

United States Bureau of Reclamation
Department of the Interior

R-LCB - Reclamation – Lower Colorado Basin Region



2023
R23AS00000

Table of Contents

A. Program Description	2
A1. Authority	2
A2. Background, Purpose and Program Requirements	2
B. Federal Award Information	3
B1. Total Funding	3
B2. Expected Award Amount	3
B3. Anticipated Award Funding and Dates	3
B4. Number of Awards	3
B5. Type of Award	4
C. Eligibility Information	4
C1. Eligible Applicants	4
C2. Cost Sharing or Matching	5
C3. Other	5
D. Application and Submission Information	5
D1. Address to Request Application Package	5
D2. Content and Form of Application Submission	6
D3. Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM)	8
D4. Submission Dates and Times	9
D5. Intergovernmental Review	9
D6. Funding Restrictions	10
D7. Other Submission Requirements	10
E. Application Review Information	10
E1. Criteria	10
E2. Review and Selection Process	19
E3. CFR – Regulatory Information	19
E4. Anticipated Announcement and Federal Award Dates	19
F. Federal Award Administration Information	19
F1. Federal Award Notices	19
F2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements	19
F3. Reporting	20
G. Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)	22
G1. Program Technical Contact	22
G2. Financial Assistance Administrative Contact	22

G3. Application System Technical Support.....	22
H. Other Information	23

A. Program Description

A1. Authority

This NOFO is issued under the authority of Section 9504(a) of the Secure Water Act, Subtitle F of Title IX of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009, Public Law [P.L.] 111-11 (42 United States Code [U.S.C.] 10364).

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number
15.530

A2. Background, Purpose and Program Requirements

The Department of the Interior's (DOI's) WaterSMART (Sustain and Manage America's Resources for Tomorrow) Program provides a framework for Federal leadership and assistance to stretch and secure water supplies for future generations in support of DOI priorities. Through WaterSMART, the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) leverages Federal and non-Federal funding to work cooperatively with states, tribes, and local entities as they plan for and implement actions to increase water supply reliability through investments in existing infrastructure and attention to local water conflicts.

Drought conditions across the Western United States (U.S.) impact a wide range of communities and sectors, including agriculture, cities, tribes, the environment, recreation, hydropower producers, and others. Reclamation established the Water Conservation Field Services Program (WCFSP) in 1996 to encourage beneficiaries of Federal water projects to conserve water, and to assist agricultural and urban water districts in preparing and implementing water conservation plans in accordance with the Reclamation Reform Act (RRA) of 1982. Through the WCFSP, Reclamation makes cost-shared financial assistance available for developing water conservation plans, identifying water management improvements through System Optimization Reviews (SORs), designing water management improvements, and improving the understanding of water conservation techniques through demonstration activities.

The WCFSP provides support for priorities identified in Presidential Executive Order (E.O.) 14008: *Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad* and aligned with other priorities, such as those identified in E.O. 13985: *Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government*. WaterSMART also supports Reclamation's priorities to increase water reliability and resilience, support racial and economic equity, modernize infrastructure, and enhance water conservation, ecosystem, and climate resilience.

This Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) provides funding for the planning, prioritizing, demonstrating technology/projects, and design of projects that conserve and use water more

efficiently; mitigate conflict risk in areas at a high risk of future water conflict; and accomplish other benefits that contribute to sustainability in the Western United States.

Through this NOFO, Reclamation's Lower Colorado Basin Region (LCB) is requesting proposals to fund activities in support of the WCFSP within the LCB, within the State of Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands.

Please see the related documents tab for the Full Funding Opportunity Document with additional information

B. Federal Award Information

B1. Total Funding

Estimate contingent upon final Congressional appropriations

Estimated Total Funding

B2. Expected Award Amount

Maximum Award

\$100,000

Minimum Award

\$0

Please see the related documents tab for the Full Funding Opportunity Document with additional information

B3. Anticipated Award Funding and Dates

Anticipated Award Date

January 01, 2023

Please see the related documents tab for the Full Funding Opportunity Document with additional information

Anticipated Project Completion Date

01/01/2025

Please see the related documents tab for the Full Funding Opportunity Document with additional information

B4. Number of Awards

Anticipated Number of Awards

10

6-12 Awards are anticipated per fiscal year.

Please see the related documents tab for the Full Funding Opportunity Document with additional information

B5. Type of Award

Funding Instrument Type

G - Grant

CA - Cooperative Agreement

If a cooperative agreement is awarded, the recipient should expect Reclamation to have substantial involvement in the project.

Substantial involvement by Reclamation may include:

- Collaboration and participation with the recipient in the management of the project and close oversight of the recipient's activities to ensure that the program objectives are being achieved.
- Oversight may include review, input, and approval at key interim stages of the project.

