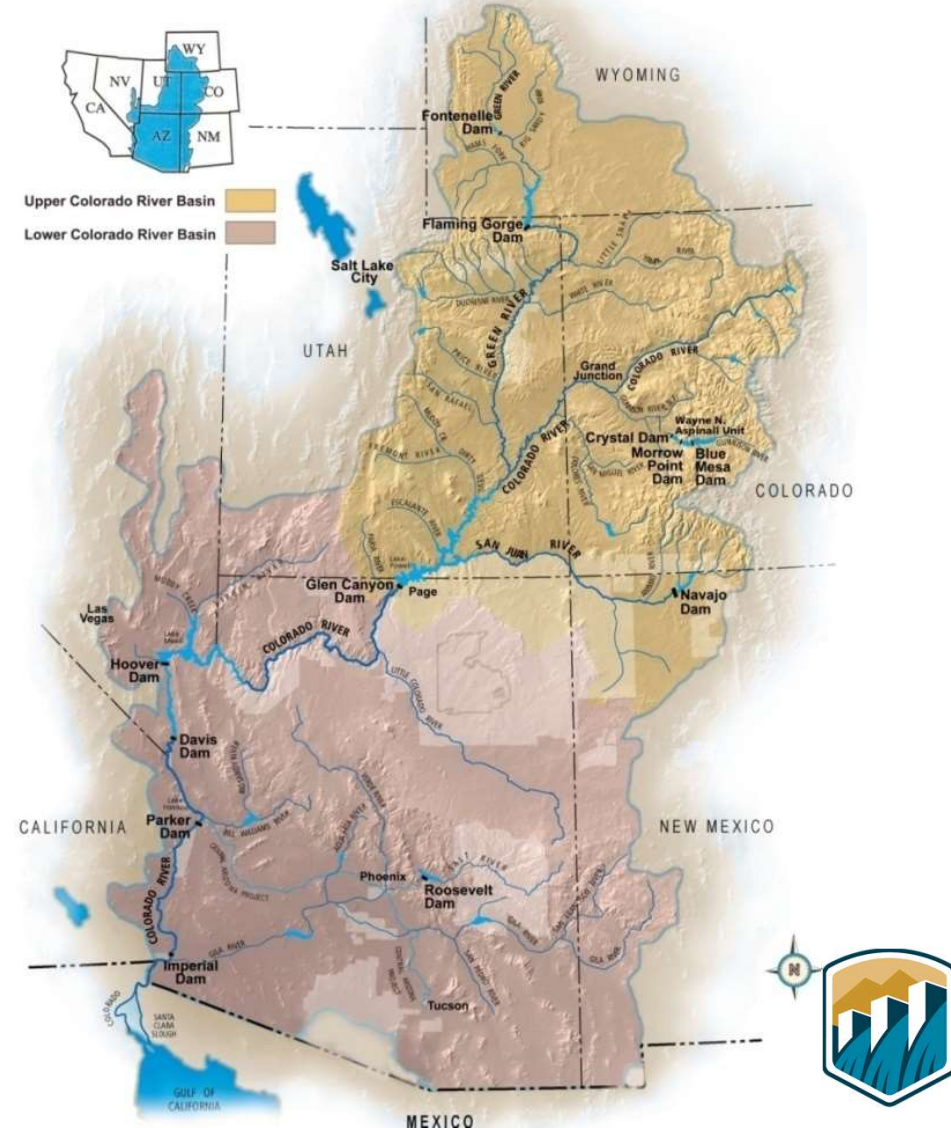
Water Management Options Pilots

Reclamation and stakeholders build on completed Basin Studies through efforts to advance strategies and apply tools and information to address water management challenges and supply and demand imbalances

Funding

- 50% non-Federal cost share required
- These Pilots are not grants and Reclamation funding must be used for Reclamation staff time or contractors

Colorado River Basin



Basin Study Program

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 \$150k for a 2-year project
- Up to \$300k for a 3-year project



