

Western Regional Water Commission

STAFF REPORT

DATE: June 9, 2022
TO: Chairman and Members, Western Regional Water Commission (WRWC)
FROM: Kim Rigdon, Water Resources Program Manager
SUBJECT: Report on projects supported by the Regional Water Management Fund (RWMF)

SUMMARY

Each year the Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission (NNWPC) facilitates a priority setting workshop to focus funding from the RWMF on projects which support the implementation of the current edition of the Comprehensive Regional Water Management Plan (RWMP). The NNWPC collaborates on multiple projects which address regional water resource planning goals outlined in the RWMP. Many of the regional water planning goals relate to water conservation, water quality protection, effluent management, stormwater conveyance, securing sustainable water supplies and investigating alternatives to maximize existing water resources in the planning area. The NNWPC recommends the priority projects to the WRWC to receive approval and funding from RWMF.

Attachment 6a is a summary of the projects prioritized by the NNWPC in FY 2022 and FY 2023. The table identifies the lead agency for each project, the budget approved for the identified fiscal year, FY 2022 changes (invoiced amounts plus any amendments to the budget) and the balance of the agreement as of June 9, 2022. Each agreement start date and end date (project completion date) will be modified when the FY 2023 agreements and amendments are executed on July 1, 2022.

Attachment 6b provides a brief overview of the project scope of work and highlights progress made during FY 2022.

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Attachment 6a Table of Projects Supported by the RWMF
Attachment 6b RWMF Projects Overview and FY 2022 Progress Highlights

Status Report of Projects and Work Plan Supported by the Regional Water Management Fund

Lead Agency	Project	FY22 Orig.PO/Carry Foward	FY22 Changes	FY22 Balance	Start Date	End Date	FY23 Budget July 1, 2022	FY23 Agreement Status
WRWC	DRI - Precipitation Can Monitoring Network	\$20,000	-\$3,680	\$16,320	9/29/2016	9/30/2022	\$20,000	Amendment
TMWA	TMWA Water Usage Review Program	\$100,000	-\$100,000	\$0	7/1/2020	9/30/2022	\$100,000	Amendment
WRWC	DRI - Washoe ET Project	\$5,000	-\$76	\$4,924	7/1/2021	9/30/2022	\$5,000	Amendment
TMWA	Nevada Landscape Association CLT Exam	\$25,000	-\$12,500	\$12,500	7/1/2020	9/30/2022	\$12,500	Amendment
OWN	UNR - Advanced Water Treatment Amend	\$64,050	-\$57,223	\$6,828	7/1/2016	6/30/2022	\$0	Closed
OWN	OneWater - A+ Reclaimed Wtr Feasibility Study	\$75,548	-\$25,148	\$50,400	4/1/2019	3/31/2022	\$149,968	New Agreement - UNR
OWN	Long Valley Creek Feasibility Study	\$58,470	\$0	\$58,470	10/1/2019	6/30/2022	\$0	Amendment -Time Extension
OWN	OneWater Expert Panel Review	\$31,924	-\$13,665	\$18,259	7/15/2020	6/30/2022	\$49,398	New Agreement - NWRI
OWN	Brown & Caldwell - Effluent Guidance Document	\$98,716	-\$67,030	\$31,686	7/15/2020	9/30/2022	\$0	Amendment-Time Extension
OWN	UNR-Wastewater Source Control Plan	\$170,000	-\$136,564	\$33,436	7/1/2021	9/30/2023	\$100,000	Ongoing
OWN	Data Instincts - IPR Outreach	\$100,000	-\$43,066	\$56,934	9/1/2021	9/30/2022	\$100,000	Ongoing
RENO	Storm Water Permit Coordinating Committee	\$262,500	-\$57,364	\$205,136	7/1/2020	9/30/2022	\$262,500	Amendment
WRWC	Truckee River Foundation - One Truckee River	\$29,014	-\$29,014	\$0	7/15/2020	12/31/2021	\$75,000	New Agreement-TRF
RENO	Environmental Incentives - Water Quality Crediting Program	\$200,000	-\$8,096	\$191,904	7/1/2021	9/30/2023	\$200,000	Ongoing
WASHOE	HDR - Steamboat Flood Evaluation	\$169,576	-\$102,607	\$66,969	7/1/2020	6/30/2022	\$150,000	Amended-Time Extension
WRWC	RWMP Update-Cost and Finance Chapter Update	\$13,490	-\$8,820	\$4,670	7/1/2020	6/30/2022	\$0	Amended-Time Extension
WRWC	RWMP Update-AECOM	\$34,000	-\$6,163	\$27,838	4/6/2022	12/31/2022	\$75,000	Ongoing
WRWC	TMRPA Shared Work Program				7/1/2022	6/30/2023	\$50,000	New Agreement-TMRPA

