

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

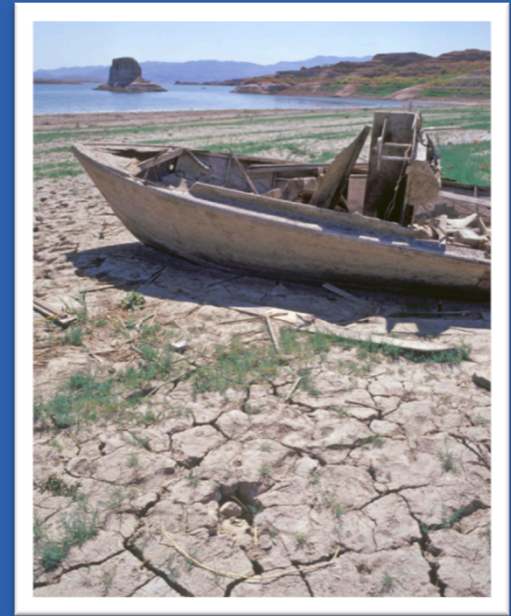
Drought Response Program FY 2015 Funding Opportunities



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation

Overview

- **Background**
- **FY 2015 Funding Opportunity Announcements**
- **Allocation of Funding**
- **Eligible Applicants**
- **Drought Contingency Planning**
- **Drought Resiliency Projects**
- **Application Schedule**



Reformulation of the Existing Drought Program

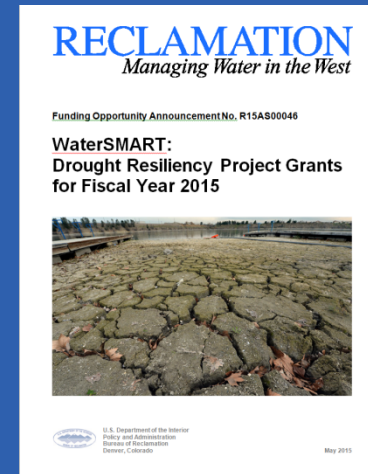
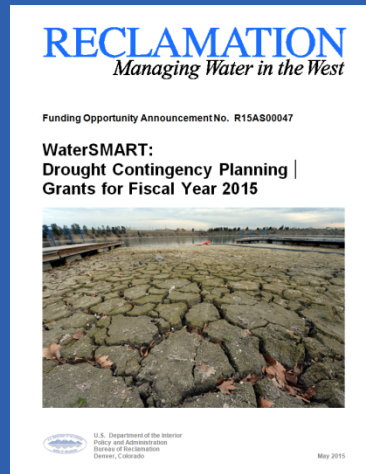
- **Historically, most Drought Program funding was used for emergency response actions -- very little funding has been used for planning or to build long-term resilience to drought**
- **New Drought Response Program will support a proactive approach for non-Federal partners to prepare for and respond to drought**

Reformulation of the Existing Drought Program

- According to FEMA, mitigation -- taking steps ahead of time to prevent or lessen known impacts from a natural disaster-- saved \$4 for every \$1 expended
- Planning ahead is more efficient and effective than taking measures in a crisis

FY15 Funding Opportunity Announcements

- Grants.gov
 - Drought Contingency Planning: R15AS00047
 - Drought Resiliency Projects: R15AS00046