Please see the related documents tab for the Full Funding Opportunity Document with additional information

C. Eligibility Information

C1. Eligible Applicants

Eligible Applicants

25 – Others (see text field entitled “Additional Information on Eligibility” for clarification)

Additional Information on Eligibility

Applicants eligible to receive an award under P.L. 111-11, Sec. 9502 to fund activities include:

- States
- Indian tribes
- Irrigation districts
- Water districts
- Other organizations with water or power delivery authority

In addition, applicants must be located within the LCB or the State of Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands. Please see the location map in *Section A.1* of this NOFO.

Those not eligible to receive an award include, but are not limited to, the following entities:

- Federal governmental entities

- Institutions of higher education
- Individuals
- 501(c)(6) organizations

Please see the related documents tab for the Full Funding Opportunity Document with additional information

C2. Cost Sharing or Matching

Cost Sharing / Matching Requirement

Yes

This program has a cost share requirement.

Please see the related documents tab for the Full Funding Opportunity Document with additional information

C3. Other

Please see the related documents tab for the Full Funding Opportunity Document with additional information

Excluded Parties: Reclamation conducts a review of the SAM.gov Exclusions database for all applicant entities and their project personnel prior to award. Reclamation cannot award funds to entities or their key project personnel identified in the SAM.gov Exclusions database as ineligible, prohibited/restricted or otherwise excluded from receiving Federal contracts, certain subcontracts, and certain Federal assistance and benefits, as their ineligibility condition applies to this Federal program.

C4. Eligible Project Types

Please see the related documents tab for the Full Funding Opportunity Document with additional information

D. Application and Submission Information

D1. Address to Request Application Package

Applications Submitted Electronically

Electronic applications must be submitted through Grants.gov (www.grants.gov). Resources and instructions are available at: <http://www.grants.gov/applicants/apply-for-grants.html>.

Please see the related documents tab for the Full Funding Opportunity Document with additional information.

D2. Content and Form of Application Submission

1. SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance

Applicants must submit the appropriate Standard Form (SF)-424, Application for Federal Assistance. The required application forms are available with this announcement on Grants.gov. The SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance must be complete, signed, and dated. Do not include any proprietary or personally identifiable information. Please note: Enter only the amount requested from this Federal program in the “Federal” funding box on the SF-424 Application form. Include any other Federal sources of funding in the “Other” box and provide details on those Federal source(s) and funding amount(s) in the required Budget Narrative (see the “Budget Narrative” section below).

Please see the related documents tab for the Full Funding Opportunity Document with additional information.

SF 424B, Assurances for Non-Construction Programs

Any applicant organization that has not completed the financial assistance certifications and representations within their SAM.gov registration must submit the appropriate signed and dated Assurances form. All of the required application forms are available with this announcement on Grants.gov.

Please see the related documents tab for the Full Funding Opportunity Document with additional information.

SF-424D, Assurances for Construction Programs

Any applicant organization that has not completed the financial assistance certifications and representations within their SAM.gov registration must submit the appropriate signed and dated Assurances form. All required application forms are available with this announcement on Grants.gov.

Please see the related documents tab for the Full Funding Opportunity Document with additional information.

Project Narrative

Please see the related documents tab for the Full Funding Opportunity Document with additional information.

SF-424A, Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs

Applicants must submit the appropriate SF-424 Budget Information form and Budget Narrative. For non-construction programs or projects, applicants must complete and submit the SF-424A, “Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs” form. All of the required application forms are available with this announcement on Grants.gov. Federal award recipients and subrecipients are subject to Federal award cost principles in 2 CFR 200.

Please see the related documents tab for the Full Funding Opportunity Document with additional information.

Applicants must submit the appropriate SF-424 Budget Information form and Budget Narrative. For construction programs or projects, applicants must complete and submit the SF-

424C, “Budget Information for Construction Programs”. All of the required application forms are available with this announcement on Grants.gov. Federal award recipients and subrecipients are subject to Federal award cost principles in 2 CFR 200.

Please see the related documents tab for the Full Funding Opportunity Document with additional information.

Detailed Budget Narrative

Please see the related documents tab for the Full Funding Opportunity Document with additional information.

Conflict of Interest Disclosure

Per the Financial Assistance Interior Regulation (FAIR), [2 CFR §1402.112](#), applicants must state in their application if any actual or potential conflict of interest exists at the time of submission.

(a) Applicability.

(1) 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.

(2) In the procurement of supplies, equipment, construction, and services by recipients and by subrecipients, the conflict of interest provisions in 2 CFR 200.318 apply.

(b) Notification.

