

Western States Federal Agency Support Team (WestFAST) is a collaboration between 12 Federal agencies with water management responsibilities in the West. WestFAST was established to support the Western States Water Council (WSWC) and the Western Governors' Association (WGA) in coordinating Federal efforts regarding water issues.



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WestFAST News

April 2013

President Obama Submits FY 2014 Federal Budget Proposal to Congress

On 10 April 2013, President Obama sent a proposed federal budget request to Congress. The following is a summary of the discretionary portion of the proposed budget, showing the proposed funding for each of the twelve WestFAST member agencies. See also the following link for more information: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget/Overview>.

<i>Proposed Discretionary Funding (million)</i>			
Agency	FY 2012	FY 2014	Change
BLM	\$1,129	\$1,162	\$33
BoR	\$1,048	\$1,050	\$2
DoD	\$530,500	\$526,600	(\$3,900)
DoE	\$26,400	\$28,400	\$2,000
EPA	\$8,449	\$8,153	(\$296)
FS	\$4,846	\$4,858	\$12
FWS	\$1,476	\$1,552	\$76
NASA	\$17,750	\$17,700	(\$50)
NOAA	\$4,906	\$5,448	\$542
NRCS	\$828	\$1,503	\$675
USACE	\$5,002	\$4,726	(\$276)
USGS	\$1,068	\$1,167	\$99

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

The BLM budget request for FY 2014 is \$1.2 billion, an increase of \$32.6 million over the FY 2012 enacted level. This includes \$54.8 million for Soil, Water, and Air Management and \$24.0 million for Riparian Management. See also the [BLM's budget summary](#) document.

Bureau of Reclamation (BoR)

The proposed budget for the Department of Interior includes funding for the Bureau of Reclamation, which increased slightly to \$1.05 billion in FY 2014. This proposed budget also includes \$78.7 million for Indian Water Rights settlements and \$35.4 million for the WaterSMART initiative (down \$20.5 million from FY 2012) to assist communities in "stretching water supplies and improving water management." See the BoR's [Budget Justifications](#) and [budget summary](#) for more information.

Department of Defense (DoD)

The [proposed budget](#) provides \$526.6 billion in discretionary funding, a decrease of \$3.9 billion, or 0.7 percent, below the FY 2012 enacted level. Although part of the Department of Defense, the US Army Corps of Engineers has a separate civil works budget.

Department of Energy (DoE)

The [President's budget](#) for DoE increased 8% from \$26.4 billion in FY 2012 to \$28.4 billion in FY 2014. As part of this increase, Energy and Environment funding increased

12% from \$9.2 billion in FY 2012 to \$10.3 billion in FY 2014. Also, the proposed budget includes \$5 billion (5.7% increase) for Office of Science research in various fields of science and technology. See also the [DoE's summary](#).

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

The [proposed budget](#) for the EPA decreased \$296 million to \$8.2 billion in FY 2014. Under the proposed budget, State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG) decreased from \$3.6 billion in FY 2012 to \$3.1 billion FY 2014. The proposed budget reduced funding for Drinking-Water and Clean-Water Revolving Funds by a total of \$472 million. The proposed budget increased

support to states and tribes by \$47 million for implementing delegated authorities. See also the EPA's [Budget in Brief](#).

Forest Service (FS)

The proposed FY 2014 budget of \$4.9 billion for the Forest Service is an increase of \$12.0 million from FY 2012. See also the [FS budget summary](#).

Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS)

The President's FY 2014 proposed budget would provide \$1.6 billion for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, an increase of \$76.4 million over the FY 2012 enacted level. This includes \$56.0 million for the Cooperative Endangered Species Fund, an increase of \$8.3 million. See also the FWS [budget summary](#).

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

The proposed [NASA budget](#) for FY 2014 is \$17.7 billion, a decrease of \$50 million from FY 2012. This includes \$1.8 billion for Earth Science to revamp the Landsat program and conduct other satellite and research efforts.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

The proposed FY 2014 budget for NOAA of \$5.4 billion is an increase of \$542 million from FY 2012. Specifically, this budget provides \$2 billion to continue the development

of NOAA's polar-orbiting and geostationary weather satellite systems, as well as satellite-borne measurements of sea level and potentially damaging solar storms. See the [Budget in Brief](#) for the Department of Commerce.