Funding Opportunity Announcements

Allocation of Funding

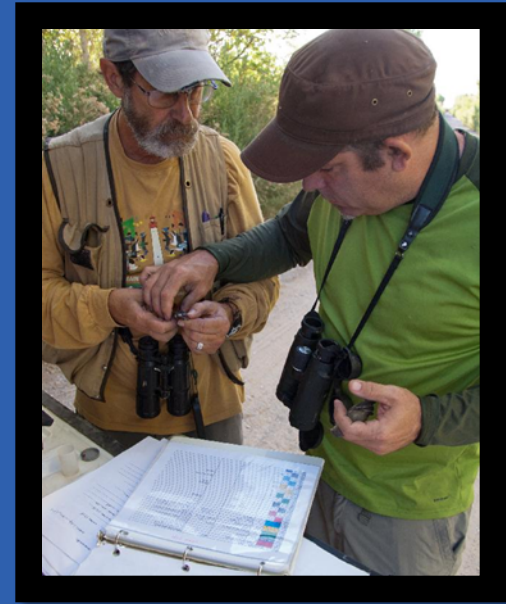
Program Element	FY15 Funding (\$5M total)	Number of plans/projects	At Least 50% Cost Share for Non-Federal Participants
Drought Contingency Planning	\$1-2M depending on demand	5-10 (up to \$200k per plan)	Required, waiver available
Drought Resiliency Projects	\$2-3M depending on demand	7-11 (up to \$300k per project)	Required

Funding Opportunity Announcements

Eligible Applicants

Program Element	Eligible Applicants
Drought Contingency Planning	States, Indian tribes, irrigation districts, water districts, or other organizations with water or power delivery authority located within the Reclamation States and Hawaii
Drought Resiliency Projects	States, Indian tribes, irrigation districts, water districts, or other organizations with water or power delivery authority located in the western United States or Territories as identified in the Reclamation Act of June 17, 1902, as amended

Drought Contingency Planning



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Drought Contingency Planning Requirements

- **All Drought Contingency Plans must include the following 6 elements:**
 1. **Drought Monitoring** (predict, recognize, plan for and respond)
 2. **Vulnerability Assessment** (risks and impacts)
 3. **Mitigation Actions** (mitigate risks and impacts before drought)
 4. **Response Actions** (reduce impacts during drought)
 5. **Operational and Administrative Framework** (roles and responsibilities)
 6. **Plan Update Process** (ensure plan stays current)
- **Multiple Stakeholders**

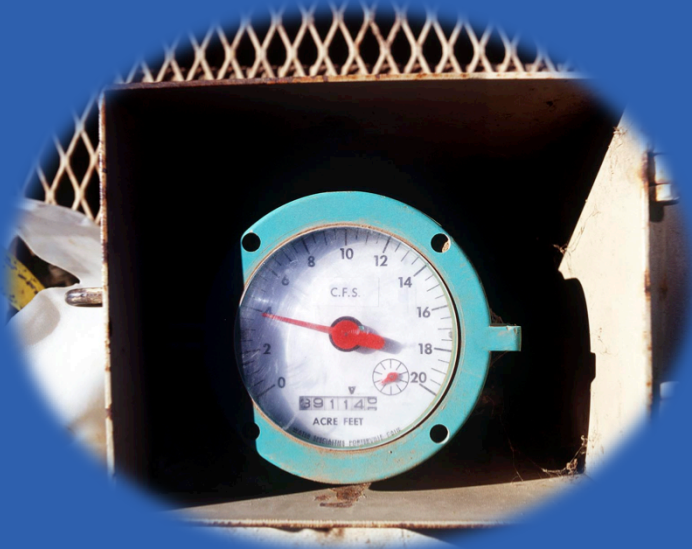
Drought Contingency Planning Evaluation Criteria

- **Need for a Drought Plan or Plan Update (40 points)**
 - Conditions, outlook, and risks; status of planning
- **Diversity of Stakeholders (35 points)**
 - Firm commitments, initial support, and outreach
- **Project Implementation (20 points)**
 - Plan and capacity to implement 6 elements/2 years
- **Nexus to the Bureau of Reclamation (5 points)**
 - Connection to a Reclamation project or activity

Drought Contingency Planning

Additional Information

- Technical assistance in plan development/update available in lieu of proportionate funding
- Guidance: Drought Response Program Framework
 - <http://www.usbr.gov/drought>
- National Drought Mitigation Center 10-Step Process
 - <http://drought.unl.edu/portals/0/docs/10StepProcess.pdf>