Title XVI

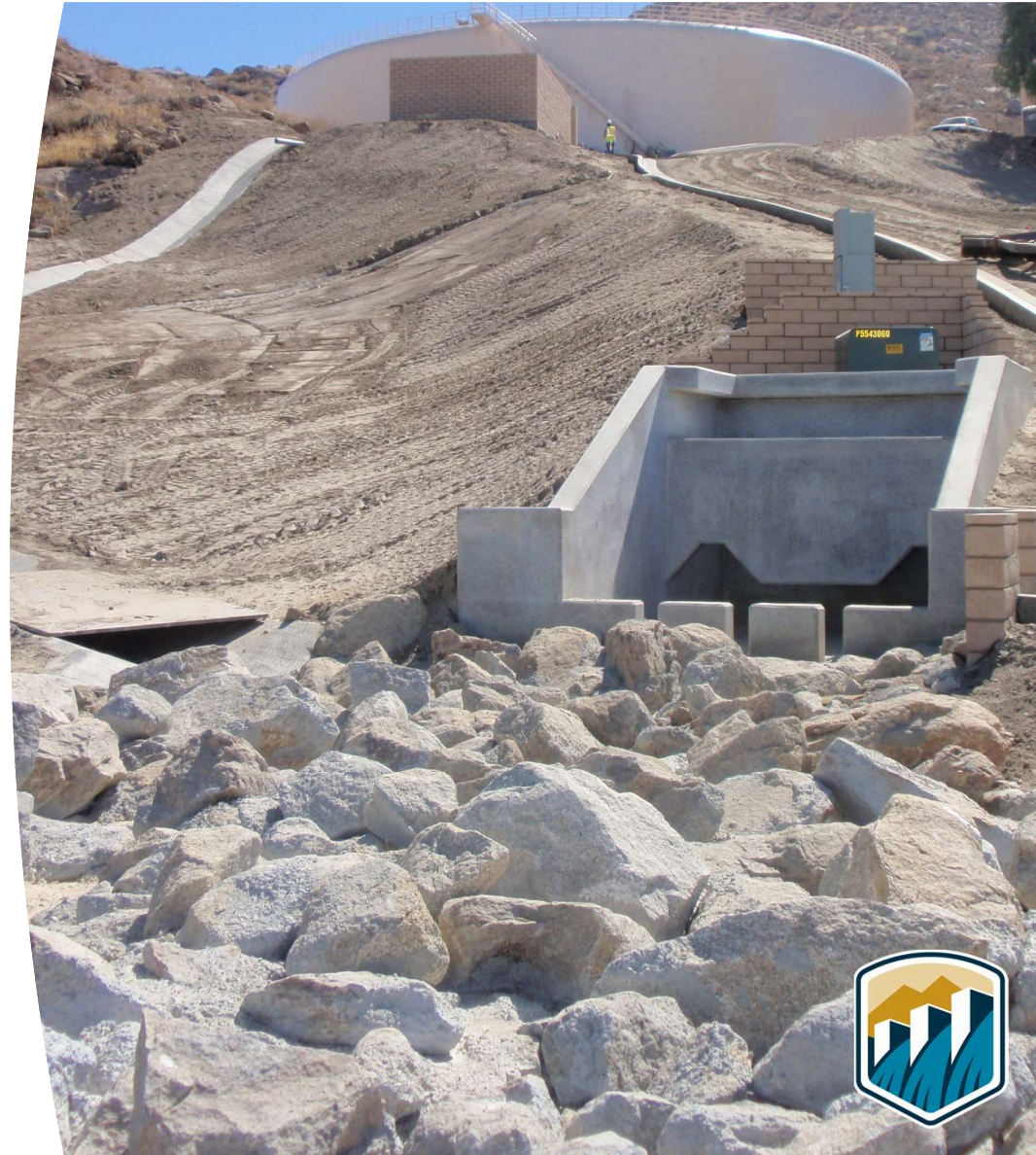
Water Reclamation and Reuse Research Projects

Eligible Project Types

- Projects that seek to address water supply challenges by establishing or expanding the use of water reclamation and reuse, improving existing water reuse facilities, and/or streamlining the implementation of state-of-the-art technology for new facilities.

