



— BUREAU OF —
RECLAMATION

WaterSMART – Funding Opportunities for Projects with Ecological Benefits

Montana Watershed Coordination Council
Annual Meeting
February 24, 2022

WaterSMART Program



Provides a framework for Interior to support water supply reliability for multiple water users.



Cooperative Watershed Management Program

Phase I – Watershed Group Formation and Restoration Planning

Eligible Project Activities

- Watershed group development
- Conducting outreach activities
- Gathering data about the watershed
- Watershed restoration plans
- Project design

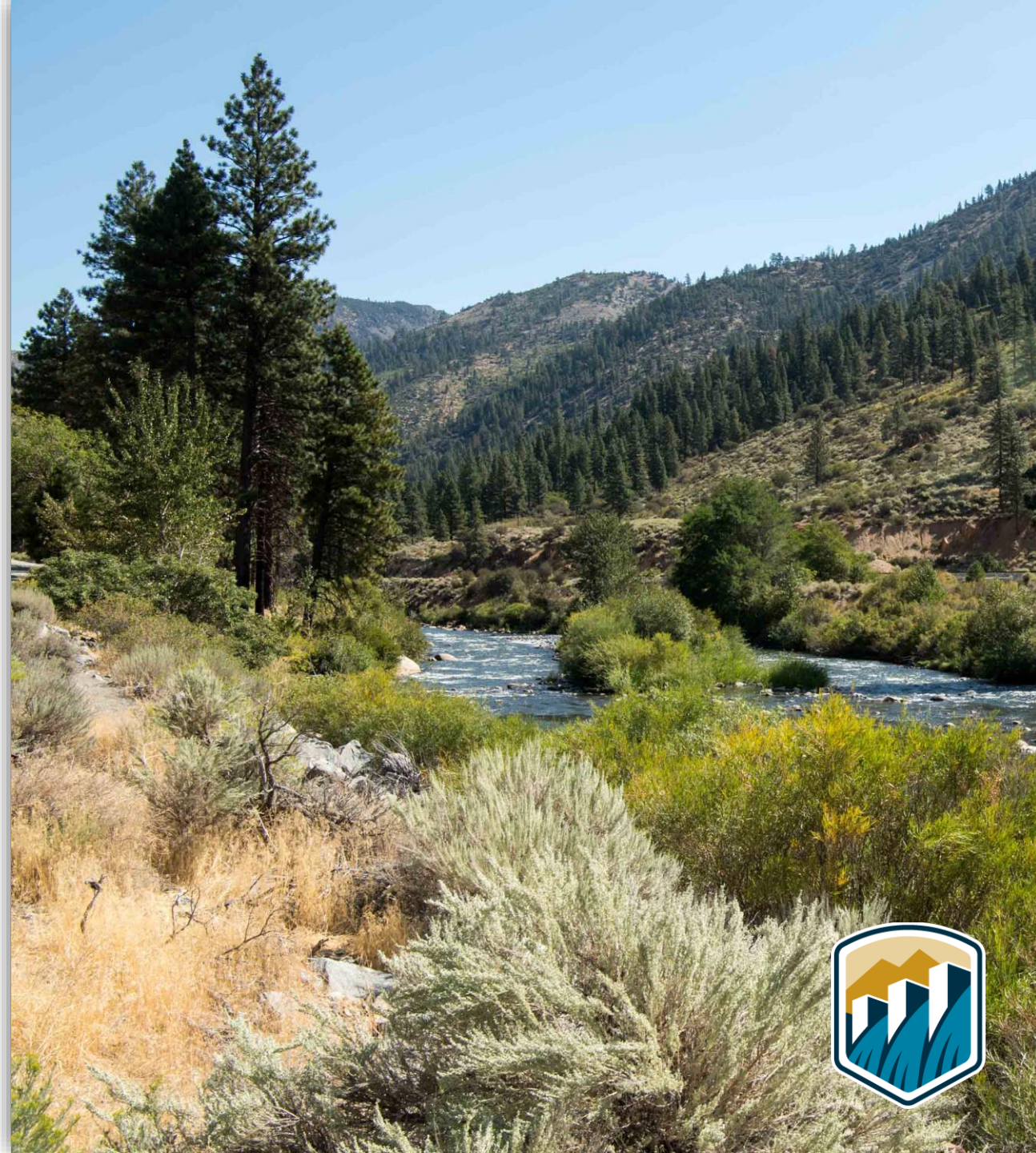
Funding

- 0% non-Federal cost share required
