



— BUREAU OF —
RECLAMATION

WaterSMART FY25 Drought Resiliency Projects

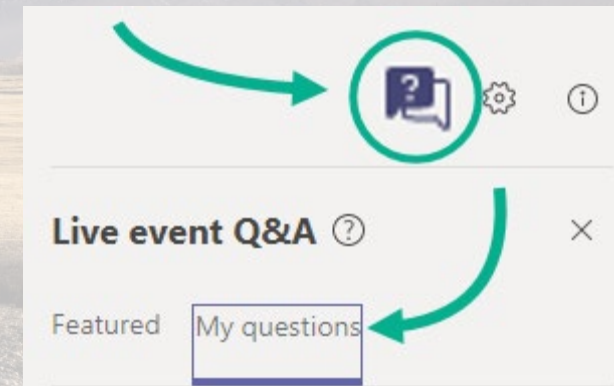
Funding Opportunity

August 15, 2024

Getting Started

- To watch the recording, use the same link: [Join Live Teams Event](#)
- Attendees' cameras and microphones are muted
- A copy of the slides will be available on our website before the weekend:
<https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/>

- Questions and comments can be posted in the Q&A icon on the bottom of the menu bar





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Today's Agenda:

- Overview of the *Drought Resiliency Program* Funding Opportunity
- Overview of Reclamation's WaterSMART Selection Process
- **IMPORTANT** Application Tips!
- Tools and Resources
- Question and Answer Period

Objective Drought Resiliency Projects

- Help communities prepare for and respond to drought and other water scarcity situations
 - Increasing the reliability of water supplies
 - Improving water management
 - Providing benefits to fish and wildlife



Drought Response Program

Drought Resiliency Projects

Eligible Project Types

Tasks A-C

- Infrastructure Improvements
- New conveyance system components
- Additional water storage
- Recharge facilities
- Capture and treat alternative supplies
- Decision Support Tools & Modeling

Funding

- Non-Federal Cost Share: 50% or greater.
- Funding Level I: \$750k (completed within 2 years)
- Funding Level II: \$3 million (completed within 3 years)

Task D

- Domestic Water Supply Projects for Tribes or disadvantaged communities that do not currently have reliable water supplies

Funding

- 5% non-Federal cost share (can request waiver)
- No cost share required for Guam, U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, or Northern Mariana Islands.
- Up to \$10 million in Federal funds and must be completed within 3 years. Must not exceed \$10 million in total project costs.



Drought Resiliency Projects

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible Applicants

Category A:

- States, Tribes, irrigation districts, and water districts;
- State, regional, or local authorities, whose members include one or more organizations with water or power delivery authority; and
- Other organizations with water or power delivery authority.

Category A applicants must be located in Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, the Virgin Islands, or Puerto Rico.

Category B:

- Nonprofit conservation organizations that are acting in partnership with the agreement of an entity described in Category A.
- Category B applicants must include with their application a letter from the Category A partner, stating they are acting in partnership with the applicant and agree to the submittal and content of the proposal.

