



BUREAU OF
RECLAMATION

WaterSMART Program

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Agenda

- WaterSMART Overview
- WaterSMART Programs
- WaterSMART Tools and Resources
- Questions



WaterSMART Program Overview

- WaterSMART Program is an umbrella program composed of multiple Federal financial assistance opportunities.
- Increases water supply reliability through investments and attention to local water conflicts
- Supports water conservation and water management improvements to help meet competing demands for water
- Leverages Federal and non-Federal funding
- Relies on collaboration with stakeholders to develop local solutions to water supply issues
- \$2.1 billion boost & new authority from BIL



WaterSMART Program Grants

Building a Foundation

Planning

- Drought Contingency Plans
- Cooperative Watershed Management Program
- Water Strategy & Project Design Grants (or most types of water management projects)
- Water Conservation Field Services Program
- Basin Studies
- Aquatic Ecosystems Restoration Projects
- Water Recycling and Desalination Planning

Science and Tools

- Applied Science Tools
- Drought Resiliency Projects
- Basin Studies

On-the-Ground Projects

- Drought Resiliency Projects
- Water and Energy Efficiency Grants
- Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects
- Environmental Water Resources Projects
- Title XVI
- Large Scale Water Recycling
- Water Desalination
- Aquatic Ecosystems Restoration Projects



WaterSMART Program Basics

→ Most WaterSMART activities are grant programs

→ Generally a 50% non-Federal cost share is required for grants under WaterSMART

→ Applicants include entities such as states, tribes, cities, water districts, irrigation districts, watershed groups, non-profits, and flood control districts within the 17 Western United States and Territories, AK, HI, and Puerto Rico

→ Funding is allocated through annual competitive processes



Planning & Project Design

New in
FY 23

Eligible Projects

- Water Strategy Grants
 1. Water Marketing Strategies
 2. Water Supply Strategies
 3. River Restoration Strategies
- Project Design Grants
 1. Environmental Water Resources Projects
 2. Water Management and Conservation Projects
 3. Drought Resiliency Projects
- Drought Contingency Planning
 1. Development of comprehensive drought plans
 2. Update to drought plans

Funding

- Up to \$400,000 for projects that can be completed in 2-3 years
- Non-Federal Cost Share: 0%, 25% or 50%, dependent on project type



Drought Resiliency Projects

Eligible Projects

- Projects to increase water supply reliability through infrastructure improvements, groundwater recharge and recovery, and decision support tools & modeling
 - Up to \$5 million in federal funds per project
 - Non-Federal Cost Share: 50% or greater
- Domestic water supply projects for Tribes or disadvantaged communities that do not currently have reliable water supplies
 - Up to \$10 million in Federal funds. Total project costs not to exceed \$10 million
 - Non-Federal Cost Share: 5% but can request waiver

