

D.2.2.2.1. Title Page

Jones Creek Flume Project

Project Location: Custer County, Montana

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

WaterSMART GRANT APPLICATION

Small-Scale Water Efficiency Grants for Fiscal Year 2024 and
Fiscal Year 2025

Funding Opportunity Announcement No. R24AS00059

Applicant:

Tongue and Yellowstone River Irrigation District

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Congressional District of Applicant: MT-002

Congressional Districts of Project Area: MT-002

D.2.2.2.2 TABLE OF CONTENTS

D.2.2.2 Technical Proposal Content

D.2.2.2.3 Executive Summary.....	1
D.2.2.2.4 Project Location.....	2
D.2.2.2.5 Technical Project Description.....	2
E.1 Evaluation Criteria	4
E.1.1 Evaluation Criterion A—Project Benefits (35 points).....	4
E.1.2 Evaluation Criterion B—Planning Efforts Supporting the Project (25 points).....	9
E.1.3 Evaluation Criterion C—Implementation and Results (20 points).....	11
E.1.4 Evaluation Criterion D—Nexus to Reclamation (5 points).....	13
E.1.5 Evaluation Criterion E—Department of the Interior Priorities (15 points).....	13
D.2.2.3 Budget Narrative	16
Budget Proposal and Funding Plan	16
Budget Narrative.....	18
Administration and Grant Administration.....	19
Professional/Engineering Costs	19
Cost Summary	20
a) Personnel.....	20
b) Fringe Benefits	21
c) Travel.....	21
d) Equipment	21
e) Supplies	22
f) Contractual.....	22
g) Construction.....	24
h) Other.....	26
i) Indirect Costs	26
j) Pre-Award Costs.....	27
D.2.2.4 Environmental and Cultural Resources Compliance	28
H.1. Environmental and Cultural Resource Considerations.....	28

D.2.2.5 Required Permits or Approvals.....	31
D.2.2.6 Overlap or Duplication of Effort Statement	31
D.2.2.7 Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement.....	32
D.2.2.7.1 Applicability	32
D.2.2.7.2 Notification	33
D.2.2.7.3 Restrictions on Lobbying.....	33
D.2.2.7.4 Review Procedures	33
D.2.2.8 Uniform Audit Reporting Statement	33
D.2.2.9 Certification Regarding Lobbying	34
D.2.2.10 SF-LLL: Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (if applicable)	34
D.2.2.11 Letters of Support.....	34
D.2.2.12 Letter of Partnership	34
D.2.2.13 Official Resolution.....	34
D.2.2.14 Letters of Funding Commitment	35

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1. Project Schedule	11
Table 2. Summary of Non-Federal and Federal Funding Sources	16
Table 3. Total Project Cost Table.....	16
Table 4. Cost Summary	20
Table 5. Construction Materials & Installation	24
Table 6. Contractual Services Table	25

APPENDICES

- Appendix A TYID Jones Creek Flume and Canal Conversion Project
- Appendix B TYID Resolution
- Appendix C Letter of Funding Commitment

EXHIBITS

- Exhibit 1 - Existing Site
- Exhibit 2 - Jones Creek Flume Detail
- Exhibit 3 - Proposed Jones Creek Crossing Plan and Profile

D.2.2.2 TECHNICAL PROPOSAL CONTENT

D.2.2.2.3 Executive Summary

The executive summary should include:

- The date, applicant name, city, county, and state
 - Date:** January 14, 2025
 - Applicant Name:** Tongue and Yellowstone River Irrigation District
 - Address:** PO Box 853, Miles City, MT 59301, Custer County, MT
- Please indicate whether you are a Category A applicant or a Category B applicant. If you are a Category B applicant, please briefly explain how you are acting in partnership with a Category A partner. Note: If you are a Category B applicant, you must include a letter from the Category A partner confirming that they are partnering with you and agree to the submittal and content of the proposal. See Section C.1. Eligible Applicants.

The Tongue and Yellowstone River Irrigation District is a Category A Applicant, as an Irrigation District.

A short paragraph project summary that provides the location of the project, a brief description of the work that will be carried out, any partners involved, expected benefits, how those benefits relate to the water management issues you plan to address, and what planning document and objective the project supports. This information will be used to create a summary of your project for Reclamation's website if the project is selected for funding.

The Tongue and Yellowstone River Irrigation District (TYID), established in 1911, located near Miles City, MT, plans to enhance its existing flume structure that also serves as a wasteway near the end of the TYID system by replacing with a supported pipe over Jones Creek. The TYID system includes a gross area of 11,155 total acres that may be irrigated, and currently provides water to approximately 9,789 irrigated acres near Miles City, MT. The existing flume structure is 80-plus years old and critically deteriorated, contributing to a significant overall water loss within the TYID system that creates management difficulties particularly during times of lower river flows and peak water demand. Management difficulties lead to a combination of water shortages to crops or excessive amounts of water in the irrigation system resulting in water being wasted back into the Tongue River or lost via infiltration into the well-drained soils. This project will significantly enhance TYID's water management and conservation efforts, with anticipated annual water savings of 457 acre-feet. The water loss is largely due to the TYID diverting additional water through the flume to overcome leakage, in addition to rebalancing flows following any storm event, which results in an unnecessary amount of water within the canal at any given time that is spilled or wasted at other locations. Project partners include local water users and the Montana Department of Natural Resources Renewable Resource Grant program (MT DNRC RRG).

- State the length of time and estimated completion date for the proposed project (month/year).

The proposed construction duration is 2 months and start date of February 2026.

Whether or not the proposed project is located on a Federal facility.

The TYID is not located on a Federal facility.

D.2.2.2.4 Project Location

Provide detailed information on the proposed project location or project area including a map showing the specific geographic location. For example, {project name} is located in {state and county} approximately {distance} miles {direction, e.g., northeast} of {nearest town}. The project latitude is {##°##'N} and longitude is {###°##'W}.

Jones Creek Flume (the Project) is located approximately 7 miles northeast of the City of Miles City near Interstate 94 in Section 32, Township 9 North, Range 48 East. The Project is located at an approximate latitude and longitude of 46.493259° N and 105.718691° W, Custer County, MT. Exhibit 1 provides a general location map of the Jones Creek Flume Project. The flume is approximately 80 feet long and is also used as a wasteway near the end of the TYID as the portion of the main canal above Jones Creek receives significant rainfall and runoff into the system.

D.2.2.2.5 Technical Project Description

Provide a comprehensive description of the technical aspects of your project, including the scope of work to be accomplished and the approach for the on-the-ground project. This description should provide detailed information about the project materials and equipment including what is currently installed and a description of the upgrade being made. Include in your description the necessary site preparation, removal of materials, motorized and rotating equipment required for installation, site laydown and mobilization areas, and areas impacted by construction. This section provides an opportunity for the applicant to provide a clear description of the technical nature and installation process of the project and to address any aspect of the project that reviewers may need additional information to understand.

Please do not include your project schedule and milestones here; that information is requested in response to the Evaluation Criterion C—Implementation and Results. In addition, please avoid discussion of the benefits of the project, which are also requested in response to evaluation criteria. This section is solely intended to provide an understanding of the technical aspects of the project.

Please note, if the work for which you are requesting funding is a phase of a larger project, please only describe the work that is reflected in the budget and exclude description of other activities or components of the overall project.

The TYID oversees water delivery across 534 acres downstream of the Project. The TYID has identified the project to replace the existing flume with a new supported pipe as a critical component of the irrigation system. The PER completed for the project identified both a siphon or supported pipe as potential alternatives and recommended a siphon option. At this time, the TYID would like to utilize the supported pipe alternative in lieu of the siphon. This decision is based upon the Jones

Creek Crossing being Phase I of an overall project to convert the open canal to pipe from Jones Creek to Kelly Creek. The timing of continued piping downstream of the flume is unknown and it is TYID's preference to have ability to directly see debris in the pipe (i.e., supported pipe vs. a siphon).

The deteriorating flume structure causes significant water loss and management issues, especially during storms and peak demand. The canal collects stormwater runoff, leading to water shortages or waste, which is returned to the Yellowstone River, degrading water quality due to sediment, nutrients, and chemicals from nearby farm fields. Located in a remote area, the structure requires constant maintenance, is in poor condition, and poses safety risks, making irrigation management inefficient.

The cost of replacing this structure is extremely expensive and not within the TYID's annual operating budget. In effort to replace the structure, the TYID has taken a proactive approach to strategic planning and grant pursuit to complete this work. Although the TYID has begun the process of replacing many of these structures, recent failures of portions of the main canal and other large structures have depleted the TYID's reserves, making it very difficult to find additional money to keep up with the deterioration.

Underlying and Potential Causes

The challenges faced by the project stem from underlying factors:

1. **Aging Infrastructure:** 80 plus year old structure
2. **Soil Characteristics:** Sedimentation and erosional problems
3. **Operational Limitations:** Continual adjustments necessary without staff available
4. **High Return Flows:** Excess water diverted to overcome leakage and storm water balancing flows
5. **Water Quality Concerns:** Return flows are often of lower quality, adversely affected by exposure to contaminants during conveyance.
6. **Increased Agricultural Demand:** Growing agricultural demand places additional stress on the existing system.
7. **Environmental Factors:** External factors, such as climate variability and changes in precipitation patterns, can further complicate water management efforts, impacting both water availability and quality.

Specific Activities that will be Accomplished

Design/Permitting/Construction Oversight: The TYID will contract with a licensed Professional Engineer to finish the design of the Jones Creek Flume Project. The Engineer will be responsible for finalizing design of the project from the permit level design to be completed prior to grant award of the project. The Engineer will provide a final plan set and specifications for the proposed project to facilitate construction.

The Engineer will also provide advisory services during construction of the project to assure proper installation in accordance with the design plans and specifications.

Construction: The TYID will hire a licensed General Contractor to manage construction, including purchasing materials, providing equipment, coordinating subcontractors, and completing the project per plans. The contractor will collaborate with the Engineer, mark up drawings, and provide as-built drawings at completion. The contractor will be selected through Montana's procurement procedures. The project includes clearing vegetation, dewatering Jones Creek, installing pipes, piers, support structures, headwalls/wingwalls, and a wasteway to divert stormwater. The project will be publicly bid to select the lowest qualified contractor.

E.1 EVALUATION CRITERIA

E.1.1 Evaluation Criterion A—Project Benefits (35 points)

Up to 35 points may be awarded based upon evaluation of the benefits that are expected to result from implementing the proposed project. This criterion considers a variety of project benefits, including the significance of the anticipated water management benefits and the public benefits of the project. This criterion prioritizes projects that modernize existing infrastructure to address water reliability concerns, including making water available for multiple beneficial uses and resolving water related conflict in the region.

If the work described in your application is a phase of a larger project, only discuss the benefits that will result directly from the work discussed in the technical project description and that is reflected in the budget, not the larger project.

Benefits to the Category A Applicant's Water Delivery System: Describe the expected benefits to the Category A applicant's water delivery system. Address the following:

Clearly explain the anticipated water management benefits to the Category A applicant's water supply delivery system and water customers. Consider:

- Will the project result in more efficient management of the water supply?

Throughout the TYID's history, intermittent drought conditions and climate change have had a significant impact on the users within the TYID system. In recent years, the TYID has turned its focus to making its system more efficient to be able to reduce the impact of water rationing and make more water available to downstream users by not wasting or losing water.

