



Interior Region 7 • Upper Colorado Basin

Encompassing all or parts of Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Nevada, New Mexico, Texas, Utah and Wyoming

Reclamation / Upper Colorado Basin / System Conservation and Efficiency Program

UPPER COLORADO BASIN

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Programs & Activities

Animas-La Plata Project

Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Program

- Paradox Valley Unit

Colorado River Storage Project

- Aspinall Unit
- Flaming Gorge Unit
- Glen Canyon Unit
- Navajo Unit

Cultural Resources Program

Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Program

- Adaptive Management Work Group

Upper Colorado River Basin System Conservation and Efficiency Program

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Current Focus

New funding opportunity open until Jan. 10, 2025

THE APPLICATION PERIOD FOR THE INITIAL UPPER BASIN ENVIRONMENTAL DROUGHT MITIGATION (B2E) PROGRAM CLOSED NOV. 22, 2024.

Environmental, Ecosystem, and Habitat Restoration with Water Savings Benefits Grant

Funding opportunities of the Upper Colorado River Basin System Conservation and Efficiency Program are made under the under the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) which became Public Law 117-169 on August 16, 2022. Section 50233 of the Law provides funding to mitigate the impacts of drought with priority to the Colorado River Basin, and other basins experiencing comparable levels of drought.

- Technical Work Group
- Long-Term Experimental and Management Plan

[Gunnison Basin Selenium Management Program](#)

[Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project](#)

[New Mexico Pueblos Irrigation Infrastructure Improvement Project](#)

[Pojoaque Basin Regional Water System](#)

[Sedimentation at Paonia Reservoir](#)

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The Phase 2 (Bucket 2) Upper Colorado River Basin Environmental Program or "B2E" funding opportunity under the Inflation Reduction Act closed the application period on November 22, 2024. The B2E funding opportunity targeted environmentally focused projects that mitigated the impacts of recent droughts.

A new funding announcement for projects that are environmentally oriented and also include water savings benefits will begin on Wed., Dec. 4, 2024. This new announcement is issued under the same Request for Applications (RFA) as the previous Bucket 2 Environmental Drought Mitigation Funding Opportunity and is referred to as "B2E2". B2E2 will provide funding for projects that will restore habitat and assist in species recovery while providing additional water savings benefits to increase resiliency against prolonged drought driven by climate change.

Those who applied under the initial B2E funding opportunity do not need to submit another application. This new announcement provides a funding opportunity for environmentally oriented projects with additional water savings.

The Request for Applications under the title, "Upper Basin Environmental Drought Mitigation" opens Wed., Dec. 4, 2024, and will remain open until Fri., Jan. 10, 2025.

Funding is contingent upon completion of an evaluation process by Reclamation. Final selections will be made by Reclamation based on the merit review described in the attached Upper Basin Environmental Drought Mitigation Request for Application. Water savings benefits will not be a consideration in the merit review.

Phase one of the Upper Colorado River Basin System Conservation and Efficiency Program was funded through the System Conservation Pilot Program. The second phase is known as "Bucket 2." This funding opportunity is available.

- [Upper Basin Environmental Drought Mitigation \(B2E2\) webinar presentation](#) 

System Conservation and Efficiency Program

In-Depth

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR – ADDRESSING DROUGHT

BIDEN-HARRIS ADMINISTRATION ANNOUNCES NEW STEPS FOR DROUGHT MITIGATION FUNDING FROM INFLATION REDUCTION ACT

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES ACTIONS TO PROTECT COLORADO RIVER SYSTEM, SETS 2023 OPERATING CONDITIONS FOR LAKE POWELL AND LAKE MEAD

Related Links

[System Conservation Pilot Program \(SCPP\) Reauthorized as Part of Omnibus Bill](#) 

[Upper Colorado River Basin States, through the Upper Colorado River Commission, Kickoff System Conservation Pilot Program \(SCPP\) in 2024](#) 

How to Apply

Parties interested in applying for B2E2 funding should download the Request For Application (PDF document) and prepare an application package with the information









outlined in Section D of the RFA. Once the application is complete applications should be submitted to UCBefficiency@usbr.gov.

The following sections contain links to the RFA funding announcement and required correspondence package.