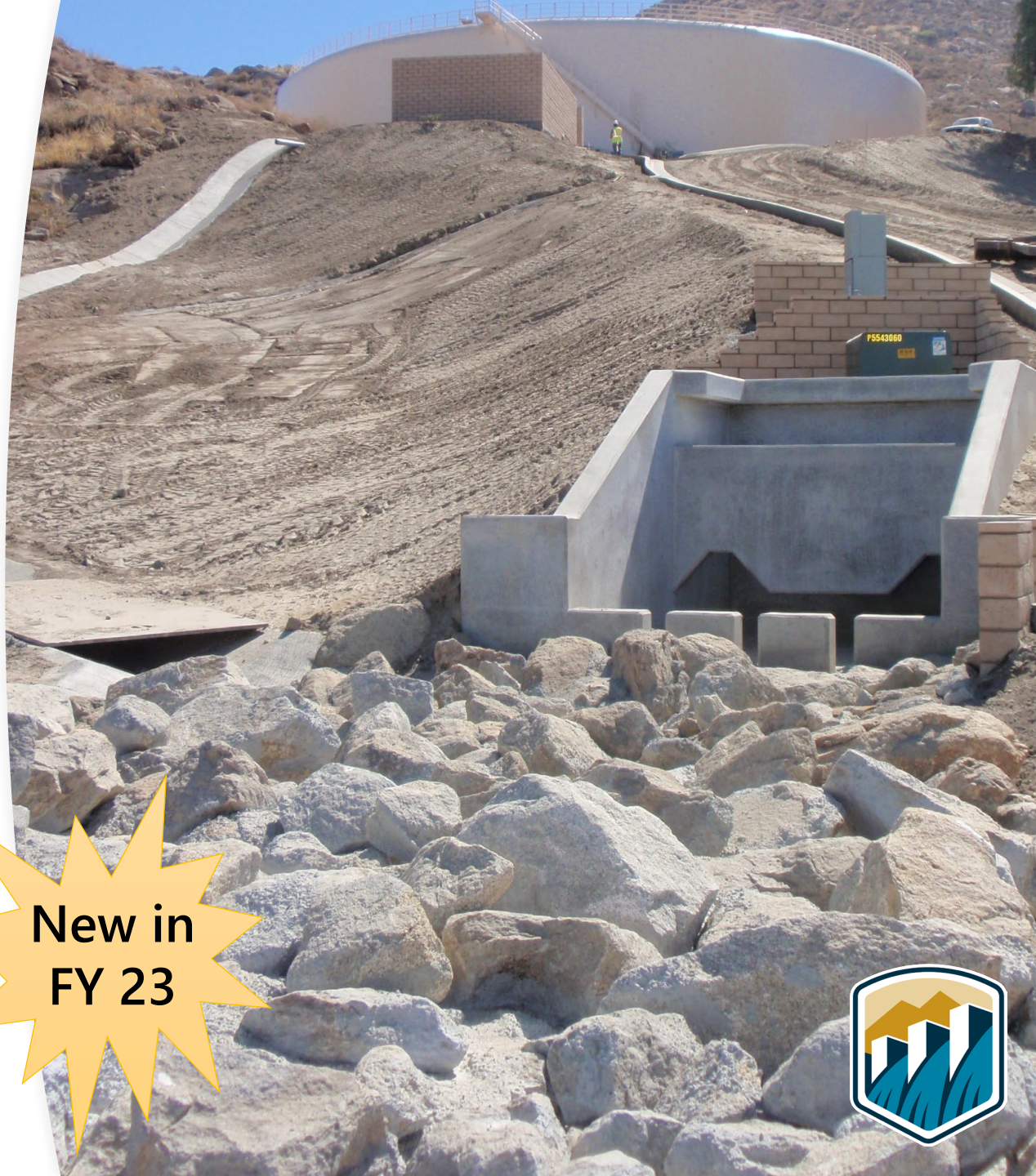


New in
FY 24



Water Reclamation, Reuse, and Desalination Funding Opportunities

- Title XVI Authorized Projects
- Title XVI WIIN Act Water Reclamation and Reuse Projects
 - Projects that reclaim and/or reuse municipal, industrial, and agricultural wastewater; or impaired ground and surface waters
- Desalination Construction
 - Ocean or brackish water desalination projects
- Large-Scale Water Recycling Projects
 - Projects that reclaim and/or reuse municipal, industrial, and agricultural wastewater; or impaired ground and surface waters, with a total project cost of \$500 million or more



**New in
FY 23**



Applied Science Grants

Eligible Projects

- Improve or enhance modeling capabilities
- Improve or adapt forecasting tools and technologies
- Improve access to and use of water resources data

Funding

- 25%-50% non-Federal cost share required
- Up to \$400k for a 2-year project

Eligible Applicants

- Entities with water delivery authority can partner with universities, non-profits, and research institutes



Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Projects

New in
FY 23

Eligible Projects

- Funds the study, design, and construction of large-scale aquatic ecosystem restoration and protection projects
- Projects should improve habitat or fish passage, including through the removal or bypass of fish barriers
- Prioritizes projects that provide regional benefits (across multiple basins), are a component of an aging infrastructure strategy, or benefit an underserved community

Funding Levels

- Task A: Planning and Design: \$500,000-\$2 million
- Task B: Construction: \$3 million-\$20 million
- Minimum 35% Non-Federal Cost Share required for both Task areas.