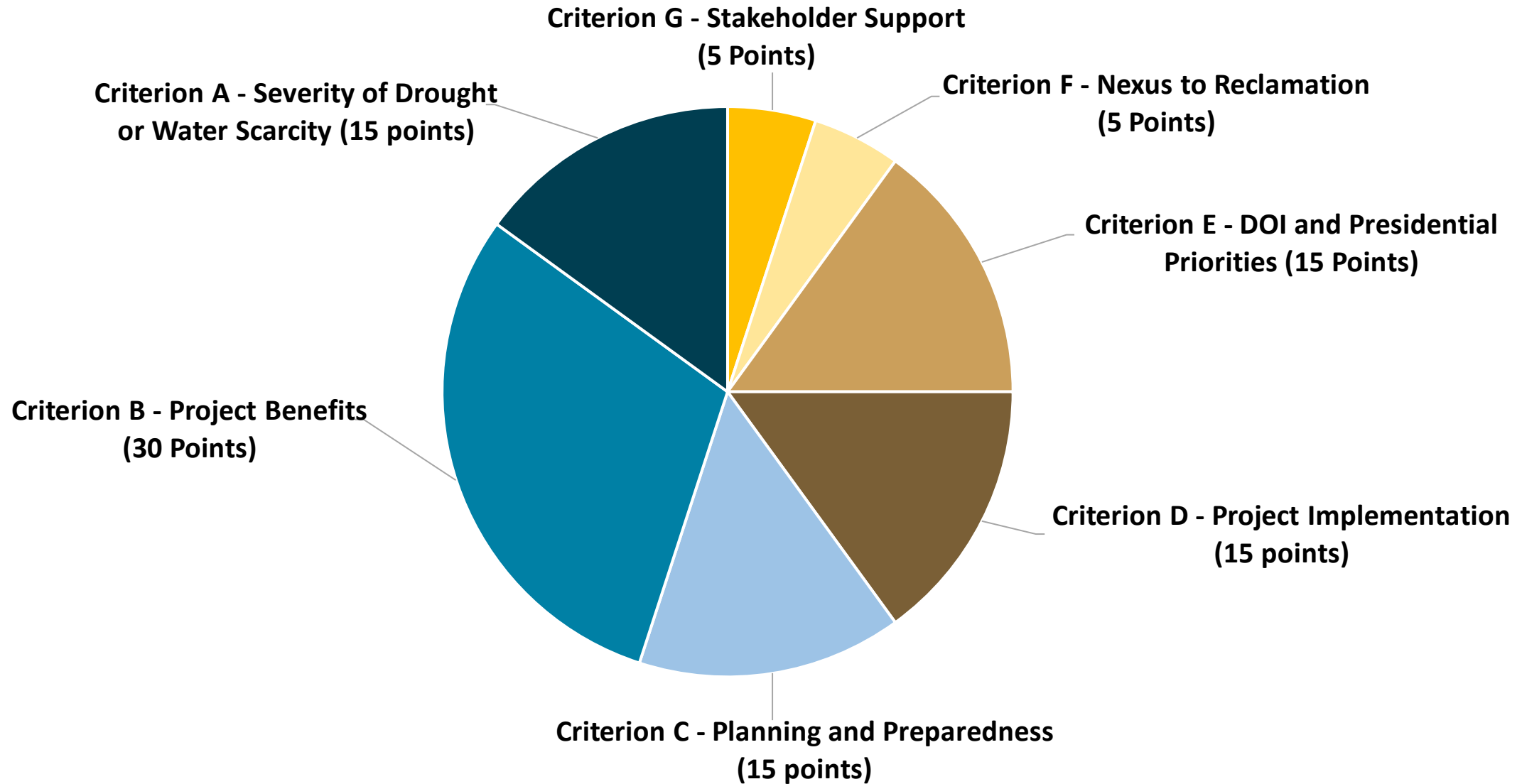
Category B applicants must be located in the United States or a territory listed above.

Note: Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico are not eligible to apply for Task D.



Drought Resiliency Projects

Evaluation Criteria



Drought Resiliency Projects

Evaluation Criteria

Criterion A – Severity of Drought or Water Scarcity Conditions and Impacts (15 points)

- Severity of Current or Potential Impacts in the project area, such as:
 - Public health, environmental, economic, and any conflicts over limited water resources
 - Impacts to specific sectors (e.g., impacts to agriculture, environmental, recreation, tourism, forestry, hydropower) if no action is taken.
- How will the project address or mediate these impacts?

Criterion B – Project Benefits (30 points)

- How does your project build long-term resilience to drought?
- How will the project help buffer against water shortages, reduce the need for emergency responses, and enhance the resilience of water systems?
- Quantitative and Qualitative description
- Provide detailed support for benefits
- Any planned, direct ecological or climate change benefits.

***Additional information required for well projects**



Drought Resiliency Projects

Evaluation Criteria

Criterion C – Planning and Preparedness (15 points)

- Is the project or goal of the project supported by any existing planning efforts?
- Explain the plan process, collaborative stakeholder involvement
- Is the project specifically identified in a plan and is it prioritized?
- A Drought-specific plan is not required but plans that contain drought elements (e.g. a system for monitoring drought, drought projections that consider climate change, vulnerability assessments, identification of drought mitigation projects, drought response actions, and an operational and administrative framework) will improve the score.

***Provide only the relevant sections of the plan to support your answers.**

Criterion D – Readiness to Proceed and Project Implementation (15 points)

- Detailed, thorough schedule and major milestones
- Identification of necessary permits and regulatory compliance, including consideration for compliance costs
- Engineering and design work



Drought Resiliency Projects

Evaluation Criteria

Criterion E – Presidential and DOI Priorities (15 points)

- Disadvantaged/Underserved communities, including insular areas
- Tribal benefits
- Use the CEJST (Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool) when addressing this criteria.

Criterion G – Stakeholder Support (5 points)

- Any in-kind contributions from stakeholders
- Letters of support for the project
- Unique letters will score better than the same template language for all letters of support.

Criterion F – Nexus to Reclamation (5 points)

- Relation to Reclamation project or activity
- Does NOT include prior Reclamation grants.



Drought Resiliency Projects

Program Requirements Summary

Eligible Applicants

States, Tribes, insular areas, irrigation districts, and water districts; State, regional, or local authorities, whose members include one or more organizations with water or power delivery authority; other organizations with water or power delivery authority; or a nonprofit conservation organization partnering with a previously described entity.

Funding Groups

FG I: Up to \$750,000 in Federal funds for projects completed within 2 years
FG II: Up to \$3,000,000 in Federal funds for projects completed within 3 years
Task D: Up to \$10,000,000 in Federal funds for projects completed within 3 years

Cost Share

50% non-Federal cost share required for Task A-C projects
5% non-Federal cost share for Task D projects (can request waiver)

Evaluation Criteria

Applications will be evaluated against the evaluation criteria which comprise a total of 100 points.

