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## Biden-Harris Administration invests \$7 million in 82 projects to improve water efficiency

### *The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to support drought resilience in 14 Western States*

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For Release: Jan 5, 2023



Small projects like gate modernization and meters are examples of projects funded by the Small-Scale Water Efficiency Program.

**WASHINGTON** – The Bureau of Reclamation today announced a \$7 million investment from President Biden’s Bipartisan Infrastructure Law in 82 small-scale water efficiency projects across the West. These grants will support local community projects, including measuring water flow, automating water delivery, or lining canals. Today’s funding is part of \$1 billion provided through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law for the innovative WaterSMART program, which supports states, Tribes, and local entities as they plan for and implement actions to increase water supply through investments to modernize existing infrastructure and

avoid potential water conflicts.

"Community-driven projects are at the heart of WaterSMART, and small in long way to support water supply and reliability," said **Reclamation Com**

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**Calimlim Touton.** "These water efficiency improvements are small, but when combined throughout the West, the projects play an important role in communities becoming more resilient to drought."

Projects in 14 western states were selected to receive funding. The projects range from Idaho's Island Ward Canal Company receiving \$23,890 for their automated headgate installation to the City of Watford in North Dakota receiving \$100,000 to add smart transmitters to 636 existing municipal water meters. Other examples of projects include:

The Belle Fouche Irrigation District in South Dakota will receive \$99,542 to convert 3,600 feet of unlined canal into a buried pipeline. It will provide a more efficient and reliable water delivery system. It is part of the district's ongoing effort to upgrade and improve water storage.

The Elephant Butte Irrigation District in New Mexico will install motors on an existing check structure and construct a new metering station on the Leasburg Main Canal. The project will allow them to improve the control of diversion flow rates, upstream water pressure and downstream flow. In addition, it will accomplish priorities identified in the Lower Rio Grande Regional Water Plan and 2017 Regional Water Plan to maximize the benefit of the Rio Grande Project surface water.

The Moapa Valley Water District, northeast of Las Vegas, Nevada, will receive \$100,000 to upgrade 400 domestic meters with new meters and cellular endpoints for improved data analytics and water management. This project meets the district's goals of its water conservation plan and capital improvement plan.

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law allocates \$8.3 billion for Reclamation water infrastructure projects over the next five years to advance drought resilience and expand access to clean water for families, farmers and wildlife. The investment will repair aging water delivery systems, secure dams, complete rural water projects, and protect aquatic ecosystems.

To learn more about the WaterSMART Program or for a complete listing and description of the selected projects, please visit [www.usbr.gov/watersmart/swep/](http://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/swep/).

Projects could receive up to \$100,000, with total costs generally no more than \$225,000. The selected entities are matching the funding with at least a 50-percent non-federal cost share.

To learn more about Reclamation's implementation of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, please visit [www.usbr.gov/bil/](http://www.usbr.gov/bil/).



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