Environmental Water Resources Projects

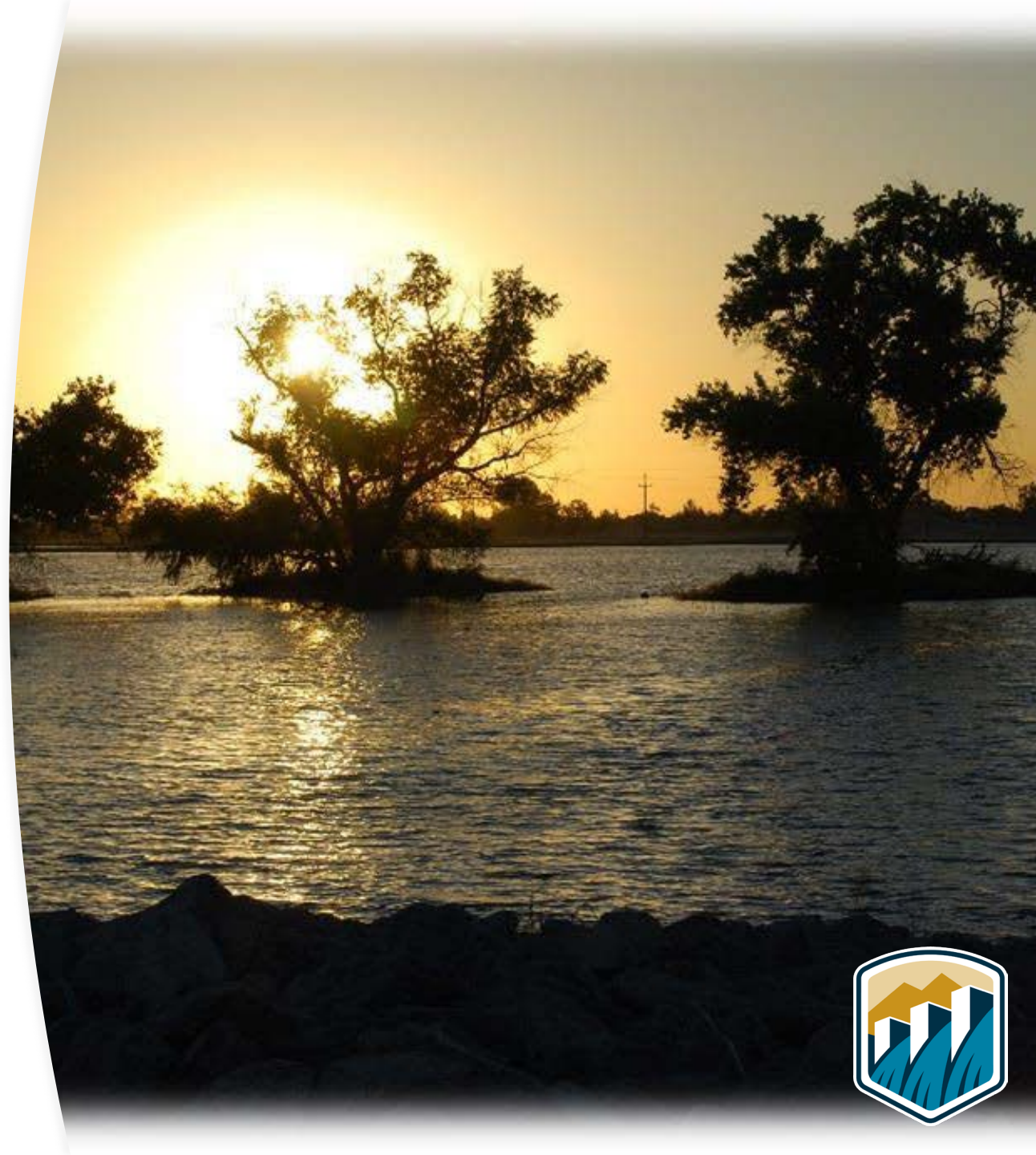
Eligible Project Types

- Water conservation and efficiency projects that increase reliability for ecological values or watershed health
- Water management and Infrastructure Improvements to benefit ecological values and watershed health
- Watershed management or restoration projects benefitting ecological values or watershed health
- Projects to improve the condition of a natural feature or nature-based feature

Funding

- Non-Federal Cost Share: 25% to 50%
- Funding Level: Up to \$3 million 3 years

Section 40907 of the BIL (Multi-Benefit Projects to Improve Watershed Health) will be implemented through the EWRP starting in FY23