Funding

- 75% non-Federal cost share required



Water Conservation Field Services Program

5 sub-activities

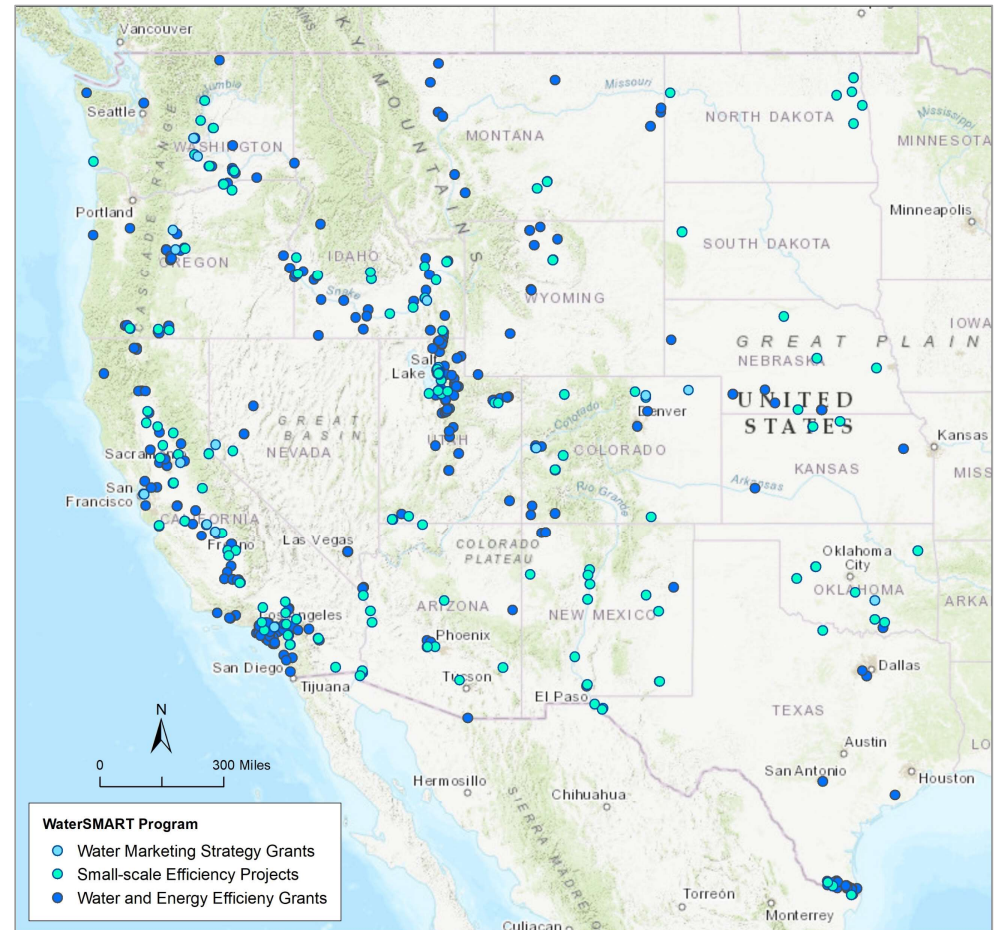
- Water Management Planning
- System Optimization Review
- Designing Water Management Improvements
- Demonstration Projects
- Technical Assistance



WaterSMART Grants

4 sub-activities

- Water and Energy Efficiency Grants (WEEG)
- Small-Scale Efficiency Projects (SWEP)
- Water Marketing Strategy Grants (WMSG)



