

## San Diego IRWM Program RAC Meeting #102

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June 7, 2023

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### Agenda

- Meeting Logistics
- Welcome, Land Acknowledgement, and Introductions
- Project Completion Report
- California Water Plan Update
- Future of IRWM
- Drought Resiliency Workgroup Updates
- Grant Administration
- State and Federal Funding Opportunities
- Public Comments
- Summary and Next Steps

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June 7, 2023

All attendees: Please enter your full name and organization into the **chat**. Please update your name to include your organization by clicking on **participants**, hover over your name, click **more**, and click **rename**.



For any technical difficulties, contact: Arthella Vallarta, 213-223-9463

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## Virtual Meeting Process

- Please remain on mute until called on – do not put meeting on hold
- Use the chat feature to ask questions or notify moderator if you want to speak



- To unmute when called on, click on the microphone icon



- To unmute if you're on the phone, press \*6
- If you can't find the chat feature, email questions or comments to [sdirwm@woodardcurran.com](mailto:sdirwm@woodardcurran.com)

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## Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that this virtual meeting of the San Diego IRWM Program Regional Advisory Committee is taking place in the traditional lands of the Kumeyaay and Luiseño people. As we begin this meeting, we acknowledge and honor the original inhabitants of our region. A land acknowledgement is a critical step towards working with native communities to secure meaningful partnership and inclusion in the stewardship and protection of their cultural resources and homelands. We honor these ancestral grounds where we are collectively gathered and support the resilience and strength that Indigenous people have shown worldwide.

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## Rincon Customer-Driven Demand Management Program

*Julia Escamilla, Rincon del Diablo Municipal Water District*

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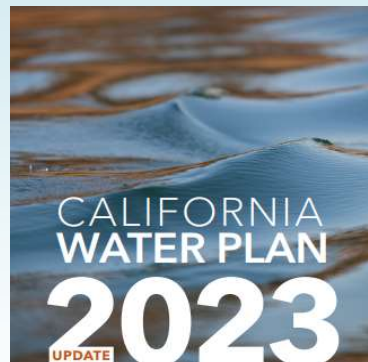
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## California Water Plan (CWP) Update 2023

- CWP is the State's strategic plan for sustainably and equitably managing and developing water resources for current and future generations.
- Presents the status and trends of the State's water-dependent natural resources, water supplies, and agricultural, urban, and environmental water demands for a range of plausible future scenarios



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## CWP Update 2023 – Intended Outcomes



Promote climate change adaptations that ensure the State's water resources are resilient.



Support the State's regions as they undertake watershed-based, multi-sector resilience planning with technical guidance, data, tools and decision support, and funding mechanisms.



Strengthen water equity in State, regional, and local planning and decision-making to help ensure the human right to water in California.

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## CWP Update 2023

- Draft sections reviewed by targeted stakeholder groups
- Section 4: Resource Management Strategy (RMS)
  - Focuses on watershed approach and climate change resilience
  - Highlights best practices for governance, coordination, engagement, planning, and monitoring
  - Incorporates an equity lens
- Section 4 was reviewed by members of the Roundtable of Regions and the Water Authority, requesting more emphasis on IRWM

Watershed RMS Workshop on June 22. Please register at:  
<https://water.ca.gov/News/Events/2023/Jun-23/California-Water-Plan-Update-2023---Watershed-Management-Resource-Management-Strategy-Workshop>

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## CWP Update 2023

- Case studies on watershed resilience anticipated in final section
  - Submitted case study on IRWM-funded projects in Chollas Creek Watershed for consideration
  - Highlighted process for identifying needs, alignment with regional goals, partnerships and community engagement, and wide variety of benefits