- Up to \$200,000 in Reclamation funding over 2 years
- Sufficiency review required for second year funding

Evaluation Criteria

- Project benefits

Funding opportunity open now on [grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) , closes March 31, 2022



Environmental Water Resources Projects

Eligible Project Types

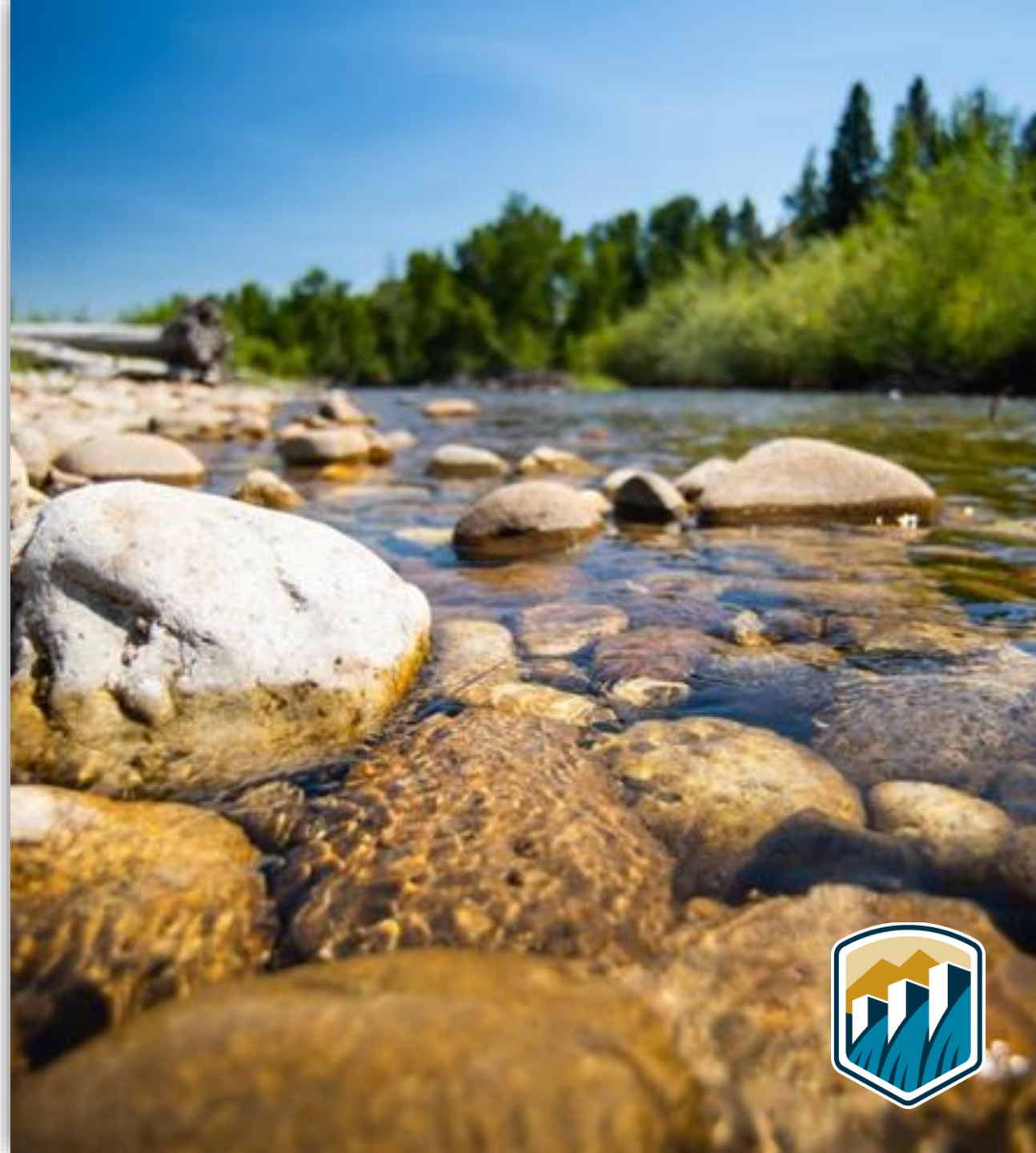
- Water conservation and efficiency projects that increase reliability for ecological values
- Improvements to mitigate drought-related impacts to ecological values
- Watershed management or restoration projects benefitting ecological values
- Projects to improve the condition of a natural feature or nature-based feature

