

Attachment 1E – Federal Programs

San Luis Obispo County  
Water Conservation – Potential Federal Program Opportunities

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Program</b>	<b>Notes</b>
USDA – Natural Resource Conservation Service	Agricultural Management Assistance (AMA)	Financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers to voluntarily address issues such as water management, water quality, and erosion control by incorporating conservation into their farming operations.
USDA – Natural Resource Conservation Service	Agricultural Water Enhancement Program (AWEP)	Voluntary conservation initiative that provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers to implement agricultural water enhancement activities on agricultural land to conserve surface and ground water and improve water quality.
USDA – Natural Resource Conservation Service	Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG)	Voluntary program intended to stimulate the development and adoption of innovative conservation approaches and technologies while leveraging Federal investment in environmental enhancement and protection, in conjunction with agricultural production.
USDA – Natural Resource Conservation Service	Cooperative Conservation Partnership Initiative	Voluntary conservation initiative that enables the use of certain conservation programs along with resource of eligible partners to provide financial and technical assistance to owners and operators of agricultural and nonindustrial private forest lands.
USDA – Natural Resource Conservation Service	Conservation Technical Assistance	Conservation technical assistance through its voluntary Conservation Technical Assistance Program (CTA). CTA is available to any group or individual interested in conserving our natural resources and sustaining agricultural production in this country. The CTA program functions through a national network of locally-based, professional conservationists. (Templeton)
USDA – Natural Resource Conservation Service	Conservation Stewardship Program	CSP encourages land stewards to improve their conservation performance by installing and adopting additional activities, and improving, maintaining, and managing existing activities on agricultural land and nonindustrial private forest land. NRCS will make CSP available nationwide on a continuous application basis.

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USDA – Natural Resource Conservation Service	Environmental Quality Initiatives Program	Provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers through contracts up to a maximum term of ten years in length. These contracts provide financial assistance to help plan and implement conservation practices that address natural resource concerns and for opportunities to improve soil, water, plant, animal, air and related resources on agricultural land and non-industrial private forestland. In addition, a purpose of EQIP is to help producers meet Federal, State, Tribal and local environmental regulations.
USDA – Natural Resource Conservation Service	Emergency Watershed Protection Program	Undertake emergency measures, including the purchase of flood plain easements, for runoff retardation and soil erosion prevention to safeguard lives and property from floods, drought, and the products of erosion on any watershed whenever fire, flood or any other natural occurrence is causing or has caused a sudden impairment of the watershed.
USDA – Natural Resource Conservation Service	Conservation Technical Assistance	Provides land users with proven conservation technology and the delivery system needed to achieve the benefits of a healthy and productive landscape. The primary purposes of the CTA Program are to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce soil loss from erosion</li> <li>• Solve soil, water quality, water conservation, air quality, and agricultural waste management problems</li> <li>• Reduce potential damage caused by excess water and sedimentation or drought</li> <li>• Enhance the quality of fish and wildlife habitat</li> <li>• Improve the long term sustainability of all lands, including cropland, forestland, grazing lands, coastal lands, and developed and/or developing lands</li> <li>• Assist others in facilitating changes in land use as needed for natural resource protection and sustainability</li> </ul>
USDA – Rural Development	Water and Waste Disposal Direct Loans and Grants	To develop water and waste disposal systems in rural areas and towns with a population not in excess of 10,000. The funds are available to public bodies, non-profit corporations and Indian tribes.

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USDA – Rural Development	Water and Waste Disposal Guaranteed Loans	To provide a loan guarantee for the construction or improvement of water and waste disposal projects serving the financially needy communities in rural areas. This purpose is achieved through bolstering the existing private credit structure through the guarantee of quality loans which will provide lasting benefits. The water and waste disposal guarantee loans are to serve a population not in excess of 10,000 in rural areas
USDA – Rural Development	Emergency Community Water Assistance Grants Funding	To assist rural communities that have experienced a significant decline in quantity or quality of drinking water due to an emergency, or in which such decline is considered imminent, to obtain or maintain adequate quantities of water that meets the standards set by the Safe Drinking Water Act. This emergency is considered an occurrence of an incident such as, but not limited to, a drought, earthquake, flood, etc.
USDA – Rural Development	Water and Waste Revolving Fund Grants	Assist communities with water and wastewater systems. Qualified private non-profit organizations will receive RFP grant funds to establish a lending program for eligible entities. This grant program is to serve a rural area with a population not in excess of 10,000.
USDA – Farm Service Agency	Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)	Helps farmers and ranchers to repair damage to farmlands caused by natural disasters and to help put in place methods for water conservation during severe drought. The ECP does this by giving ranchers and farmers funding and assistance to repair the damaged farmland or to install methods for water conservation.