The proposed project would conserve water through the elimination of leakage losses and from the historical practice of diverting additional water through the flume to overcome leakage and rebalancing flows following any storm event. The replacement of this structure allows the TYID to maintain a consistent flow of diverted water while meeting real-time demands throughout the irrigation season, thereby minimizing water losses throughout the growing season and optimizing water delivery efficiency. The proposed improvements will provide the TYID with the infrastructure to properly manage the water resource and be able to make decisions on where the 457 acre-feet of conserved water from leakage losses and waste flows from delivery efficiency improvements will go.

The remote locations make it time consuming for TYID personnel to access the flume, and result in costly inspection and maintenance efforts incurred by the TYID, amounting to approximately \$15,980 year. Implementation of the proposed project would save the TYID up to 100 man-hours each year for system balancing, and up to 3.5 man hours checking the structure per week (average 1 hours per day 7 days per week and reduced by 50%) throughout the irrigation season. The Project would save the TYID up to 181 man-hours annually (100 man-hours balancing +81 man-hours on O&M of structure). This time could be utilized to maintain other critical areas of the TYID's infrastructure and more effectively manage the irrigation system. Additionally, drainage inflows into the canal system prior to the irrigation season increase maintenance demands. Excess runoff and unmanaged inflows contribute to debris accumulation within the flume, requiring cleaning and repairs before water delivery can begin. This ongoing issue forces TYID personnel to invest substantial time and resources into clearing the structure, which creates the opportunity for delays in irrigation startup and adds to annual maintenance costs. These improvements would result in increased delivery efficiency, reduced trips to the structures, and O&M savings of up to \$15,980 every year, including labor, supplies, and equipment. While these costs will not be directly realized by the TYID, they would be felt by the district by allowing TYID to reallocate resources to focus on long-term improvements and better serve its water users.

- Where any conserved water as a result of the project will go and how it will be used?

The proposed project will provide water conservation and management efficiency benefits that will allow more water to remain in the Tongue and Yellowstone Rivers. The Jones Creek Flume project will provide more efficient water delivery, meaning that less water will need to be diverted to overcome losses at all times excepting peak irrigation demand. The conserved water will also be instrumental in addressing shortages that impact irrigation deliveries.

Explain the significance of the anticipated water management benefits for the Category A applicant's water delivery system and customers. Consider:

- Are customers not currently getting their full water right at certain times of year?

Water users downstream of the Jones Creek Flume do not always receive their full water right, which occurs annually during the peak irrigation season in addition to varying times throughout the year due to unplanned shutdowns of the flume to complete maintenance. In addition, balancing of flows that leaves downstream irrigators with less than normal flow rates also causes water rationing to occur. Rehabilitation or replacement of the structure would increase the delivery efficiency of the irrigation system and would maximize crop production on the 534 agricultural acres served by the structure. A water delivery rate of 1 cfs per 120 acres is targeted for adequate water delivery for acres served by the system. The water conserved by the project as the result of replacing the existing leaking structure is 1.31 cfs. The TYID has an additional approximately 700 acres unirrigated below this structure and within the district. This conserved water would equate to an additional 157 acres (1.31 cfs x 120 acres/cfs) that could be irrigated. Applying the estimated increase in

irrigated acres to the existing 534 acres below the flume, results in an expected boost to crop production of 29% below the flume by increasing the delivery efficiency of the irrigation system, allowing the TYID to deliver water on-demand to water users, and maximizing crop production during critical watering and growing periods. This increased crop production will result in an additional \$135,701.67 annually in revenue for the TYID and its users.

- Does this project have the potential to prevent lawsuits or water calls?

The Jones Creek Flume replacement offers potential to prevent lawsuits and water calls, which are legal disputes over water rights and allocations. Key benefits include:

- **Reduction of water losses:** The project will conserve approximately 457 acre-feet of water annually, decreasing water calls.
- **Improved compliance with water rights:** By minimizing water leakage and preventing unnecessary discharges back into the Tongue River, the project will help the TYID comply with state water regulations and avoid legal disputes over water allocations or violations of water rights agreements.
- **Enhanced water quality:** The Project will reduce polluted return flows that currently contain high levels of sediment, nutrients, and chemicals from runoff. This will help prevent water quality-based lawsuits, which could be filed by downstream users or environmental agencies.
- **Mitigation of operational conflicts:** The current system requires frequent site visits and manual adjustments due to its deteriorating condition, which can lead to operational mistakes and disputes over water distribution.
- **Proactive legal risk management:** By identifying the issues early and proactively seeking funding for the project, the TYID is demonstrating its commitment to resolving infrastructure deficiencies before they lead to legal problems.

- What are the consequences of not making the improvement?

The current structure causes significant water losses (457 acre-feet annually), which will persist if not replaced, leading to shortages during low river flow or peak demand. This could result in water calls from downstream users. The outdated structure also requires constant maintenance, draining financial resources and increasing operational costs. Additionally, leaks and runoff degrade water quality, risking violations, lawsuits, and penalties. Without improvements, the TYID cannot meet growing agricultural demands, affecting crop yields and local economies. Environmental harm from sedimentation and contamination also threatens ecosystems. The structure's poor condition poses safety risks to TYID staff and limits flexibility to manage future water needs.

- Are customer water restrictions currently required?

Currently, there are no formal customer water restrictions in place within TYID, but water rationing does occur, particularly during periods of high demand, lower water availability, or near storm events. During drought conditions or dry seasons, reduced

river flows limit the amount of water available for diversion, forcing irrigators to carefully coordinate water use below the Project. In these situations, farmers within the district often collaborate to ensure that everyone receives some water, though this often results in reduced water deliveries and diminished crop yields.

Modernizing the existing structure to conserve water and improve delivery efficiency would help stabilize water availability, even during drought periods. Increased and more consistent water supply would enable TYID to better manage water distribution, reducing the need for informal rationing and ensuring more equitable access to water. This improvement could also allow the approximately 700 acres beyond the Project, currently unirrigated, to be restored to active agricultural use, supporting long-term drought resilience and enhancing the district's overall agricultural productivity.

- Other significant concerns that support the need for the project.

The aging infrastructure causes significant issues, reducing water for irrigation and exacerbating regional water conservation challenges. With rising agricultural demands and unpredictable weather, a reliable system is crucial. Financially, TYID is strained by constant maintenance costs and a lack of funds for necessary replacements, increasing both environmental and operational problems. Delaying the project will worsen these issues, making the replacement of the flume essential for modernizing rural infrastructure.

Broader Benefits: Describe the broader benefits that are expected to occur as a result of the project. Consider:

- Will the project improve broader water supply reliability at sub-basin or basin scale?

Yes, this project will improve broader water supply reliability at both the sub-basin and basin scale. By replacing the deteriorating Jones Creek Flume with a new pipe, the project will significantly enhance water management within TYID's irrigation system, ultimately contributing to more reliable water distribution throughout the region. The current inefficiencies, including substantial water losses due to leakage and poor flow control, affect not only local users but also downstream water availability. By reducing water losses (estimated at 457 acre-feet annually), the project will ensure that more water is available for beneficial use, increasing the reliability of supply for irrigators, agricultural users, and other stakeholders in the basin. By mitigating these impacts, the project contributes to the long-term sustainability of water resources within the sub-basin, promoting a healthier ecosystem and more consistent water supply for all users, both upstream and downstream.

- Will the proposed project increase collaboration and information sharing among water managers in the region? Please explain.

Yes, the proposed project has the potential to significantly increase collaboration and information sharing among water managers in the region. The Project will create an opportunity to develop and share best practices, data, and management strategies that can benefit the entire region. Given the growing challenges of climate change, increased demand for water, and more unpredictable weather patterns, cooperation between water managers is becoming increasingly vital. The improvements made by

this project could serve as a model for other water management districts in the region, encouraging cross-district partnerships and shared learning.

- Is the project in an area that is experiencing, or recently experienced, drought or water scarcity? Will the project help address drought conditions at the sub-basin or basin scale? Please explain.

Yes, the project is situated in an area that has experienced challenges related to drought and water scarcity, and it will help address these issues both at the sub-basin and basin scale. The region is also facing increasing pressure from agricultural demands, further straining available water resources. The Jones Creek Flume structure inefficiencies result in 457-acre feet of water losses annually, which worsens the effects of water scarcity during drought years.

At the sub-basin and basin scale, the project will also contribute to improving water availability and reducing the strain on the broader water system. By improving water use efficiency, the project will help ensure that water is more equitably distributed and that fewer resources are wasted, benefiting other water users in the Tongue River Basin. The project will also help preserve river flows by reducing the need to release excess water. This is especially important during drought years when river flow levels are lower.

- Will the project benefit species (e.g., federally threatened or endangered, a federally recognized candidate species, a state listed species, or a species of particular recreational, or economic importance)? Please explain.

The proposed project will benefit several species of ecological, economic, and recreational importance, including federally threatened or endangered species like the Pallid Sturgeon, as well as state-listed species such as the Blue Sucker and Sauger. The Blue Sucker and Sauger are considered Montana Species of Concern and are known to inhabit these rivers, where they rely on specific water quality and flow conditions for spawning and survival. The lack of effective flow control in the current system has historically contributed to water quality degradation, including high sediment loads, which harms these species' habitats. This project would improve those conditions. Additionally, the project will have benefits for the Pallid Sturgeon, a federally endangered species. Recent sightings of Pallid Sturgeon in the Tongue River (as recently as 2023) highlight the importance of improving water quality and flow management in the region to support the survival and recovery of this rare species.

- Will the proposed project positively impacts/benefit various sectors and economies within the applicable geographic area (e.g., impacts to agriculture, environment, recreation, and tourism)? Please explain.

Agriculture: The TYID irrigation system supports local agriculture by providing water for essential crops. However, aging infrastructure causes water losses and inefficiencies. Replacing it will improve water delivery, ensuring reliable access when needed most.

Environment: The project will improve water quality and reduce erosion and sediment loading into the Yellowstone and Tongue Rivers. By minimizing leaks and reducing high-turbidity discharge, it will protect aquatic ecosystems and fish habitats.

Recreation and Tourism: Improved water quality and flow will benefit recreational activities like fishing, boosting tourism and supporting local businesses, such as guides and restaurants, contributing to the regional economy.

Long-Term Economic Sustainability: The project will ensure a more resilient water supply, supporting agriculture, the environment, and tourism while addressing climate variability and water scarcity.

- Will the project complement work being done in coordination with NRCS in the area (e.g., the area with a direct connection to the district's water supply)? Please explain.

Yes, the proposed project will complement and align with ongoing efforts being coordinated with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in the area, particularly in relation to the district's water supply and broader natural resource management goals. The work being done by the NRCS typically focuses on improving soil health, water conservation, and the overall sustainability of agricultural practices. The proposed infrastructure improvements within the TYID system will directly support these NRCS initiatives.

The NRCS and TYID collaborate on projects that focus on sustainable resource management within the district. The proposed project will serve as a complementary effort by addressing infrastructure needs while supporting ongoing NRCS activities aimed at improving agricultural sustainability, water quality, and overall land health.

E.1.2 Evaluation Criterion B—Planning Efforts Supporting the Project (25 points)

Up to 25 points may be awarded based on the extent to which the proposed on-the-ground project is supported by an applicant's existing water management plan, water conservation plan, System Optimization Review, or identified as part of another planning effort led by the Category A applicant. This criterion prioritizes projects that are identified through local planning efforts and meet local needs. Note: Project specific planning and design for the project or other phases of the project are considered in Criteria C - Implementation.

Plan Description and Objectives: Is your project supported by a specific planning document or effort? If so, describe the existing plan. When was the plan developed? What is the purpose and objective of the plan?

