



Memo

To: Jurisdictions with Water Needs

From: Colleen Hannon, Region 10 Grant Navigator

Date: 10.16.23

Re: Funding Opportunities for Water Projects

Colleagues:

Here are two funding sources for you this week. My apologies that I did not get these out to you this past Friday.

1. BOR WaterSMART Water and Energy Efficiency

This portal is not open right now, but funds items that many of you have noted as needs: **Hydropower, SCADAs, piping of canals, the installation of renewables such as solar for operations, and turf replacement.** I just received an email from BOR and the program manager estimates the NOFO will be announced as early as the end of October, 2023. I heartily encourage many of you to look at this program!!!!!! And now you have a bit of extra time to consider this, because the Notice of Funding is not even out yet!

For reference, I am including details about eligible project categories from this year's announcement.

Water Conservation Projects: projects result in quantifiable and sustained water savings or improved water management. Please note that an agreement will not be awarded for an improvement to conserve irrigation water unless the applicant agrees to the terms of Public Law 111-11 §9504(a)(3)(B) of. See *Section F.2.4. Requirements for Agricultural Operations under Public Law 111-11 §9504(a)(3)(D)* of this NOFO for further information. Eligible water conservation projects include:

Canal Lining/Piping: Projects that line or pipe canals, resulting in conserved water. Projects include but are not limited to installing new proven lining materials or technology, converting open canals to pipelines, improving existing conveyance and delivery infrastructure. Please note: this NOFO is not intended for projects to replace municipal drinking water lines.

Municipal Metering: Projects that install meters, resulting in measurable water savings. Projects include but are not limited to installing end-user water service meters, e.g., for a residential or commercial building unit.

Irrigation Flow Measurement: Projects that improve measurement accuracy and result in reduced spills and over-deliveries to irrigators. Projects include, but are not limited to installing weirs, flumes, ramps, etc. in open channels and installing meters in pressurized pipes.

Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition and Automation (SCADA): Projects that install SCADA and/or automation components that provide water savings when irrigation delivery system operational efficiency is improved to reduce spills, over-deliveries. Projects include, but are not limited to installing SCADA components that allow for remote monitoring of irrigation delivery system conditions (flow rates, water

elevations, controls devices openings, etc.) and installing automation components that allow for remote operation of delivery system control features (gates, valves, turnouts, etc.)

Landscape Irrigation Measures: Projects that provide water savings by reducing outdoor water usage. These measures include turf removal, Smart irrigation controllers (weather or soil-moisture based) and high-efficiency nozzles (sprinkler heads). These measures are typically promoted by water entities through rebates or direct-install programs, which are eligible for WaterSMART Grants funding. Projects include, but are not limited to removing turf, installing Smart irrigation controllers, installing high-efficiency nozzles (e.g., sprinkler heads)

Renewable Energy Projects: Projects that increase the use of renewable energy sources in managing and delivering water and/or projects that upgrade existing water management facilities resulting in quantifiable and sustained energy generation and/or savings. Projects include, but are not limited to, those discussed in the following subsections.

Renewable energy projects related to water management and delivery include, but are not limited to:

Developing new hydropower capacity by installing a new hydropower facility or upgrading (i.e., increasing) the capacity of an existing hydropower facility, bringing existing mothballed hydropower capacity back online through facility investment, installing solar-electric, wind energy, or geothermal power systems (e.g., replacing fossil fuel powered pumps with renewable energy-based pumps)

2. BOR Small Surface Water and Groundwater Storage Projects

This application has a due date of November 30, 2023. The link to the program is here:

<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=350235>

Eligible projects include planning, design, and construction of small surface water and groundwater storage facilities.

In order to be eligible for funding under this NOFO, the project must meet the following requirements.

- Only eligible applicants may construct, operate, and maintain the project, or an eligible applicant must sponsor the project. To sponsor a project, the eligible applicant must contribute funding for a sufficient portion of the capital construction costs of the project within the timeframe of this NOFO consistent with the law.
- The project must have a completed feasibility study that meets the requirements of CMP TRMR127 by the posting date of this NOFO.
- Applicants must be ready to proceed with the project once a financial assistance agreement is in place.
- An eligible project must have water storage capacity of not less than 200 acre-feet and not more than 30,000 acre-feet, and increase surface water or groundwater storage, or convey water, directly or indirectly, to or from surface water or groundwater storage. The project must increase yield, on average, above existing conditions to identified beneficiaries and the environment.
- The BIL limits funding to project work that is planned or underway between November 15, 2021, and November 15, 2026. Reclamation will not provide funding for work conducted on any project prior to the authorization of this program.

That's all I have for today.

Thanks,

Colleen