

Application for the WaterSMART Drought Response Program: Drought Resiliency Projects for Fiscal Year 2024, CFDA 15.514

Notice of Funding Opportunity No. R24AS00007

Title: Walker River Paiute Tribe Domestic Water Supply Project

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TECHNICAL PROPOSAL

Executive Summary

The Walker River Paiute Tribe is a federally-recognized tribe located in Mineral, Lyon, and Churchill counties in Nevada. The Walker River Paiute Tribe is deeply affected by persistent drought conditions and has lacked reliable access to domestic water supplies for generations. There is an urgent need to provide domestic water supplies to households on the Reservation. There are approximately 1,200 individuals who reside on the Reservation. According to CDC's Social Vulnerability Index and by 13 CFR § 124.103, the Reservation is considered a socially vulnerable community. The Reservation has a national Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) rating of .7332, which is a medium-high level of vulnerability.

The Walker River Paiute Tribe is applying for domestic water supply construction funds to support the installation of a new water storage tank and build an expanded water infrastructure system on the Walker River Paiute Reservation through **Task Area D**.

Project Summary

The Walker River Paiute Tribe, in Mineral, Lyon, and Churchill counties of Nevada, will construct a 410,000 gallon water storage tank and complete a comprehensive domestic water supply distribution system on the Walker River Paiute Reservation. The volume of existing water storage and the water distribution system on the reservation is inadequate to meet community needs, which makes the Tribe vulnerable to water shortages and creates stress on the system during persistent periods of drought. Additional water storage volume will allow the community to build long-term resilience to drought by increasing water reserves and improving the distribution system to ensure access to a safe and healthy domestic water supply for future generations. This project involves the partnership of Indian Health Service, Economic Development Administration, and the Environmental Protection Agency.

Project Timeline

The water storage tank construction process will begin upon award, after October 31, 2024. The water tank will be fully installed and the comprehensive domestic water supply distribution system will be completed no later than September 2027. The Tribe is motivated to install the new water storage tank and complete the comprehensive domestic water supply project, due to urgent needs for clean and safe domestic water supply.

Project Land

The water storage tank and domestic water supply project will be constructed on the Walker River Paiute Reservation. The project coordinates are Latitude 38.96, Longitude 118.92.

Relevant Background

The Walker River Paiute Tribe is located in a rural area within three counties in Midwestern Nevada (Mineral, Lyon, and Churchill counties) about 100 miles southeast of Reno, Nevada. The

land base consists of about 325,000 acres in a river valley, mostly used for grazing and some ranching. Alfalfa is the main crop. The present Reservation encompasses a high desert land base and is surrounded by mountains, desert lakes, and marshland/wetlands. Approximately 1,200 people reside within the Reservation boundaries. The current public water system provides drinking water for approximately 9,000 acres or 14 square miles. The Tribe irrigates 2,100 acres of Alfalfa fields on an annual basis.

Water Supply Information

The Walker River Paiute Tribe owns and operates a public, community, nonprofit water system. The public water system identification number is 3200360. The current system provides drinking water for approximately 9,000 acres or 14 square miles. The domestic water supply project will cover an area of 4,274 acres on tribal land along the Walker River, Latitude 38.96, Longitude 118.92. There are two wells located on the Walker River Paiute Reservation: Well #1 (10 GPM/ft) and Well #2 (9.7 GPM/ft). There is one existing 285,000-gallon welded steel tank located at an elevation that controls the complete tribal water distribution system pressure, the water well, and water treatment operation. The tank is located very close to the tribal groundwater well and treatment plant. The total amount of water available in an unconstrained year is 340 acre-feet per year in current demands.

Project Location

The Walker River Paiute Reservation is situated in three counties in Midwestern Nevada (Mineral, Lyon, and Churchill counties) about 100 miles southeast of Reno, Nevada. The water storage tank and domestic water supply project will be constructed on the Walker River Paiute Reservation. The project coordinates are Latitude 38.96, Longitude 118.92. Please see the Appendix for the project site maps.

Project Description

The goal for this project is to improve the domestic water supply system on the Walker River Paiute Reservation. Objectives include (1) construction of a 410,000-gallon water storage tank and (2) adding 23,500 feet of eight-inch water main to meet domestic water supply needs.

We organize the work according to the objectives below.

Objective 1: Construct a 410,000-gallon water storage tank

The existing water storage tank has a limited capacity of just 285,000 gallons and does not meet industry design standards for volume. The required water storage volume for the Walker River Paiute Tribe is 660,000 GAL. This is calculated based on maximum daily demand plus fire flow (Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 445A.6672). Based upon the Preliminary Engineering Report produced by the Indian Health Service in 2017, an additional water storage tank is required to meet urgent health and safety needs on the Walker River Paiute Reservation. As space is available at the existing tank site, installing the new tank adjacent to the existing tank will reduce the amount of new piping and simplify operations. The inlet/outlet pipe to the new storage tank will be connected to the existing pipe between the WTP and the existing tank.

The new tank will have an overflow and gravity drain, as well as a water level measurement device connected to the tribe's SCADA system, security road access, and yard lighting.

The technical approach is as follows:

Pre-Construction:

- Develop tank design, site and tank plan layout, and cross sections with all surface infrastructure and elements.
 - Establish design criteria, subgrade preparation, and tank foundation as a part of a performance specification.
 - Detail the pipe connection between the new tank and the water main from the existing tank to the water distribution system.
 - Develop drawings from instrumentation for monitoring the storage tank water level. Connect to the existing tank instrumentation for regulating the water level and pump station operation. Integrate into SCADA system.
 - Supply and erection of the tank is integral to the supply and installation of 25,000 ft of water main.
 - The planning and design is in partnership with Stantec, Indian Health Service, and the Environmental Protection Agency.
- Construction Bid Documents:
- Prepare and review construction bid documents. Tank will be bid with 25,000 feet of pipeline.
- Construction:
- Install 410,000-gallon welded steel water storage tank. Tank will be designed by a Professional Engineer registered in the State of Nevada and delivered, erected, and commissioned by a welded steel tank supplier.
 - Connect pipe to existing Tribal supply main from the existing water treatment tank and drinking water reservoir to the village water distribution system.
 - Connect electrical conduit to the existing instrumentation and control cable.
 - Ensure instrumentation and control integration of signal from the new tank.
 - Prepare site by implementing grading, overflow pipe, fill piping, security fence, and site lighting.

Objective 2: Construct an additional 23,500 feet of eight-inch water main

The Walker River Paiute Tribe is building an expanded water infrastructure system that will create 100 new connections and add 23,500 feet of eight-inch water main.