The proposed project is supported by the Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) developed in Spring 2024 and is included in Appendix A for reference. This report specifically analyzes and assesses the Jones Creek Flume, identifying the most viable solution for addressing the aging infrastructure and improving water delivery within the TYID system. The report outlines the need for replacing the deteriorated flume, which will provide renewable resource benefits by reducing water losses and improving efficiency in the system. The PER serves as the foundation for the project, aligning with

broader regional and state-level goals outlined in the Montana State Water Plan and the TYID Water Conservation Plan, both of which prioritize water conservation and infrastructure upgrades. The PER offers a detailed, data-driven approach to solving the specific challenges posed by the current flume.

Plan Development: Who developed the planning effort? What is the geographic scope of the plan? If the planning effort was not developed by the Category A applicant, describe the Category A applicant's involvement in developing the planning effort.

The Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) was developed by an engineering firm contracted by TYID, funded by the Renewable Resource Grant Program through DNRC. It focuses on the Jones Creek Flume replacement within the TYID service area but is part of a larger effort to modernize TYID's infrastructure. The planning process followed state procurement laws, with TYID contributing local knowledge, system data, and input on operational challenges.

Support for the Project: Describe to what extent the proposed project is supported by the identified plan. Consider:

- Is the project identified specifically by name and location in the planning effort?

Yes, the PER identifies the Jones Creek Flume project by name and location.

- Is this type of project identified in the planning effort?

Yes, the PER identifies the Jones Creek Flume project by type of project.

- Explain whether the proposed project implement a goal, objective, or address a need or problem identified in the existing planning effort?

Yes, the proposed project implements goals and objectives outlined in the PER and addresses needs identified in the TYID's broader infrastructure modernization efforts. The primary goal of the project is to replace the Jones Creek Flume, which is a critical component of the TYID water delivery system. The need for this replacement is highlighted in the PER due to the flume's age, inefficiency, and inability to control water flows, which have caused significant water loss, erosion, and management challenges within the system. Replacing the flume directly addresses these issues, improving control over water flow, reducing water waste, and conserving 457 acre-feet of water annually.

- Explain how the proposed project has been determined as a priority in the existing planning effort as opposed to other potential projects/measures.

The proposed project has been determined as a priority within the PER and the TYID's broader infrastructure modernization plan due to its immediate impact on the efficiency and functionality of the water delivery system as the structure is facing imminent risk of failure. The Jones Creek Flume is a critical structure within the TYID system, and its deteriorated condition has been identified as a major source of water loss, erosion, and management inefficiencies. The PER prioritized this project over others due to the urgent need for replacement of the flume, which is at the end of its serviceable life and poses safety and operational risks.

E.1.3 Evaluation Criterion C—Implementation and Results (20 points)

Up to 20 points may be awarded based upon the extent to which the applicant is capable of proceeding with the proposed project upon entering into a financial assistance agreement. Applicants that describe a detailed 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. **Resilience and Sustainability Benefits.** Will the project address a specific water and/or energy sustainability concern? Please address the following:

- Describe the implementation plan for 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.

The project will consist of the following tasks with associated timelines:

Table 1. Project Schedule

Activity	Date(s)
WaterSmart Grant Due Date	Jan 14, 2025
Evaluate Grant Applications -- BOR	Jan 14, 2025 - Oct 31 2025
Grant Award-Execution-Initiation-Kickoff	Oct 2025
Project Design- Site Survey	Oct 2025 - Nov 2025
Environmental/Cultural Resource Compliance	Oct 2025 - Nov 2025
TYID and Reclamation Plans Review	Nov 2025 - Dec 2025
Final Plans & Specifications	Dec 2025
General Contractor Advertisement and Contracting	Jan 2026
Begin Construction	Feb 2026
End Construction (100%)	Apr 2026
Construction Closeout-As-built Verification	May 2026
Construction Completion Report	June 2026
Grant Closeout- Project Completion	July 2026

- Proposals with a budget and budget narrative that provide a reasonable explanation of project costs will be prioritized under this criterion.

Please refer to the Budget Narrative for a detailed cost estimate table of the project. The proposed project has a complete budget of \$250,000, of which the applicant is seeking a Reclamation WaterSMART funds of \$125,000 and has applied for a \$125,000 MT RRGL construction grant. Dependent on award of either grant, TYID will utilize reserve funds to address any shortfalls.

Administration and Grant Administration

Grant administration support will be completed by TYID with assistance from the Engineer with meeting the requirements of all funding sources. Grant administration includes progress reports, quarterly reporting assistance, assisting with contract requirements, assistance with pay request, and assistance in the preparation of the final report and project closeout documents.

Professional/Engineering Costs

The TYID will contract with an engineering firm to complete finalization of the design for the proposed project.

- Describe any permits and agency approvals that will be required along with the process and timeframe for obtaining such permits or approvals.

The TYID has contracted these services with an engineer to be completed prior to the timeline of grant award. As such, no permits or approvals, excepting review by TYID and BOR, will be required post grant award.

Permitting of the Project that is to be completed prior to the grant award is anticipated to potentially include the following permits: 404 Permit -Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Floodplain Permit - Local Floodplain Administrator, 310 Permit - Local Conservation District, and 318 Authorization - DEQ.

A Storm Water Discharge General Permit is not planned to be obtained prior to the project as that will be completed by the Contractor often in less than a week.

- Identify and describe any engineering or design work performed specifically in support of the proposed project. What level of engineering design is the project currently? If additional design is required, describe the planned process and timeline for completing the design.

The project will require the assistance of an engineer for completion of design. The TYID has engaged an engineer to complete permit level design and to complete permitting of the project prior to grant award, in effort to minimize the time following grant award prior to construction.

- Does the applicant have access to the land or water source where the project is located? Has the applicant obtained any easements that are required for the project? If the applicant does not yet have permission to access the project location, describe the process and timeframe for obtaining such permission.

The applicant has unencumbered access to the project area as part of maintenance agreements, easements, etc. to operate and maintain the ditch. TYID has a senior water right with a priority date of August 9, 1886.

- Identify whether the applicant has contacted the local Reclamation office to discuss the potential environmental and cultural resource compliance requirements for the project and the associated costs. Has a line item been included in the budget for costs associated with compliance? If a contractor will need to complete some of the compliance activities, separate line items should be included in the budget for Reclamation's costs and the contractor's costs.

The applicant has not had contact with the local Reclamation office but is aware of the environmental and cultural resource compliance requirements. The cost of this is included in the final design cost of the Project.

E.1.4 Evaluation Criterion D—Nexus to Reclamation (5 points)

Up to 5 points may be awarded based on the extent that the proposal demonstrates a nexus between the proposed project and a Reclamation project or activity. Describe the nexus between the proposed project and a Reclamation project or activity, including:

Is the proposed project connected to a Reclamation project or activity?

N/A

If so, how? Please consider the following:

- Does the applicant have a water service, repayment, or operations and maintenance (O&M) contract with Reclamation?

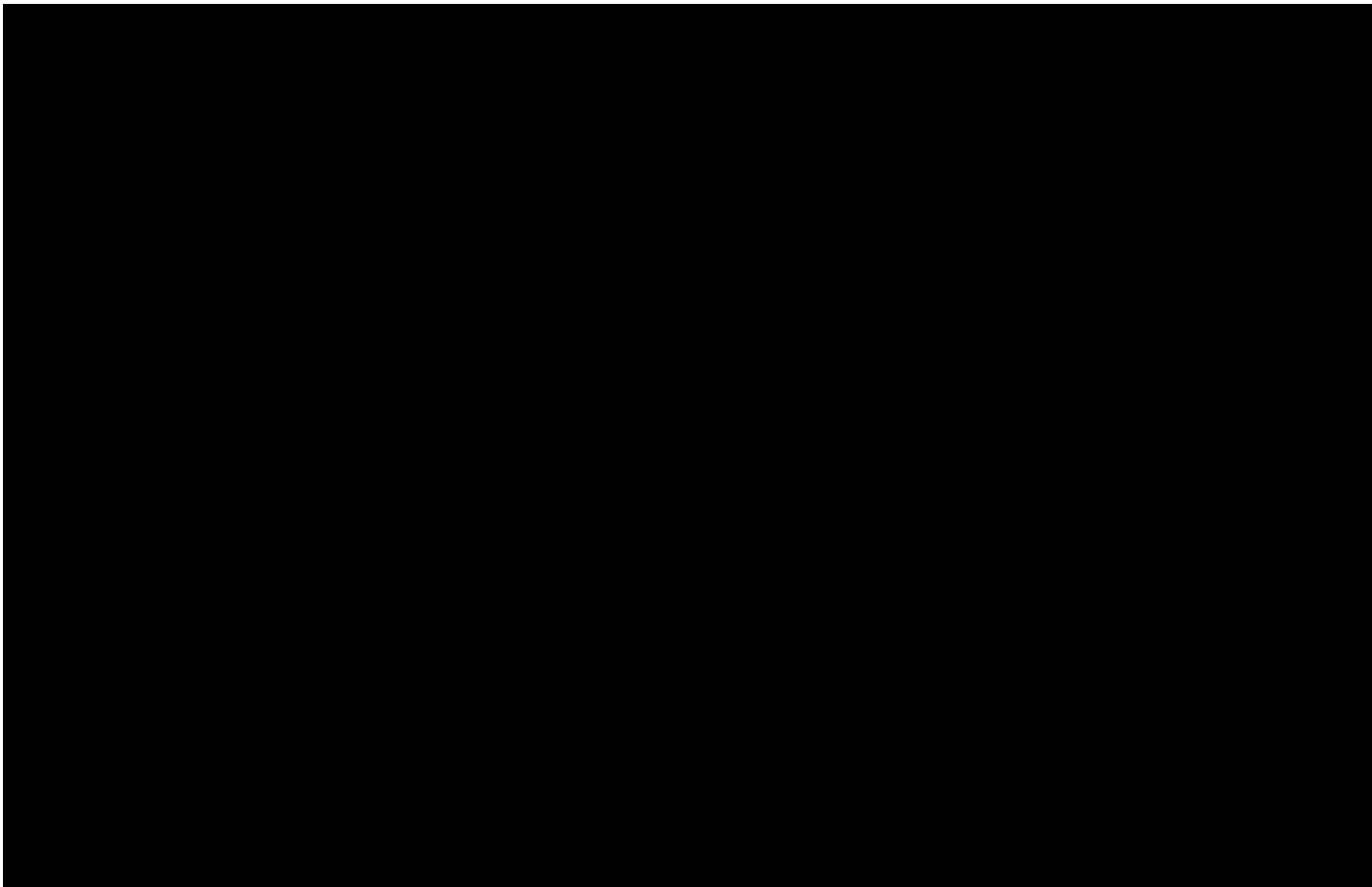
The TYID does not receive Reclamation project water