Important Dates

Pre-award costs cannot pre-date July 24, 2024

Application Deadline: Monday, October 7th, 2024





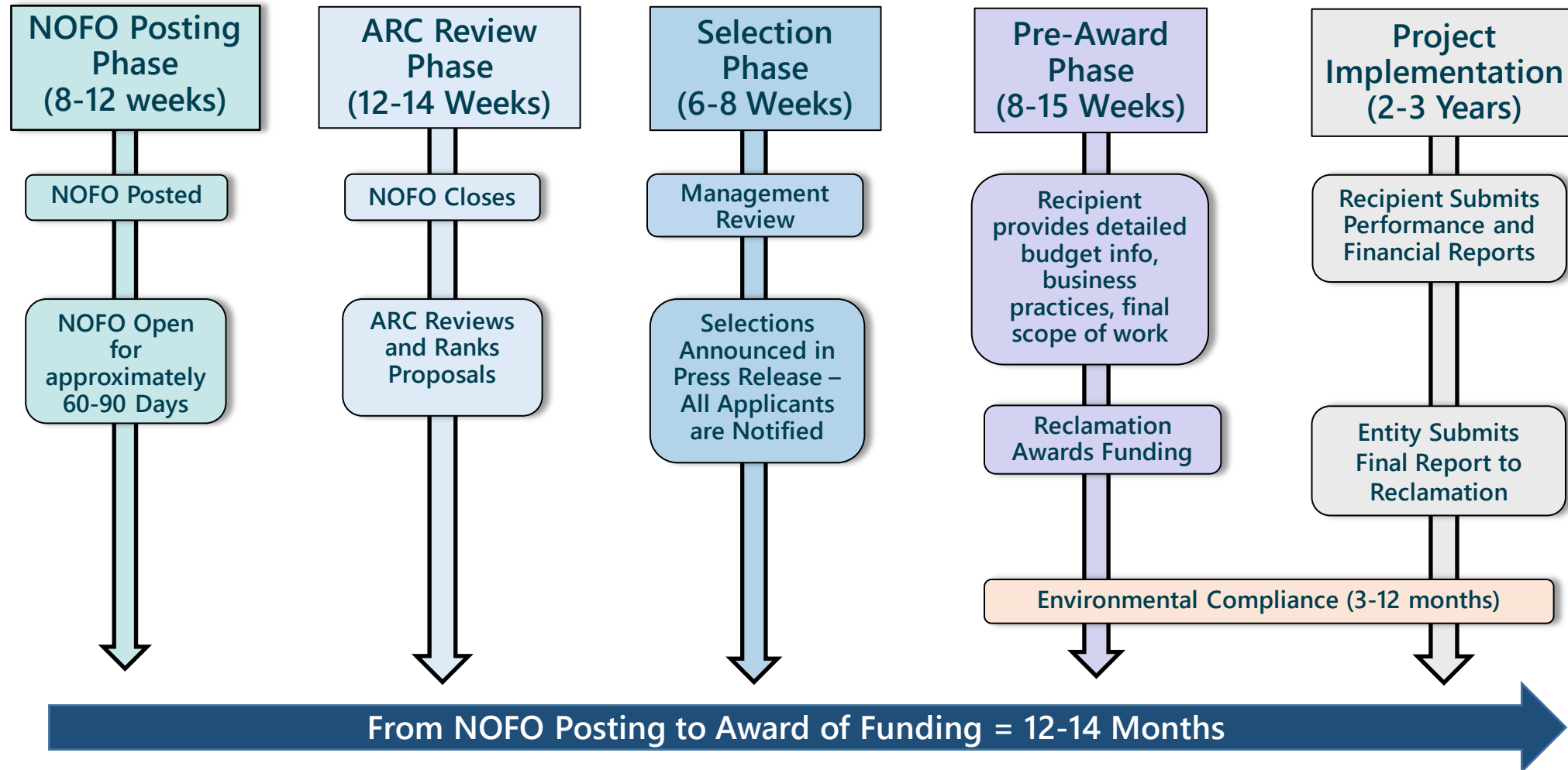
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What happens next?

From NOFO to Selection

WaterSMART Selection Process

Sample schedule



Pre-award Documentation

What to expect if selected for funding

You may be asked to provide:

- Additional budget clarifications
- Cost-share documentation
- Explanation of requested pre-award costs
- All reports up to date on other Reclamation awards





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WaterSMART Application Tips



Application Tips

General Considerations


- The most successful projects are those that fit well with the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). Review the objective of the NOFO, the eligible project types, ineligible project types, and the evaluation criteria carefully.
- Important: Read **everything** in the NOFO!
 - Contact the Program Coordinator to discuss any questions about your project fit or applicant eligibility, or about the funding opportunity.
- Give yourself plenty of time to write and submit the proposal.
- Do not assume the Application Review Committee knows you!
 - Paint the reviewers a picture and back it up with data.
 - Committee is comprised of Reclamation staff from throughout the Western states.
- If your application is not awarded, request a debriefing to help prepare a better proposal next year.