WaterSMART Grants

Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects

Eligible Project Types

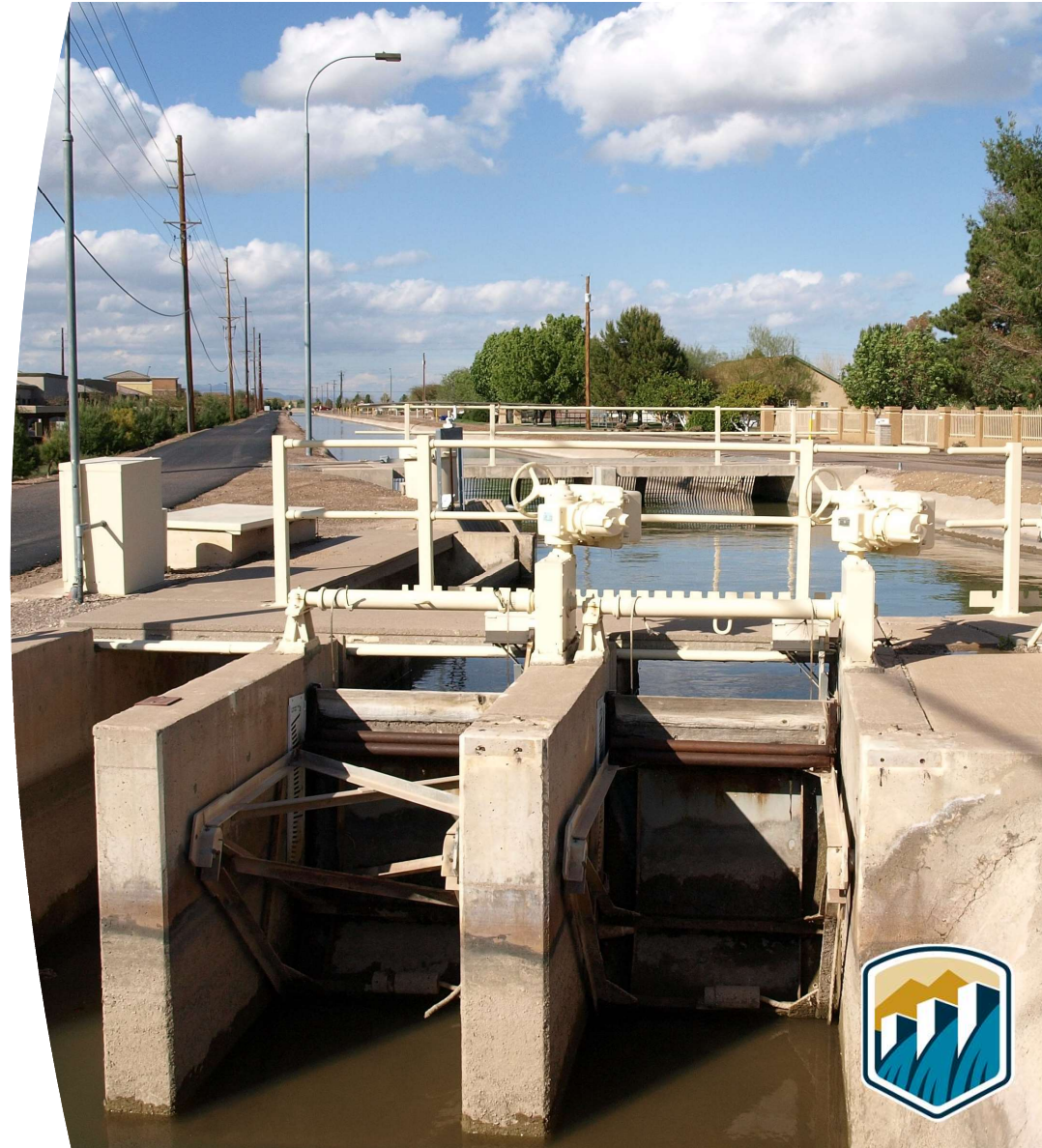
- Canal lining/piping
- Meter and flow measurement (Municipal or Ag)
- Landscape irrigation measures
- SCADA and Automation

Funding

- Up to \$75k in Reclamation funds
- Maximum total project costs of \$200k per project