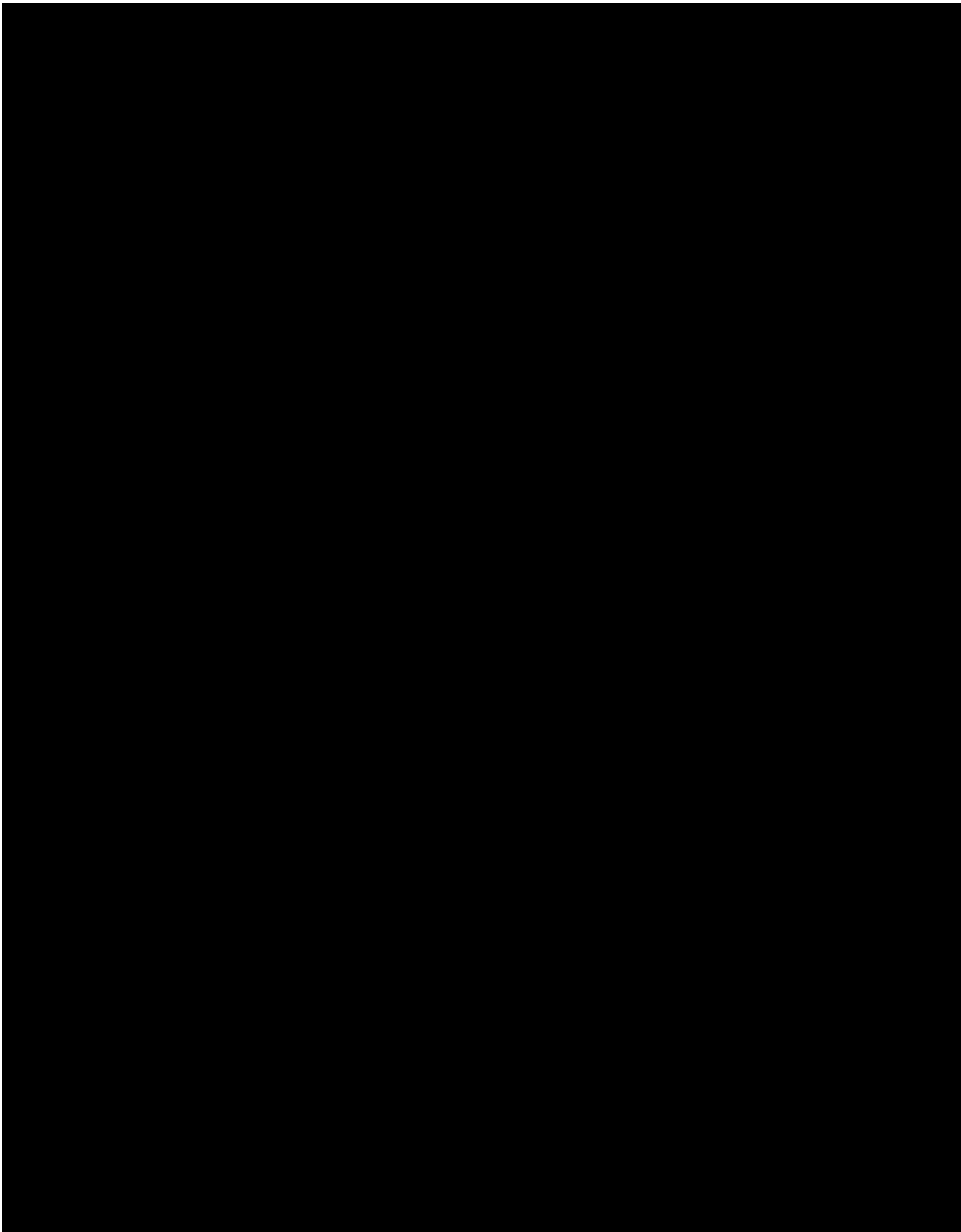
- If the applicant is not a Reclamation contractor, does the applicant receive Reclamation water through a Reclamation contractor or by any other contractual means?

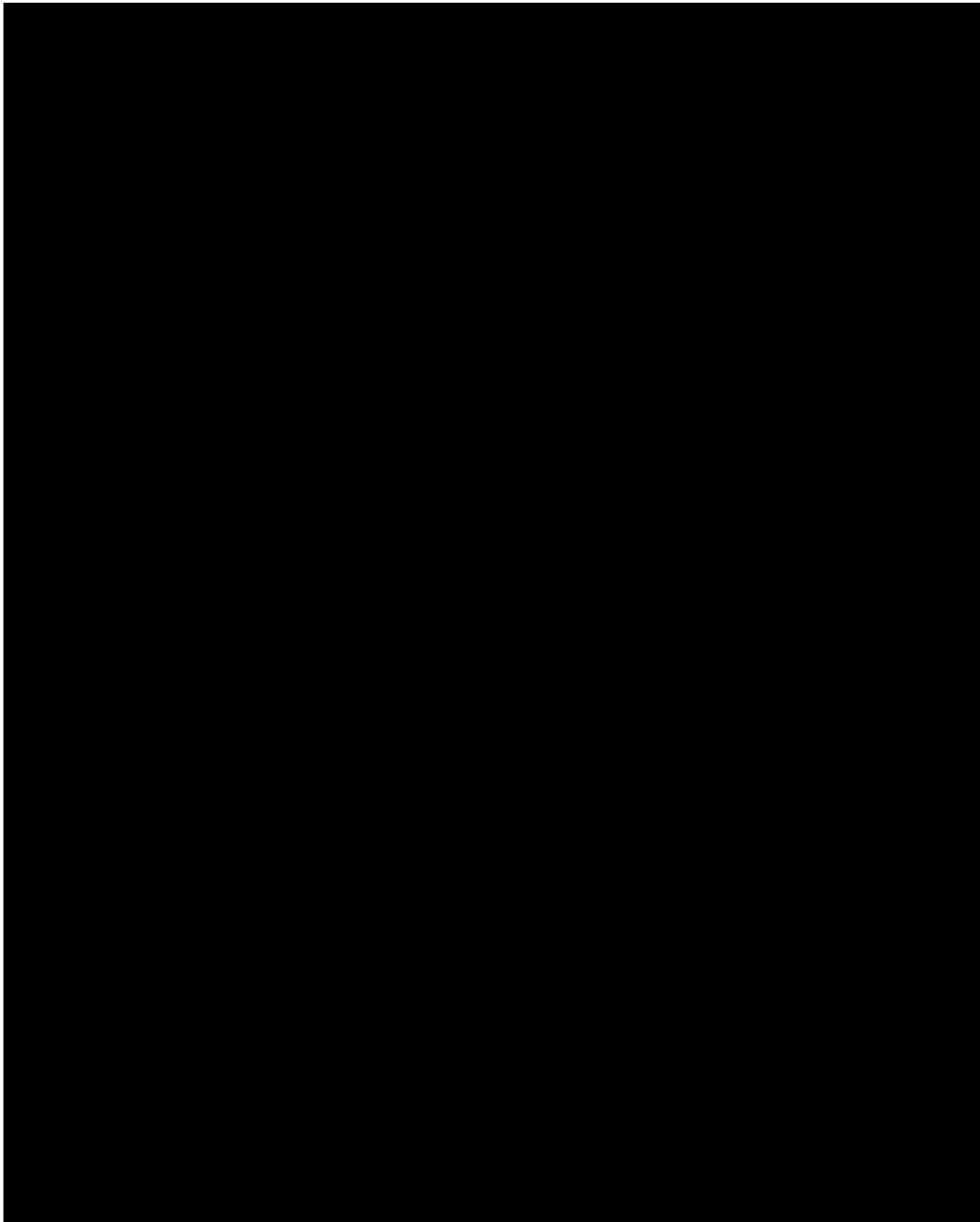
N/A

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

N/A







D.2.2.3 BUDGET NARRATIVE

In the budget detail and narrative section, applicants should describe and justify requested budget items and costs. Applicants should provide details to support the SF-424A, “Object Class” categories or the SF-424C, “Cost Classification” categories. The budget narrative must clearly identify all items of cost (total estimated project cost), including those contributed as non-Federal cost share by the applicant (required and voluntary), third-party in-kind contributions, and those covered using the funding requested from Reclamation, and any requested pre-award costs.

The total project cost is the sum of all allowable items of costs, including all required cost sharing and voluntary committed cost sharing, including third-party contributions necessary to complete the project. Applicants must include detailed descriptions of all cost justifications (see Reclamation’s suggested format in Attachment B for more detail). Costs, including the valuation of third-party in-kind contributions, must comply with the applicable cost principles contained in 2 CFR, §200.

Note: The Budget Narrative Attachment Form in Grants.gov is to be used to upload the budget proposal.

Budget Proposal and Funding Plan

Table 2. Summary of Non-Federal and Federal Funding Sources

SOURCE	AMOUNT
Costs to be reimbursed with the requested Federal funding	\$125,000
Costs to be paid by the applicant	\$125,000
Value of third-party contributions (MT RRGL Grants)	\$0
TOTAL PROJECT COST:	

Table 3. Total Project Cost Table

BUDGET ITEM DESCRIPTION	COMPUTATION		UNIT	COST
	\$/Unit	Quantity		
Personnel				
Position Title	Rate	Quantity	Unit	Cost
				0.00
Subtotal				\$0.00
Fringe Benefits				
Position Title	Rate	Quantity	Unit	Cost
				0.00
Subtotal				\$0.00
Travel				
				0.00

BUDGET ITEM DESCRIPTION	COMPUTATION		UNIT	COST
	\$/Unit	Quantity		
			Subtotal	\$0.00
Equipment				
Name of Equipment	Rate	Quantity	Unit	Cost
				\$0.00
			Subtotal	\$0.00
Supplies				
Material or Supply Type	Rate	Quantity	Unit	Cost
				\$0.00
			Subtotal	\$0.00
Contractual				
Services Contracted	Rate	Quantity	Unit	Cost
				0.00
			Subtotal	\$0.00
Construction				
Equipment Use				
Equipment Item	Rate	Quantity	Unit	Cost
				0.00
			Subtotal	\$0.00
Construction Materials & Installation				
Material Item	Rate	Quantity	Unit	Cost
Mobilization/Demobilization	\$12,820.00	1	LSUM	\$12,820
Taxes, Bond & Insurance	\$3,935.05	1	LSUM	\$3,935
Construction Surveying	\$2,951.29	1	LSUM	\$2,951
Tree Removal	\$700.00	4	EACH	\$2,800
Dewatering/Bypass Pumping	\$20,000.00	1	LSUM	\$20,000
Existing Flume Structure Removal	\$11,000.00	1	LSUM	\$11,000
Seeding	\$2,000.00	1	LSUM	\$2,000
36" Supported Pipe	\$217.50	99	LNFT	\$21,533
Concrete Headwall and Wingwalls	\$8,500.00	2	EACH	\$17,000
Concrete Foundation and Steel Pipe Supports	\$25,000.00	1	LSUM	\$25,000
Wasteway Structure	\$15,000.00	1	LSUM	\$15,000
48" Dia. HDPE	\$340.00	138	LNFT	\$46,920

BUDGET ITEM DESCRIPTION	COMPUTATION		UNIT	COST
	\$/Unit	Quantity		
48" Regular Metal FES	\$1,600.00	2	EACH	\$3,200
Geotextile Separation Fabric	\$5.00	350	SQYD	\$1,750
Riprap	\$35.00	350	SQYD	\$12,250
Contingency (10%)	\$18,300.00	1	LSUM	\$18,300
Subtotal				\$216,459
Contractual Services				
Engineering and Design, Construction Management - TBD				
Position Title	Rate	Quantity	Unit	Cost
Project Manager	\$179.00	32	Hour	\$5,728
Project QA/QC	\$207.00	24	Hour	\$4,968
Project Engineer II	\$136.00	60	Hour	\$8,160
Project Engineer I	\$118.00	80	Hour	\$9,440
Project Surveyor	\$179.00	24	Hour	\$4,296
Administrative Assistant	\$73.00	13	Hour	\$949
Subtotal				\$33,541
Other Construction-related costs				
Services Contracted	Bid Price	Quantity	Type	Cost
				\$0
Subtotal				\$0.00
Other				
Other Costs	Unit Price	Quantity	Type	Cost
N/A				\$0
Subtotal				\$0
TOTAL DIRECT COSTS				\$250,000
Indirect Costs				
N/A				\$0
TOTAL ESTIMATED PROJECT COSTS				\$250,000

Budget Narrative

A budget estimate and budget narrative for the project are required. The information in the budget narrative must correspond to Section B of the SF-424A. All budgeted costs, including any costs that will be paid by the applicant or contributed by third parties, must comply with the cost principles of 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E - Cost Principles and be:

- o allowable (§200.403 Factors affecting allowability of costs),
- o allocable to the agreement (§200.405 Allocable costs) and

- o reasonable in amount (§200.404 Reasonable costs).

