

United States Department of Agriculture



NRCS Natural Resources
Conservation Service

BIG WATER PROJECTS

Where does your project fit?

04/23/2006





54-inch Pipe Staged Along the Route



Current Watershed Projects



Raft River

- Flood Control
- Ag Water Management - Aquifer Recharge

City of Cotton Wood - Municipality

- Flood Control
- Recreation

North Cache Valley

- AG Water Management

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NRCS BIG WATER PROGRAMS

- EQIP-General
- EQIP-WME
- EQIP-WSI
- EQIP-NWQI
- RCPP
- Watershed Operations

04/23/2006

EQIP - WME

Environmental Quality Incentives Program Water Management Entities

- Water Management Entity:
 - A State, irrigation district, ground water management district or similar entity that has responsibilities related to water delivery to eligible lands.
 - Contracts are up to \$450k, with a waiver can go to \$900k
- Types of Projects:
 - Irrigation Infrastructure measures that conserve water including aquifer recovery
 - Water Conserving practices such as irrigation scheduling, low water use crops and deficit irrigation
- Larger Projects might include multiple individual EQIP contracts
- Applications Due: January 28th

EQIP - WSI

Environmental Quality Incentive Program – WaterSMART Initiative

- WaterSMART Initiative – (Sustain and Manage America’s Resources for Tomorrow):
 - Group EQIP Project and/or WME – Project has connection/NEXUS to current or historic BOR WaterSMART project
 - Nationally selected – 17 western states where BOR operates
- Types of Projects:
 - Irrigation Infrastructure measures that conserve water
 - Conveyance infrastructure to on farm improvements
 - Up to 5 years of annual funding
- Application Due Date Pending – 2021 applications due in May & funding notices came in September

RCPP

Regional Conservation Partnership Program

- **Eligible Lead Partner:**
 - An agricultural or silvicultural producer association or other group of producers
 - State or unit of local government, an Indian Tribe
 - Farmer cooperative, a water district, irrigation district
 - Municipal water or wastewater treatment entity
 - Institution of higher education
- **Types of Projects:**
 - Sediment Basin
 - Soft Conversions, Irrigation Conveyance, On-Farm – IDWR
 - Wildlife, Stream Restoration
- **Application Date:**
 - Applications not currently being accepted – Expect announcement early 2022

WATERSHED OPERATIONS PROGRAM

- Watershed Operations:
 - Sponsor must have Eminent Domain Authority
 - Preliminary Investigation Feasibility Reports (PIFR) must be completed before Applying for the Planning Phase.
- Types of Projects:
 - Limited to \$25 Million (NRCS Contribution)
 - Must meet one of the Watershed Operations Purposes: Flood Prevention, Watershed Protection, Recreation, Fish & Wildlife, Ag Water Management, Municipal & Industrial Water Supply, Water Quality Management & Watershed Structure Rehabilitation.
- PIFR Requests
 - Letter to NRCS State Conservationist from Eligible Sponsor
 - Letter Template Available

NRCS BIG WATER PROGRAMS

- **QUESTIONS???**



BIG WATER TEAM CONTACT INFORMATION

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PIFR REQUEST - DELETE?

A letter addressed to the Idaho State Conservationist, include a written narrative of the following project information:

- Project Sponsoring Local Organization (SLO) entity information, contact, position, phone, e-mail and any other contact information
- Project location, extent, size and name of drainage area etc.
- List of problems or resource concerns needing to be addressed, scope, size.
- Potential solutions if any have been evaluated and estimated costs.
- Discuss benefits if project is implemented to address the resource concerns.
- Known restrictions to proposed potential solutions, such as cultural or endangered species.
- Include a plan map of the area of the proposed project. Include HUC 10 Shape file if possible.