Evaluation Criteria

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



WaterSMART Grants

Water Marketing Strategy Grants

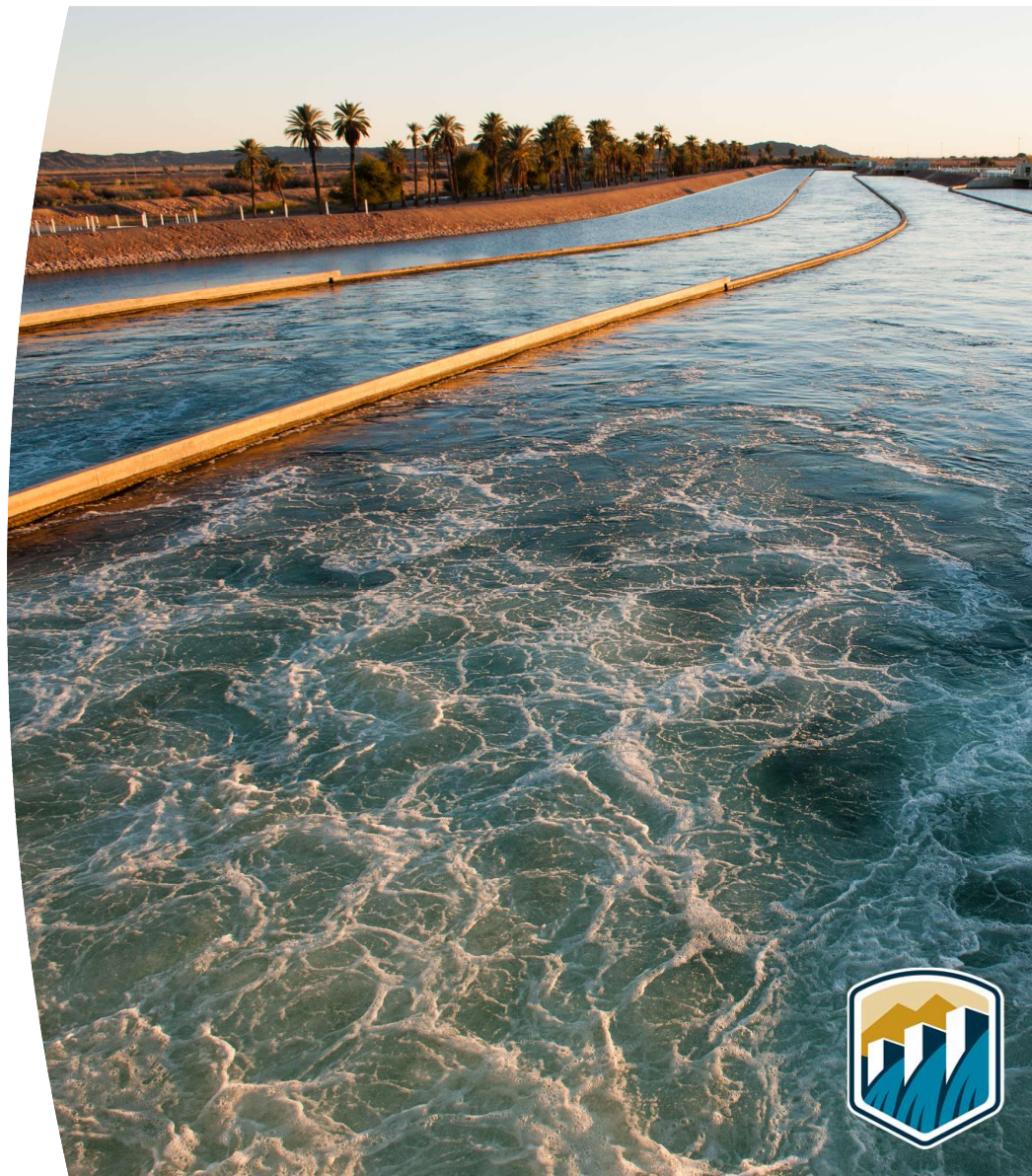
Program Objective: Water markets between willing buyers and sellers can help meet demands efficiently in times of shortages, preventing conflicts

Eligible activities:

- Outreach and partnership building
- Scoping and planning
- Development of a water marketing strategy document
- Pilot activities to further the development of a water marketing strategy

Funding levels:

- Up to \$200k for a 2-year project
- Up to \$400k for a 3-year project



Drought Response Program

3 sub-activities

- Drought Contingency Planning
- Drought Resiliency Projects
- Emergency Response Actions

Since 2015, the program has provided over \$41 million in competitively-awarded funding for drought planning and drought resiliency.



