

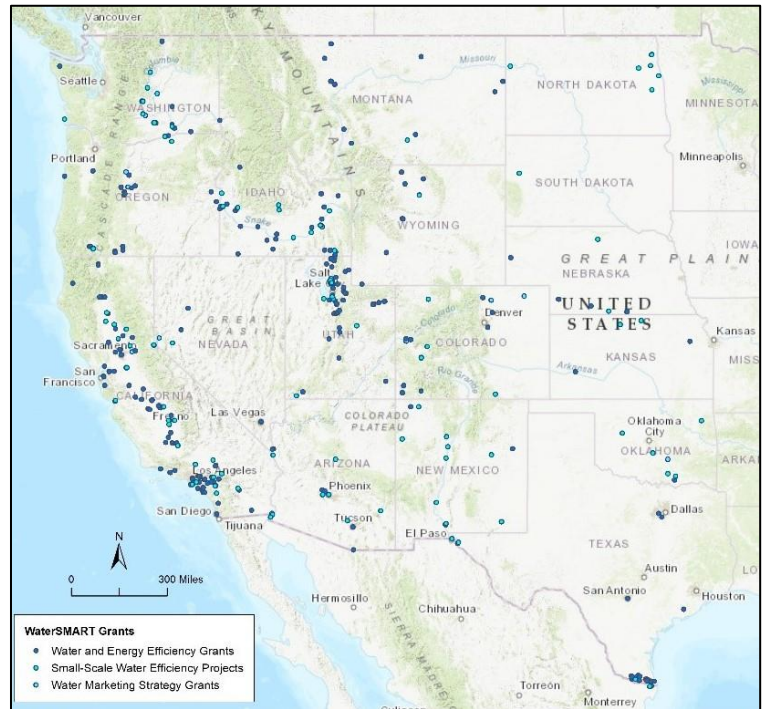


# WaterSMART Grants

Through WaterSMART Grants, the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) provides financial assistance to water managers for projects that seek to conserve and use water more efficiently, implement renewable energy, investigate and develop water marketing strategies, mitigate conflict risk in areas at a high risk of future water conflict, and accomplish other benefits that contribute to sustainability in the western United States. Cost-shared projects that can be completed within two or three years are selected annually through a competitive process.

Three categories of WaterSMART Grants are offered through separate funding opportunities: Water and Energy Efficiency Grants; Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects; and Water Marketing Strategy Grants.

Eligible applicants for all WaterSMART Grants funding opportunities include states; tribes; irrigation districts; water districts; state, regional, or local authorities, whose members include one or more organization with water or power delivery authority; other organizations with water or power delivery authority; and nonprofit conservation organizations that are acting in partnership with and with the agreement of an entity previously described. To be eligible, applicants must be located in the Western United States or U.S. Territories. Entities located in Alaska and Hawaii are also eligible to apply.



## Water and Energy Efficiency Grants

Water and Energy Efficiency Grants, the primary category of funding under WaterSMART Grants, focuses on projects that result in quantifiable and sustained water savings, including canal lining and piping projects, municipal metering projects, and Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) and automation projects. Criteria also place a priority on projects that support broader sustainability benefits, including addressing the impacts of climate change, enhancing drought resiliency, and projects that will complement on-farm irrigation improvements, including those that may be eligible for Natural Resource Conservation Service funding.

Applicants may request federal funding: (I) up to \$500,000 for projects to be completed within two years, (II) up to \$2 million for projects to be completed within three years; and (III) up to \$5 million for projects to be completed within three years, with a non-Federal cost share of 50% or more of the total project cost.

# Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects

Reclamation also provides funding for small-scale on-the-ground water management projects that conserve, better manage, or otherwise increase efficient use of water supplies. Projects supported by an existing water management and conservation plan, System Optimization Review, or other planning effort led by the applicant are prioritized. Example projects include, but are not limited to:

- Canal Lining/Piping.
- Municipal Metering.
- Irrigation Flow Measurement.
- Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) and Automation.
- Landscape irrigation Measures.
- High-Efficiency Indoor Appliances and Fixtures
- Commercial Cooling Systems

Applicants for Small-Scale projects may request up to \$100,000 in Federal funding, with a non-Federal cost-share of 50% or more of total project costs, for projects with total project costs no more than \$225,000. This funding opportunity includes simplified criteria and a streamlined application to ensure the process works for smaller entities.

## Water Marketing Strategy Grants

Reclamation is also offering financial assistance for the development of water marketing strategies to facilitate water markets as a tool for helping willing buyers and sellers meet water demands efficiently in times of shortage and prevent water conflicts. Water managers can conduct planning activities to establish or expand water markets in compliance with state laws. Reclamation seeks to support collaborative planning efforts that use the establishment of water markets to proactively address water supply shortages and increase water management flexibility in the longer term.

Funding awarded under Water Marketing Strategy Grants can be used for outreach and partnership building, planning activities (e.g., hydrologic, economic, legal and other types of analysis), pilot activities, and the development of a “water marketing strategy” document. A water marketing strategy document is a written framework for the implementation of water marketing activities. Applications are evaluated against evaluation criteria which prioritize projects that are collaborative, well-supported by stakeholders, and which are likely to provide solutions to identified water management issues.

Program funding is allocated through a competitive process. Applicants for Water Marketing Strategy Grants may request federal funding up to \$400,000 for projects to be completed within three years with a non-Federal cost share of 50% or more of the total project cost.

**For more information:** Please visit [www.usbr.gov/watersmart/grants.html](http://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/grants.html) or contact Josh German, at 303-445-2839 or [jgerman@usbr.gov](mailto:jgerman@usbr.gov).

For more information on selected projects, visit the WaterSMART Data Visualization Tool at <http://www.usbr.gov/watersmart>.