(1) 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.

(2) Recipients must establish internal controls that include, at a minimum, procedures to identify, disclose, and mitigate or eliminate identified conflicts of interest. The recipient 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 subrecipients.

(c) 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 part 18 and 31 U.S.C. 1352.

(d) 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.

(e) 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 200.338, Remedies for noncompliance, including suspension or debarment (see also 2 CFR part 180).

Single Audit Reporting Statement

All U.S. states, local governments, federally recognized Indian tribal governments, and non-profit organizations expending \$750,000 USD or more in Federal award funds in the applicant’s fiscal year must submit a Single Audit report for that year through the [Federal Audit](#)

[Clearinghouse's Internet Data Entry System](#). U.S. state, local government, federally recognized Indian tribal government, 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 EIN associated with that report and state if it is available through the [Federal Audit Clearinghouse](#) website.

Please see the related documents tab for the Full Funding Opportunity Document with additional information.

Certification Regarding Lobbying

Applicants requesting more than \$100,000 in Federal funding must certify to the statements in [43 CFR Part 18, Appendix A-Certification Regarding Lobbying](#). If this application requests more than \$100,000 in Federal funds, the Authorized Official's signature on the appropriate SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance form also represents the entity's certification of the statements in 43 CFR Part 18, Appendix A.

Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

Please see the related documents tab for the Full Funding Opportunity Document with additional information.

Overlap or Duplication of Effort Statement

Please see the related documents tab for the Full Funding Opportunity Document with additional information.

D3. Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM)

Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM.gov) Registration: This requirement does not apply to individuals applying for funds as an individual (i.e., unrelated to any business or nonprofit organization you may own, operate, or work within), or any entity with an exception to bypass SAM.gov registration with prior approval from the funding bureau or office in accordance with bureau or office policy. All other applicants are required to register in SAM.gov prior to submitting a Federal award application and obtain a [Unique Entity Identifier \(UEI\)](#) which replaces the Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number from Dun & Bradstreet in April 2022. A Federal award may not be made to an applicant that has not completed the SAM.gov registration. If an applicant selected for funding has not completed their SAM.gov registration by the time the program is ready to make an award, the program may determine the applicant is not qualified to receive an award. Federal award recipients must also continue to maintain an active SAM.gov registration with current information through the life of their Federal award(s).

Register with the System for Award Management (SAM)

Applicants can register on the [SAM.gov](#) website. The "Help" tab on the website contains User Guides and other information to assist you with registration. The Grants.gov "[Register with SAM](#)" page also provides detailed instructions. Applicants can contact the supporting Federal Service Desk for help registering in SAM. Once registered in SAM, entities will be assigned a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI). Entities must renew and revalidate their SAM registration at least

once every 12 months from the date previously registered. Entities are strongly encouraged to revalidate their registration as often as needed to ensure their information is up to date and reflects changes that may have been made to the entity's IRS information. There is no cost to register with SAM.gov. There are third-party vendors who will charge a fee in exchange for registering entities with SAM.gov; please be aware you can register and request help for free. If applicable, foreign entities who want to receive payment directly to a U.S. bank account must enter and maintain valid, current banking information in SAM.

Please see the related documents tab for the Full Funding Opportunity Document with additional information.

D4. Submission Dates and Times

Due Date for Applications

11/18/2022

Application Due Date Explanation

Proposals will be accepted, evaluated, and selected on a rolling-basis until the final application submission deadlines:

1. First closing date: November 18, 2022, at 4:00 p.m. Pacific Standard Time (PST) for FY 2023 proposals
2. Second closing date: October 13, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time (PDT) for FY 2024 proposals

The tentative selection and announcement timeframe will be approximately 60 days after each closing period.

Please see the related documents tab for the Full Funding Opportunity Document with additional information.

D5. Intergovernmental Review

Prior to application submission, U.S. state and local government applicants should visit the [OMB Office of Federal Financial Management website](#) and view the "State Point of Contact (SPOC) List" to determine whether their application is subject to the state intergovernmental review process under Executive Order (E.O.) 12372 "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs." States not on the list do not participate in the intergovernmental review process, and therefore do not have a SPOC. If you are located within a State that does not have a SPOC, you may send application materials directly to a Federal awarding agency. If your state is on the list, contact the designated entity for more information on the state's prior review requirements for Federal assistance applications.

D6. Funding Restrictions

Indirect Costs: Individuals

Please see the related documents tab for the Full Funding Opportunity Document with additional information.

Indirect Costs: Organizations

Please see the related documents tab for the Full Funding Opportunity Document with additional information.

D7. Other Submission Requirements

Please see the related documents tab for the Full Funding Opportunity Document with additional information.