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: **\$1.5 million** 3 years

Eligible Applicants

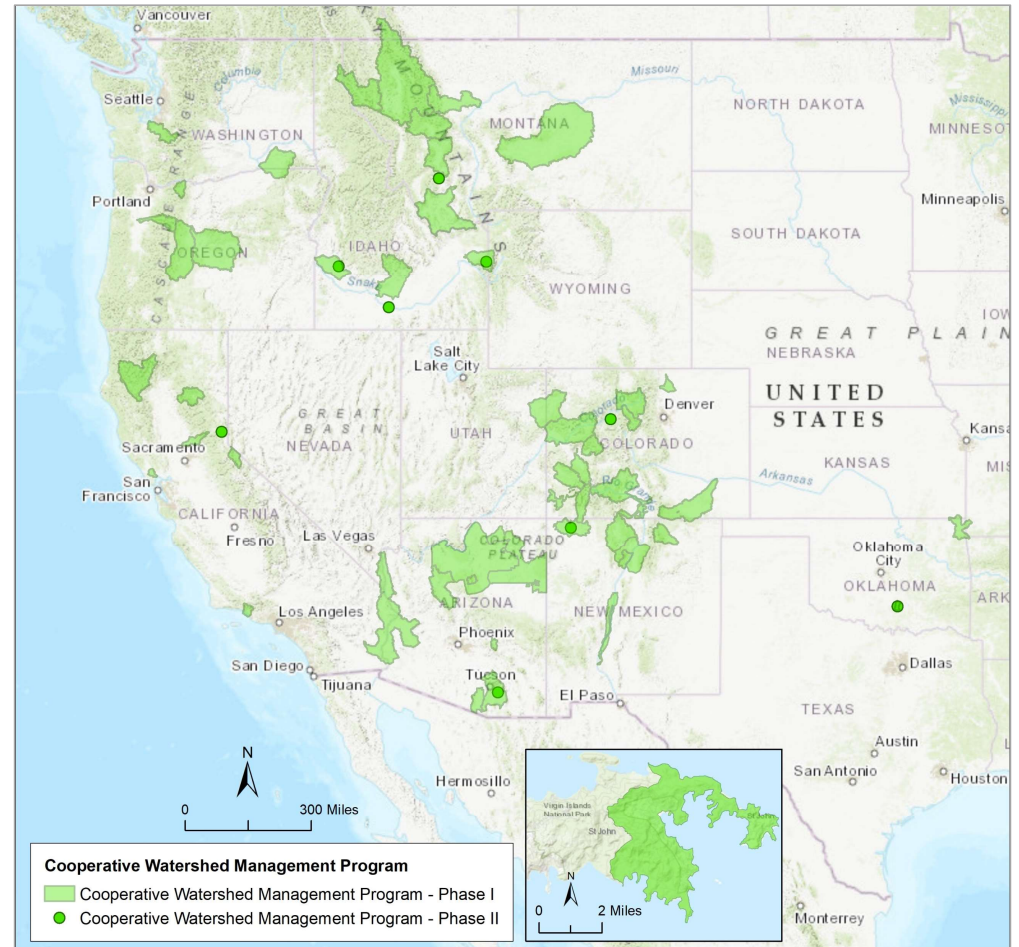
- States, Indian Tribes, organizations with water or power authority
- **Nonprofit conservation organizations in partnership with an entity described above**
- **Nonprofit conservation organizations**



Cooperative Watershed Management Program

2 sub-activities

- Phase I: Form a watershed group, develop a restoration plan and do project design