Funding

- Federal funding comes from WaterSMART Grants and Cooperative Watershed Management Program (CWMP)
- Non-Federal Cost Share: 25% to 50%

Funding Opportunity

- Expected in May 2022



Multi-Benefit Projects to Improve Watershed Health

Eligible Project Types

- Design, implementation and monitoring
- Habitat restoration projects that improve watershed health
- In basins impacted by a Reclamation project

Funding

- Non-Federal Cost Share: 25% or 50%

Note: This is a new competitive program currently under development



Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration and Protection Projects

Eligible Project Types

- Design, study and construct
- Aquatic ecosystem restoration and protection projects
- To improve habitat, including restoration, passage, or removal of barriers
- Prioritizes projects that provide regional benefits (across multiple basins), and are a component of an aging infrastructure strategy

Funding

- Non-Federal Cost Share: 35%

Note: This is a new competitive program currently under development



Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Funding for WaterSMART & Aquatic Ecosystems

WaterSMART Programs Receiving Infrastructure Funding

Program Area	Funding Amount (Over Five Years)	FY2022 BIL Spend Plan	Activities Funded
WaterSMART Grants	\$400 million	\$160 million	Water conservation and efficiency, renewable energy, natural and nature-based features
Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse Program	\$550 million	\$245 million	Water Recycling
Desalination Projects	\$250 million	\$15 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



WaterSMART Schedule

Program	Funding Opportunity	Post Date	Close Date
Drought Response Program	Drought Contingency Planning FY 2022	Posted on February 15, 2022	April 14, 2022
	Drought Resiliency Projects FY 2023	Expected March 2022	Expected May 2022
	Emergency Response Actions	Applications for emergency drought assistance are accepted on an ongoing basis	
WaterSMART Grants	Water and Energy Efficiency Grants FY 2023	Expected April 2022	Expected June 2022
	Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects FY 2022	Expected February 2022	Expected April 2022
	Water Marketing Strategy Grants	Expected November 2022	Expected January 2023
Environmental Water Resource Projects	Environmental Water Resources Projects FY 2023	Expected May 2022	Expected July 2022
Cooperative Watershed Management Program	Cooperative Watershed Management Program Phase I FY 2022	Posted on January 24, 2022	March 31, 2022
Basin Study Program	Applied Science Grants FY 2022	Posted on February 16, 2022	April 14, 2022
Title XVI	Title XVI Congressionally Authorized Projects FY 2022	Posted on January 14, 2022	March 15, 2022
	WIIN Act Water Reclamation and Reuse Projects FY 2022	Posted on January 14, 2022	March 15, 2022
	WIIN Act Desalination Projects FY 2022	Posted on January 14, 2022	March 15, 2022



WaterSMART Program Resources

- WaterSMART Program Website:
<https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/index.html>
 - Note: Successful proposals are available on the website for each program
- For information about upcoming WaterSMART Funding Opportunities, send an email to watersmart@usbr.gov with your name and email address
- Funding Opportunities can be found at: www.grants.gov



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