A thorough budget narrative is mandatory and will aid the administrative review and processing of a recommended award. Amounts included in a budget and budget narrative are estimates; in the event of an award, payments will be based on actual expenditures. The Budget Detail and Narrative template (**Attachment A**) is a suggested format to present the breakdown of estimated costs, by category, needed to accomplish project activities. The budget narrative provides a discussion of, or explanation for, items included in the budget proposal. The following is guidance for use in preparing a thorough budget narrative (**Attachment B**).

*Cost-share instructions (if applicable): The budget must include at least the minimum Federal to non-Federal required cost share. Cost share encompasses all contributions to the project incurred and paid for during the project. This includes payments for personnel, supplies, equipment, activities and items necessary for the project. In-kind cost share encompasses all third-party contributions to the project that do not involve a payment or reimbursement and represent donated items or services that are necessary to the performance of the project. This includes volunteer personnel hours, donated existing equipment, donated existing supplies, etc.

The proposed project will be completed by soliciting and procuring a general contractor. The TYID Manager will provide project management and oversight of the project. Material prices for the project are based on actual quotes and/or rates for materials. Table 2 and 3 outlines all item costs, including those that will be contributed as non-Federal cost share by the applicant (required and voluntary), third-party in-kind contributions, and those that will be covered using the funding requested from Reclamation, and any requested pre-awarded costs. The proposed project has a total budget of \$250,000.

ADMINISTRATION AND GRANT ADMINISTRATION

Grant administration support will be will be completed by TYID with assistance from the Engineer meeting the requirements of all funding sources. Grant administration includes progress reports, quarterly reporting assistance, assisting with contract requirements, assistance with pay request, and assistance in the preparation of the final report and project closeout documents.

Professional/Engineering Costs

The TYID will contract with an engineering firm to complete the design for the proposed project.

Cost Summary

Table 4. Cost Summary

Budget Item	Applicant In-Kind Services	Applicant Reserve Funds	Reclamation WaterSMART Funds	MT RRGL Grant	Total
a. Personnel					
b. Fringe Benefits					
c. Travel					
d. Equipment					
e. Supplies					
f. Contractual					
g. Construction		\$125,000	\$125,000		\$250,000
h. Other					
i. Indirect Costs					
Totals:	\$0	\$125,000	\$125,000	\$0	\$250,000

a) Personnel

This category includes salaries and wages of employees of the applicant organization that will be working directly on the project. Recommend reviewing §200.430 Compensation - personal services for more information on the specific requirements regarding compensation costs, including the Standards for Documentation of Personnel Expenses at §200.430(i).

Generally, salaries of administrative and/or clerical personnel are included as a portion of the stated indirect costs. If these salaries can be adequately documented as direct costs, they can be included in this section; however, a justification should be included in the budget narrative.

Narrative: For key personnel such as the project manager or principal investigator, identify the name and position/title. Other personnel should be identified by position only. For all positions, identify the project tasks that will be performed. Compensation rates can be expressed as hourly rates and number of hours or annual salary and percentage effort that will be contributed to each task but must be consistent with the applicant organization's accounting and timekeeping policies. Include estimated hours for compliance with reporting requirements, including the final project report and evaluation. For multi-year projects, identify the level of effort anticipated for each budget year and any estimates increases in compensation rates. Within the budget narrative, provide a certification that the labor rates included in the budget proposal represent the actual labor rates of the identified personnel/positions and are consistently applied to Federal and non-Federal activities. Note: The annual/hourly labor rate must not include fringe benefits.

N/A

b) Fringe Benefits

Fringe benefits are allowances and services provided by employers to their employees as compensation in addition to regular salaries and wages. Fringe benefits include, but are not limited to, the costs of leave (vacation, family-related, sick or military), employee insurance, pensions, and unemployment benefit plans. Fringe costs should also include employer contributions required by law such as payroll taxes such as FICA, unemployment, and workers compensation. Fringe does **not** include federal income taxes, employee portion FICA, or other such costs. Recommend reviewing §200.431 *Compensation - fringe benefits* for more information on the allowability and allocability of fringe benefits. Note: *Car allowances and cars furnished to employees for personal and work use are unallowable as a fringe benefit, regardless of whether the costs is reported as taxable income, and must be excluded from fringe benefit rates.*

Narrative: Fringe benefits can be expressed as an hourly rate or percentage of personnel costs. In the narrative, identify the fringe benefit rates/amounts for each position. If the fringe benefit rate is less than 35% of the estimated employee compensation, no additional information is necessary. If the fringe benefit rate is more than 35%, provide a description and breakdown of the benefits. If the rate is established within a negotiated indirect cost rate agreement (NICRA), provide a copy of the agreement with the application. Note: Do not combine the fringe benefit costs with direct salaries and wages in the personnel category.

N/A

c) Travel

Travel costs are expenses incurred by personnel in the performance of project activities. Costs can be charged on an actual cost basis, on a per diem or mileage basis in lieu of actual costs incurred, or on a combination of the two, provided that the method used is applied to the entire trip and not to selected days of the trip. All charges must be consistent with those normally allowed under similar circumstances for non-Federally funded activities and any established travel policies. Recommend reviewing §200.475 *Travel costs* for more information.

Narrative: Provide a narrative describing any travel employees are anticipated to perform. Include the purpose of the travel and how it relates to project tasks, the origin and destination of the trip, number of personnel traveling, length of stay, and all travel costs including airfare, per diem, lodging, transportation, and miscellaneous travel expenses. Identify the basis for rates used, (e.g., GSA Per Diem Rates, published prices) and the total of each planned trip. If travel details are unknown, then the basis for proposed costs should be explained (i.e., historical information).

Travel costs are included in the proposed budget. Contracted travel is included in the lump sum amounts.

d) Equipment

Equipment is defined in §200.1 as tangible personal property (including information technology systems) having a useful life of more than one year and a per-unit acquisition cost which equals or exceeds the lesser of the capitalization level established by the applicant organization for financial statement purposes, or \$5,000. Recommend reviewing §200.439 *Equipment and other capital expenditures* for additional information on the allowability of equipment costs and §200.313 *Equipment* for information regarding the title,

use, management and disposition requirements for equipment acquired under a Federal award.

Narrative: If equipment will be purchased, itemize all equipment valued at or greater than the applicant organization's capitalization threshold for financial statement purposes. If the organization's capitalization threshold is greater than \$5,000, identify all equipment valued at or greater than \$5,000. For each item, identify why it is needed for the completion of the project and how the equipment was priced (published price, quote, etc.). Include in the narrative a comparison of rental and/or lease costs over the purchase of the equipment item. Note: Do not include equipment that will be purchased and/or installed as part of a construction-related activity; this should be included under Construction costs.

N/A

e) Supplies

Supplies are defined in §200.1 as all tangible personal property other than those described in the definition of equipment. A computing device is a supply if the acquisition cost is less than the lesser of the capitalization level established by the applicant's organization for financial statement purposes or \$5,000, regardless of the length of its useful life. Recommend reviewing §200.453 Materials and Supplies Costs, Including the Costs of Computing Devices, regarding the allowability of costs. Supply items must be direct costs to the project and not duplicative of supply costs in the indirect rate. For post-award requirements regarding supplies, recommend reviewing §200.314 Supplies. For financial management requirements related to supplies, recommend reviewing §200.302(b)(4).

Narrative: List all expendable supplies, noting their purpose in the project and the basis of cost (e.g., vendor quotes, catalogue prices, prior invoices, etc.). For each item, provide the estimated unit cost, quantity, and total cost. General categories may be used, but if a category is viewed as too general or the associated amount is too high, further itemization may be requested.

N/A

f) Contractual

Include all contracts and subawards. Per §200.1, a contract means, for the purpose of Federal financial assistance, a legal instrument by which a recipient or subrecipient purchases property or services needed to carry out the project or program under a Federal award. The term as used in this part does not include a legal instrument, even if the non-Federal entity considers it a contract when the substance of the transaction meets the definition of a subaward.

For additional information on subrecipient and contractor determinations, see §200.331 Subrecipient and contractor determinations. Recommend reviewing §200.459 Professional service costs for information regarding the allowability of contractual costs.

Note: Do not include equipment that will be purchased and/or installed as part of a construction-related activity; this should be included under Construction costs.

Contract Narrative: For each contract, regardless of dollar value, describe the services to be obtained and the applicability or necessity of each to the project. Identify the total estimated cost and the basis(es) used to develop the estimate. For each contract with an estimated amount meeting or exceeding \$250,000 or represents 35% or more of the total

project cost, provide a separate detailed description of the estimated costs. A detailed estimate can be included with the application in lieu of a description. For contracts with an estimated cost equal to or greater than the micro-purchase threshold (currently \$10,000), identify the anticipated procurement method to be used and the basis of selection.

Note: Only contracts for architectural/engineering services can be awarded using a qualifications-based procurement method. If a qualifications-based procurement method is used, profit must be negotiated as a separate element of the contract price. See §200.318 General procurement standards for additional information regarding procurements, including required contract content. Recommend reviewing §200.319 Competition and §200.320 Methods of procurement to be followed.

The TYID will contract with a licensed Professional Engineer to complete the design and grant administration for the supported pipe project by developing a solicitation that will be advertised in the local paper in accordance with Montana Code Annotated requirements. The Engineer will be responsible for the design of the proposed project, which will include, but is not limited to, environmental considerations, hydrology and hydraulics, earthwork grading, horizontal and vertical alignments, permitting, and construction administration duties. The TYID has engaged an Engineer to work with regulatory agencies to complete environmental compliance prior to grant award. The Engineer will provide a final plan set and specifications for the proposed project to facilitate construction. The Engineer will also provide advisory services during construction of the project to assure proper installation. An estimate of the consultant's cost is included in Table 3. Construction will be performed by the selected contractor(s) as directed by a scope of work and services in a contract with a construction company(ies). The construction services costs include costs for the contractor to provide mobilization, demobilization, insurance, labor costs, equipment, and other items construction items not related directly to material purchases. The Engineer's services amount to a total cost of \$33,541, which is well within the industry standard for A&E Services for design, permitting and construction administration (<20% of total construction cost).

The TYID will contract with a grant administrator for assistance with grant administration duties. The TYID may also utilize legal counsel as needed for review of contractual items.

Subaward Narrative: If known, identify the recipient of each subaward. Describe the activities to be performed under each subaward, regardless of dollar value, and indicate the applicability or necessity of each to the project. Identify the total estimated cost and the basis(es) used to develop the estimate. For each subaward with an estimated amount meeting or exceeding \$250,000 or representing 35% or more of the total project cost, provide a separate detailed description of the estimated costs. A detailed estimate can be included with the application in lieu of a description. Include any indirect/overhead costs anticipated to be paid and the indirect cost rate used.