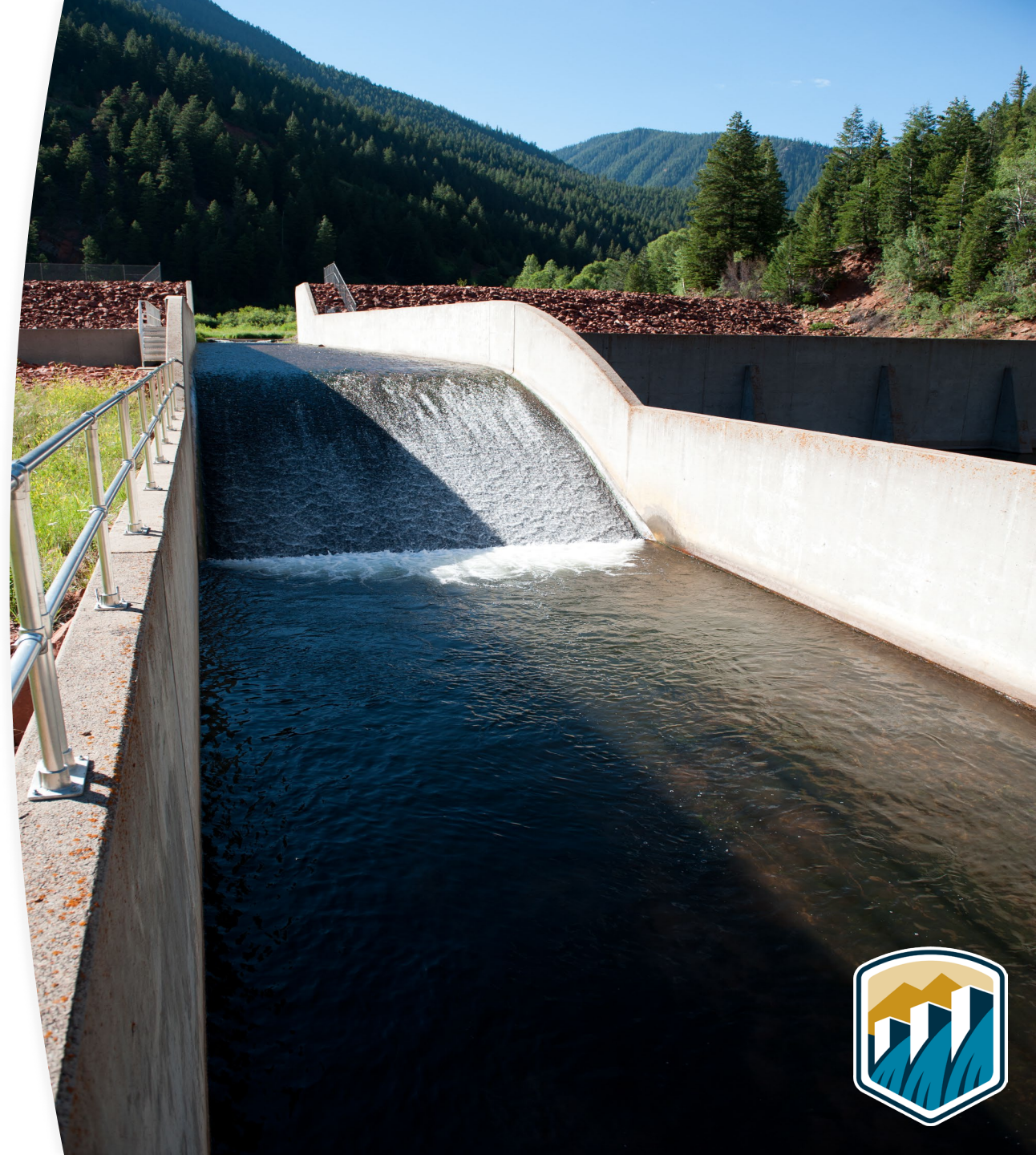
Water and Energy Efficiency Grants

Eligible Project Types

- Water Conservation Projects
 - Canal lining/piping
 - Municipal metering
 - Irrigation flow measurement
 - Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition and Automation (SCADA)
 - Landscape irrigation measures
 - High-Efficiency Indoor Appliances and Fixtures
 - Commercial Cooling Systems
- Renewable Energy Projects
 - Hydropower
 - Solar, wind energy

Funding

- Funding Group I: Up to \$500k in 2 years
- Funding Group II: Up to \$2 million in 3 years
- Funding Group III: Up to \$5 million in 3 years
- Non-Federal Cost Share: 50% or greater



Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects

Eligible Project Types

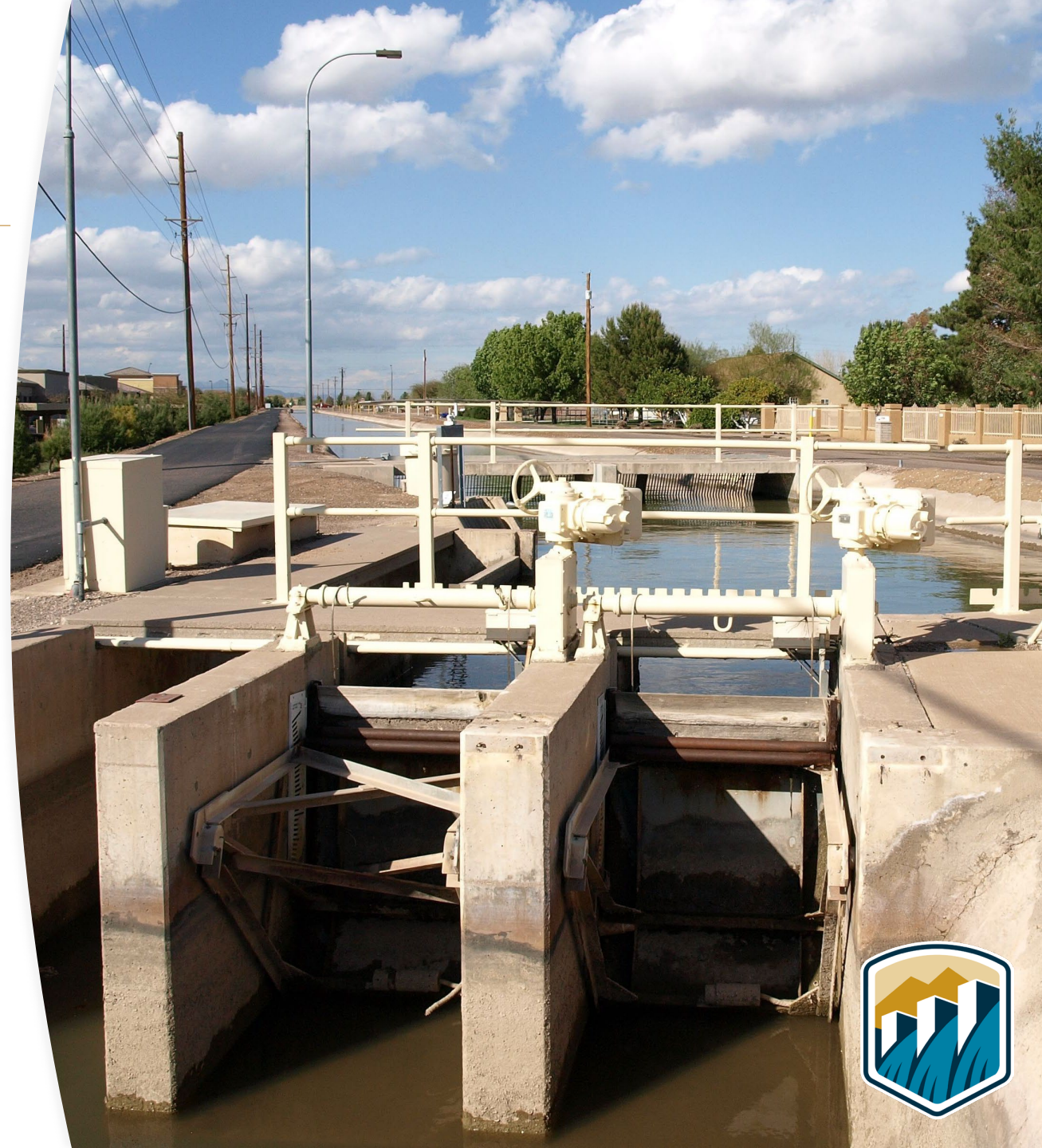
- Canal lining/piping
- Municipal metering
- Irrigation flow measurement
- Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition and Automation (SCADA)
- Landscape irrigation measures
- High-Efficiency Indoor Appliances and Fixtures
- Commercial Cooling Systems

Funding

- Up to \$100k in Reclamation funds
- Maximum total project costs of \$225k per project
- Non-Federal Cost Share: 50% or greater

Evaluation Criteria

- Simplified evaluation criteria
- Benefits to applicant
- Previous planning efforts supporting the project



Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Funding for WaterSMART & Aquatic Ecosystems

WaterSMART Programs Receiving Infrastructure Funding

Program Area	Funding Amount (Over Five Years)	Activities Funded
WaterSMART Grants	\$400 million	Water conservation and efficiency, renewable energy, natural and nature-based features
Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse Program	\$550 million	Water Recycling
Desalination Projects	\$250 million	Ocean and Brackish Water Desalination
Large Scale Water Recycling	\$450 million	Water Recycling
Cooperative Watershed Management Program	\$100 million	Watershed planning and restoration projects for watershed groups
Aquatic Ecosystems Restoration and Protection Projects	\$250 million	Aquatic ecosystem restoration and protection projects to improve habitat
Multi-Benefit Projects to Improve Watershed Health	\$100 million	Restoration projects to improve watershed health



Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Funding for WaterSMART

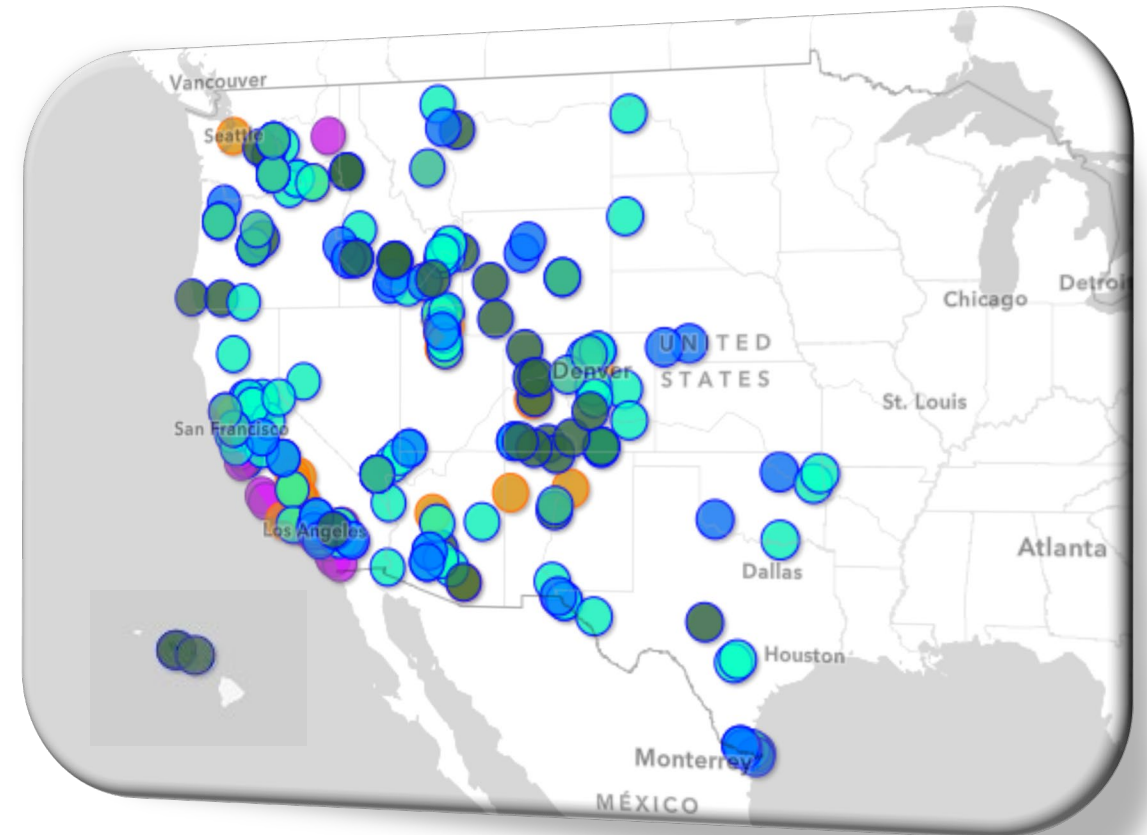
256 Projects

Federal Funding
\$17.5M

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Funding
\$655.7M

Non-Federal Funding
\$1.4B

Total Project Costs
\$2.1B



- Applied Science Grants
- CWMP Phase II Projects
- Drought Resiliency Projects
- Title XVI Authorized Projects
- Title XVI Feasibility Studies
- Title XVI WIIN
- WIIN Desalination
- Water and Energy Efficiency Grants
- Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Projects
- Environmental Water Resources Projects
- Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects
- Water Marketing Strategy Grants