REQUEST FOR APPLICATION LINK (FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENT):

- [Upper Basin Environmental Drought Mitigation \(B2E\) Request For Applications \(RFA\)](#)

MANDATORY APPLICATION COMPONENT LINKS:

- [Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management \(SAM\) Registration](#) 
- [SF-424: Application for Federal Assistance, Office of Management and Budget](#) 
 - [SF-424: Form Instructions](#) 
- [SF-424A: Budget Information – Non-construction Programs](#)  or [SF-424C: Budget Programs](#) 
- [SF-424B: Assurances – Non-construction Programs](#)  or [SF-424D: Assurances – Construction Programs](#) 
- [Technical Proposal \(see RFA Section D.2.4\)](#) [use RFA Link]
- [Budget Proposal \(see RFA Section D.2.5\)](#) [use RFA Link]
- [Budget Narrative \(see RFA Section D.2.6\)](#) [use RFA Link]
- [SF-LLL: Disclosure of Lobbying Activities](#)  (only required if applicable)

Other recommended application components are listed in the RFA under the Application Components section.

Q&A Upper Basin Environmental Drought Mitigation (B2E)

- [Questions and Answers](#)

Program Overview



Centre Pivot self-propelled irrigation system spraying a field at sunset June 8, 2023, 7 miles south of Farmington Agricultural Production Industry fields. They use the Navajo Indian Irrigation Project to water the crops. Reclama

The Department of the Interior and the Bureau of Reclamation are committed to address climate change in the Colorado River Basin by utilizing science-based, innovative strategies cooperatively with other federal agencies and diverse communities that rely on the Colorado River.

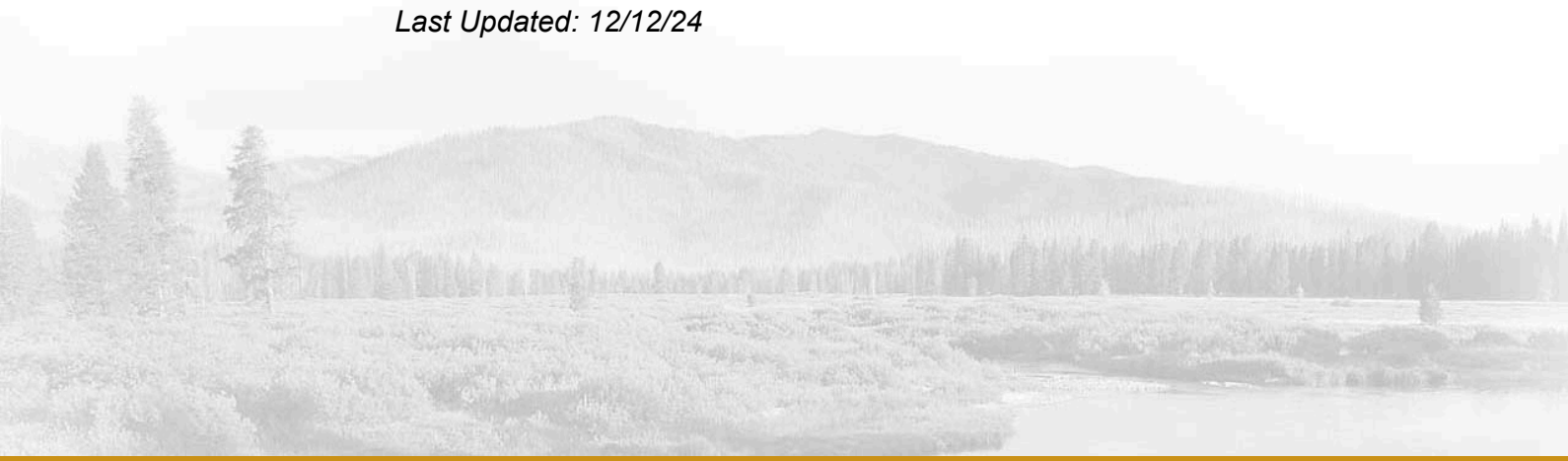
Prolonged drought and low runoff conditions have led to historically low water levels in the Colorado River. As water levels continue to decline, action to improve and protect the long-term sustainability of the Colorado River System is imperative.

The Biden-Harris administration is making unprecedented investments in drought resilience and water management. President Biden's [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law](#) made a historic \$8.3 billion investment to address water and drought challenges and invest in our nation's western water and power infrastructure. Additionally, the [Inflation Reduction Act](#) provides additional funding specifically for water management and conservation efforts in the Colorado River Basin, which is experiencing similar levels of drought.

As part of the [Department's commitment to address the drought crisis](#), the Upper and Lower Colorado River Water Users are working with states, Tribes, and other water users to implement programs that will improve water management in the Basin.

Contact

For additional questions or information about the UCB System Conservation and Efficiency Program, contact: [✉ UCBEfficiency@usbr.gov](mailto:UCBEfficiency@usbr.gov)



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