Drought Resiliency Projects



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Drought Resiliency Project Requirements

- **Projects that build resiliency to drought by:**
 - increasing the reliability of water supplies;
 - improving water management;
 - facilitating the sale, transfer, or exchange of water; and
 - providing benefits for fish, wildlife and the environment
- **Project supported by an existing drought plan are prioritized**
- **Completed within two years**

Drought Resiliency Projects

– Example Projects

Project Type	Description
Infrastructure Improvements	Lowering surface water intakes, develop/expand small-scale water storage, expand recharge programs, construct wells
Measurement, Modeling, and Monitoring	Water meters, online drought management tools, improved water models
Facilitating the Sale, Transfer, or Exchange of Water	Developing a water bank, or systems and programs that support water marketing, such as online tools that link buyers and sellers, or that help identify transfer priorities within a basin
Protection for fish and Wildlife and the Environment	Providing benefits for fish and wildlife and the environment: Installing fish screens and diversion structures, habitat management/ restoration

- **Projects NOT eligible under this FOA, include:**
 - canal lining
 - SCADA systems
 - landscape irrigation measures
 - On Farm Improvements
 - Turf replacement
 - Rebate programs for high efficiency appliances

Drought Resiliency Projects

- Evaluation Criteria

- **Project Benefits (40 points)**
 - Project will make additional water supplies available, or improve operational flexibility or water management.
- **Drought Planning and Preparedness (20 points)**
 - Proposed project is supported in an existing drought plan
- **Actual or Potential Drought Impacts (20 points)**
 - Severity of ongoing/recent/projected drought in project area and existing or potential impacts (e.g., to public health, economic losses, environment or other impacts)
- **Nexus to Reclamation (15 points)**
 - Connection to a Reclamation project or activity
- **Project implementation (5 points)**
 - Implementation plan and schedule

Application Schedule

- **Posted FOA on May 11, 2015**
- **45-Day application period closing June 25, 2015**
- **Application Review Committee to meet in early July**
- **Selections announced in August, 2015**
- **Awards made prior to end of September**

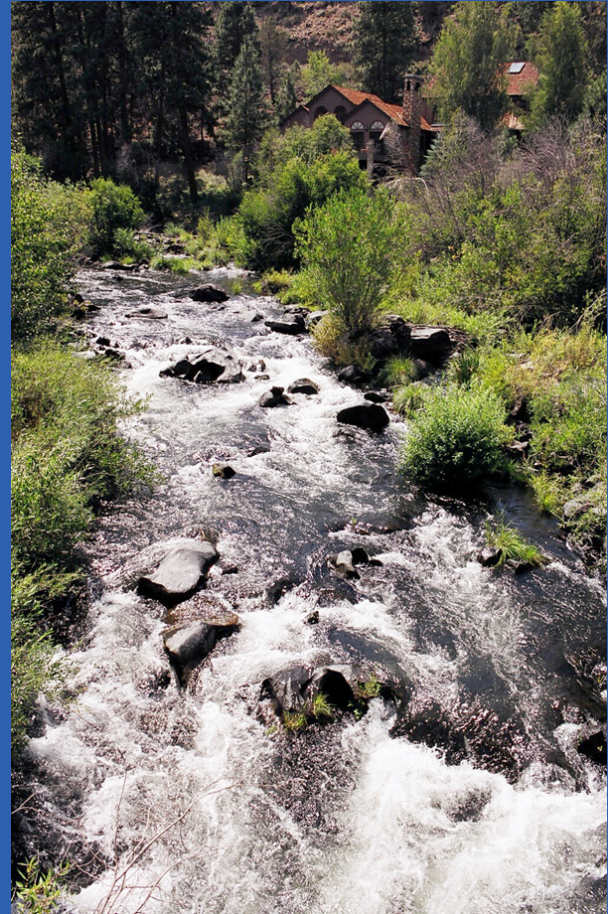
Questions?

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