N/A

g) Construction

Construction costs are costs incurred in the construction, renovation, and/or equipping of a facility or structure. Costs include engineering, design, permitting, demolition, acquisition of materials, and installation of improvements.

Narrative: Identify all construction-related costs other than applicant organization personnel and fringe benefits costs, including, but not limited to, engineering and design, environmental and other regulatory compliance costs, applicant-owned equipment use, rental equipment, construction supplies, equipment that will be purchased and installed, construction contracts, permitting, and environmental compliance. Note: Personnel and fringe benefits costs related to construction should be included in Salaries and Wages and Fringe Benefits costs, as applicable.

- **Equipment use.** If equipment owned by the applicant is proposed for use under the project, provide the use rates and hours for each piece of equipment owned and budgeted. These should be ownership rates developed by the recipient for each piece of equipment (do not include operator costs). If these rates are not available, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineer's recommended equipment rates for the region are acceptable. Rates for each region can be found at EP1110-1-8 Construction Equipment Ownership and Operating Expense Schedule.

N/A

- **Construction materials.** Identify any construction materials and non-movable equipment that will be purchased from a vendor. Include estimated purchase price, quantity, and total cost.

Table 5. Construction Materials & Installation

Construction Materials & Installation				
Material Item	Rate	Quantity	Unit	Cost
Mobilization/Demobilization	\$12,820.00	1	LSUM	\$12,820
Taxes, Bond & Insurance	\$3,935.05	1	LSUM	\$3,935
Construction Surveying	\$2,951.29	1	LSUM	\$2,951
Tree Removal	\$700.00	4	EACH	\$2,800
Dewatering/Bypass Pumping	\$20,000.00	1	LSUM	\$20,000
Existing Flume Structure Removal	\$11,000.00	1	LSUM	\$11,000
Seeding	\$2,000.00	1	LSUM	\$2,000
36" Supported Pipe	\$217.50	99	LNFT	\$21,533
Concrete Headwall and Wingwalls	\$8,500.00	2	EACH	\$17,000
Concrete Foundation and Steel Pipe Supports	\$25,000.00	1	LSUM	\$25,000
Wasteway Structure	\$15,000.00	1	LSUM	\$15,000
48" Dia. HDPE	\$340.00	138	LNFT	\$46,920

Construction Materials & Installation				
Material Item	Rate	Quantity	Unit	Cost
48" Regular Metal FES	\$1,600.00	2	EACH	\$3,200
Geotextile Separation Fabric	\$5.00	350	SQYD	\$1,750
Riprap	\$35.00	350	SQYD	\$12,250
Contingency (10%)	\$18,300.00	1	LSUM	\$18,300
Subtotal				\$216,459

All the materials and supplies needed for the project are listed above. The supplies are itemized by major category, unit price, quantity, and purpose. All costs were derived from actual product costs or from quotes received on each product within the last 365 days and include installation cost. All costs were verified by an independent engineering consultant who utilized current recent bid prices on similar projects. Please note that cost is not identical to the submitted PER planning document as further consultation and quantity verifications occurred since the document was submitted. As a result, quantities and costs were adjusted to reflect current field conditions and anticipated scope of work.

- **Contractual services.** For each contract, regardless of dollar value, describe the services to be obtained and the applicability or necessity of each to the project. Identify the total estimated cost and the basis(es) used to develop the estimate. For all construction contracts and each contract with an estimated amount meeting or exceeding \$250,000 or representing 35% or more of the total project cost, provide a separate detailed description of the estimated costs. A detailed estimate can be included with the application in lieu of a description. For contracts with an estimated cost equal to or greater than the micro-purchase threshold (currently \$10,000) identify the procurement method to be used and the basis of selection.

Table 6. Contractual Services Table

Contractual Services				
Engineering and Design, Construction Management - TBD				
Position Title	Rate	Quantity	Unit	Cost
Project Manager	\$179.00	32	Hour	\$5,728
Project QA/QC	\$207.00	24	Hour	\$4,968
Project Engineer II	\$136.00	60	Hour	\$8,160
Project Engineer I	\$118.00	80	Hour	\$9,440
Project Surveyor	\$179.00	24	Hour	\$4,296
Administrative Assistant	\$73.00	13	Hour	\$949
Subtotal				\$33,541

An engineering services contract will be awarded by the TYID for final design and engineering, preparation of construction contract bidding documents, and construction oversight and inspection. The hours for each professional are included in the table above. The estimate was prepared by an engineering consultant and is based on the costs incurred for a previous similar project.

- **Other Construction-related Costs.** Identify any other construction-related costs (e.g., permitting, etc.) and indicate the applicability or necessity of each to the project. Include quantity, unit cost, total cost, and the basis for the estimate. Note: Do not include costs that are anticipated to be paid by a contractor under the terms of the contract. Those items should be included in the contract estimate.

N/A

h) Other

This category contains items not included in the previous categories, such as third-party in-kind contributions, tuition remission, rental costs, etc. Third-party in-kind contributions are all services and donations made to the project that do not involve a payment or reimbursement and represent donated items or services that are necessary to the performance of the project. This includes services provided by project partners that will not be reimbursed, volunteer hours, donated equipment, donated existing supplies, etc.

Narrative: For all costs other than third-party contributions, list items by type or nature of expense, breaking down costs by cost per unit, quantity, and total cost and identify the basis of cost (quote, invoice, etc.). Describe the necessity of the costs for successful completion of the project and exclude unallowable costs. Recommend reviewing §200.420 through §200.476, General Provisions for Selected Items of Cost.

N/A

Third-party Contributions Narrative: Describe any third-party services and donations (personnel costs, supplies, etc.), including the name of the contributor as well as any work that will be performed by volunteers. Indicate the applicability or necessity of each to the project and describe the basis(es) of the valuation. All third-party contributions must meet the requirements under §200.306 Cost sharing or matching, including the valuation of the contribution.

N/A

i) Indirect Costs

Indirect costs that will be incurred during the development or construction of a project, which will not otherwise be recovered, may be included as part of the applicant's project budget. Show the proposed rate, cost base, and proposed amount for allowable indirect costs based on the applicable cost principles for the recipient's organization as described below. It is not acceptable to simply incorporate indirect rates within other direct cost line items.

Option 1: Show the rate reflected in the most recent Federal indirect cost rate agreement, cost base, and proposed amount for allowable indirect costs. If the applicant has a current Federal negotiated indirect cost rate agreement, it must be included with the application.

Option 2: If the applicant has never received a Federal negotiated indirect cost rate, the budget may include a 10% de minimis rate of modified total direct costs. Per §200.1 Definitions,

Modified Total Direct Cost (MTDC) means all direct salaries and wages, applicable fringe benefits, materials and supplies, services, travel, and up to the first \$25,000 of each subaward (regardless of the period of performance of the subawards under the award). MTDC excludes equipment, capital expenditures, charges for patient care, rental costs, tuition remission, scholarships and fellowships, participant support costs and the portion of each subaward in excess of \$25,000.

For further information on modified total direct costs, refer to §200.414 Indirect Costs.

Option 3: If the applicant does not have a federally approved indirect cost rate agreement and is proposing a rate greater than the 10% de minimis rate, include the computational basis for the indirect expense pool and corresponding allocation base for each rate. Identify the amount of Federal funding that will be used to pay these costs.

Information on “Preparing and Submitting Indirect Cost Proposals” is available from Interior, the National Business Center, and Indirect Costs and Acquisition Audit Services at <https://ibc.doi.gov/ICS/icrna>.

Note: Construction costs are capital expenditures and must be excluded from the indirect costs.

Narrative: Identify whether the applicant has a current Federal negotiated indirect cost agreement. Describe the costs included in the indirect cost base and identify the indirect cost rate used and total costs. Include the amount of Federal funding that will be used to pay indirect costs.

N/A - The TYID does not have a federally approved indirect cost; therefore, no de minimis rate is assumed for this project.

j) Pre-Award Costs

If the proposed project is selected, the awarding Reclamation Grants Officer will review the proposed pre-award costs to determine if they are consistent with program objectives and are allowable in accordance with the authorizing legislation. Proposed pre-award costs must also be compliant with all applicable administrative and cost principles criteria established in 2 CFR Part

§200 and all other requirements of this NOFO. In no case will costs incurred prior to April 1, 2022, be considered for inclusion in the proposed project budget.

Please note that the costs for preparing and submitting an application in response to this NOFO, including the development of data necessary to support the proposal, are not eligible project costs under this NOFO and must not be included in the project budget.

In addition, please ensure that the budget proposal includes any project costs that may be incurred prior to award. For each cost, describe:

- The project expenditure and amount

There are no pre-award costs

- The date of cost incurrence
There are no pre-award costs
- How the expenditure benefits the project
There are no pre-award costs

D.2.2.4 ENVIRONMENTAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES COMPLIANCE

Please answer the questions from Section H.1. Environmental and Cultural Resource Considerations in this section.

It is understood that Reclamation will be the lead agency for Environmental and Cultural Resources Compliance.

H.1. ENVIRONMENTAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS

To allow Reclamation to assess the probable environmental and cultural resources impacts and costs associated with each application, all applicants should consider the following list of questions focusing on the NEPA, ESA, and NHPA requirements. Please answer the following questions to the best of your knowledge. If any question is not applicable to the project, please explain why. The application should include the answers to:

- Will the proposed project impact the surrounding environment (e.g., soil [dust], air, water [quality and quantity], animal habitat)? Please briefly describe all earth-disturbing work and any work that will affect the air, water, or animal habitat in the project area. Please also explain the impacts of such work on the surrounding environment and any steps that could be taken to minimize the impacts.

The proposed project will have a minimal impact on the surrounding environment. Impacts to the environment will be limited to the general proximity of the supported pipe alignment and canal extents. The disturbance footprint may extend 5 feet beyond the edge of the alignment or grading for structures and pipeline install locations on each side to allow for removal of the existing topsoil and earthwork compaction. The work will be performed in the irrigation offseason when the irrigation canal is dry and not running water; and Jones Creek flows are minimal, if not zero. Care will be taken to minimize impacts and limit the construction footprint wherever possible. During construction, dust may be generated but is expected to be minimal and temporary. Dust control measures will be implemented during construction that may include the use of a water truck. Noise from construction activities will be limited to daylight hours. The proposed project could potentially have a beneficial impact on fish and wildlife habitat through the conservation of water and energy and improved water quality discharges back to the Yellowstone River as described previously in this application.

- Are you aware of any species listed or proposed to be listed as a Federal threatened or endangered species, or designated critical habitat in the project area? If so, would they be affected by any activities associated with the proposed project?

The US Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service was consulted to identify threatened, endangered, proposed, and candidate species within the area of interest (AOI), which covers the Jones Creek Flume and surrounding areas. The intent of the broad AOI was to capture a larger corridor encompassing wildlife migration and movement instead of limiting the search to the immediate project vicinity. The endangered Northern Long eared bat and candidate for designation, and the Monarch Butterfly are located in the AOI. The USFWS IPaC tool was used to search for endangered or threatened species potentially occurring within the project area. The monarch butterfly is an ESA candidate but does not have critical habitat in the project area. All construction disturbance will be limited to the canal and will not involve tree cutting excepting those that have grown through the flume structure. Therefore, northern long eared bat habitat will not be impacted by the project. Sediment BMPs will be used to manage temporary sediment disturbance during construction. The proposed flume project will not adversely impact the species listed on the website. All state and federal guidelines directed towards habitat conservation and renewable resources will be observed. Care will be taken to limit construction disturbance to the areas within or immediately adjacent to the existing irrigation infrastructure. Further, the proposed project is anticipated to provide wildlife habitat benefits via the preservation of stream flows within the Tongue and Yellowstone Rivers as well as improved water quality and limiting of waste flows to the river.