E. Application Review Information

E1. Criteria

Water Management Planning – 100 Points Available

Maximum Points: 100

- **Association with Reclamation project water supplies** - Describe the applicant's relationship with Reclamation projects and whether a water management plan is required by RRA. Priority is given to water user entities that receive water supplies from Reclamation projects or have water contracts with Reclamation. The applicant should explain its relationship to a Reclamation project activity and specify Reclamation's water supply contract number, if applicable. **(up to 35 points)**
- **Reasonableness of cost** – The proposal provides sufficient detail and justification to show that the costs match the technical aspects of the project. The budget must be sufficiently detailed, realistic, and commensurate to support the estimated costs associated with the proposed work in the specified time frame. The criterion also evaluates whether the proposed costs are reasonable, allocable, and appropriate for the work proposed. **(up to 5 points)**
- **Extent to which the completed activity will improve the applicant's ability to modernize their existing water delivery infrastructure** – The proposal demonstrates that the applicant will be better situated to modernize its existing water delivery infrastructure upon completion of a water management and conservation planning activity. **(up to 25 points)**
- **Extent to which Federal funding would promote completion of an activity that might otherwise be delayed or postponed** – The proposal demonstrates the requested

Federal funding would promote completion of the project that otherwise would be delayed or postponed. **(up to 15 points)**

- **Amount and sources of non-Federal funding above and beyond the required 50 percent cost-share** – The proposal discusses the recipient's cost-share percentage for its non-Federal funding or in-kind services, and describes the status of securing the cost-share funds. The applicant's proposal shall include a funding plan that describes how the non-Federal share of the activity/project costs has been obtained. Reclamation will use this information in making a determination of financial capability. **(up to 5 points)**
- **Environmental Compliance** – A description of how the environmental compliance questions in *Section D.2.2.5* will be incorporated within the plan. **(up to 5 points)**
- **Department of the Interior and Bureau of Reclamation priorities** – The proposal demonstrates that the project supports DOI and Reclamation priorities (ref. Executive Orders 13985, 14002, 14005, 14008). Please address only the priorities that are applicable to the project; it is not necessary to address all priorities. A project will not necessarily receive more points simply because multiple priorities are addressed. Points will be allocated based on the degree to which the project supports one or more of the priorities listed, and whether the connection to the priority(ies) is well supported in the proposal. **(up to 10 points)**

Department of the Interior Priorities

- Identify steps to accelerate responsible development of renewable energy on public lands and waters
- Strengthen the government-to-government relationship with sovereign Tribal Nations
- Make investments to support the Administration's goal of creating millions of family-supporting and union jobs
- Work to conserve at least 30% each of our lands and waters by the year 2030
- Centering equity and environmental justice.

Bureau of Reclamation Priorities

- Ensure the continued delivery of water and power benefits in conformity with contracts, statutes, and agreements.

- Operate and maintain projects in a safe and reliable manner, protecting the health and safety of the public and Reclamation employees and improve financial accountability and transparency to our contractors.
- Honor State water rights, interstate compacts, contracts with Reclamation users, further the Secretary of the Interior's Indian Trust responsibilities, and comply with all environmental statutes.
- Plan for the future using programs that focus Reclamation's financial and technical resources on areas in the West where conflict over water either currently exists or is likely to occur in the coming years.
- Enhance the business operations of Reclamation in accord with the Managing for Excellence initiative.

SOR – 100 Points Available

Maximum Points: 100

- **Association with Reclamation project water supplies** – The proposal demonstrates a nexus between the proposed project and a Reclamation project. The proposal should explain the applicant's relationship with any Reclamation project. Priority is given to water user entities that receive water supplies from Reclamation projects or have water contracts with Reclamation. The applicant should explain its relationship to a Reclamation project activity and specify Reclamation's water supply contract number, if applicable. **(up to 25 points)**
- **Extent to which applicant's Water Management Plan is complete and updated** – The applicant has provided sufficient justification that a required (e.g., RRA, state law) water management plan is complete and has been updated within the past five (5) years. If an applicant is not required to have a plan in place, then an applicant will describe the absence of a statutory or regulatory requirement. **(up to 5 points)**
- **Reasonableness of cost** – The proposal provides sufficient detail and justification to show that the costs match the technical aspects of the project. The budget must be sufficiently detailed, realistic, and commensurate to support the estimated costs associated with the proposed work in the specified timeframe. The criterion also evaluates whether the proposed costs are reasonable, allocable, and appropriate for the work proposed. **(up to 5 points)**
- **Extent to which the proposed analysis is expected to result in an action plan that will improve water conservation and water use efficiency, and lead to modernized water delivery infrastructure** – The proposal demonstrates a developed and well-defined methodology positioning the applicant to be better situated to modernize their existing water delivery infrastructure upon completion of the SOR. **(up to 25 points)**
- **Extent to which the SOR is likely to address water resources challenges** – The proposal demonstrates the project would address current water resource challenges (e.g.,

specific local concerns, over-allocated supplies, adjudicated basin, endangered species requirements). **(up to 10 points)**