The technical approach is as follows:

- Pre-Construction:

- Detailed Design/Specification
- IHS / BIA / Corps of Engineers – Review

- Construction Bid Documents:

- Contractor Selection Process

- Contract with Contractor

- Construction:

- Startup, Commissioning, Permitting Completion, record drawings, training

Construction Activities	Description
Survey	Meets and bounds survey
Rights of Way	Negotiate and file permanent rights of way (project crosses land allotments)
Install	Addition to the Tribe’s water distribution system pipes:
Water Main Pipes:	
• North Loop	• 11,300 feet of 8-inch water main
• South Loop	• 2,300 feet of 8-inch water main
• West Loop	• 1,900 feet of 8-inch water main
• Sierra Road	• 8,000 feet of 8-inch water main
Boring under Highway SR 95	Water main crossings under and permitted by the State of Nevada State Route 95 (SR 95)
Boring under Highway SR 95A	Water main crossings under and permitted by the State of Nevada State Route 95A (SR 95A)
Boring under Walker River	Water main crossing under the Walker River in close collaboration with the Army Corps of Engineers.
Boring under Irrigation Canal	Water main crossing under one of the Tribe’s irrigation canals
Install water meters.	Furnish, install, and connect water service lines to water meter box and meters.

Performance Measures

Metering will be used to determine whether the tank is operating properly and allowing the Tribe to meet storage capacity requirements. At present, the only available water metering data is the daily Water Treatment Plant (WTP) production. The Tribe has included a universal metering program as part of its Water System Improvement Program. Meters are funded by the Economic Development Administration. As the Tribe is pursuing universal metering, the Tribe plans to use a total storage capacity based on a metered system. An analysis of water production from the water storage tank will ensure that the Tribe is meeting water production requirements based on these estimates. Performance measure for the water distribution system will be:

1. A quantifiable increase in water pressure compared to baseline measures prior to construction and
2. the addition of 100 new domestic water service connections.

Evaluation Criteria

Criterion A. Project Benefits

Sub-criterion A1.a. Adds to Available Water Supplies and Community Description

The Walker River Paiute Tribe is a Federally Recognized Tribe. The Walker River Paiute Reservation requires additional water supplies. We are a disadvantaged community located in a rural area as defined in section 343(a)(13)(C) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1991(a)(13)). The population is approximately 1,200 and our community is socially-disadvantaged as defined by 13 CFR § 124.103. According to the Small Business Administration, the Walker River Paiute Reservation is located in a Qualified HUBZone, a historically underutilized business zone.

According to the U.S. Census (2015-19 American Community Survey 5-year estimates), the median household income of the Walker River Paiute Tribe is \$31,094. This income level is approximately 52% of the median household income for the state of Nevada, which is \$60,365. The Tribe's unemployed population is estimated at 47%, compared to the State of Nevada's 7.7% unemployment rate.

Before the pandemic, 43% of our population lived below the poverty line, compared to the 12.5% poverty rate in Nevada (ACS). Our unemployment rate on the Walker River reservation was 22%, which is nearly triple Nevada's unemployment rate of 7.8% (BLS).

Historically, the Walker River Paiute Reservation has experienced severe drought conditions. Walker Lake, the terminus of the Walker River, has experienced dramatic levels of decline. According to a history index published by the Walker Basin Conservancy, in the past 100 years, Walker Lake's volume has decreased by more than 90%, and its surface area by more than half. Due to consistent drought conditions through several years, the lower Walker River has run completely dry before reaching Walker Lake. There are no fish in Walker Lake. These conditions have resulted in significant economic decline in the region through the loss of recreation and tourism dollars.

A significant environmental hazard is the contamination of reservation lands due to naval bomb ordnance from a neighboring air base (Nevada Fallon Naval Air Station). The Tribe has documented contamination since 1959. The Tribe has lost use of approximately 6,000 acres of reservation land because of contamination and pollution by military testing and training exercises. Some of the sites cannot be cleaned up, due to the pervasive and volatile nature of the bomb ordnance debris. The nearby Hawthorne Army Depot (HWAD) stores conventional munitions, demilitarizes and disposes of unserviceable, obsolete, and surplus munitions, and maintains serviceability through inspection and renovation to ensure munitions readiness. Munitions are frequently transported through the Walker River Paiute Reservation to the Army Depot in Hawthorne.

- **Proposals need to demonstrate that the primary purpose of the proposed project is to provide domestic water supplies to communities or households that do not have reliable access to domestic water supplies.**

o Describe the need for the domestic water supply project including any prominent public health and safety concerns, interruptions in supply or other reasons that the community does not currently have reliable access to domestic water supplies.

The Walker River Paiute Reservation is in a rural area spread across three counties in midwestern Nevada. The lack of domestic water supply storage and distribution resources, due to our location and economic disadvantage, has adversely impacted our living and working conditions. We have limited fire suppression capacity and low water pressure. For example, 72 applicants are on our housing waitlists, some since 2015. Without proper water infrastructure we cannot construct homes to house our primary workforce – tribal members.

Prominent public health and safety concerns

- Low water pressure in hydrants and limited water storage capacity pose significant health and safety risks due to fire suppression needs.
- Interviews with construction workers in the northern portion of the water system indicated that water was stagnant to the point of odors and discoloration. Based on these interviews, Indian Health Service (IHS) determined these low pressures and stagnant water pose a health threat to the community.
- One resident of the Rodeo Grounds Subdivision in the north east side of the water system indicated that during the summer months the water pressure gets so low he is unable to take showers during the day.
- Lack of water infrastructure impacts the availability of workforce housing and public safety services.

Prominent quality of life and economic concerns

- Lack of adequate water infrastructure to attract and sustain economic investment (business enterprises, health care services, geothermal industries, solar industries). This limits our position as a viable business site for economic investment. Our geographic location is an optimum site for geothermal and solar industries, but the lack of water infrastructure has prevented investment from potential business partners.

Need for storage capacity

The Walker River Paiute Tribe currently operates a 285,000-gallon steel water storage tank. The Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 445A has offered guidance in evaluating the storage capacity requirements for the WRPT water system under current and future conditions as well as with and without meters installed at each customer connection. The calculated storage capacity requirement is 549,000 gallons under current conditions and 695,000 gallons under future conditions with water meters installed. The analysis was based upon 335 connections for the current system and 100 future residential connections.

A typical storage volume requirement is equal to fire flow plus the peak month daily demand or the maximum day demand. A typical peak month to average day peaking factor is 1.5. Using the water demand data from the peak month day, the existing storage requirement would be 456,000 gallons and using the maximum day, the storage requirement would be 609,000 gallons. The fire flow requirement is often added to the storage volume requirement. This

results in a total existing storage need of 576,000 gallons using the peak month day, and 728,000 gallons using the maximum day.

o Explain how the proposed project will increase reliable access to domestic water supplies. Provide this quantity in acre-feet per year the average annual benefit that the domestic water supply project will provide. How many people is it estimated to serve? How were these estimates calculated (average benefit and population)?

The construction of a 410,000-gallon welded steel water storage tank and addition of 23,500 feet of 8" water main will significantly increase reliable access to domestic water supply. The quantity of 340 acre-feet per year under current demands will increase to 400 acre-feet under future demands. The immediate benefits are for approximately 1,200 residents of the Walker Paiute Reservation who will have access to clean, safe domestic water supply through improved storage capacity and water pressure. Hundreds of future residents will benefit from 100 new connections. In addition, the Tribe will have improved fire suppression capacity.