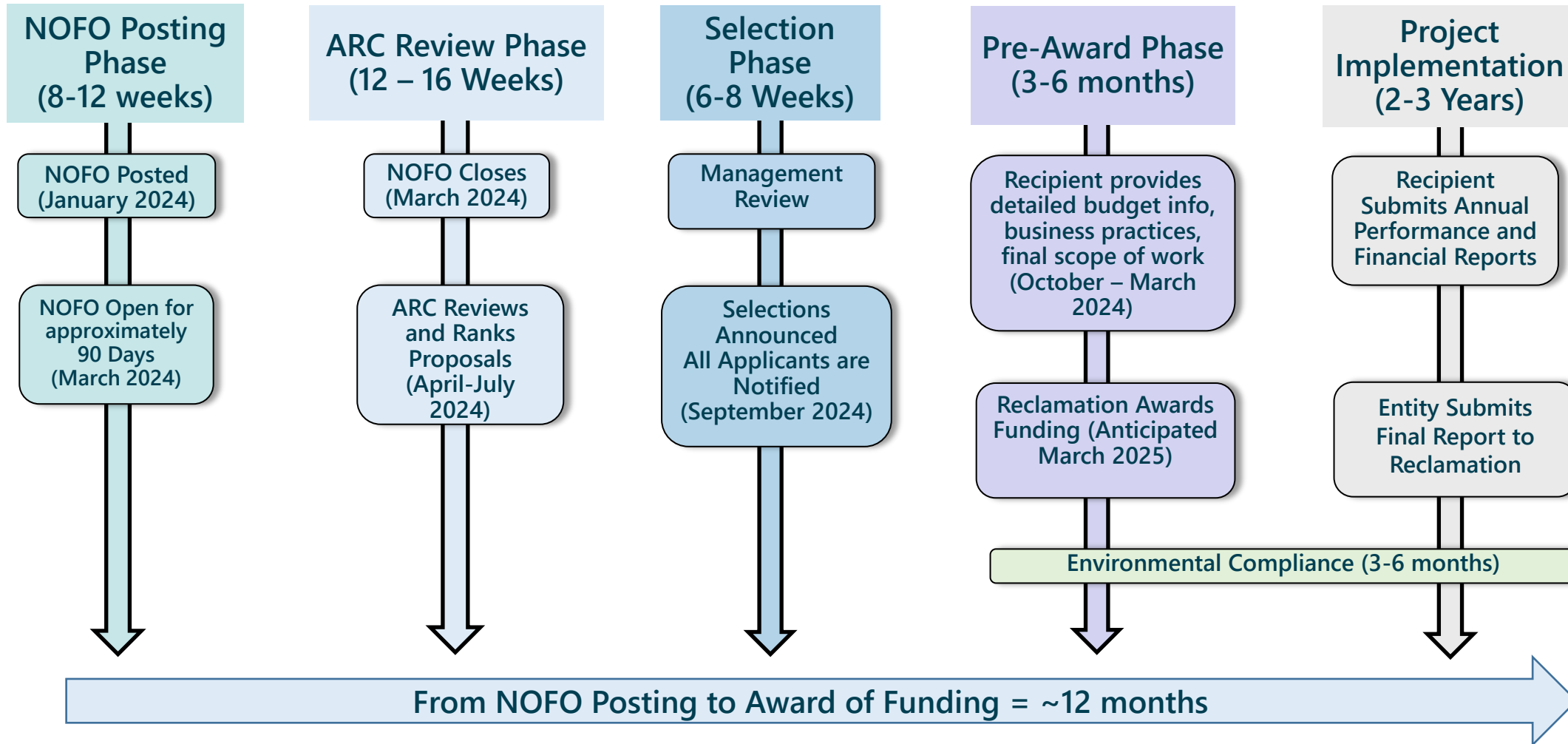
WaterSMART Schedule

Funding Opportunity	Post Date	Close Date
Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Program	Expected July 2024	Expected September 2024
Applied Science Grants	Expected September 2024	Expected February 2025
Planning and Project Design <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Water Strategy Grants ▪ Project Design Grants ▪ Drought Contingency Planning 	August 7, 2023	May 21, 2024
Drought Resiliency Projects	Expected June 2024	Expected September 2024
Cooperative Watershed Management Phase 1	August 7, 2023	September 3, 2024
Large Scale Water Recycling Projects	September 7, 2023	March 29, 2024 September 30, 2024
Title XVI Authorized Projects	September 28, 2023	September 30, 2024
Title XVI WIIN Act Water Reclamation and Reuse Projects		
Desalination Construction		
Environmental Water Resources Projects	Expected April 2024	Expected June 2024
Water and Energy Efficiency Grants	November 12, 2023	October 30, 2024
Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects	November 2, 2023	July 9, 2024 January 14, 2025 July 8, 2025