- **Extent to which Federal funding would promote completion of an activity that might otherwise be delayed or postponed** – The proposal demonstrates that requested Federal funding would promote completion of the project that otherwise would be delayed or postponed. **(up to 10 points)**
- **The amount and sources of non-Federal funding above and beyond the required 50 percent cost-share** – The proposal discusses the recipient's cost-share percentage for its non-Federal funding or in-kind services and whether the cost-share funds are secured. The applicant's proposal must include a funding plan that describes how the non-Federal share of the activity/project costs has been obtained. Reclamation will use this information in determining financial capability. **(up to 5 points)**
- **Environmental compliance** – The proposal addresses the environmental and cultural resources questions in *Section D.2.2.5* and includes them in the SOR strategy. Environmental compliance costs are included in the budget. **(up to 5 points)**
- **Department of the Interior and Bureau of Reclamation Priorities** – The proposal demonstrates that the project supports DOI and Reclamation priorities (ref. Executive Orders 13985, 14002, 14005, 14008). Please address only the priorities that are applicable to the project; it is not necessary to address all priorities. A project will not necessarily receive more points simply because multiple priorities are addressed. Points will be allocated based on the degree to which the project supports one or more of the priorities listed, and whether the connection to the priority(ies) is well supported in the proposal. **(up to 10 points)**

Department of the Interior Priorities

- Identify steps to accelerate responsible development of renewable energy on public lands and waters
- Strengthen the government-to-government relationship with sovereign Tribal Nations
- Make investments to support the Administration's goal of creating millions of family-supporting and union jobs
- Work to conserve at least 30% each of our lands and waters by the year 2030
- Centering equity and environmental justice.

Bureau of Reclamation Priorities

- Ensure the continued delivery of water and power benefits in conformity with contracts, statutes, and agreements.
- Operate and maintain projects in a safe and reliable manner, protecting the health and safety of the public and Reclamation employees and improve financial accountability and transparency to our contractors.
- Honor State water rights, interstate compacts, contracts with Reclamation users, further the Secretary of the Interior's Indian Trust responsibilities, and comply with all environmental statutes.
- Plan for the future using programs that focus Reclamation's financial and technical resources on areas in the West where conflict over water either currently exists or is likely to occur in the coming years.
- Enhance the business operations of Reclamation in accord with the Managing for Excellence initiative.

Designing Water Management Improvements – 100 Points Available

Maximum Points: 100

- **Association with Reclamation project water supplies** - The proposal demonstrates a nexus between the proposed project and a Reclamation project. The proposal should explain the applicant's relationship with any Reclamation project. Priority is given to water user entities that receive water supplies from Reclamation projects or have water contracts with Reclamation. The applicant should explain its tie to a Reclamation project activity and specify Reclamation's water supply contract number, if applicable. **(up to 25 points)**
- **Extent to which applicant's Water Management Plan is complete and updated** –The applicant has provided justification that a required (e.g., RRA, state law) water management plan is complete and has been updated within the past five (5) years. If an applicant is not required to have a plan in place, then an applicant will describe the absence of a statutory or regulatory requirement. **(up to 5 points)**
- **Reasonableness of cost** – The proposal provides detail and justification to show that the costs match the technical aspects of the project. Namely, the budget is sufficiently detailed, realistic, and commensurate to support the estimated costs associated with the proposed work in the specified time frame. The criterion also evaluates whether the proposed costs are reasonable, allocable, and appropriate for the work proposed. **(up to 5 points)**
- **Extent to which the proposed activity will result in the applicant to be better suited to implement a project expected to improve water management and modernize**

existing water delivery infrastructure – The proposal demonstrates that the proposed water management project will position the applicant to be better situated to modernize their existing water delivery infrastructure and improve water management upon completion of the design and implementation of the project. **(up to 20 points)**