Project	Scope of Work Overview	FY22 Progress Highlights
Desert Research Institute (DRI) - Precipitation Can Monitoring Network	DRI provides maintenance for, and takes bi-annual readings at, over 80 rain gauges throughout the planning area to validate and potentially improve existing groundwater recharge estimates. DRI also prepares, maps and conducts meetings with WRWC staff to report progress and identify future rain gauge sites.	DRI performed Spring and Fall rain gauge maintenance, data collection, and data delivery to WRWC. WRWC staff met with DRI on June 7, 2022 to discuss potential data applications and use in other water planning efforts and programs such as the Natural Resources Plan efforts, investigating potential for developing water sustainability models with the data, and more permanent data storage and management.
Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA)-Water Usage Review Program	TMWA's Water Usage Review Program is an integral part of its Water Conservation Plan. The program assists customers to evaluate increases in water bills, determine if the increase is due to water leaks and evaluate water savings solutions. The funding request and scope of work will support 43% of TMWA staff time for these water usage reviews and overall program administration in FY 2022.	Through the first six months of FY 2022, TMWA staff conducted 1,032 water usage reviews for residential, commercial and irrigation customers. TMWA estimates that by the end of the fiscal year, another 1,000 will be completed.
DRI-Washoe ET Project	DRI provides annual evapotranspiration weather station maintenance for: Wolf Run Golf Course, Valley Road at DRI, Lazy Five Regional Park, Wilson Commons Park, Mogul Mountain Park, Lemmon Valley Regional Park, and Cold Springs Community Center. The weather stations provide evapo-transpiration rates that DRI uses as a tool to estimate lawn and crop water needs. The tool is hosted on a public website.	DRI maintained and monitored the weather stations and public website in Fiscal Year 2022.
Nevada Landscape Association (NLA)-Certified Landscape Technician (CLT) Exam	The NLA works closely with TMWA on smart landscape irrigation and water usage accountability. The NLA irrigation training module covers reading irrigation plans, automatic controller programming for efficient water use, troubleshooting and wiring valve assembly, pipe selection & fitting, drip systems, and sprinkler selection. This training and certification ensures professional irrigation system installations emphasize responsible water resource management.	New modules were developed to include backflow management, water efficient sprinklers and drip irrigation and installation. Hands-on mock field test training and a written exam were conducted in September and August.

Project	Scope of Work Overview	FY22 Progress Highlights
University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) Nevada Water Innovations Institute (NWII) - Advanced Water Treatment	The overall goal of the project was to develop two field scale advanced recycled water treatment demonstration projects, to operate 9-12 months. The scope of work included developing a vision for the project, evaluating and selecting alternatives for the treatment trains anticipated to meet NDEP regulations, developing a design for the demonstration project, producing a testing plan to serve as an operating manual for the advanced treatment system, developing an operations and maintenance manual (modified as the project unfolds), developing a monitoring and sampling plan, and reporting performance of the individual treatment units and overall treatment train.	This project was the basis for OWN efforts in the region to demonstrate A+ water production. The specific demonstrations were at STMWRF and RSWRF, and the outputs have been used to meet NDEP requirements and seek approval for full scale demonstration. The project was completed and the "Advanced Water Treatment Technologies Demonstration Project" final report was submitted to the WRWC in December 2021. Data Instincts continues to support OWN and assist with regional Advanced Purified Water project communication and engagement efforts.
OneWater Nevada (OWN) - A+ Reclaimed Water Feasibility Study	NWII's scope of work focuses on assisting OWN with technical assistance and leadership to develop treatment technologies to produce Advanced Purified Water (Category A+ reclaimed water). Activities include providing project management of field scale A+ demonstration projects, assist agencies to procure, construct, coordinate, operate, test, monitor, and report results for the projects.	
Carollo - OneWater Expert Panel Review	The purpose of this project is to manage and administer an Independent Expert Panel (IEP) and the IEP's review of aspects of the OneWater Nevada demonstration projects and participate in a workshop with the OneWater Nevada Project Team (the "Team") consisting of representatives of the project sponsors. The overall goal of the IEP review is to assist the Team in framing and validating approaches for project implementation.	
Data Instincts - Indirect Potable Reuse (IPR) Outreach	Data Instincts provides outreach efforts and support of Advanced Purified Water Demonstration Projects, and of OWN leadership efforts; leads communication and engagement efforts for OWN Advanced Purified Water Program as a part of the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection agency permit requirements for a robust outreach effort. The program encompasses elements of the Advanced Purified Water Facility at American Flat, Palomino Farms Sustainable Water Resources Feasibility Study, and support for UNR NWII and other efforts aimed at regional water supply sustainability.	