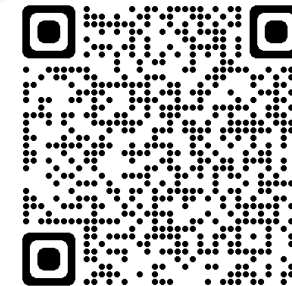
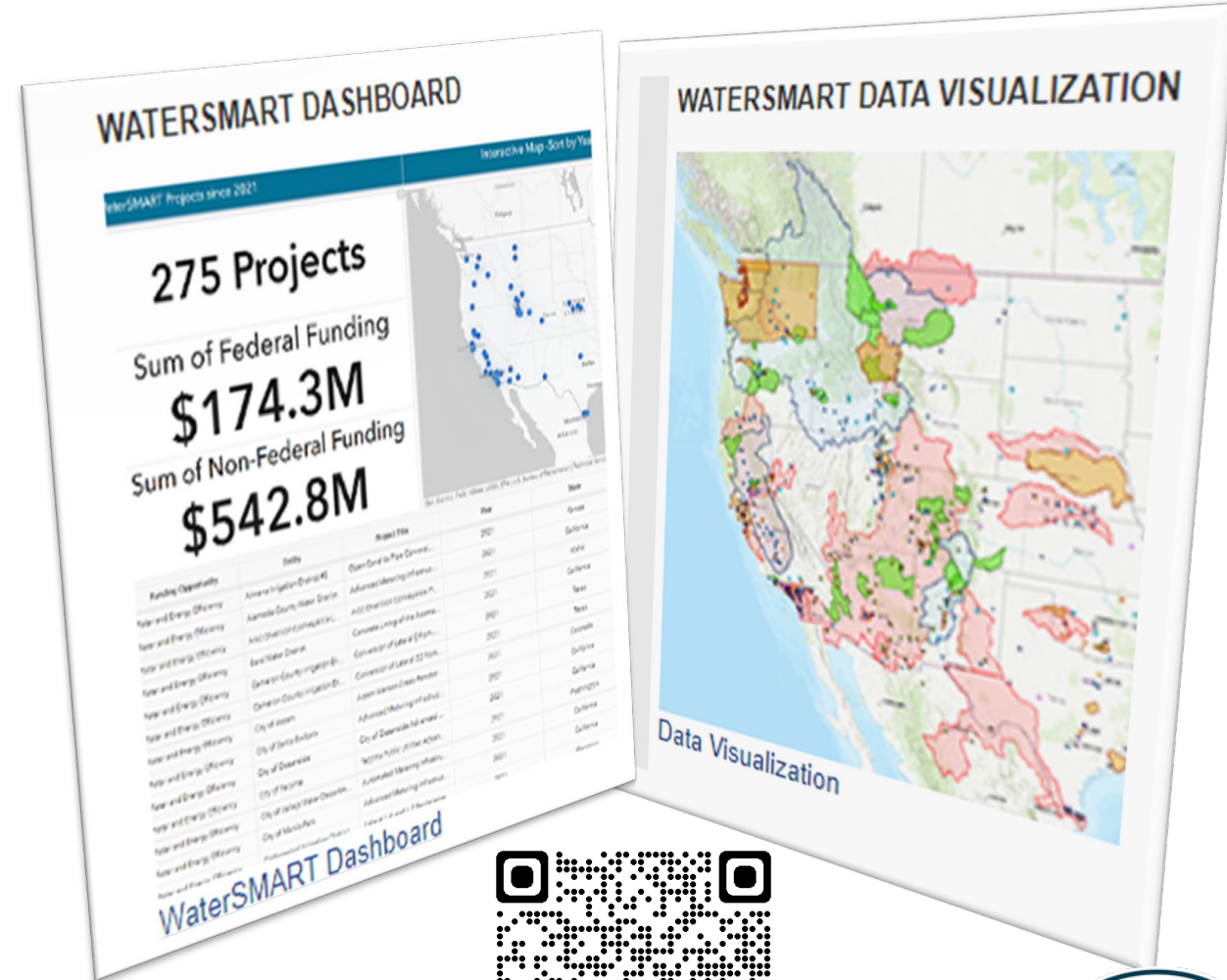
WaterSMART Selection Process

Sample Schedule



WaterSMART Program Resources

- WaterSMART Program Website: <https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart>
 - Previously funded applications for all programs
 - Interactive Data Visualization Tool
 - WaterSMART dashboard
 - Funding opportunity calendar
 - WaterSMART mailing list
 - Recent announcements



WATERSMART

WaterSMART

Contacts

Water and Energy Efficiency Grants

Water Marketing Strategy Grants

Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects

Environmental Water Resources Projects

Title XVI

Desalination

Basin Studies

Baseline Assessments and Pilots

Reservoir Operation Pilots

Applied Science Grants

Cooperative Watershed

Management Program

WaterSMART

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

Join the WaterSMART Mailing List

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

WaterSMART Project Selections Overview

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



OPEN FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

None at this time

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY CALENDAR



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



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



Questions?

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