- Phase II: Implement on-the-ground watershed management projects
- Environmental Water Resources Projects



Cooperative Watershed Management Program

Phase I – Watershed Management Project Implementation

Eligible Project Activities

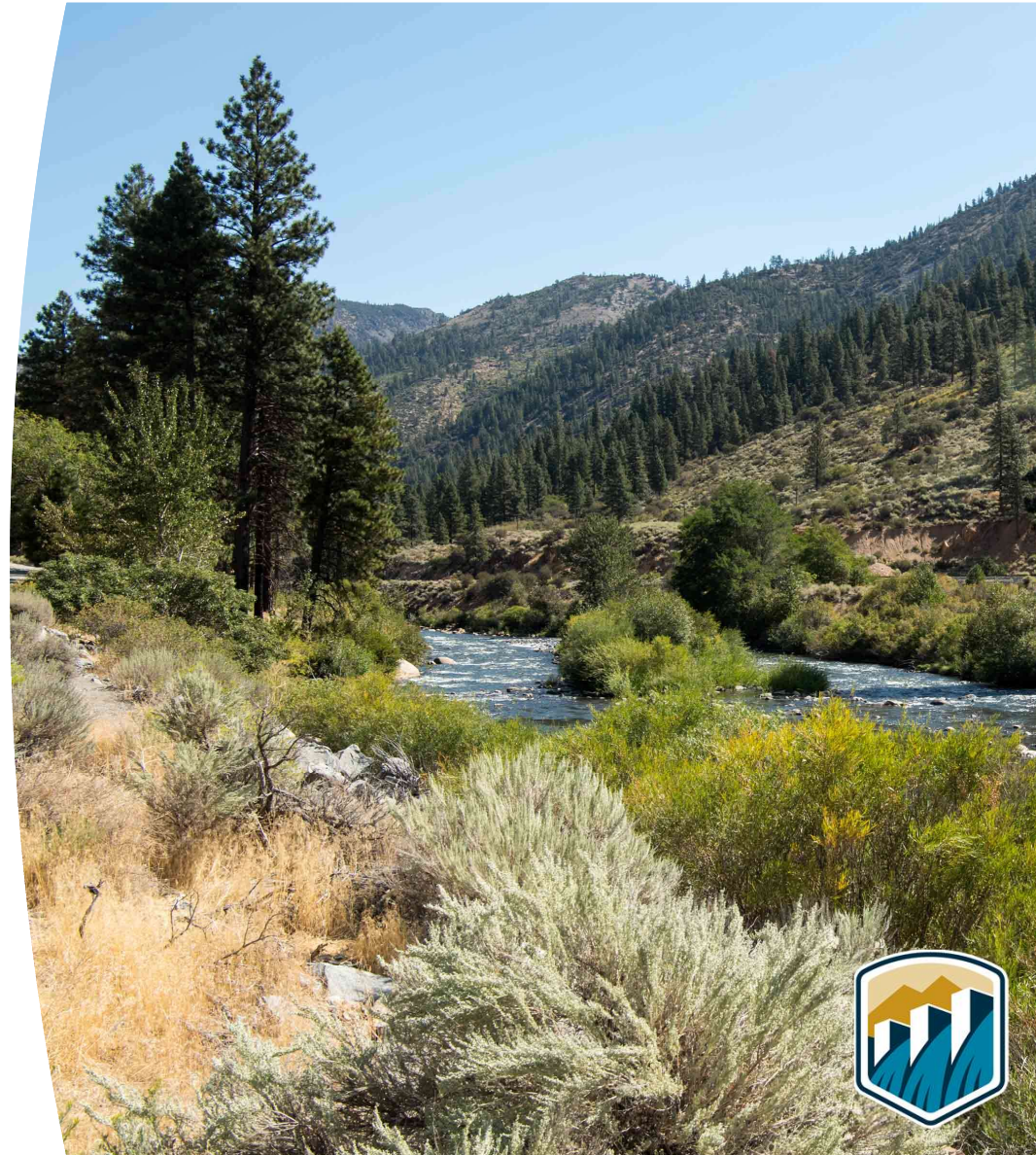
- Watershed group development
- Conducting outreach activities
- Gathering data about the watershed
- Watershed restoration plans
- Watershed management project design