- Are there wetlands or other surface waters inside the project boundaries that potentially fall under CWA jurisdiction as "Waters of the United States?" If so, please describe and estimate any impacts the proposed project may have.

The National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) website was utilized to determine whether any wetlands were present within the lands adjacent to the project location. This search indicated that the proposed project area is within the existing irrigation infrastructure footprint. Thus, the NWI identifies the lateral as a riverine wetland because of the Yellowstone River to the north. Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be implemented to prevent sediment from leaving the site. The proposed project will include all necessary permits and environmental actions to be fully compliant with all rules, regulations, and laws. Based upon the available information, no Waters of the United States are believed to be negatively impacted by the proposed project.

- When was the water delivery system constructed?

The existing canal and delivery system was constructed around 1911 when the TYID was established as a public irrigation district. The TYID acquired water rights from a separate irrigation company and hold the rights to this day.

- Will the proposed project result in any modification of or effects to, individual features of an irrigation system (e.g., headgates, canals, or flumes)? If so, state when those features were constructed and describe the nature and timing of any extensive alterations or modifications to those features completed previously.

The proposed project will only affect the identified portions of the existing irrigation canals that will be converted to a supported pipe system or wasteway structure installation.

- Are any buildings, structures, or features in the irrigation district listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places? A cultural resources specialist at your local Reclamation office or the State Historic Preservation Office can assist in answering this question.

The district does not have any buildings, structures, or features eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places that will be impacted by this project.

- Are there any known archeological sites in the proposed project area?

The TYID is not aware of any archeological sites in the proposed project area. If any archeological sites are discovered during construction, work will be halted, and the appropriate environmental process will be followed.

- Will the proposed project have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations?

The proposed project will not have a disproportionately high and/or adverse effect on low income or minority populations.

- Will the proposed project limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites or result in other impacts on tribal lands?

The proposed project will not limit access to or ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites or result in other impacts on tribal lands.

- Will the proposed project contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area?

Care will be taken to prevent the continued existence or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species. During revegetation, only approved native seed mixtures will be used. The TYID's weed management program will be used to control weed and non-native species once the project is complete.

D.2.2.5 REQUIRED PERMITS OR APPROVALS

You must state in the application whether any permits or approvals are required and explain the plan for obtaining such permits or approvals.

Note that improvements to Federal facilities that are implemented through any project awarded funding through this NOFO must comply with additional requirements. The Federal government will continue to hold title to the Federal facility and any improvement that is integral to the existing operations of that facility. Please see P.L. 111-11 §9504(a)(3)(B). Reclamation may also require additional reviews and approvals prior to award to ensure that any necessary easements, land use authorizations, or special permits can be approved consistent with the requirements of 43 CFR §429 and that the development will not impact or impair project operations or efficiency.

The TYID has contracted with an Engineer to complete permitting of the Project prior to potential grant award. The following permits may be obtained with assistance from the engineer during the design process:

310 Permit - The Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACD) requires a permit for any activity that physically alters or modifies the bed or banks of a perennially flowing stream. Consultation will be performed, but the activities proposed herein are likely exempt from this rule.

404 Permit - The Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) requires a permit for any activity that will result in the discharge or placement of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States, including wetlands. Consultation will be performed, but the activities proposed herein are likely exempt as stated in CRF 323.4(a)3.

318 Authorization - The Short-Term Water Quality Standard for Turbidity requires a permit for any construction activities that will cause temporary violations of state surface water quality standards for turbidity. The work will be conducted in dry areas.

Storm Water Discharge General Permit - State Storm Water Rules require a storm water discharge permit for any construction project over one acre in total disturbance that discharges into State waters.

Montana Sage Grouse Habitat Conservation Program - The program's role is to implement Montana's Sage Grouse Conservation Strategy including the conservation, restoration, and mitigation of changes to sage grouse habitat because of development. The project area is not located within a mapped area of concern.

D.2.2.6 OVERLAP OR DUPLICATION OF EFFORT STATEMENT

Applicants must provide a statement that addresses if there is any overlap between the proposed project and any other active or anticipated proposals or projects in terms of activities, costs, or commitment of key personnel. If any overlap exists, applicants must provide a description of the overlap in their application for review.

Applicants must also state if the proposal submitted for consideration under this program does or does not in any way duplicate any proposal or project that has been or will be

submitted for funding consideration to any other potential funding source—whether it be Federal or non-Federal. If such a circumstance exists, applicants must detail when the other duplicative proposal(s) were submitted, to whom (Agency name and Financial Assistance program), and when funding decisions are expected to be announced. If at any time a proposal is awarded funds that would be duplicative of the funding requested from Reclamation, applicants must notify the NOFO point of contact or the Program Coordinator immediately.

The TYID has submitted grant applications to various grant agencies to support various portions of this project. These applications and their status are as follows:

Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation Renewable Resources Grant and Loan Program Construction Grant. The TYID applied for one RRGL construction grants in the total amount of \$125,000 with no match requirement that will go toward the proposed Jones Creek Flume project identified in this application. This application is pending and will be awarded in May 2025.

Bureau of Reclamation WaterSmart Small Scale Water and Energy Efficiency Grant. The TYID is applying for funding under this application to support the Jones Creek Flume Project identified in this application.

The TYID will coordinate these grants, if they are all or partially funded, in a joint effort to convert the existing flume to a supported pipe and install a new wasteway structure to Jones Creek. It is not anticipated that there will be any conflicts with resources and/or funding for each project as they all will have individual matching needs that will be handled independently. The TYID has reviewed the amount of work and funding that this project will take and is confident that they have the funds and the resources to complete the work.

D.2.2.7 CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Per 2 CFR §1402.112, “Financial Assistance Interior Regulation” applicants should state in the application if any actual or potential conflict of interest exists at the time of submission. Submission of a conflict-of-interest disclosure or certification statement is mandatory prior to issue of an award.

The TYID has no actual or potential conflict of interest at this time.

APPLICABILITY

This section intends to ensure that non-Federal entities and their employees take appropriate steps to avoid conflicts of interest in their responsibilities under or with respect to Federal financial assistance agreements.

In the procurement of supplies, equipment, construction, and services by recipients and by sub recipients, the conflict-of-interest provisions in 2 CFR§200.318 apply.

The TYID has no actual or potential conflict of interest at this time.

NOTIFICATION

Non-Federal entities, including applicants for financial assistance awards, must disclose in writing any conflict of interest to the DOI awarding agency or pass-through entity in accordance with 2 CFR §200.112.

Recipients must establish internal controls that include, at a minimum, procedures to identify, disclose, and mitigate or eliminate identified conflicts of interest. The successful applicant is responsible for notifying the Financial Assistance Officer in writing of any conflicts of interest that may arise during the life of the award, including those that have been reported by sub recipients.

The TYID has no actual or potential conflict of interest at this time.

RESTRICTIONS ON LOBBYING

Non-Federal entities are strictly prohibited from using funds under a grant or cooperative agreement for lobbying activities and must provide the required certifications and disclosures pursuant to 43 CFR §18 and 31 USC §1352.

The TYID will not use the funds for lobbying and has provided the required certifications and disclosures pursuant to 43 CFR §18 and 31 USC §1352.

REVIEW PROCEDURES

The Financial Assistance Officer will examine each conflict-of-interest disclosure on the basis of its particular facts and the nature of the proposed grant or cooperative agreement and will determine whether a significant potential conflict exists and, if it does, develop an appropriate means for resolving it. Enforcement. Failure to resolve conflicts of interest in a manner that satisfies the government may be cause for termination of the award. Failure to make required disclosures may result in any of the remedies described in 2 CFR §200.339, Remedies for noncompliance, including suspension or debarment (see also 2 CFR §180).

The TYID has no actual or potential conflict of interest at this time.

D.2.2.8 UNIFORM AUDIT REPORTING STATEMENT

All U.S. states, local governments, federally recognized Indian Tribal governments, and non-profit organizations expending \$750,000 in U.S. dollars or more in Federal award funds in your organization's fiscal year must submit a Single Audit report for that year through the Federal Audit Clearinghouse's Internet Data Entry System in accordance with 2 CFR §200 subpart F. U.S. state, local government, federally recognized Indian Tribal governments, and non-profit applicants must state if your organization was or was not required to submit a Single Audit report for the most recently closed fiscal year. If your organization was required to submit a Single Audit report for the most recently closed fiscal year, provide the Employer Identification Number (EIN) associated with that report and state if it is available through the Federal Audit Clearinghouse website.

The TYID has not submitted, or been required to submit, a Single Audit report for the most recently closed fiscal year (2023).

D.2.2.9 CERTIFICATION REGARDING LOBBYING

Applicants requesting more than \$100,000 in Federal funding must certify to the statements in 43 CFR §18, Appendix A. If this application requests more than \$100,000 in Federal funds, the authorized official's signature on the appropriate SF-424 form also represents the applicant's certification of the statements in 43 CFR § 18, Appendix A.

The TYID will not use the funds for lobbying and has provided the required certifications and disclosures pursuant to 43 CFR §1, Appendix F. The TYID's Commissioner Chairman, Mike Blum, has signed the appropriate SF-424 form which is included with this application.

D.2.2.10 SF-LLL: DISCLOSURE OF LOBBYING ACTIVITIES (IF APPLICABLE)

If applicable, a fully completed and signed SF-LLL: Disclosure of Lobbying Activities form is required if the applicant has made or agreed to make payment to any lobbying entity for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with a covered Federal action. This form cannot be submitted by a contractor or other entity on behalf of an applicant.

N/A

D.2.2.11 LETTERS OF SUPPORT

Please include letters from interested stakeholders supporting the proposed project. To ensure your proposal is accurately reviewed, please attach all letters of support/partnership letters as an appendix. Letters of support received after the application deadline for this NOFO will not be considered in evaluating your proposed project. These letters do not count within the 100-page maximum.

N/A.

D.2.2.12 LETTER OF PARTNERSHIP

Category B applicants must submit a letter from the Category A partner(s), stating that they are acting in partnership with the applicant and agree to the submittal and content of the proposal (see Section C.1. Eligible Applicants). However, if the project is selected, a Letter of Partnership must be received prior to award.

N/A

D.2.2.13 OFFICIAL RESOLUTION

Include an official resolution adopted by your organization's board of directors or governing body, or, for state government entities, an official authorized to commit the applicant to the financial and legal obligations associated with receipt of a financial assistance award under this NOFO, verifying:

- The identity of the official with legal authority to enter into an agreement.

- The board of directors, governing body, or appropriate official who has reviewed and supports the application submitted.
- That your organization will work with Reclamation to meet established deadlines for entering into a grant or cooperative agreement

An official resolution meeting the requirements set forth above is mandatory. If you are unable to submit the official resolution by the application deadline because of the timing of board meetings or other justifiable reasons, the official resolution may be submitted to shadro-fafoa@usbr.gov up to 30 days after the application deadline. This resolution does not count within the 100-page maximum for the application.

An official resolution from the TYID Board is provided in Appendix B.