Mid-term and long-term benefits include the infrastructure to attract business partners and economic investments as we work towards long-term economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. Improved domestic water supply infrastructure will increase our employment rates, generate tax revenue, improve health and safety conditions, and enable the construction of workforce housing for our tribal members.

• How many years will the project continue to provide benefits?

The life-expectancy of a welded steel water storage tank is 75-100 years. The new water main pipes are expected to last at least 70 years. This investment in the comprehensive domestic water supply and distribution system will benefit multiple generations of Walker River Paiute Reservation residents.

Sub-Criterion A2.a

Pursuant to E.O. 14008: Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad, consider the degree to which the application demonstrates that the proposed project will contribute to climate change resilience and adaptation.

For additional information on the impacts of climate change throughout the Western United States, see www.usbr.gov/climate/secure/docs/2021secure/2021SECUREReport.pdf. To describe how the project will address and build resilience to climate change, consider the following, but only answer if applicable to your project:

• In addition to drought resiliency measures, does the proposed project include other natural hazard risk reductions for hazards such as wildfires or floods?

The project will reduce wildfire and flood risks in the following ways.

Wildfire Risk Reduction

The construction of a new 410,000-gallon welded steel storage tank will increase the Tribe's fire suppression capacity. Due to drought conditions, the Tribe is vulnerable to wildfires, as recently as 2021 near the Walker River in 2021.

Flood Risk Reduction

A robust water storage and domestic water supply distribution system will enhance resilience of the Walker River Paiute tribal community in times of flood events, which may cause loss of power and damage to assets. The main stem of the Walker River flows through the reservation in a southeasterly direction for approximately 45 river miles. Walker Lake, the terminus of the Walker River, lies at the southern end of the reservation. Flood during the annual spring thaw is a potential hazard for residents living in the flood-prone areas of the Walker River. Weber Dam is located near the Walker River Paiute Reservation. If the dam fails, lives and property in the dam failure inundation pathway would be endangered. In 1997, there was a devastating flood event that caused significant damage.

- **Will the proposed project establish and use a renewable energy source?**

The current water storage tank utilizes a solar panel as a renewable energy source. The Tribe plans to construct the new water storage tank with a solar panel to be consistent with the other tank's system and to access renewable energy.

- **Will the proposed project reduce greenhouse gas emissions by sequestering carbon in soils, grasses, trees, and other vegetation?**

N/A

- **Does the proposed project include green or sustainable infrastructure to improve community climate resilience?**

N/A

- **Does the proposed project seek to reduce or mitigate climate pollutions such as air or water pollution?**

N/A

- **Does the proposed project have a conservation or management component that will promote healthy lands and soils or serve to protect water supplies and its associated uses?**

Water Conservation Through Metering

The Tribe has secured funding from the Economic Development Administration (EDA) to install universal metering. The Tribe will conduct meter readings for the purposes of both billing and monitoring for excessive use. As a strategy for reducing per capita water use, the Tribe will structure rates to incentivize efficient usage and minimize excessive use. Bills will include accessible tips for conserving water. The January 2023 Basis of Design report that was adopted by the Tribal Council recommends promoting community-wide xeriscaping, use of efficient fixtures, and responsible residential irrigation practices.

At present, the only available water metering data is the daily WTP production. There are no other metering systems in place, including on individual service connections. To be proactive in water conservation, the Tribe has included a universal metering program as part of the Water

System Improvement Program. The implementation program has started with a strategy development meeting with Indian Health Services Reno who has worked with three other Paiute tribes on similar universal metering programs. Indian Health Service (IHS) has affirmed their support for the implementation of water meters as well as the investment in increasing O&M capacity to read the meters to gain more insight into community water usage and provide education to users about water conservation. IHS offers technical assistance and engineering reviews to support the Tribe in our water system improvement efforts.

- **Does the proposed project contribute to climate change resiliency in other ways not described above?**

According to the U.S. Seasonal Drought Monitor, each location on the Walker River Paiute Reservation is at equal risk to a drought event. Drought on the Walker River Paiute Reservation affects the Tribe's single water supply, natural resources, and economic stability. Prolonged drought has caused crop failures and grazing restrictions on livestock, which adversely affects food production and the economy. Drought has impacted groundwater levels and limited the community's water supply. Drought may cause or accelerate insect infestations and dust storms. The drying impact of drought on vegetation increases the risk, frequency, and intensity of wildfires.

According to the Nevada Community Wildfire Risk/Hazard Assessment Project for Mineral County, the town of Schurz located on the Walker River Paiute Reservation is categorized as a moderate hazard. The Walker River Paiute Reservation is served by the Walker River Volunteer Fire Department, which is based in a modest, aging facility. There is a very limited fire suppression capacity due to water storage volume and fire flow, due to pipe size and water pressure.

This domestic water supply project will increase community resiliency during persistent drought conditions by increasing water storage volume and water pressure.

Sub-Criterion A2.b: Environmental Benefits

Water supply reliability projects often provide environmental benefits in addition to water supply reliability benefits for other users. Ecological resiliency is crucial to sustain ecosystems that can respond to and recover from external stressors resulting from climate change and drought.

This sub-criterion will be scored based on planned, direct benefits that will result from project implementation. Applicants that can quantify the direct benefits and provide reasonable support will receive the most points in this sub-criterion. Example project types that may receive points in this category may include, but are not limited to, increasing storage to augment stream flows during dry periods to protect endangered species or improving water quality or providing water for wildlife habitat areas.

- **Does the project seek to improve ecological climate change resiliency of a wetland, river, or stream to benefit to wildlife, fisheries, or habitats? Do these benefits support an endangered or threatened species?**

N/A

- **What are the types and quantities of environmental benefits provided, such as the types of species and the numbers benefited, acreage of habitat improved, restored, or protected, or the amount of additional stream flow added? How were these benefits calculated?**

N/A

- **Will the proposed project reduce the likelihood of a species listing or otherwise improve the species status?**

According to the U.S. Seasonal Drought Monitor, each location on the Walker River Paiute Reservation is at equal risk to a drought event. Drought on the Walker River Paiute Reservation affects the Tribe's single water supply, natural resources, and economic stability. There is a relationship between drought and other natural hazards. Prolonged drought has caused crop failures and grazing restrictions on livestock, which adversely affects food production and the economy. Drought may impact groundwater levels and limit the community's water supply. Drought may cause or accelerate insect infestations and dust storms. The drying impact of drought on vegetation increases the risk, frequency, and intensity of wildfires. Persistent drought conditions attributed to global climate change can lead to changes in fire behavior, habitat conversion, and a decline in bird and terrestrial species.

Sub-Criterion A2.c: Other Benefits

This sub-criterion will be scored based on the project's contributions to addressing water sustainability in other ways not previously described in the application. For example (but not limited to):

- **Will the project assist States and water users in complying with interstate compacts?**

N/A

- **Will the project benefit multiple sectors and/or users (e.g., agriculture, municipal and industrial, environmental, recreation, or others)? Describe the associated sector benefits.**

The project will benefit multiple sectors (economic development, housing, public safety). Lack of water infrastructure has impacted the tribe's ability to construct workforce housing and provide adequate public safety services. While the tribe has a rural land base with areas to build on, we cannot construct new homes or tribal facilities, due to the lack of water infrastructure. 72 applicants are on our housing waitlists, some since 2015. Without proper water infrastructure we cannot construct homes to house our primary workforce – tribal members.