Application Tips

View previous successful applications

Granger-Hunter Improvement District



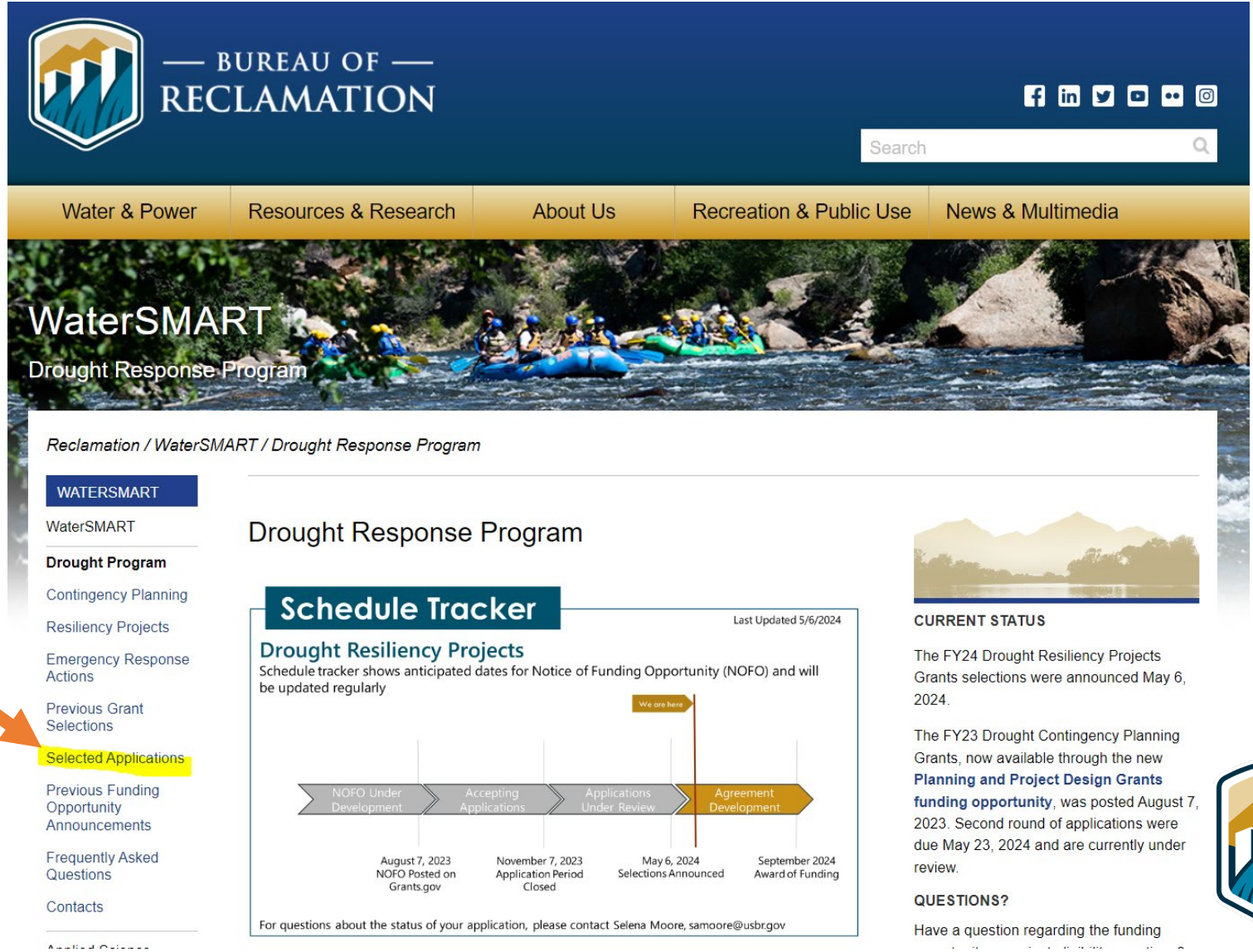
WaterSMART: Drought Resiliency Projects - NOFO No. R23AS00005



GHID Anderson Water Treatment Plant and Well No. 18 Project

Applicant Contact:
Jason Helm, General Manager
2888 S 3600 E, West Valley, UT 84119
p: 801.968.3551 e: j.helm@ghid.org

Project Manager:
Todd Marti, Project Engineer
2888 S 3600 E, West Valley, UT 84119
p: 801.968.3551 e: t.marti@ghid.org



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WaterSMART Drought Response Program

Reclamation / WaterSMART / Drought Response Program


- WATERSMART
- WaterSMART
- Drought Program
- Contingency Planning
- Resiliency Projects
- Emergency Response Actions
- Previous Grant Selections
- Selected Applications**
- Previous Funding Opportunity Announcements
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Contacts

Drought Response Program

Schedule Tracker

Last Updated 5/6/2024

Drought Resiliency Projects
Schedule tracker shows anticipated dates for Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) and will be updated regularly



For questions about the status of your application, please contact Selena Moore, samoore@usbr.gov

CURRENT STATUS

The FY24 Drought Resiliency Projects Grants selections were announced May 6, 2024.