- **Extent to which Federal funding would promote completion of an activity that might otherwise be delayed or postponed** – The proposal demonstrates that the requested Federal funding would promote completion of the project that otherwise would be delayed or postponed. **(up to 10 points)**
- **Amount and sources of non-Federal funding above and beyond the required 50 percent cost-share** – The proposal discusses the recipient’s cost-share percentage for its non-Federal funding or in-kind services and whether the cost-share funds are secured. The applicant’s proposal shall include a funding plan that describes how the non-Federal share of the activity/project costs has been obtained. Reclamation will use this information in making a determination of financial capability. **(up to 5 points)**
- **Extent to which the proposed design is related to a water management improvement project identified in a previous planning effort led by the applicant** – The proposal describes the development of a design related to a project identified in a previous planning effort (e.g., Water Management and Conservation Plan, SOR). **(up to 15 points)**
- **Environmental Compliance** – The extent that environmental and cultural resources questions in *Section D.2.2.5* are part of the strategy to be incorporated into the design project. Environmental compliance costs are included in the budget. **(up to 5 points)**
- **Department of the Interior and Bureau of Reclamation Priorities** – The proposal demonstrates that the project supports DOI and Reclamation priorities (ref. Executive Orders 13985, 14002, 14005, 14008). Please address only the priorities that are applicable to the project; it is not necessary to address all priorities. A project will not necessarily receive more points simply because multiple priorities are addressed. Points will be allocated based on the degree to which the project supports one or more of the priorities listed, and whether the connection to the priority(ies) is well supported in the proposal. **(up to 10 points)**

Department of the Interior Priorities

- Identify steps to accelerate responsible development of renewable energy on public lands and waters

- Strengthen the government-to-government relationship with sovereign Tribal Nations
- Make investments to support the Administration's goal of creating millions of family-supporting and union jobs
- Work to conserve at least 30% each of our lands and waters by the year 2030
- Centering equity and environmental justice.

Bureau of Reclamation Priorities

- Ensure the continued delivery of water and power benefits in conformity with contracts, statutes, and agreements.
- Operate and maintain projects in a safe and reliable manner, protecting the health and safety of the public and Reclamation employees and improve financial accountability and transparency to our contractors.
- Honor State water rights, interstate compacts, contracts with Reclamation users, further the Secretary of the Interior's Indian Trust responsibilities, and comply with all environmental statutes.
- Plan for the future using programs that focus Reclamation's financial and technical resources on areas in the West where conflict over water either currently exists or is likely to occur in the coming years.
- Enhance the business operations of Reclamation in accord with the Managing for Excellence initiative.

Demonstrating Conservation Project Technologies – 100 Points Available

Maximum Points: 100

- **Association with Reclamation project water supplies** – The proposal demonstrates a nexus between the proposed project and a Reclamation project. The proposal should explain the applicant's relationship with any Reclamation project. Priority is given to water user entities that receive water supplies from Reclamation projects or have water contracts with Reclamation. The applicant should explain its relationship to a Reclamation project activity and specify Reclamation's water supply contract number, if applicable. **(up to 25 points)**
- **The extent to which applicant's Water Management Plan is complete and updated** – The applicant has provided justification that a required (e.g., RRA, state law) water management plan is complete and updated within the past five (5) years. If an applicant is not required to have a plan in place, then an applicant will describe the absence of a statutory or regulatory requirement. **(up to 5 points)**
- **Reasonableness of cost** – The proposal provides detail and justification to show that the costs match the technical aspects of the project. Namely, the budget is sufficiently

detailed, realistic, and commensurate to support the estimated costs associated with the proposed work in the specified time frame. The criterion also evaluates whether the proposed costs are reasonable, allocable, and appropriate for the work proposed. **(up to 5 points)**

- **The extent to which Federal funding would promote completion of an activity that might otherwise be delayed or postponed** – The proposal demonstrates that the requested Federal funding would promote completion of the project that otherwise would be delayed or postponed. **(up to 10 points)**
- **The amount and sources of non-Federal funding above and beyond the required 50 percent cost-share** – The proposal discusses the recipient's cost-share percentage for its non-Federal funding or in-kind services and whether the cost-share funds are secured. The applicant's proposal shall include a funding plan that describes how the non-Federal share of the activity/project costs has been obtained. Reclamation will use this information in making a determination of financial capability. **(up to 5 points)**
- **Extent to which the proposal describes a sound implementation strategy, including addressing questions and methodology for discovering outcomes** – The proposal describes an implementation plan identifying key resources (e.g., technical expertise, equipment) and the necessary steps for successful demonstration of the conservation technology. The proposal should provide information about how the results from the demonstration project will be used, such as whether it will be expanded to a larger project, if the results are positive. Describe in detail how the findings and benefits will be applied to improve water efficiencies. Explain ways that the project is anticipated to save or better manage water. **(up to 10 points)**
- **The applicant's strategy for monitoring performance and reporting and disseminating results** – The applicant has described a strategy to evaluate and assess the results from the demonstration project, and makes that information available to the larger, interested community. The applicant should describe interested stakeholders of the conservation technology, immediate beneficiaries, and the strategy of engaging and informing these interested parties on the methodology/process and ultimate results. **(up to 10 points)**
- **The extent to which the proposed activity will demonstrate innovative conservation technologies for improving water use efficiency** – The applicant has described the innovative conservation technology including applied research to benefit the development of new technologies; demonstrating a specific conservation technology; or innovative application of an existing technology with the intent of evaluating results. The applicant should describe how this innovative technology is expected to improve water efficiency. **(up to 15 points)**