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## Water Bonds Update

<b>AB 1567</b> <b>Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2024</b> <b>(\$15,995,000,000)</b>		
<p>Priority is to finance projects for safe drinking water, wildfire prevention, drought preparation, flood protection, extreme heat mitigation, and workforce development</p>	<p>IRWM is allotted <b>\$350 million</b> under the Ensuring Safe Drinking, Drought Preparation, and Enhancing the State's Flood Protection</p>	<p>Approved by the Assembly and sent to the Senate</p>

*As amended May 26, 2023. Amended to include clean energy project funding and adjust all other funding amounts.*

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## Water Bonds Update

<b>SB 867</b> <b>Drought, Flood, and Water Resilience, Wildfire and Forest Resilience, Coastal Resilience, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Biodiversity and Nature-Based Climate Solutions, Climate Smart Agriculture, and Park Creation and Outdoor Access, and Clean Energy Bond Act of 2024</b> <b>(\$15,500,000,000)</b>		
<p>Priority is to finance projects for drought, flood, and water resilience, wildfire and forest resilience, coastal resilience, extreme heat mitigation, biodiversity and nature-based climate solutions, climate smart agriculture, park creation and outdoor access, and clean energy programs.</p>	<p>IRWM is allotted <b>\$300 million</b> under the Drought, Flood, and Water Resilience</p>	<p>Approved by the Senate and sent to the Assembly.</p>

*As amended May 18, 2023. Amended to require approval only if SB 638 is also approved.*

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## Water Bonds Update

<b>SB 638</b> <b>Climate Resiliency and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2024</b> <b>(\$6,000,000,000)</b>		
Priority is to finance flood protection, including levees and dams, flood management projects, and climate resiliency projects.	No amount allotted for IRWM.	Approved by the Senate and sent to the Assembly

*As amended May 18, 2023. Amended to require approval only if SB 867 is also approved.*

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## Water Bonds Update

<b>AB 305</b> <b>California Flood Protection Bond Act of 2024</b> <b>(\$4,000,000,000)</b>		
Priority is to finance flood protection projects, with set-asides for Central Valley and San Joaquin River Basin. Also funds urban flood projects, dam safety, Delta flood management, levee improvements.	No amount allotted for IRWM.	Approved by the Assembly and Senate

*As amended April 25, 2023. Last amendments increase total funding amount and adjust specific funding amounts*

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## Future of San Diego IRWM Ideas – Beyond 2023

- Collaboration
  - Reduce RAC meetings to Quarterly
  - Increase emphasis on partnerships and relationship building (URCs, state/federal agencies, stakeholders)
- Information Sharing
  - Increase information on non-IRWM grants
  - Provide regulatory knowledge transfers
  - Share lessons learned
- Funding
  - Streamline local project selection process
  - Identify potential funding opportunities for projects and program