The FY23 Drought Contingency Planning Grants, now available through the new **Planning and Project Design Grants funding opportunity**, was posted August 7, 2023. Second round of applications were due May 23, 2024 and are currently under review.

QUESTIONS?

Have a question regarding the funding



Application Tips

Evaluation Criteria

- Make sure you respond to every criterion and every relevant sub-criterion
- Your responses should:
 - We recommend you copy and paste the criteria directly into your proposal and place your response immediately below each criterion/sub-criterion.
 - Provide support in the form of quantification or citations to any supporting attached documents.
 - Make the case for how your project meets the criterion. General statements without explanation or support will not score well.
 - If any sub-questions do not pertain to your project (i.e. green infrastructure) you may leave out the question entirely so you may be more detailed elsewhere.
- Application Tip: Well-supported responses to the evaluation criteria are the key to writing a competitive proposal.



Application Tips

Environmental and Cultural Resource Compliance

- All projects funded through this opportunity must comply with Federal environmental and cultural resources laws and regulations. Reclamation regional and area office staff will ensure compliance. This compliance must occur prior to any ground-disturbing activities taking place.
 - Note: Reclamation is required to perform its own environmental assessment, so include this assessment in your proposal's project timeline. A categorical exclusion can be obtained after notice of award.
- Project scope and budget should align! Reviewers will consider whether the budget is reasonable to complete the scope described in the technical project description.
- Consider inflation when developing your budget.





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Financial Assistance Requirements

Application Tips

Where to Start

WaterSMART Drought Response Program:
Drought Resiliency Program for Fiscal Year 2025
Funding Opportunity No. R25AS00013



Home Search Data Bank Data Services **Help**

Get Started with Registration and the Unique Entity ID

Submitting a registration and getting a Unique Entity ID are FREE.

Before You Get Started

Review these steps to choose which option is right for you. You can register to bid and apply for federal awards or you can request a Unique Entity ID only without having to complete a registration.



1 About Registration

If you want to apply for federal awards as a prime awardee, you need a **registration**.

A registration allows you to bid on government contracts and apply for federal assistance. As part of registration, we will assign you a Unique Entity ID.

To see comprehensive instructions and checklist for entity registration, download our [Entity Registration Checklist](#).



Register in SAM.gov and obtain a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)

- [SAM.gov | Entity Registrations](#)
- If you have difficulties – document communications with help desk.
- Include communications with your application

Application Tips

Where to Start

WaterSMART Drought Response Program:
Drought Resiliency Program for Fiscal Year 2025
Funding Opportunity No. R25AS00013

Search Grants



i Informative status

Welcome to the new & improved Grants.gov! The Grants.gov web interface has been updated to provide a more intuitive and responsive user experience. This is the first step in a series of upcoming improvements. You can learn more by checking out [our latest blog post](#). Please [provide your feedback](#) to help with future improvements.

Your Team. Your Workspace.

Applying for a funding opportunity is easier and more efficient when your team collaborates. Grants.gov Workspace makes it possible.

[Apply for a Grant Using Workspace](#)

How to use Grants.gov



Reclamation partnered with grants.gov to bring you [this webinar](#) to help familiarize yourself with the site and to provide an overview of how to submit a grant application. [View the Powerpoint](#)



Application Tips

Where to Start

WaterSMART Drought Response Program:
Drought Resiliency Program for Fiscal Year 2025
Funding Opportunity No. R25AS00013

Search Grants for R24AS00013



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SEARCH GRANTS



BASIC SEARCH CRITERIA:

Keyword(s):

Opportunity Number:

CFDA:

SORT BY:

Posted Date (Descending)

DATE RANGE:

All Available

[Search Tips](#) | [Export Results](#)

Opportunity Number	Opportunity Title	Agency	Opportunity Status	Posted Date	Close Date
R25AS00013	WaterSMART Drought Response Program: Drought Resiliency Projects for Fiscal Year 2025	DOI-BOR	Posted	07/24/2024	10/07/2024

OPPORTUNITY STATUS:

Forecasted (0)

Posted (1)

Closed (0)

Archived (0)

FUNDING INSTRUMENT TYPE:

All Funding Instruments

Cooperative Agreement (1)

Grants



Application Tips

Where to Start

WaterSMART Drought Response Program:
Drought Resiliency Program for Fiscal Year 2025
Funding Opportunity No. R25AS00013

VIEW GRANT OPPORTUNITY

R25AS00013
WaterSMART Drought Response Program: Drought Resiliency Projects for Fiscal Year 2025
Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation

[Apply](#) [Subscribe](#)

- SYNOPSIS
- VERSION HISTORY
- RELATED DOCUMENTS**
- PACKAGE

Notification History:

Type	Date	Modification Description
Related Documents	Aug 13, 2024	Revised to adequately capture eligible applicants for Task D (IRA-funded) projects
Related Documents	Jul 29, 2024	Identified typo corrected

Click on the following file link(s) to download the related document(s):

File Description	File Name	Last Updated Date/Time	File Size
^ Folder: Full Announcement - Full Announcement	R25AS00013-Full Announcement - Full Announcement.zip	Aug 13, 2024 01:21:28 PM EDT	979.7 KB
FY25 DRP NOFO_508 final_rev 8.13.24	FY25 DRP NOFO_508 final_rev 8.13.24.pdf	Jul 24, 2024 11:45:16 AM EDT	1.0 MB
^ Folder: Revised Full Announcement - Revised Full Announcement	R25AS00013-Revised Full Announcement - Revised Full Announcement.zip	Aug 13, 2024 11:12:21 AM EDT	979.7 KB
FY25 DRP NOFO_508 final_rev 8.13.24	FY25 DRP NOFO_508 final_rev 8.13.24.pdf	Jul 29, 2024 04:36:00 PM EDT	1.0 MB
^ Folder: Other Supporting Documents - Other Supporting Documents	R25AS00013-Other Supporting Documents - Other Supporting Documents.zip	Jul 24, 2024 11:45:33 AM EDT	296.0 KB
Attachment A - Budget Detail and Narrative template v.1 (2).xlsx	Attachment A - Budget Detail and Narrative template v.1 (2).xlsx	Jul 24, 2024 11:45:24 AM EDT	83.4 KB
Attachment B - Budget Narrative Guidance v.1 (2).pdf	Attachment B - Budget Narrative Guidance v.1 (2).pdf	Jul 24, 2024 11:45:33 AM EDT	232.1 KB



Application Tips

Where to Start

WaterSMART Drought Response Program:
Drought Resiliency Program for Fiscal Year 2025
Funding Opportunity No. R25AS00013

VIEW GRANT OPPORTUNITY

R25AS00013
WaterSMART Drought Response Program: Drought Resiliency Projects for Fiscal Year 2025
Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation

Apply [Subscribe](#)

- SYNOPSIS
- VERSION HISTORY
- RELATED DOCUMENTS
- PACKAGE**

Select Grant Opportunity Package

PLEASE READ BEFORE APPLYING!
If you view and complete your application package using Grants.gov downloadable PDF forms, you MUST have Adobe Reader installed. You may receive a validation error using incompatible versions of Adobe Reader. To prevent a validation error, it is now recommended you uninstall any earlier versions of Adobe Reader and install the latest compatible version of Adobe Reader. If more than one person is working on the PDF forms, ALL applicants must be using the same Adobe Reader version. [Click for more information on Adobe Reader Compatibility.](#)

Opportunity Package(s) Currently Available for this Funding Opportunity:

CFDA	Competition ID	Competition Title	Opportunity Package ID	Opening Date	Closing Date	Actions
15.514	R25AS00013	WaterSMART Drought Response Program: Drought Resiliency Projects for Fiscal Year 2025	PKG00287481	Jul 24, 2024	Oct 07, 2024	Preview Apply

Opportunity Package Details

Agency Contact Information: Ned Weakland
Who Can Apply: Organization Applicants

Mandatory forms are SF 424 then either Construction C & D or Non-Construction A & B, technical proposal and budget narrative

PACKAGE FORMS:	Download Instructions
Mandatory Forms (Click to Preview)	Optional Forms (Click to Preview)
Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424) [V4.0] Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs (SF-424A) [V1.0] Assurances for Non-Construction Programs (SF-424B) [V1.1] Budget Information for Construction Programs (SF-424C) [V2.0] Assurances for Construction Programs (SF-424D) [V1.1] Project Narrative Attachment Form [V1.2] Budget Narrative Attachment Form [V1.2]	Attachments [V1.2] Project Abstract Summary [V2.0] Grants.gov Lobbying Form [V1.1] Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL) [V2.0]

Close



Financial Assistance Staff will...

- Answer questions about financial assistance requirements during the application process
- Conduct Initial Screening and remove applications that do not meet the completeness, eligibility and timeliness requirements of the NOFO.
- Notify Applicants of Application status based on the contact information provided on the SF-424 Form



Getting Started Application Tips

WaterSMART Drought Response Program:
Drought Resiliency Program for Fiscal Year 2025
Funding Opportunity No. R25AS00013

Register in SAM.gov and obtain a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)



- [SAM.gov | Entity Registrations](#)
- If you have difficulties – document communications with help desk.
- Include communications with your application

Register in Grants.gov

- [Applicant Registration | GRANTS.GOV](#)
- Grants.gov Help Desk Information:
 - By e-mail: support@grants.gov
 - By phone: (toll-free) 1-800-518-4726 (1-800-518-GRANTS). The Grants.gov Contact Center is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, excluding federal holidays.