- **Will the project benefit a larger initiative to address sustainability?**

Yes, this project is part of a comprehensive effort on the part of the Walker River Paiute Tribe to improve its infrastructure to benefit current and future generations. With additional water storage, the tribal community will be able to pump the water wells less often during peak

demand times. This will allow the tribe to be more sustainable during those months. Further, the tribe can pump the wells during off hours to decrease their energy consumption during peak hours.

- **Will the project help to prevent a water-related crisis or conflict? Is there frequently tension or litigation over water in the basin?**

The comprehensive domestic water supply project will ensure resilience during drought conditions, improved fire suppression capacity, and a clean water supply for the Walker River Paiute Tribe.

Criterion B. Planning and Preparedness

Domestic Water Supply Projects Task D: For purposes of evaluating this criterion, please address the following:

- **Describe any prior planning efforts related to the proposed project.**

Project planning is informed by the Stantec June 3, 2013, report (2013 Stantec Report) titled, "Walker River Paiute Tribe Water and Wastewater Evaluation" which identified various water system projects needed to improve safe drinking water delivery by increasing pressures under various water-use demands and water delivery throughout the system. Prior efforts are documented in the 2022 and 2019 Indian Health Service (IHS) Sanitation Facilities Surveys, 2017 IHS Preliminary Engineering Report, and a hydraulic model created in 2018, the IHS Water Distribution Model.

- **Was the plan developed through a collaborative process?**

o Describe who was involved in preparing the plan and whether the plan was prepared with input from stakeholders with diverse interests (e.g., water, land, or forest management interests; and agricultural, municipal, Tribal, environmental, and recreation uses)? Describe the process used for interested stakeholders to provide input during the development of the plan.

All plans for the domestic water supply project were prepared with input from community members with diverse interests. This ensures that water system improvements under this program meet future water demands associated with the total of existing and future development. The Walker River Paiute Tribal Council identified potential future development during an Open House meeting with Stantec that included public input. A Walker River Paiute Tribe Open House session was held April 7, 2022. A public consultation meeting was held on April 28, 2022 to request input from the public on potential future development. These meetings resulted in the Tribe identifying fourteen (14) potential development areas and the corresponding type of development.

During the April 28, 2022 public meeting, Stantec and the WRPT gave a 30-minute presentation that provided an overview of the project. The presentation included the basics on water distribution and treatment system operations, water use in 2020 and 2021, and the water system's delivery issues. Water conservation methods were discussed including the potential

installation of service connection meters, fixing leaking water fixtures, xeriscaping, and residential irrigation practices. The presentation included a description of the proposed water improvement project with a draft of new pipelines and the storage tank shown on a map, potential new developments in Schurz that would be connected to the water system, easement acquisitions, design and construction schedule, and funding sources.

Presenters invited attendees to look at posters of the presentation slides and ask questions to Stantec and the WRPT staff. To gain information on potential new developments, presenters asked attendees to place sticky notes on a map of Schurz to show where they thought new development might be located.

The identified future land development areas were reviewed by the Tribal Council at a meeting on May 9, 2022. The resulting potential development projects include 100 new residential units, tribal institutional developments, and commercial development along US Route 95 (US 95) and US Route 95 Alt (US 95A).

o If the plan was prepared by an entity other than the applicant describe whether and how the applicant was involved in the development of the plan. If the applicant was not involved in the development, explain why.

- **If the referenced plan was not developed collaboratively, please explain why. For example, the planning effort is focused on a very small area or concerns internal to the applicant.**
- **Does the plan include elements of drought planning? If so, please describe**

The Tribe retained Stantec to develop the plan in close partnership with the Walker River Paiute Tribal Council, Water Resources Department, other tribal departments, and tribal citizens. Drought planning is addressed in the Tribe's 2018 Climate Adaptation Plan and the 2016 Mineral County and Walker River Paiute Tribe Multijurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Criterion C. Severity of Actual or Potential Drought Impacts to be Addressed by the Project

Describe recent, existing, or potential drought or water scarcity conditions in the project area.

o Is the project in an area that is currently suffering from drought, or which has recently suffered from drought or water scarcity? Please describe existing conditions, including when and the period of time that the area has experienced drought or water scarcity conditions. Include information to describe the frequency, duration, and severity of current or recent conditions. You may also provide information relating to historical conditions. Please provide supporting documentation (e.g., Drought Monitor, droughtmonitor.unl.edu).

Historically, the Walker River Paiute Reservation has experienced severe drought conditions. Walker Lake, the terminus of the Walker River, has experienced dramatic levels of decline. According to a history index published by the Walker Basin Conservancy¹, in the past 100 years, Walker Lake's volume has decreased by more than 90%, and its surface area by more than half. Due to consistent drought conditions through several years, the lower Walker River has run completely dry before reaching Walker Lake. There are no fish in Walker Lake. These conditions

have resulted in significant economic decline in the region through the loss of recreation and tourism dollars.

o Describe any projected increases to the severity or duration of drought or water scarcity in the project area resulting from changes to water supply availability and climate change. Provide support for your response (e.g., reference a recent climate informed analysis, if available).

According to the U.S. Seasonal Drought Monitor, each location on the Walker River Paiute Reservation is at equal risk to a drought event. Drought on the Walker River Paiute Reservation affects the Tribe's single water supply, natural resources, and economic stability. There is a relationship between drought and other natural hazards. Prolonged drought has caused crop failures and grazing restrictions on livestock, which adversely affects food production and the economy. Drought may impact groundwater levels and limit the community's water supply. Drought may cause or accelerate insect infestations and dust storms. The drying impact of drought on vegetation increases the risk, frequency, and intensity of wildfires. Persistent drought conditions attributed to global climate change can lead to changes in fire behavior, habitat conversion, and a decline in bird and terrestrial species.

• What are the ongoing or potential drought or water scarcity impacts to specific sectors in the project area if no action is taken (e.g., impacts to agriculture, environment, hydropower, recreation, tourism, forestry, etc.), and how severe are those impacts? Impacts should be quantified and documented to the extent possible. For example, impacts could include, but are not limited to:

o Whether there are public health concerns or social concerns associated with current or potential conditions (e.g., water quality concerns including past or potential violations of drinking water standards, increased risk of wildfire, or past or potential shortages of drinking water supplies? Does the community have another water source available to them if their water service is interrupted?).