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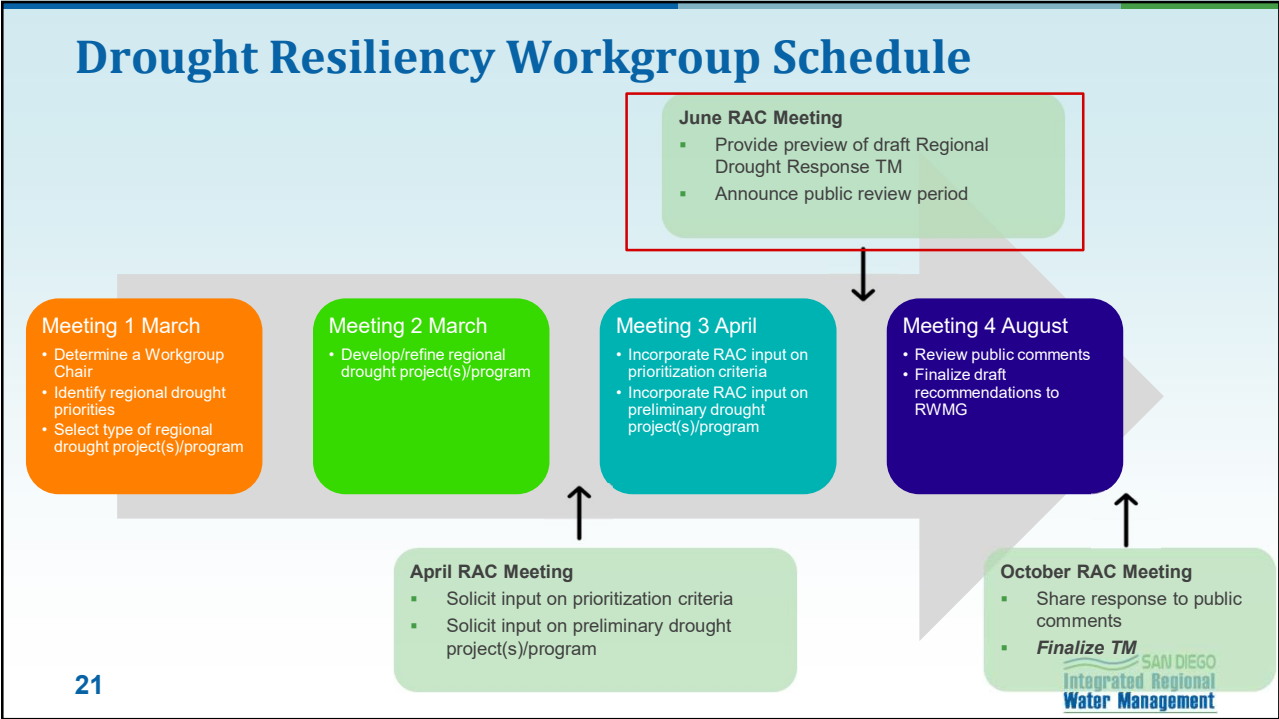
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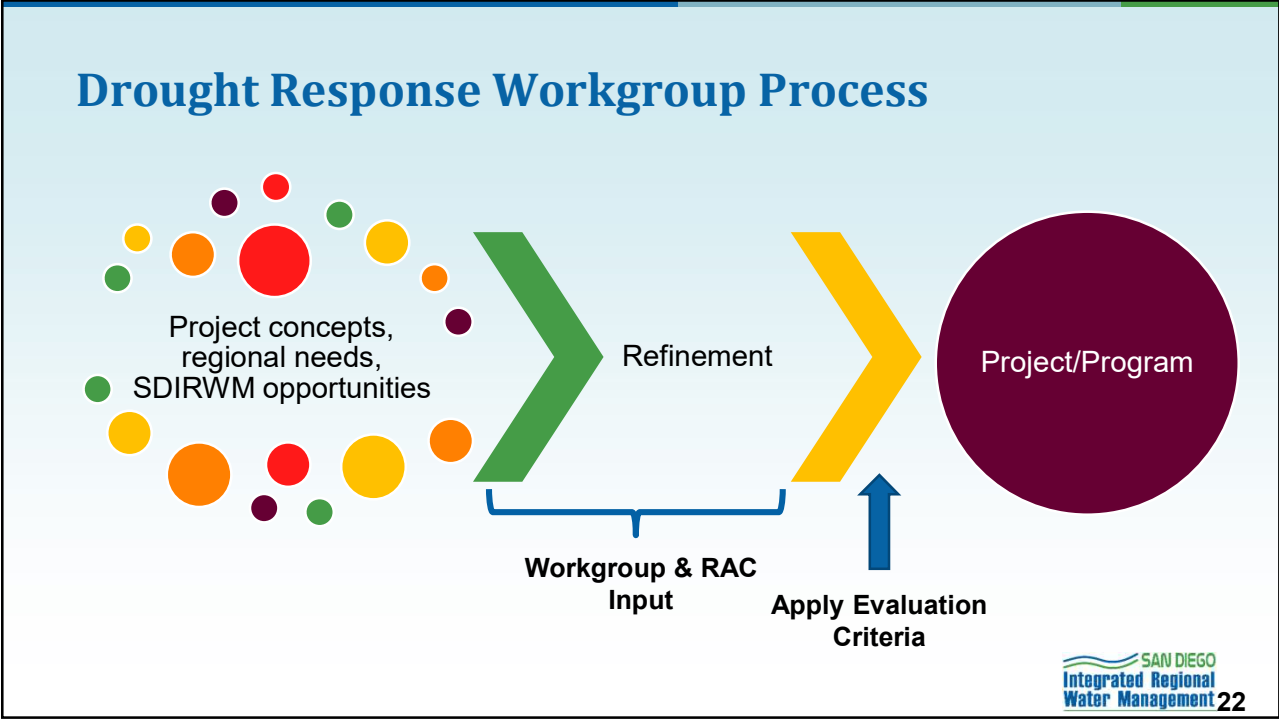
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# Prioritized Priority Project Concepts