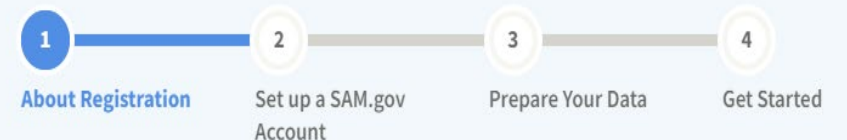
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To see comprehensive instructions and checklist for entity registration, download our [Entity Registration Checklist](#).



Application Content

WaterSMART Drought Response Program:
Drought Resiliency Program for Fiscal Year 2025
Funding Opportunity No. R25AS00013

Verify you have a completed mandatory forms:

- SF-424
- SF-424A/SF-424C
- SF424B/SF-424D
- Technical Proposal** (use Project Narrative form to upload in Grants.gov)
- Budget Narrative** (use Budget Narrative form to upload in Grants.gov)



Financial Assistance First Level Screening

WaterSMART Drought Response Program:
Drought Resiliency Program for Fiscal Year 2025
Funding Opportunity No. R25AS00013

All application packages will be screened to ensure:

- The applicant meets the completeness, eligibility, and timeliness requirements
- The applicant meets the Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) and SAM registration requirements
- The application meets the content requirements
- The application contains completed mandatory forms



Financial Assistance Selection Notification

WaterSMART Drought Response Program:
Drought Resiliency Program for Fiscal Year 2025
Funding Opportunity No. R25AS00013

- Once Initial screening is complete,
 - ❖ Ineligible applicants will be notified by Grants Officer, and
 - ❖ Eligible applicants will move on to the Merit Review
- All successful applications will be notified by Grants Officer of selection.
- The Financial Assistance Office will reach out to the applicant regarding next steps for entering into a Financial Assistance award.





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WaterSMART Drought Response Program:
Drought Resiliency Program for Fiscal Year 2025
Funding Opportunity No. R25AS00013

Financial Assistance Questions?

Please email the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Team
directly at:

bor-sha-fafoa@usbr.gov

****Please include the NOFO number in the subject of your email.****



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Additional Tools and Resources

Helpful Tools

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

Reclamation / WaterSMART

WATERSMART

WaterSMART

Contacts

Water and Energy Efficiency Grants

Water Marketing Strategy Grants

Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects

Environmental Water Resources Projects

Title XVI

Desalination

Basin Studies

Baseline Assessments and Pilots

Reservoir Operation Pilots

Applied Science Grants

Cooperative

WaterSMART

The American West faces serious water challenges. Wide-spread drought, increased populations, aging infrastructure, and environmental requirements all strain existing water and hydropower resources. Adequate and safe water supplies are fundamental to the health, economy, and security of the country. Through WaterSMART, Reclamation will continue to work cooperatively with states, tribes, and local entities as they plan for and implement actions to increase water supply through investments to modernize existing infrastructure and avoid potential water conflicts.

Join the WaterSMART Mailing List

You may complete this [form](#) to receive WaterSMART program notification from the Bureau of Reclamation.

WaterSMART Project Selections Overview

Since January 2021, Reclamation has selected 255 projects to be funded with \$93 million in WaterSMART funding, in conjunction with \$314.3 million in non-Federal funding across the western states.

OPEN FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

None at this time

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY CALENDAR

[Click here](#) to view a detailed status of all current and upcoming WaterSMART funding opportunities.

WEBINAR

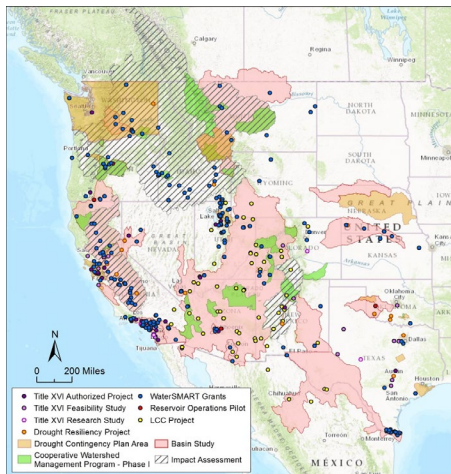
GRANTS.GOV

Reclamation partnered with grants.gov to bring you [this webinar](#) to help familiarize yourself with the site and to provide an overview of how to submit a grant application. [View the Powerpoint](#)

Helpful Tools

Through these portals, you can find information about recently awarded projects, BIL Funding, useful data visualizations, and interactive maps.