The Tribe has historically experienced persistent drought on the Walker River Paiute Reservation. Two underground wells provide water to the entire community. The quality of the current water supply, according to the Indian Health Service report of 2019 is impacted by low water pressure and the need for a new water tank. If no action is taken to improve the domestic water supply system, specific impacts on residents include:

- o limited access to clean and safe drinking water
- o low water pressure levels that perpetuate significant, life-threatening health risks (cross-contamination, diseases from bacteria that breed in stagnant water, dysfunctional sanitation systems, poor hygiene due to inability to bathe, shower, clean clothing or surfaces)
- o an urgent public safety crisis due to insufficient fire suppression power (low water pressure and only one water storage tank that is aging rapidly)
- o severe economic decline due to persistent unemployment rates, limited employment

prospects, rising costs of fuel to commute long distances to work, and the continued moratorium on new construction of business facilities and homes

- o no measurable path to increasing water conservation capacity – meters track water usage and fees help mitigate water waste
- o limited economic sustainability for water system – water usage fees will not help sustain system administration or improvements in the long term

o Whether there are ongoing or potential environmental impacts (e.g., impacts to endangered, threatened or candidate species or habitat).

The project supports the Tribe’s implementation of the Walker River Paiute Tribe Climate Adaptation Plan (2018), as it will help mitigate climate change impacts on the community by improving the water supply. Access to water helps mitigate impacts of droughts and wild fires. Limited water supply restricts the capacity to fight fires. In times of drought, cows move towards the river and impact vegetation there. The Tribe has built solar wells to keep cows out of the river. Tribal staff monitor vegetation patterns and replant to ensure that the river ecosystem is maintaining a healthy balance. Staff members photograph the river area, to determine a baseline for measuring growth and change.

o Whether there are local or economic losses associated with current water conditions that are ongoing, occurred in the past, or could occur in the future (e.g., business, agriculture, reduced real estate values).

The Walker River Paiute Tribe has experienced economic loss due to limited domestic water supply. Due to the moratorium on building homes and facilities, the Tribe has not been able to pursue economic development opportunities based on the Reservation, including but not limited to, geothermal and solar energy industries, small business development, and being a site for other enterprises and industries.

o Whether there are other water-related impacts not identified above (e.g., tensions over water that could result in a water-related crisis or conflict).

The proposed project will improve health, living, and environmental conditions for residents of the Walker River Paiute Reservation. Increased water storage volume and an improved distribution system will help citizens meet basic needs close to home.

The Walker River Paiute Tribal community has identified the water infrastructure project as a top priority in a 2021 funding needs analysis and 2017 Long-term Comprehensive Community Plan. Tribal community members are aware and supportive of this water infrastructure project. There are no anticipated objections. The tribal resolution included with the grant application is evidence of community support.

Criterion D. Presidential and DOI Priorities

E.1.4.1. Disadvantaged or Underserved Communities

Points will be awarded based on the extent to which the project directly serves disadvantaged or underserved communities.

E.O. 14008 and E.O. 13985 affirm the advancement of environmental justice and equity for all through the development and funding of programs to invest in disadvantaged or underserved communities. For the purposes of this criterion, Tribes and insular areas (American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, or the Virgin Islands) are considered disadvantaged.

- **Please use the White House Council on Environmental Quality’s interactive Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool, available online at Explore the map – Climate & Economic Justice Screening Tool (<https://screeningtool.geoplatform.gov>) to identify the disadvantaged communities that will benefit from your project.**
- **If applicable, describe how the proposed project will serve or benefit a disadvantaged or underserved community, identified using the tool described above. For example, will the project improve public health and safety by addressing water quality, add new water supplies, provide economic growth opportunities, or provide other benefits in a disadvantages or underserved community?**

The project directly serves members of the Walker River Paiute tribal community located on the Walker River Paiute Reservation. Native American communities in Nevada and throughout the United States have been historically disadvantaged, marginalized, overburdened, and underserved. This is illustrated by the facts below.

- The project directly benefits residents of the Walker River Paiute Reservation, which has a national Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) rating of .7332, a medium-high level of vulnerability.
- The project directly benefits a geographic area within a tribal jurisdiction, the Walker River Paiute Reservation, a rural area as defined in section 343(a)(13)(C) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1991(a)(13)). The Reservation is located on 325,000 acres within three counties in rural Midwestern Nevada (Mineral, Lyon, Churchill) about 100 miles southeast of Reno, Nevada.
- The project directly serves an Economically Disadvantaged Rural Community. According to the U.S. Census ([2015-19 American Community Survey 5-year estimates](#)), the median household income of Walker River Paiute Reservation residents is \$31,094. This income level is approximately 52% of the median household income for the state of Nevada, which is \$60,365. There are approximately 1,200 residents on the Walker River Paiute Reservation, a rural area as defined in section 343(a)(13)(C) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1991(a)(13)).

E.1.4.2. Tribal Benefits

Points will be awarded based on the extent to which the Project will honor the Federal government’s commitments to Tribal Nations.

- Does the proposed project directly serve and/or benefit a Tribe? Benefits can include, but are not limited to, public health and safety by addressing water quality, new water supplies, economic growth opportunities, or improving water management.
- Does the proposed project support Reclamation’s Tribal trust responsibilities or a Reclamation activity with a Tribe?

The Walker River Paiute Tribe, a federally-recognized tribe located on the Walker River Paiute Reservation will directly benefit from this project to increase and improve the domestic water supply. Bureau of Reclamation funding will help fulfill the agency's tribal trust responsibility through a tribally-led reclamation activity.

Criterion E. Readiness to Proceed and Project Implementation

E.1.5. Evaluation Criterion E—Readiness to Proceed and Project Implementation (10 points)

Up to **10 points** may be awarded based upon the extent to which the proposed project is capable of proceeding upon entering into a financial assistance agreement. Please note, if your project is selected, responses provided in this section will be used to develop the scope of work that will be included in the financial assistance agreement. Please note that information provided in the budget section and *Section H.1 Environmental and Cultural Resource Considerations* will be utilized when assessing this criterion. However, there is no need to repeat the budget information or H.1. information in this section of the proposal.

Applications that include a detailed project implementation plan (e.g., estimated project schedule that shows the stages and duration of the proposed work, including major tasks, milestones, and dates) will receive the most points under this criterion. ***Please also see Section B.2. regarding eligible lengths of projects for this NOFO.***

- Describe the implementation plan of the proposed project. Please include an estimated project schedule that shows the stages and duration of the proposed work, including major tasks, milestones, and dates. Milestones may include, but are not limited to, the following: design, environmental and cultural resources compliance, permitting, construction/installation.

The following table describes the tasks, milestones, and dates related to the construction of a new 410,000 welded steel storage tank.

Tasks	Milestones	Start Date	End Date	Notes
Planning and Design Completed, Reviewed & Approved	Supply and Erection of the tank is integral to the supply and installation of 25,000 ft of watermain.	Dec. 2024	June 2025	Planning and design in partnership with Tribe, Stantec, Indian Health Service, EPA
Surveying	Tank site survey		June 2023	Detailed design site survey complete
Environmental Information Document (NEPA Requirement)	Environmental Information Report (EIR)		May 15, 2023	EIR completed in consultation with WRPT Tribal Historic Preservation Officer.

CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS	Milestones	Start Date	End Date	Notes
Construction Bid Document Preparation	Construction bid documents	Dec. 2023		Tank will be bid with 25,000 feet of pipeline.
Construction Bid Document Review	Construction bid document reviews		November 2025	Review bids
Final Construction Document Package/Award Contract	Award contract		January 2026	Submit to Tribal Council for approval
CONSTRUCTION	Milestones	Start Date	End Date	Notes
Welded Steel Storage Tank	Installed 410,000 Gal. welded steel storage tank		March 2025	Designed by a Professional Engineer registered in the State of Nevada and delivered, erected, and commissioned by a welded steel tank supplier as part of a Contractor's Scope of Work.
Pipe Connection	Connected pipe to existing WRPT supply main from the existing water treatment tank, drinking water reservoir to the village water distribution system.		June 2026	Connect pipe from the new tank to supply, from the existing tank/ access driveway.
Electrical Conduit/Connection to the Existing Instrumentation & Control Cable	Connected electrical conduit		June 2026	Connect electrical conduit to the existing

				instrumentation and control cable.
Instrumentation & Control Integration of Signal from the New Tank.	Instrumentation and control integration of signal		June 2026	Ensure instrumentation and control integration of signal from the new tank.
Site Mechanical/Electrical/Instrumentation & Control /Security	Site Mechanical/Electrical/Instrumentation & Control /Security		June 2026	Prepare site by grading, overflow pipe, fill piping, security fence, site lighting.
Existing Tank Drain and Overflow Pad Repair	Design of the new storage tank includes repair.		June 2026	Repair will be part of design and construction of the new storage tank.
POST-CONSTRUCTION	Milestones	Start Date	End Date	Notes
Pre-Final Inspection	Pre-final inspection		Jan. 2027	
Final Inspection	Final inspection		Feb. 2027	
Warranty Documents (e.g., as-builts, record drawings, etc.)	Warranty documents		March 2027	
Submission of Final Technical Report	Final technical report		March 2027	
Closeout	Closeout		May 2027	

Please see the Appendix for a detailed project management schedule with key tasks, milestones, and dates related to the comprehensive domestic water supply project.

- **Describe any permits or approvals that will be required (e.g., water rights, water quality, stormwater, or other regulatory clearances). Include information on permits or approvals already obtained. For those permits and approvals that need to be obtained, describe the process, including estimated timelines for obtaining such permits and approvals.**

There are no permits required for the new water storage tank. For the water distribution system, a Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) encroachment permit is required for the US 95 and US 95A highway crossings. A permit from the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is required for the irrigation canal crossing. The Tribe will provide IHS and BIA a copy of the completed plans and specifications for a courtesy review at the 60% design completion stage. As a courtesy the Tribe will contact the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers to advise them of the intent to cross under the Walker River using trenchless methods. The permitting process is expected to take 3 months (December 2025 – March 2026).

- **Identify and describe any engineering or design work performed specifically in support of the proposed project.**

The tank site survey and tank site geotechnical field investigation has been completed in support of the domestic water supply project. A final Basis of Design Report was completed by Stantec in November 2022.

- **Describe any land purchases that must occur before the project can be implemented.**

Water storage tank will be in the vicinity of the Tribe’s existing tank on tribal land and will not require the purchase of additional land.

- **Describe any new policies or administrative actions required to implement the project.**

Following installation of the water meters, the Tribe will develop policies and standard operating procedures to administer a universal metering program.

Criterion F. Nexus to Reclamation

Up to 5 points may be awarded if the proposed project is connected to a Reclamation project or Reclamation activity. Previously awarded grants do not constitute as a nexus under this criterion.

Describe the nexus between the proposed project and a Reclamation project or Reclamation activity. Please consider the following:

- **Does the applicant have a water service, repayment, or O&M contract with Reclamation?**

N/A

- **If the applicant is not a Reclamation contractor, does the applicant receive Reclamation water through a Reclamation contractor or by any other contractual means?**

N/A

- **Will the proposed work benefit a Reclamation project area or activity?**

N/A

- **Is the applicant a Tribe?**

The Walker River Paiute Tribe is a Federally Recognized Tribe located on the Walker River Paiute Reservation.

Criterion G. Stakeholder Support for Proposed Project

Up to 5 points may be provided based on the level of stakeholder support for the proposed project. Applications that demonstrate support for the project from a diverse array of stakeholders will receive the most points under this criterion.

- **Describe the level of stakeholder support for the proposed project. Are letters of support from stakeholders provided? Are any stakeholders providing support for the project through cost-share contributions or through other types of contributions to the project?**

See the Appendix for letters of support from Indian Health Service and the Walker River Paiute Housing Department.

- **Explain whether the project is supported by a diverse set of stakeholders, as appropriate, given the types of interested stakeholders within the project area and the scale, type, and complexity of the proposed project. For example, is the project supported by entities representing agricultural, municipal, Tribal, environmental, or recreation uses?**

In addition to public and community information sessions regarding the water improvement project, the Tribe has worked in close partnership with Indian Health Service to conduct planning activities. The Tribe is also working closely with the Economic Development Administration (EDA) and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) who have both funded portions of the comprehensive water project not included in this proposal.

Project Budget

Table 1. —Summary of Non-Federal and Federal Funding Sources

FUNDING SOURCES	AMOUNT
Non-Federal Entities	
1. Walker River Paiute Tribe	\$127,662
Non-Federal Subtotal	\$127,662
REQUESTED RECLAMATION FUNDING	\$2,425,582

Budget Narrative

See Budget Detail and Narrative Spreadsheet uploaded in Grants.gov

Environmental and Cultural Resources Compliance

Environmental Information Report was completed May 15, 2023 in consultation with the Walker River Paiute Tribal Historic Preservation Officer. The THPO will mitigate adverse impacts of the project on cultural and historical resources by being a member of the project team. The report is available upon request from BOR.

Required Permits or Approvals

There are no permits required for the new water storage tank. For the water distribution system, a Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) encroachment permit is required for

the US 95 and US 95A highway crossings. A permit from the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is required for the irrigation canal crossing. The Tribe will provide IHS and BIA a copy of the completed plans and specifications for a courtesy review at the 60% design completion stage. As a courtesy the Tribe will contact the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers to advise them of the intent to cross under the Walker River using trenchless methods. The permitting process is expected to take 3 months (December 2025 – March 2026). The Walker River Paiute Tribe will comply with the Bureau of Reclamation’s requirements for additional reviews and approvals prior to award.

Overlap or Duplication of Effort Statement

See the Appendix for the Overlap or Duplication of Effort Statement.

Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement

See the Appendix for Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement.

Uniform Audit Reporting Statement

See the Appendix for the Uniform Auditing Reporting Statement.

SF-LLL: Disclosure of Lobbying Activity (if Applicable)

Disclosure of Lobbying Activity is completed in Grants.gov.

Letters of Support

See the Appendix for letters of support from Indian Health Service and the Walker River Paiute Housing Department.

Official Resolution

See the Appendix for the official Tribal Resolution.