See Handout!



Prioritized Project/Program Concepts

Criteria	Weight	Incentive programs	Native vegetation partnerships with nurseries	Water use efficiency programs	Leak detection/testing	Leak repair resources and database for direct installers & certified plumbers	Rainwater storage programs
Drought Reliability	100%	1.00	0.66	0.66	1.00	1.00	0.33
Realization of Benefits	100%	0.66	0.66	0.66	0.66	0.66	0.33
Cost Efficiency	100%	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Water Quality	100%	1.00	1.00	0.66	0.66	0.66	0.66
Institutional Independence	100%	1.00	0.33	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.33
URC Consideration	100%	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Implementability	100%	1.00	0.33	0.33	0.33	0.33	0.66
Adaptability	100%	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Multiple Benefits	100%	1.00	1.00	0.66	0.66	0.66	0.66
Average		8.66	6.98	6.97	7.31	7.31	5.97

0.33 = low | 0.66 = medium | 1.00 = high

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# Water Use Efficiency Incentive Project

- Incentives reduce financial barriers for URCs.
- Target residential and multifamily customers
- Includes indoor and outdoor incentives program, resource database, and a community development program.

**WATERSCAPE WATERWISE**

Maximize your yard. Minimize your bills.

Receive your resource and rebate info and apply for incentives with participating providers who help through the Incentive Rebate Program. Rebates are available to residents and businesses located in unincorporated San Diego County.

- TAP REPLACEMENT** Replace your tap with 1/2-inch, ball-balanced, aerating and a ceramic cartridge filter. **Rebate up to \$100.**
- SMART IRRIGATION CONTROLS** Install smart irrigation controllers to water plants more efficiently and conservatively. **Rebate up to \$100.**
- RAIN-SAVING CONTAINERS** Install a variety of rainwater catchment devices. **Rebate up to \$100.**
- RAIN-SAVING TABLES** Replace outdoor tables with rainwater catchment devices. **Rebate up to \$100.**
- RAIN-SAVING FEATURES** Install rainwater catchment devices with rainwater storage tanks. **Rebate up to \$100.**
- RAIN-FRIENDLY PAVEMENT** Install permeable pavement that allows water to infiltrate the ground. **Rebate up to \$100.**
- WATERSMART IRRIGATION** Install water-saving irrigation systems. **Rebate up to \$100.**
- RAIN-SAVING OUTTERS** Install water-saving outters. **Rebate up to \$100.**
- EFFICIENT LAWN CARE** Manage your lawn system and avoid pesticides. **Rebate up to \$100.**
- LANDSCAPE OPTIMIZATION SERVICE** Get personalized assistance to landscape smart that saves water, saves money and makes your water bills. **Rebate up to \$100.**

Check your eligibility and estimate your rebate at [sandiegocounty.gov/WaterwiseRebate](http://sandiegocounty.gov/WaterwiseRebate)



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# Regional Drought Resiliency Project Technical Memorandum

- Regional Drought Resiliency Project Technical Memorandum summarizes the project.
- Public review period expected in July and will be announced via email.

**TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM**

TO: Lesley Dobalian, San Diego County Water Authority  
 PREPARED BY: Arthella Vallarta & Vanessa De Anda, Woodard & Curran  
 REVIEWED BY: Sally Johnson, Woodard & Curran  
 DATE: May 25, 2023  
 RE: Regional Drought Resiliency Project

This technical memorandum (TM) presents the Regional Drought Resiliency Workgroup's (Workgroup) recommendation for the San Diego Integrated Regional Water Management (SDIRWM) Region Regional Drought Resiliency Project. The contents of the TM are organized into the following sections:

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**1. INTRODUCTION**

The SDIRWM Region includes the 11 western-draining watersheds in San Diego County, from the border with Mexico in the south to the borders with Orange County and Riverside County in the north. The SDIRWM region is home to nearly 3 million people who rely on a mix of local and imported water to meet their water needs. The region suffers from cyclical droughts due to its semi-arid climate and low levels of rainfall, and averages approximately 10 inches of rain per year, though local rainfall levels vary. Watersheds are known to be flashy, and local aquifers are generally not well suited to serve as major water supplies, though there are some locally-sourced groundwater basins in the region.

San Diego IRWM Regional Water Management Group | Woodard & Curran, Inc.  
 Drought Resiliency Project TM | May 25, 2023



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## Grant Administration

*Loisa Burton, San Diego County Water Authority*

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## Funding Fair Updates

- California Financing Coordinating Committee hosted funding fairs in May.
- Federal, state, and local agencies discussed financial and technical resources available.



All presentations are available here: <https://www.cfcc.ca.gov/funding-fairs/#contacts>

## Current Funding Opportunities

Project Types	Timing	Website
USBR: Drought Resiliency Projects	Anticipated to open June 2023	<a href="https://www.usbr.gov/drought/index.html">https://www.usbr.gov/drought/index.html</a>
USBR: Applied Science Grants	Anticipated to open June 2023	<a href="https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/appliedscience/index.html">https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/appliedscience/index.html</a>
USBR: Cooperative Watershed Management Program – Phase 1	Anticipated to open early July	<a href="https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/cwmp/index.html">https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/cwmp/index.html</a>
USBR: Desalination Construction	Anticipated to open June 2023	<a href="https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/desalination/index.html">https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/desalination/index.html</a>
USBR: Planning and Project Design Grants	Anticipated to open June 2023	TBD
USBR: Title XVI Authorized Projects	Anticipated to open June 2023	<a href="https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/title/">https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/title/</a>
USBR: Title XVI WIIN Act Water Reclamation and Reuse Projects	Anticipated to open June 2023	<a href="https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/title/wiin.html">https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/title/wiin.html</a>
USBR: Large-Scale Water Recycling Projects	Anticipated to open June 2023	<a href="https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/largescale/index.html">https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/largescale/index.html</a>
SWRCB: Prop 1 Technical Assistance Funding Program	Open: rolling	<a href="https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/proposition1/tech_asst_funding.html">https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/proposition1/tech_asst_funding.html</a>
DWR: Water Desalination Grant Program	Open: rolling	<a href="https://water.ca.gov/News/Public-Notices/2020/Sept-2020/Water-Desal-Grant-CAP">https://water.ca.gov/News/Public-Notices/2020/Sept-2020/Water-Desal-Grant-CAP</a>

## U.S. Bureau of Reclamation



— BUREAU OF —  
RECLAMATION

### ▪ Drought Resiliency Projects

- Purpose: Funding for on the ground projects and modeling tools that will increase water reliability and improve water management
  - ❖ *Note: If recycled water project is eligible for Title XVI/WIIN, it is not eligible for Drought Resiliency funding*
- Funding:
  - ❖ Up to \$500,000 for projects to be completed within 2 years
  - ❖ Up to \$2 million for projects to be completed within 3 years
  - ❖ Up to \$5 million for large projects to be completed within 3 years
- Cost Share: 50% or greater
- Status: Expected in June 2023