Funding

- 0% non-Federal cost share required
- Up to \$100,000 in Reclamation funding over 2 years
- Sufficiency review required for second year funding

Evaluation Criteria

- Project benefits



Cooperative Watershed Management Program

Phase II – Watershed Management Project Implementation

Eligible Project Activities

- Enhancing riparian vegetation
- Increasing instream flows
- Invasive species control
- Fish passage
- Stream channel reconstruction and bank stabilization

Eligible Applicants

Must be established Watershed Group to apply

Funding

- 50% non-Federal cost share required
- Up to \$300,000 in Reclamation funding over 2 years
- Sufficiency review required for second year funding



Cooperative Watershed Management Program

Environmental Water Resources Projects–

Eligible Project Types

- Increase water supply reliability for ecological values
- Must be developed as part of a collaborative process
- Majority of benefits must be for the purpose of advancing one or more components of an established strategy or plan to increase the reliability of water supply for consumptive and non-consumptive ecological values

Funding/Cost Share

- \$? in ? years
- Non-Federal Cost Share: 25% or greater.

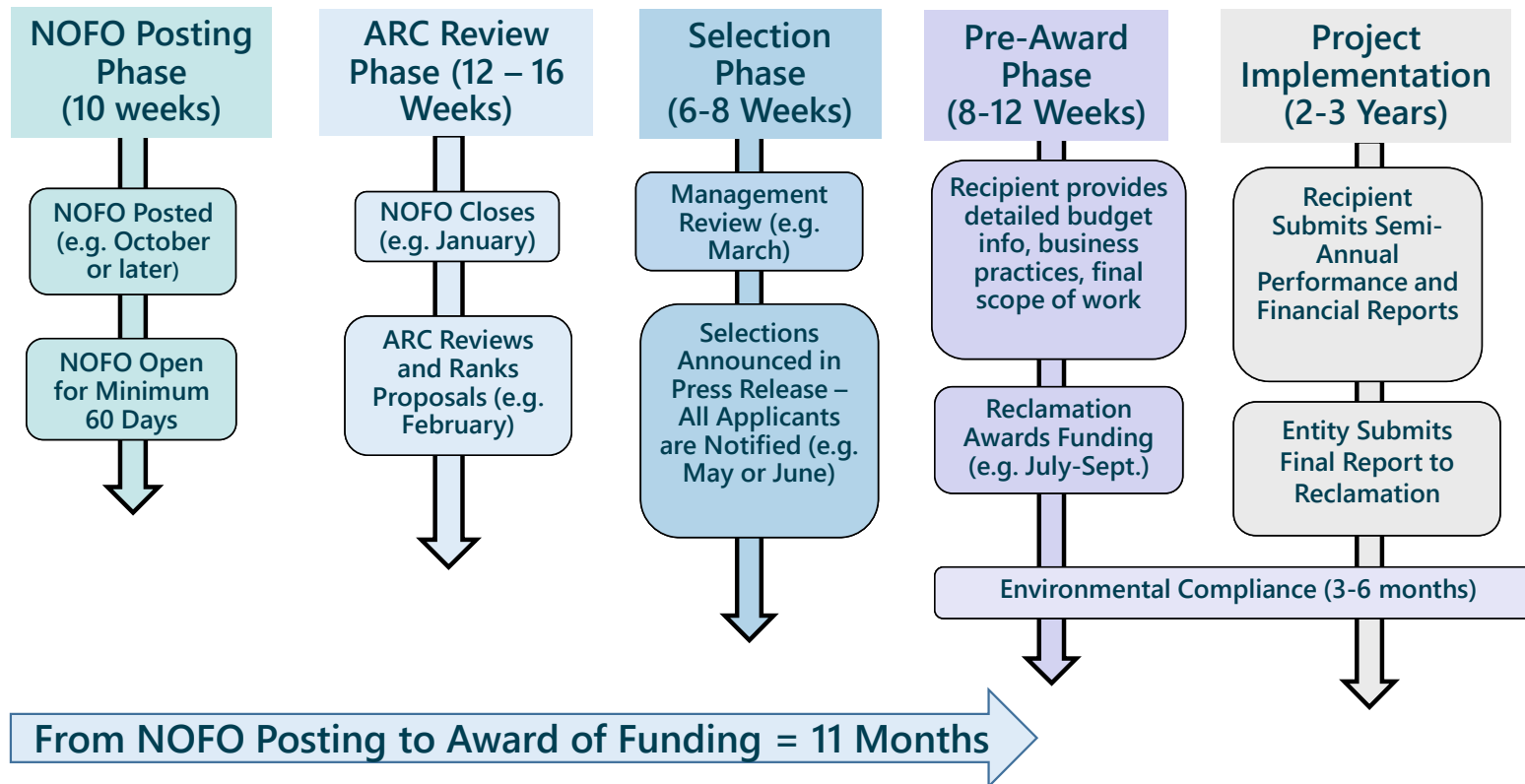
Eligible Applicants

- States, Indian Tribes, organizations with water or power authority
- Nonprofit conservation organizations in partnership with an entity described above
- Nonprofit conservation organizations



WaterSMART Selection Process

Sample schedule



WaterSMART Application Tips

General Tips

- Important: Read everything in the NOFO!
 - Ask questions if something does not make sense.
- Do not assume the Application Review Committee knows you.
- Committee is comprised of Reclamation staff from throughout the Western states.
- Understand 50/50 cost share is non-Federal funding
 - Could apply for state funding for the same project.
 - State funding can count as your cost share portion.
 - Water Infrastructure Finance Authority loans can count as cost share.
- Costs are reimbursable.
- Ask for help!



WaterSMART Application Tips

Additional General Tips

- Apply for multiple grants.
- If a project is selected for multiple awards, we'll award one opportunity providing the most benefit.
- For large projects, consider doing it in phases and applying for funding in sequential years.
- Give yourself plenty of time to write and submit the proposal.
- If your application is not awarded, ask for a debriefing to help prepare better proposal next year.
- Keep applying!



WaterSMART Program Web Links

Note: Successful proposals are available on the website for each program

Basin Studies	Basin Studies - https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/bsp/index.html Reservoir Operations - https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/pilots/index.html Applied Science Tools - https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/appliedscience/index.html
Title XVI	https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/title/index.html
WaterSMART Grants	Water and Energy Efficiency Grants - https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/weeg/index.html Small-Scale Water Efficiency Grants - https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/swep/index.html Water Marketing Strategy Grants - https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/watermarketing/index.html
Field Services	https://www.usbr.gov/waterconservation/
Drought	https://www.usbr.gov/drought/
CWMP	https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/cwmp/index.html



Thank you!

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Send an email to watersmart@usbr.gov with your name and email address for updates.

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



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