- **The likelihood that any environmental and cultural resources issues associated with the proposal can be addressed at low cost and completed in a timely manner** – The proposal describes an implementation plan that addresses mitigating environmental and cultural resources issues in a low cost and timely manner. The environmental compliance questions in *Section D.2.2.5* must be addressed. Environmental compliance costs are included in the budget. **(up to 5 points)**
- **Department of the Interior and Bureau of Reclamation Priorities** – The proposal demonstrates that the project supports DOI and Reclamation priorities (ref. Executive Orders 13985, 14002, 14005, 14008). Please address only the priorities that are applicable to the project; it is not necessary to address all priorities. A project will not necessarily receive more points simply because multiple priorities are addressed. Points will be allocated based on the degree to which the project supports one or more of the priorities listed, and whether the connection to the priority(ies) is well supported in the proposal. **(up to 10 points)**

Department of the Interior Priorities

- Identify steps to accelerate responsible development of renewable energy on public lands and waters
- Strengthen the government-to-government relationship with sovereign Tribal Nations
- Make investments to support the Administration's goal of creating millions of family-supporting and union jobs
- Work to conserve at least 30% each of our lands and waters by the year 2030
- Centering equity and environmental justice.

Bureau of Reclamation Priorities

- Ensure the continued delivery of water and power benefits in conformity with contracts, statutes, and agreements.
- Operate and maintain projects in a safe and reliable manner, protecting the health and safety of the public and Reclamation employees and improve financial accountability and transparency to our contractors.
- Honor State water rights, interstate compacts, contracts with Reclamation users, further the Secretary of the Interior's Indian Trust responsibilities, and comply with all environmental statutes.
- Plan for the future using programs that focus Reclamation's financial and technical resources on areas in the West where conflict over water either currently exists or is likely to occur in the coming years.

- Enhance the business operations of Reclamation in accord with the Managing for Excellence initiative.

E2. Review and Selection Process

Please see the related documents tab for the Full Funding Opportunity Document with additional information.

E3. CFR – Regulatory Information

Please see the related documents tab for the Full Funding Opportunity Document with additional information.

E4. Anticipated Announcement and Federal Award Dates

Please see the related documents tab for the Full Funding Opportunity Document with additional information.

F. Federal Award Administration Information

F1. Federal Award Notices

Please see the related documents tab for the Full Funding Opportunity Document with additional information.

F2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

See the “[DOI Standard Terms and Conditions](#)” for the administrative and national policy requirements applicable to DOI awards.

Data Availability

Per the Financial Assistance Interior Regulation (FAIR), [2 CFR §1402.315](#):

(a) All data, methodology, factual inputs, models, analyses, technical information, reports, conclusions, valuation products or other scientific assessments in any medium or form, including textual, numerical, graphic, cartographic, narrative, or audiovisual, resulting from a financial assistance agreement is available for use by the Department of the Interior, including being available in a manner that is sufficient for independent verification.

(b) The Federal Government has the right to:

(1) Obtain, reproduce, publish, or otherwise use the data, methodology, factual inputs, models, analyses, technical information, reports, conclusions, or other scientific assessments, produced under a Federal award; and

(2) Authorize others to receive, reproduce, publish, or otherwise use such data, methodology, factual inputs, models, analyses, technical information, reports, conclusions, or other scientific assessments, for Federal purposes, including to allow for meaningful third-party evaluation.

Geospatial Data

Geospatial Data Act of 2018, Pub. L. 115-254, Subtitle F –Geospatial Data, §§ 751-759C, codified at 43 U.S.C. §§ 2801–2811 -Federal recipient collection of geospatial data through the use of the Department of the Interior financial assistance funds requires a due diligence search at the [GeoPlatform.gov](https://www.fgdc.gov) list of datasets to discover whether the needed geospatial-related data, products, or services already exist. If the required data set already exists, the recipient must use it. If the required data is not already available, the Recipient must produce the proposed geospatial data, products, or services in compliance with applicable proposed guidance and standards established by the Federal Geospatial Data Committee (FGDC) posted at <https://www.fgdc.gov/standards>.