D.2.2.14 LETTERS OF FUNDING COMMITMENT

If a project is selected for award under this funding opportunity and cost share funding is anticipated to be provided by a source other than the applicant, the third-party cost share must be supported with letters of commitment prior to award. Letters of commitment should identify the following elements:

- The amount of funding commitment

The TYID has applied for \$125,000 from the RRGL program, but the application is pending at this time. Therefore, the application requests \$125,000 from WaterSmart in this grant application and shows a 50-50 applicant match of \$125,000 for a project total cost of \$250,000. Should the RRGL dollars be awarded to the TYID, the applicant cost from TYID will be reduced to \$0 and the RRGL third party contribution will be \$125,000 to meet the TYID's match requirement for this WaterSmart Grant Application.

- The date the funds will be available to the applicant.

The RRGL funds, if awarded, would become available to the TYID sometime after May 2025, depending on contracting with the program.

- Any time constraints on the availability of funds

The RRGL grant will need to be spent by the end of 2028, if awarded.

- Any other contingencies associated with the funding commitment.

There are no other contingencies associated with the funding commitment.

Cost-share funding from sources outside the applicant's organization (e.g., loans or State grants) should be secured and available to the applicant prior to award. Reclamation will not execute a financial assistance agreement until non-Federal funding has been secured or Reclamation determines that there is enough evidence and likelihood that non-Federal funds will be available to the applicant after executing the agreement.

The TYID has applied for a \$125,000 grant from the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation Renewable Resource Grant & Loan Program. The grant will be available mid to late 2025 and must be spent by the end of 2028 if awarded.

Tongue and Yellowstone River Irrigation District

Resolution 2025-1

January 13, 2025

WHEREAS; the Tongue and Yellowstone River Irrigation District (TYID) has the legal authority to enter into an agreement, and intends to submit a Water Efficiency Grant to the United States Bureau of Reclamation's (USBR) WaterSMART Program in 2025, and;

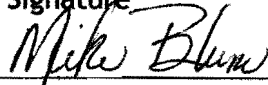
WHEREAS; the Tongue and Yellowstone River Irrigation District, located in Miles City, Montana commits to assisting in the funding of, implementation of, the construction of, operation of, and to performing the future maintenance for the Jones Creek Flume and Canal Conversion project per the stipulations of the foregoing grant application (if successful and awarded), and;

WHEREAS; the Tongue and Yellowstone River Irrigation District contributions of cash and in-kind management, labor, and equipment services for the preferred alternative of the aforementioned grant application have been estimated at up to 51% of the total projects per the budgeting calculation forms included in the WaterSMART Grant Application, and;

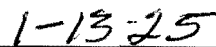
WHEREAS; the Tongue and Yellowstone River Irrigation District hereby appoints Michael Blum, President, as the official with legal authority to enter into an agreement (if successful and awarded);

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: The Tongue and Yellowstone River Irrigation District Board of Directors support the application and hereby commit to the supply of in-kind labor, management, equipment, and/or cash to satisfy the required match as stipulated in the Funding Plan of the WaterSMART Grant Application submittal for the Jones Creek Flume and Canal Conversion project. The Tongue and Yellowstone River Irrigation District has budgeted for the planned capital and resource expenditures and will work with Reclamation to meet the established deadlines for entering into a grant or cooperative agreement.

Signature



Michael Blum, TYID President



Date

**TONGUE AND YELLOWSTONE RIVER
IRRIGATION DISTRICT
P.O. Box 853
Miles City, Montana 59301
email: tandy@midrivers.com**

January 14, 2025

Bureau of Reclamation
WaterSmart Program

RE: Application for WaterSmart Grant Funding under Funding Opportunity No. R24AS00059 for the Jones Creek Flume Project

To Whom It May Concern:

The Tongue and Yellowstone Irrigation District (TYID) is applying for funding from the Bureau of Reclamation WaterSmart Program through Funding Opportunity Announcement No. R24AS00059, Small-Scale Water and Energy Efficiency Grants for Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025, to make critical improvements to our water supply and distribution system. This project consists of replacing the Jones Creek Flume along the main canal with a new siphon and wasteway system. The project will mitigate leakage losses, improve water delivery to downstream acreage beyond Jones Creek, while also providing improved water delivery efficiency for system users.

Although the proposed WaterSmart Grant Funding requested represents an important portion of the overall costs, at least 50% of the costs will be borne by TYID through out-of-pocket expenditures or other funding sources. The TYID understands that the cost of this project will exceed the available grant funds. The TYID will commit the necessary funds, Montana Department of Natural Resource RRG grant, if awarded, and in-kind services in the amount of \$125,000 to complete the proposed project. We acknowledge that federal funding requires compliance with the Single Audit Act and any audit costs not covered by the proposed funding will be covered by the irrigation district. With this letter, TYID is expressing commitment to providing the remaining matching funds and/or in-kind services as necessary to complete the proposed Jones Creek Flume Project.

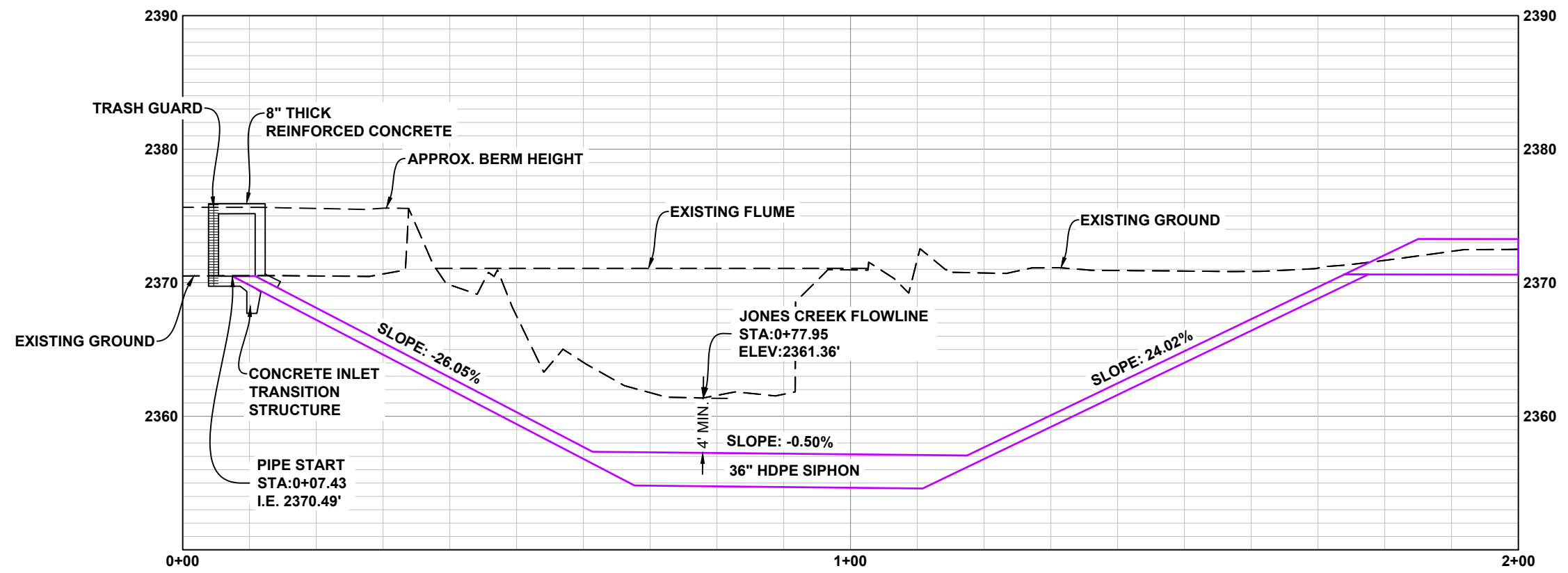
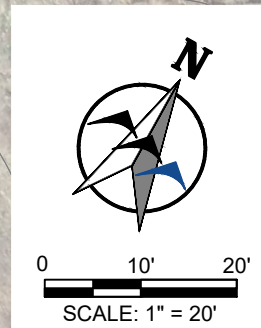
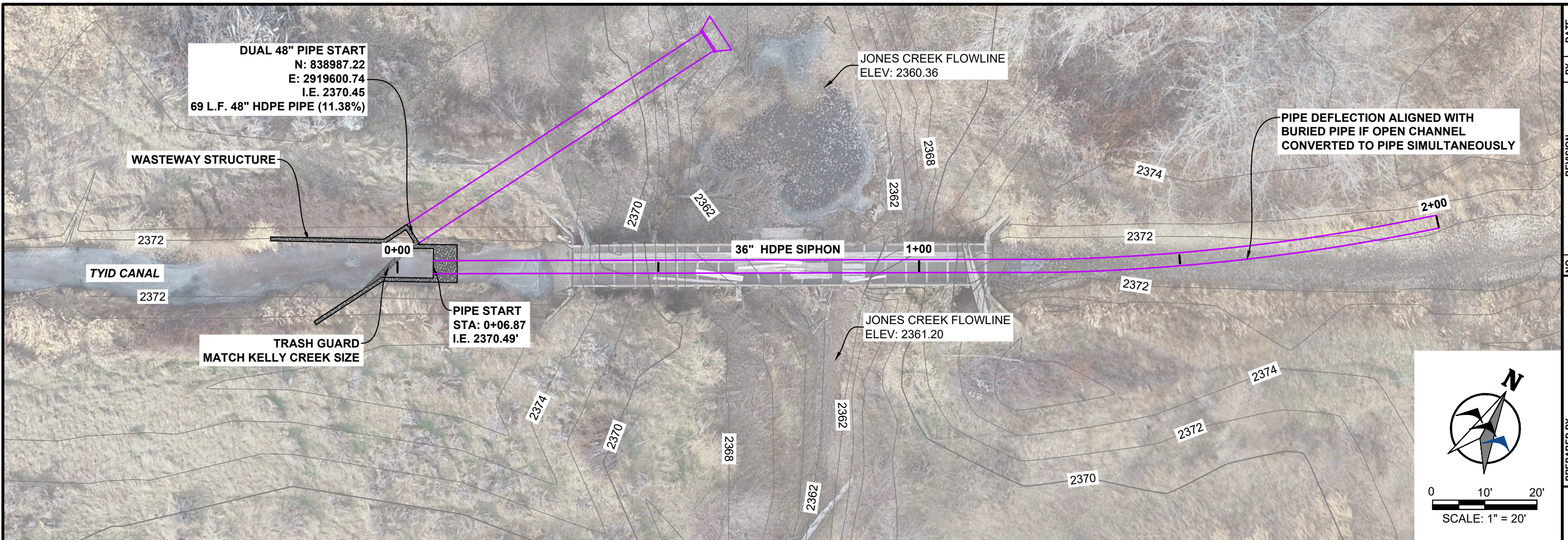
Please contact us if you have any questions or require any additional information.

Respectfully,



Mike Blum, Commissioner
Tongue and Yellowstone Irrigation District

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PRELIMINARY

NO.	REVISION	BY	DATE

PREPARED BY **WWC** ENGINEERING
 550 S. 24TH ST. W., SUITE 201
 BILLINGS, MT 59102
 (406) 894-2210
 www.wwcengineering.com

TONGUE AND YELLOWSTONE IRRIGATION DISTRICT
 JONES CREEK AND DITCH LINING PROJECT
PROPOSED JONES CREEK SIPHON PLAN AND PROFILE
 CUSTER COUNTY, MT

DESIGNED BY: GTR
 DRAWN BY: ZSL
 CHECKED BY: GTR
 DATE: 5/3/2024

SHEET
4

PROJECT NO. 2023-477