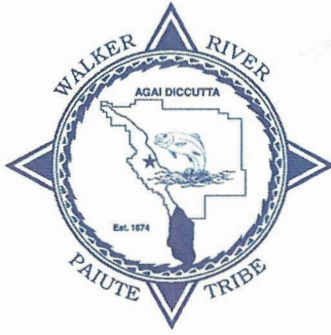
Letter of Funding Commitment

See the Appendix for a letter of funding commitment for the required 5% match.

Indirect Cost Rate Agreement

See the Appendix for the current Indirect Cost Rate Agreement that approves 17.33% to be applied to the first \$25,000 of contracts.

ⁱ [Walker Basin Conservancy \(2022\), History, Reversing the Loss of a Fishery](https://www.walkerbasin.org/history), retrieved December 28, 2022 from <https://www.walkerbasin.org/history> .



Walker River Paiute Tribe

P.O. Box 220 • Schurz, Nevada 89427
Phone: (775) 773-2306
FAX: (775) 773-2585

October 11, 2023

Karen Shubert
United States Bureau of Reclamation
1849 C Street, SW, #7654
Washington, DC 20240

Re: Support for Walker River Paiute Tribe Application
WaterSMART Drought Response Program: Drought Resiliency Projects for Fiscal Year 2024
R24AS00007
15.514—Reclamation States Emergency Drought Relief

Dear Ms. Shubert,

On behalf of the Walker River Paiute Tribe's Housing Department, I write to express our full support for the Tribe's grant application for the Bureau of Reclamation's WaterSMART Drought Response Program. Our Reservation is location in a rural community that is affected by persistent drought conditions. The addition of a water storage tank as a part of our comprehensive water infrastructure project will strengthen our ability to survive and persist during drought conditions. We need access to clean drinking water and must increase our fire suppression capacity. There has been a moratorium on new housing construction, due to the lack of reliable access to domestic water supplies. This project is a direct benefit to our citizens today and for generations to come. When we can live and work in our community, this improves our cultural survival, economic, and health outcomes. There is an urgent need to provide domestic water supplies to households on the Reservation.

We work closely with tribal leadership and water resources staff to ensure that we sustain these improvements well into the future. This project is part of a comprehensive, collaborative effort that will succeed with the Bureau of Reclamation's investment. We have been very successful in securing resources for the majority of our water infrastructure improvements, but need to close the gap for the water storage tank.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Genia Williams".

Genia Williams
Director
Housing Department



October 11, 2023

Karen Shubert
United States Bureau of Reclamation
1849 C Street, SW, #7654
Washington, DC 20240

Re: Support for Walker River Paiute Tribe Application: WaterSMART Drought Response Program: Drought Resiliency Projects for Fiscal Year 2024 - R24AS00007 - 15.514—Reclamation States Emergency Drought Relief

Dear Review Panel,

We support Walker River Paiute Tribe's grant application for the Bureau of Reclamation's WaterSMART Drought Response Program. We continually work in partnership with the Tribe to improve their water infrastructure. Tribal leadership and water resources staff members are committed and responsive partners. The Walker River Paiute Reservation is in a rural and remote community that is affected by persistent drought conditions. Constructing a water storage tank during their comprehensive water infrastructure project will strengthen the Tribe's resilience during drought. This contributes to the health and wellness of the Walker River Paiute tribal citizens. This project is a direct benefit to tribal citizens today and for future generations.

Our office has researched and written the following reports that substantiate the need for comprehensive water system improvements.

- Sanitary Survey, Reno Indian Health Service District Office 2022
- Comprehensive Sanitation Facilities Survey, Reno Indian Health Service District Office 2019
- Preliminary Engineering Report (Draft), Reno Indian Health Service District Office 2017

Meeting the mission of the Indian Health Service Sanitation Facilities Construction our office will continue to work closely with tribal leadership and water resources staff to provide needed technical assistance.

Sincerely,

Louis Bernasconi, P.E.
District Engineer
Reno District Office
Division of Sanitation Facilities Construction
Office of Environmental Health and Engineering
Indian Health Service



Walker River Paiute Tribe

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Walker River Paiute Tribe Domestic Water Project
Department of Interior Bureau of Reclamation WaterSMART Drought Response Program:
Drought Resiliency Projects for Fiscal Year 2024
CFDA # 15.514
Funding Opportunity Number R24AS00007

Overlap or Duplication of Effort Statement

This statement certifies there is no overlap between our proposal for the domestic water project and any other active or anticipated proposals or projects in terms of activities, costs, or commitment of key personnel. The Water Resources Coordinator and Finance Director monitor overlap or duplication of efforts throughout program administration. The Tribe will notify the Bureau of Reclamation to disclose and address contract/subaward program overlap or duplication.



Walker River Paiute Tribe

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Walker River Paiute Tribe Domestic Water Supply Project
Department of Interior Bureau of Reclamation WaterSMART Drought Response Program:
Drought Resiliency Projects for Fiscal Year 2024
CFDA # 15.514, Funding Opportunity Number R24AS00007

Conflict of Interest Statement

This statement certifies that the Walker River Paiute Tribe is not aware of any unfair competitive advantage the Tribe has in competing for the Bureau of Reclamation award. Tribal staff will monitor conflict of Interest (COI) throughout program administration in partnership with the Finance Department. In the event of a conflict, the Tribe will notify the Bureau of Reclamation to disclose and address contract/subaward COI for any Bureau of Reclamation funded transactions.



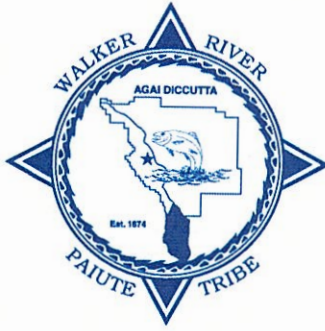
Walker River Paiute Tribe

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Walker River Paiute Tribe Domestic Water Supply Project
Department of Interior Bureau of Reclamation WaterSMART Drought Response Program:
Drought Resiliency Projects for Fiscal Year 2024
CFDA # 15.514, Funding Opportunity Number R24AS00007

Uniform Audit Reporting Statement

This statement certifies that the Walker River Paiute Tribe submitted a Single Audit report in 2020 through the Federal Audit Clearinghouse's Internet Data Entry System. The Tribe submitted the report through the state of Nevada and the Employer Identification Number (EIN) associated with the report is 88-0139307. This may be verified at <https://facdissem.census.gov/SearchA133.aspx>.



Walker River Paiute Tribe

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FAX: (775) 773-2585

October 25, 2023

Karen Shubert
United States Bureau of Reclamation
1849 C Street, SW, #7654
Washington, DC 20240

RE: Funding Commitment for 5% Match Requirement
WaterSMART Drought Response Program: Drought Resiliency Projects for FY 2024 - R24AS00007
CFDA 15.514—Reclamation States Emergency Drought Relief

Dear Ms. Shubert,

The Walker River Paiute tribe has identified \$127,662 in cash as available for its contribution to the domestic water supply project. The source of funding is tribal funds. The Tribal Council has issued a tribal resolution that formally states commitment to the BOR grant application and full project implementation.