Project	Scope of Work Overview	FY22 Progress Highlights
Stantec - Long Valley Creek Feasibility Study	Stantec is evaluating the potential for discharge to Long Valley Creek from CSWRF. Due to the hydraulically closed basin, effluent exportation options are being investigated.	This project is currently on-hold pending the completion of the effluent guidance document and Cold Springs water balance analysis.
Brown & Caldwell - Effluent Guidance Document	The purpose of this project is to develop a regional effluent guidance document as a collaborative effort by the Regional Effluent Management Team (REMT) and the NWII to guide decision making. The guidance document is intended to focus on effluent management plans for individual facilities, potential inter-relationships between facilities, facility-specific and regional, cooperative effluent management alternatives with implementation lead times, facility and operational cost estimates, public input (as required for A+ Water), facility-specific timelines showing critical milestones to meeting effluent management constraints, and development of technical analysis supporting reclaimed water regulations	The regional effluent guidance document is being prepared by the REMT. The REMT is working collaboratively to complete a technical model developed in Excel, which evaluates multiple regional and facility-specific effluent management alternatives. Report content and sections have been established and are currently under development.
UNR-Wastewater Source Control Plan	A wastewater source control plan must meet NAC 445A.27616(5) requirements to protect reclaimed water quality for Indirect Potable Reuse. The framework focuses on reducing pollutants to enhance and potentially expand opportunities to use wastewater effluent in water recycling projects. A wastewater source control framework will be developed for each WRF within the Truckee Meadows.	Project management and coordination with OWN is ongoing. UNR has performed the regulatory review of federal and state discharge permit requirements, related program review of policies, regulations, and approaches developed by others to develop the framework for the planning area.
Reno - Storm Water Permit Coordinating Committee (SWPCC)	This ILA provides continued support for the Stormwater Permit Coordinating Committee's Stormwater Management Program activities for compliance with the NPDES MS4 permit requirements. The NDEP has indicated the permit has been updated, and this may require additional program updates.	Stormwater Management Program activities include: water quality monitoring, watershed assessments, stream gauge maintenance, replacement of aging field equipment, public outreach and interlocal coordination and administrative services.
Truckee River Foundation (TRF) - One Truckee River (OTR)	The OTR Management Plan includes nine action items identified as priority plan implementation strategies. The Truckee River Foundation (TRF) scope of work supports numerous implementation activities focused on the nine prioritized action items.	OTR successfully transitioned to the "Truckee River Foundation," a 501(c)(3) organization. Phase 1 of the Truckee River restroom project is complete, the stormwater education program has launched, and the TRF has secured \$443K and has \$175K pending for OTR.
Environmental Incentives - Water Quality Crediting Program	The Water Quality Credit Trading proposal focuses on developing a framework to offset pollutant loads in the Truckee River and collaborate with regulators and stakeholders to develop water quality offset projects in the planning area.	The planning kick-off meeting was held in March 2022 and was facilitated during the regular Stormwater Permit Coordinating Committee meeting.

Project	Scope of Work Overview	FY22 Progress Highlights
HDR - Steamboat Flood Evaluation	This is an ongoing project led by Washoe County to evaluate potential flood control outlet improvements on the Steamboat Ditch from the crossing at Hunter Creek to the crossing over Evans Creek, downstream from Ridgeview Lane (11 miles through the urbanized areas.)	HDR has completed a draft document which will be used to facilitate a workshop with key stakeholders to further refine and affirm HDR's findings and to begin identifying viability of potential ditch improvements. The workshop is currently being scheduled and will likely occur in July/August 2022. The results of the workshop will be a revision to this report for submittal to Washoe County and the NNWPC.
Hansford Economic Consulting (HEC) - Comprehensive Regional Water Management Plan (RWMP) Update-"Cost and Finance Chapter"	2021-2040 RWMP update for Chapter 9 "Cost and Finance."	HEC completed draft Chapter 9 "Cost and Finance" for the RWMP update and prepared memorandum: "Regional Water Management Plan New Housing Cost Burden Analysis." The NNWPC accepted the draft report.
RWMP Update-AECOM	2021-2040 RWMP Update plan packaging services including editing and formatting, technical assistance for the completion of Chapter 4 "Wastewater and Effluent Management" and bringing the chapters of the plan together for congruent readability.	This Agreement was executed April 6, 2022 and work is currently ongoing. A complete draft 2021-2040 RWMP is anticipated to be available July 2022.
Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency (TMRPA) - Shared Work Program	Assistance to WRWC for GIS Support Services, Regional Water Plan and Natural Resources Plan work products, Consensus Forecast Collaboration, WRWC/NNWPC meeting minute transcription, and web hosting.	New Agreement effective July 1, 2022.