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<p>USDA – Farm Service Agency</p>	<p>Source Water Protection Program</p>	<p>Joint project with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Farm Service Agency (FSA), and the National Rural Water Association (NRWA), a non-profit water and wastewater utility membership organization. The SWPP is designed to help prevent pollution of surface and ground water used as the primary source of drinking water by rural residents. Through NRWA, full-time rural source water technicians with practical experience are hired. The technicians work with specialists from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and state and county FSA staff, to identify areas where pollution prevention is most needed. Once areas for pollution prevention are identified, technicians work with state rural water associations to create local teams made up of citizens and individuals from federal, state, local, and private organizations. These teams collaborate to create a Rural Source Water Protection plan to promote clean source water. The plan identifies voluntary actions that farmers and ranchers can install to prevent source water pollution.</p>
<p>NOAA – National Marine Fisheries Service</p>	<p>Restoration Partnerships</p>	<p>Multi-year national and regional habitat restoration partnerships that will result in implementation of a wide-range of habitat restoration projects—from locally-driven, hands-on projects that emphasize stewardship, to mid-scale, watershed-scale projects that yield significant ecological and socioeconomic benefits.</p>
<p>U.S. Small Business Administration</p>	<p>Drought Disaster Assistance – Economic Injury Disaster Loans</p>	<p>Small, nonfarm businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture and most private nonprofit organizations affected drought (in a federally declared drought area), may qualify for loans up to \$2 million to help meet financial obligations and operating expenses.</p>

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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Emergency Water Assistance Due to Drought	<p>USACE may provide temporary emergency water assistance for human consumption/usage to a drought distressed area to meet minimum public health and welfare requirements.</p> <p>USACE assistance is supplemental to state and local efforts. Long term solutions to water supply problems are the responsibility of state and local interests.</p> <p>Types of Assistance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transport of water to local water points,</li> <li>• Distribution of bottled water,</li> <li>• Temporary connection of a new supply to the existing distribution system,</li> <li>• Installation of temporary filtration,</li> <li>• Use of military units with water purification/storage/ distribution capability.</li> <li>• USACE assistance for the measures listed above will be at 100 percent Federal cost,</li> <li>• Wells constructed by USACE will be paid for by the applicant.</li> </ul>
DOI – Bureau of Reclamation	WaterSMART <sup>1</sup> – Water & Energy Efficiency Grants	<p>Reclamation provides 50/50 cost share funding to irrigation and water districts, Tribes, States and other entities with water or power delivery authority. Projects should seek to conserve and use water more efficiently, increase the use of renewable energy, protect endangered species, or facilitate water markets. Projects are selected through a competitive process and the focus is on projects that can be completed within 24 months that will help sustainable water supplies in the western United States.</p>
DOI – Bureau of Reclamation	Title XVI Water Reclamation & Reuse <sup>2</sup>	<p>Reclamation identifies and investigates opportunities to reclaim and reuse wastewaters and naturally impaired ground and surface water in the 17 Western States and Hawaii. Title XVI is budgeted for by Reclamation’s regional offices and includes funding for planning studies and the construction of water recycling projects, on a project specific basis, in partnership with local governmental entities.<sup>3</sup></p>

<sup>1</sup> SMART – Sustain & Manage America’s Resources for Tomorrow

<sup>2</sup> Requires specific project authorization

<sup>3</sup> The North Bay Water Reuse Program in northern California will receive \$4 million to provide recycled water to agricultural, environmental, industrial and landscape uses throughout Marin, Sonoma and Napa Counties. It will include upgrades to the treatment processes and construction of storage, pipelines and pump station facilities to

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DOI – Bureau of Reclamation	Cooperative Watershed Management Program	Authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to establish a new grant program to support the formation and development of locally led watershed groups and to facilitate the development of multi-stakeholder watershed management projects.
DOI – Bureau of Reclamation	Drought Program	Authorizes emergency response and planning assistance that would minimize and mitigate losses and damages resulting from drought conditions. Authority for this program may have lapsed.
DOI – Bureau of Reclamation	Water Conservation Field Services Program - Planning	Assists water agencies in the development of quality water conservation plans. In many cases, this is technical assistance provided by Reclamation staff. In others, it may be financial assistance through cost-sharing to support the district in development of its plan.
DOI – Bureau of Reclamation	Water Conservation Field Services Program - Demonstration of Innovative Technologies	Area programs are supporting local demonstration of projects such as improved water measurement, use of automation and telemetry control, approaches to minimizing canal and ditch seepage, and on-farm irrigation management methods.
DOI – Bureau of Reclamation	Water Conservation Field Services Program - Implementation	Provides technical help for water agencies and users to begin implementing conservation measures. Local programs also provide cost-sharing, generally on a 50-50 basis, through cooperative agreements or grants.
US EPA	Drinking Water State Revolving Fund	EPA awards grants to states to capitalize their Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) programs. States use a portion of their capitalization grants to set up a revolving fund from which loans are provided to eligible public water utilities (publicly- and privately-owned) to finance the costs of infrastructure projects. States rank projects and offer loans to utilities based on a priority ranking system. Priority is given to eligible projects that: (1) address the most serious risk to human health; (2) are necessary to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act; and, (3) assist systems most in need, on a per household basis, according to state-determined affordability criteria.

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distribute recycled water. It will reduce the reliance on local and imported surface and groundwater supplies and reduce the amount of effluent released into San Pablo Bay and its tributaries.