The Recipient must submit a digital copy of all Geographic Information System ([GIS](#)) data produced or collected as part of the award funds to the bureau or office via email or data transfer. All GIS data files shall be in open format. All delineated GIS data (points, lines or polygons) should be established in compliance with the approved open data standards with complete feature level metadata.

F3. Reporting

Financial Reports

All recipients must use the [SF-425, Federal Financial Report](#) form for financial reporting. At a minimum, all recipients must submit a **final** financial report. Final reports are due no later than 90 calendar days after the award period of performance end date or termination date. For awards with periods of performance longer than 12 months, recipients are required to submit **interim** financial reports on the frequency established in the Notice of Award.

Please see the related documents tab for the Full Funding Opportunity Document with additional information.

Performance Reports

Performance reports must contain a comparison of actual accomplishments with the established goals and objectives of the award; a description of reasons why established goals were not met, if appropriate; and any other pertinent information relevant to the project results. Final reports are due no later than 90 calendar days after the award period of performance end date or termination date. For awards with periods of performance longer than 12 months, recipients are required to submit **interim** financial reports on the frequency established in the Notice of Award.

Please see the related documents tab for the Full Funding Opportunity Document with additional information.

Real Property Reports

Recipients and subrecipients are required to submit status reports on the status of real property acquired under the award in which the Federal government retains an interest. The required

frequency of these reports will depend on the anticipated length of the Federal interest period. Reclamation will include recipient-specific real property reporting requirements, including the required data elements, reporting frequency, and report due dates, in the Notice of Award when applicable.

Please see the related documents tab for the Full Funding Opportunity Document with additional information.

Conflict of Interest Disclosures

Recipients must notify the program immediately in writing of any conflict of interest that arise during the life of their Federal award, including those reported to them by any subrecipient under the award. Recipients must notify the program in writing if any employees, including subrecipient and contractor personnel, are related to, married to, or have a close personal relationship with any Federal employee in the Federal funding program or who otherwise may have been involved in the review and selection of the award. The term employee means any individual engaged in the performance of work pursuant to the Federal award. Recipients may not have a former Federal employee as a key project official, or in any other substantial role related to their award, whose participation put them out of compliance with the legal authorities addressing post-Government employment restrictions. See the [U.S. Office of Government Ethics website](#) for more information on these restrictions. Reclamation will examine each conflict of interest disclosure based on its particular facts and the nature of the project and will determine if a significant potential conflict exists. If it does, Reclamation will work with the recipient to determine an appropriate resolution. Failure to disclose and resolve conflicts of interest in a manner that satisfies Reclamation may result in any of the remedies described in 2 CFR 200.338 Remedies for Noncompliance, including termination of the award.

Other Mandatory Disclosures

The Non-Federal entity or applicant for a Federal award must disclose, in a timely manner, in writing to the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity all violations of Federal criminal law involving fraud, bribery, or gratuity violations potentially affecting the Federal award. Non-Federal entities that receive a Federal award including the terms and conditions outlined in 2 CFR 200, Appendix XII—Award Term and Condition for Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters are required to report certain civil, criminal, or administrative proceedings to SAM. Failure to make required disclosures can result in any of the remedies described in 2 CFR 200.338 Remedies for Noncompliance, including suspension or debarment.

Please see the related documents tab for the Full Funding Opportunity Document with additional information.

Reporting Matters Related to Recipient Integrity and Performance

If the total value of your currently active grants, cooperative agreements, and procurement contracts from all Federal awarding agencies exceeds \$10,000,000 for any period of time during the period of performance of this Federal award, then you as the recipient during that period of time must maintain the currency of information reported to the System for Award Management (SAM) that is made available in the designated integrity and performance system (currently the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIIS)) about civil, criminal, or administrative proceedings in accordance with Appendix XII to 2 CFR 200.

Please see the related documents tab for the Full Funding Opportunity Document with additional information.

G. Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)

G1. Program Technical Contact

For **programmatic technical assistance**, contact:

First Name:

Kenneth

Last Name:

Isakson

Address:

Telephone:

702-293-8537

Email:

kisakson@usbr.gov

Please see the related documents tab for the Full Funding Opportunity Document with additional information.

G2. Financial Assistance Administrative Contact

For **financial assistance administrative assistance**, contact:

First Name:

Chandrika

Last Name:

Nasstrom

Address:

Telephone:

702-293-8414

Email:

cnasstrom@usbr.gov

Please see the related documents tab for the Full Funding Opportunity Document with additional information.

G3. Application System Technical Support

For **Grants.gov technical registration and submission, downloading forms and application packages**, contact:

Name:
Grants.gov Customer Support
Telephone:
1-800-518-4726
Email:
Support@grants.gov

H. Other Information

Please see the related documents tab for the Full Funding Opportunity Document with additional information.