For more information please visit:  
<https://www.usbr.gov/drought/projects.html>

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## U.S. Bureau of Reclamation



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RECLAMATION

### ▪ Applied Science Grants

- Purpose: Projects to develop hydrologic information and water management tools and to improve modeling and forecasting capabilities
- Funding:
  - ❖ Up to \$400,000 per agreement for a project that can be completed within two years
- Cost Share: 50% or greater
- Status: Expected in June 2023

For more information please visit:  
<https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/appliedscience/index.html>

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## U.S. Bureau of Reclamation



— BUREAU OF —  
RECLAMATION

- Cooperative Watershed Management Program – Phase 1
  - Purpose: Watershed group development, watershed restoration planning, and watershed management project design.
  - Funding:
    - ❖ Up to \$200,000 may be awarded to an applicant per year, for a period of up to two years
  - Cost Share: None.
  - Status: Expected in early July

For more information please visit:  
<https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/cwmp/index.html>

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## U.S. Bureau of Reclamation



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RECLAMATION

- Desalination Construction
  - Purpose: Funding for planning, design, and construction of WIIN Act brackish groundwater and ocean desalination projects
  - Funding:
    - ❖ Limited to 25% of the total project costs, up to \$30 million
  - Cost Share: 75% or greater
  - Status: Expected June 2023

For more information please visit:  
<https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/desalination/index.html>

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## *Public Comments*

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## 2022 RAC Meeting Schedule

- Next RAC Meeting: **October 4!**
- 2023 Meeting Schedule:
  - October 4
  - Regular Meetings Held First Wednesday of Every Other Month

***Reminder: August and December meetings cancelled due to summer and holiday travels***

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### U.S. Bureau of Reclamation



— BUREAU OF —  
RECLAMATION

- **Planning and Project Design Grants**
  - Purpose: Collaborative planning and design projects to support water management improvements.
    - ❖ Planning to support water management solutions (water marketing, conservation, drought resilience, ecological resilience)
    - ❖ Final design of water management construction and restoration projects
    - ❖ Develop or update Drought Contingency Plan
  - Funding:
    - ❖ Up to \$400,000 for projects that can be completed within 3 years.
  - Cost Share: 25-50%
  - Status: Anticipated to open June 2023

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## U.S. Bureau of Reclamation



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### ■ Title XVI Authorized Projects

- Purpose: Funding for planning, design, and construction of specific congressionally authorized water recycling and reuse projects.
  - ❖ Requires Congressional approval prior to applying
- Funding:
  - ❖ Limited to 25% of the total project costs, up to \$20 million
- Cost Share: 75% or greater
- Status: Expected June 2023

For more information please visit:  
<https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/title/>

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## U.S. Bureau of Reclamation



— BUREAU OF —  
RECLAMATION

### ■ Title XVI WIIN Act Water Reclamation and Reuse Projects

- Purpose: Funding for planning, design, and construction of water recycling and reuse projects.
  - ❖ Requires USBR-approved Feasibility Study prior to applying
- Funding:
  - ❖ Limited to 25% of the total project costs, up to \$30 million
- Cost Share: 75% or greater
- Status: Expected June 2023
- Website:

For more information please visit:  
<https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/title/wiin.html>

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## U.S. Bureau of Reclamation



— BUREAU OF —  
RECLAMATION

- Large-Scale Water Recycling Projects
  - Purpose: Funding for planning, design, and construction of Large-Scale Water Recycling Projects with a total project cost greater than \$500 million
  - Funding:
    - ❖ Limited to 25% of the total project costs
  - Cost Share: 75% or greater
  - Status: Expected early June 2023

For more information please visit:  
<https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/largescale/index.html>

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