This letter certifies that this contribution is unencumbered and immediately available should the project be awarded under this grant application. The Tribe is actively researching private, federal, and state grants on a weekly basis. The Tribe is pursuing grant funds from the State of Nevada, Indian Health Service (IHS), and United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development to meet the full scope of project needs.

Thank you for your consideration of our application. If we may answer any technical questions about the application, please contact Elveda Martinez, Water Resources Coordinator, at emartinez@wrpt.org or 775-773-2002 x 2051.

Sincerely,

Andrea Martinez
Chairman

cc: Elveda Martinez, Water Resources Coordinator
Lisa Valdes, Finance Director
Grant File



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, DC 20240

Indian Organization Indirect Cost Negotiation Agreement

EIN: 88-0139307

Date: April 21, 2020

Organization:

Walker River Paiute Tribe
P.O. Box 220
Schurz, NV 89427-0220

Report No(s): 20-A-0847 (FY19C)
20-A-0848 (FY20C)
20-A-0849 (FY21C)

Filing Ref.:
Last Negotiation Agreement
dated March 16, 2018

The indirect cost rates contained herein are for use on grants, contracts, and other agreements with the Federal Government to which Public Law 93-638 and 2 CFR Part 200 apply subject to the limitations contained in 25 CFR 900 and Section II.A. of this agreement. The rates were negotiated by the U.S. Department of the Interior, Interior Business Center, and the subject organization in accordance with the authority contained in applicable regulations.

Section I: Rates

Type	Effective Period		Rate*	Locations	Applicable To
	From	To			
Fixed Carryforward	01/01/19	12/31/19	16.71%	All	All Programs
Fixed Carryforward	01/01/20	12/31/20	13.25%	All	All Programs
Fixed Carryforward	01/01/21	12/31/21	17.33%	All	All Programs

*Base: Total direct costs, less capital expenditures and passthrough funds. Passthrough funds are normally defined as payments to participants, stipends to eligible recipients, or subawards, all of which normally require minimal administrative effort.

Treatment of fringe benefits: Fringe benefits applicable to direct salaries and wages are treated as direct costs; fringe benefits applicable to indirect salaries and wages are treated as indirect costs.

Section II: General

Page 1 of 2

A. Limitations: Use of the rate(s) contained in this agreement is subject to any applicable statutory limitations. Acceptance of the rate(s) agreed to herein is predicated upon these conditions: (1) no costs other than those incurred by the subject organization were included in its indirect cost rate proposal, (2) all such costs are the legal obligations of the grantee/contractor, (3) similar types of costs have been accorded consistent treatment, and (4) the same costs that have been treated as indirect costs have not been claimed as direct costs (for example, supplies can be charged directly to a program or activity as long as these costs are not part of the supply costs included in the indirect cost pool for central administration).

B. Audit: All costs (direct and indirect, federal and non-federal) are subject to audit. Adjustments to amounts resulting from audit of the cost allocation plan or indirect cost rate proposal upon which the negotiation of this agreement was based will be compensated for in a subsequent negotiation.

C. Changes: The rate(s) contained in this agreement are based on the accounting system in effect at the time the proposal was submitted. Changes in the method of accounting for costs that affect the amount of reimbursement resulting from use of the rate(s) in this agreement may require the prior approval of the cognizant agency. Failure to obtain such approval may result in subsequent audit disallowance.

D. Rate Type:

1. **Fixed Carryforward Rate:** The fixed carryforward rate is based on an estimate of costs that will be incurred during the period for which the rate applies. When the actual costs for such period have been determined, an adjustment will be made to the rate for a future period, if necessary, to compensate for the difference between the costs used to establish the fixed rate and the actual costs.

2. **Provisional/Final Rate:** Within six (6) months after year end, a final indirect cost rate proposal must be submitted based on actual costs. Billings and charges to contracts and grants must be adjusted if the final rate varies from the provisional rate. If the final rate is greater than the provisional rate and there are no funds available to cover the additional indirect costs, the organization may not recover all indirect costs. Conversely, if the final rate is less than the provisional rate, the organization will be required to pay back the difference to the funding agency.

3. **Predetermined Rate:** A predetermined rate is an indirect cost rate applicable to a specified current or future period, usually the organization's fiscal year. The rate is based on an estimate of the costs to be incurred during the period. A predetermined rate is not subject to adjustment. (Because of legal constraints, predetermined rates are not permitted for Federal contracts; they may, however, be used for grants or cooperative agreements.)

E. Rate Extension: Only final and predetermined rates may be eligible for consideration of rate extensions. Requests for rate extensions of a current rate will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. If an extension is granted, the non-Federal entity may not request a rate review until the extension period ends. In the last year of a rate extension period, the non-Federal entity must submit a new rate proposal for the next fiscal period.

F. Agency Notification: Copies of this document may be provided to other federal offices as a means of notifying them of the agreement contained herein.

G. Record Keeping: Organizations must maintain accounting records that demonstrate that each type of cost has been treated consistently either as a direct cost or an indirect cost. Records pertaining to the costs of program administration, such as salaries, travel, and related costs, should be kept on an annual basis.

H. Reimbursement Ceilings: Grantee/contractor program agreements providing for ceilings on indirect cost rates or reimbursement amounts are subject to the ceilings stipulated in the contract or grant agreements. If the ceiling rate is higher than the negotiated rate in Section I of this agreement, the negotiated rate will be used to determine the maximum allowable indirect cost.

I. Use of Other Rates: If any federal programs are reimbursing indirect costs to this grantee/contractor by a measure other than the approved rate(s) in this agreement, the grantee/contractor should credit such costs to the affected programs, and the approved rate(s) should be used to identify the maximum amount of indirect cost allocable to these programs.

J. Other:

1. The purpose of an indirect cost rate is to facilitate the allocation and billing of indirect costs. Approval of the indirect cost rate does not mean that an organization can recover more than the actual costs of a particular program or activity.

2. Programs received or initiated by the organization subsequent to the negotiation of this agreement are subject to the approved indirect cost rate(s) if the programs receive administrative support from the indirect cost pool. It should be noted that this could result in an adjustment to a future rate.

3. Each Indian tribal government desiring reimbursement of indirect costs must submit its indirect cost proposal to our office within six (6) months after the close of the Tribe's fiscal year, unless an exception is approved.

Section III: Acceptance

Listed below are the signatures of acceptance for this agreement:

By the Indian Organization:

Walker River Paiute Tribe

Tribal Government Agency

Amber Torres /s/

Signature

Amber Torres

Name (Type or Print)

Chairman

Title

4/20/2020

Date

By the Cognizant Federal Government Agency:

U.S. Department of the Interior

Interior Business Center

Signature

Craig A. Wills

Name

Division Chief

Indirect Cost Services Division

Title

Negotiated by Stacy Frost

Telephone (916) 930-3815

Walker River Paiute Tribe Domestic Water Project
WaterSMART Drought Response Program: Drought Resiliency Projects for Fiscal Year 2024
R24AS00007
15.514—Reclamation States Emergency Drought Relief

Areas Affected by Project

State: Nevada
Counties: Mineral County
Churchill County
Lyon County
Town: Schurz