- **WaterSMART Program Data Portal**
<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/bf5c5357e7044e0c80d5a55788d1db34/>
- **Data Visualization Tool**
<http://arcg.is/1TcT68S>



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WaterSMART Program Data Portal

Home BIL-WaterSMART Calendar Dashboard Tools

Funding Opportunity
None

Year(s)

BIL Funded Project

State

Projects and Plans since 2021

<div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; margin-bottom: 10px;">797 Projects</div> <p>Federal Funding \$371.7M</p> <p>Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Funding \$985.9M</p> <p>Non-Federal Funding \$3.3B</p> <p>Total Project Costs \$4.7B</p>	<div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; margin-bottom: 10px;">63 Plans</div> <p>Federal Funding \$12.4M</p> <p>No BIL Funding</p> <p>Non-Federal Funding \$7.1M</p> <p>Total Project Cost \$19.5M</p>
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Funding Opportunity	Entity	Title	Year	State	Federal Funding	Non-Federal Funding
Drought Resiliency Projects	Chickasaw Nation	Water Supply Project for the ...	2024	Oklahoma	\$0	
Drought Resiliency Projects	Arizona Water Company	Stanfield Groundwater Supp...	2024	Arizona	\$0	\$500,000
Drought Resiliency Projects	City of Fresno	Increasing Drought Resilien...	2024	California	\$734,452	\$1,000,000
Drought Resiliency Projects	City of Gallup	FY24 Gallup - Drought Resili...	2024	New Mexico	\$0	\$1,000,000
Drought Resiliency Projects	Cawelo Water District	Reservoir C Auxiliary Rechar...	2024	California	\$1,342,111	\$1,000,000
Drought Resiliency Projects	City of San Buenaventura	State Water Interconnection ...	2024	California	\$5,000,000	\$3,000,000

Interactive Map

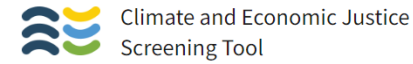
Esri, TomTom, FAO, NOAA, USGS | U.S. Bureau of Reclamation | Technical Services Center - Geographic Applications & Analy...



WaterSMART Program Resources

Additional Resources

- All open Funding Opportunities can be found at: www.grants.gov
 - General guide on how to submit a grant application on Grants.Gov located on WaterSMART website.
- Climate Mapping and Resilience and Adaptation: <https://resilience.climate.gov/>
- Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool: <https://screeningtool.geoplatform.gov/en/#3/33.47/-97.5>
- U.S. Drought Monitor <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>



[Explore the map](#) [Methodology & data](#) [About](#) [Contact](#)

Explore the map

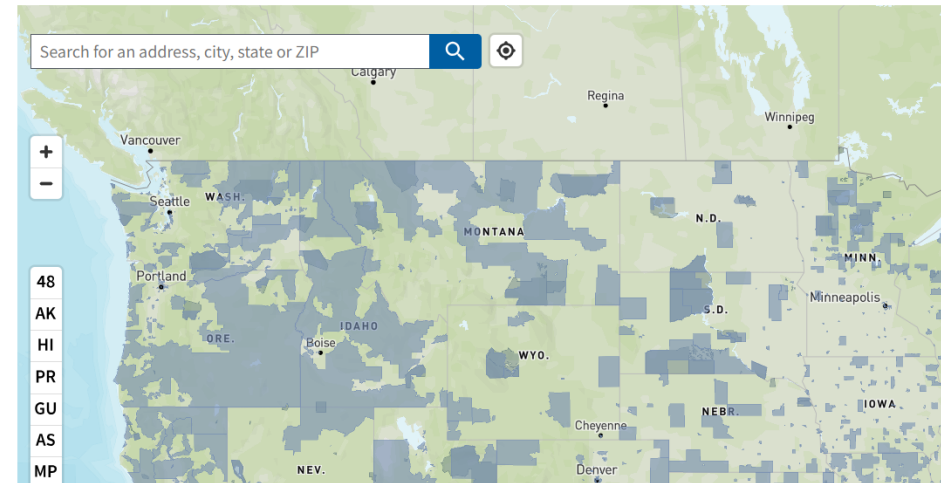
Share data sources with CEQ

Census tracts that are overburdened and underserved are highlighted as being disadvantaged on the map. Federally Recognized Tribes, including Alaska Native Villages, are also considered disadvantaged communities.

Zooming in and selecting shows information about each census tract.

Get the data

Download the data with documentation and shapefile from the [downloads](#) page.



How to use the map:

Zoom in + , search 🔍 , or locate yourself 📍 and select to see information about any census tract.

Things to know:

The tool uses census tracts. Census tracts are a small unit of geography. They generally have populations of between 1,200 - 8,000 people.

Communities that are disadvantaged that are...





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Ms. Selena Moore
Acting Drought Coordinator
208-383-2222 or samoore@usbr.gov

Ms. Shelbie Neff
Program Analyst
303-445-2881 or sneff@usbr.gov

Mr. Quinn Harper
Program Analyst
303-445-3524 or qharper@usbr.gov

Financial Assistance:
bor-sha-fafoa@usbr.gov

*Include the NOFO number in the subject of your email.

Questions?

Please utilize the Q&A Function to ask questions.