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

The budget for USDA includes an increase from \$828 million in FY 2012 to \$1.5 billion in FY 2014. The NRCS portion of the budget includes funding for "Snow Survey and Water Forecasting," which decreased from \$10.0 million in FY 2012 to \$8.0 million in FY 2014. But general "Technical Assistance" increased from \$711.0 million in FY 2012 to \$1,409 million in FY 2014. See the details for the proposed NRCS funding on page 122 of the [President's budget](#).

US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)

Under the [President's proposed budget](#), the Civil Works program of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) would receive \$4.7 billion in discretionary funding, a decrease of 5.5% from FY 2012. This includes \$90 million for Investigations, \$1.3 billion for Construction, \$2.6 billion for Operation and Maintenance, and \$200 million for the Corp's regulatory program.

US Geological Survey (USGS)

President Obama's FY 2014 budget request for the U.S. Geological Survey is \$1.2 billion, an increase of \$98.8 million above the FY 2012 enacted level. Water Challenges – the FY 2014 budget provides \$22.5 million for USGS activities in support of the Water Challenges initiative, an increase of \$14.5 million above the FY 2012 enacted level. Funding in the 2014 proposed budget includes an increase of \$7.2 million to fund more than 400 streamgages that would enhance the ability to monitor high priority sites sensitive to drought, flooding, and potential climate change effects. The budget includes \$22.5 million for WaterSMART (increase of \$14.5 million from FY 2012), an initiative focused on a sustainable water strategy to address the Nation's water challenges. See also the USGS [budget summary](#).

Department of Agriculture

Funding for the [Department of Agriculture](#) was requested to remain roughly unchanged at \$22.6 billion. But loan rates and loan performance make it possible to increase the funding for rural water and wastewater loans from \$794 million to \$1.2 billion. Also, higher loan levels at lower interest rates decreased the amount needed for grants in the loan-grant program for rural infrastructure.

Agency News

04/01/2013: Crowd-Sourcing the Nation: Using Volunteers for Enhanced Data Collection; see [link](#).

04/02/2013: USGS Finds No Influence of Oil Platforms on Contaminant Levels in California Fishes; see [link](#).

04/02/2013: Army Corps of Engineers Helps Build 'Green' Military Installation of Future; see [link](#).

04/03/2013: Interior Releases Progress Report on National Water Census; see [link](#).

04/04/2013: Grants to Help Farms & Ranches Build Resilience to Drought; see [link](#).

04/08/2013: State, Corps Study: One in Five Californians Faces Flood Threat; see [link](#).

04/09/2013: EPA Designates Center of Excellence for Watershed Management at Mississippi State University; see [link](#).

04/09/2013: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Awards more than \$13 Million in Grants to Boost Recreational Boating in Communities Across Nation; see [link](#).

04/09/2013: Texas and New York New Maps Posted; see [link](#).

04/11/2013: The Federal Government's Long-Term Fiscal Outlook; see [link](#).

04/11/2013: Dry Spring and Summer Predicted for Western States; see [link](#).

04/11/2013: NASA Imaging Sensor Prepares for Western Wildfire Season; see [link](#).

04/17/2013: Reclamation and Army Corps of Engineers Plan for Continued Drought; see [link](#).

04/16/2013: Seattle and King County, Wash. Agree to Upgrade Combined Stormwater Systems to Protect Local Waters from Raw Sewage Overflows; see [link](#).

04/16/2013: Forest Service Chief Cites Restoration, Jobs and Wildfire in Senate Budget Testimony; see [link](#).

04/16/2013: U.S. Drought Monitor Update for April 16, 2013; see [link](#).

04/19/2013: Agencies Should More Fully Develop Priority Goals under the GPRA Modernization Act; see [link](#).

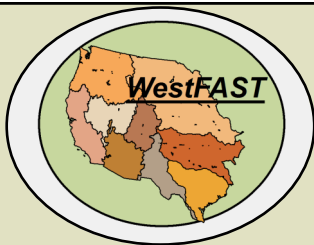
04/22/2013: U.S. EPA Requires ADOT to Reduce Pollution from Stormwater Runoff; see [link](#).

04/24/2013: IWR Publishes 2012 Irrigation Water Supply Database; see [link](#).

04/25/2013: NOAA's National Weather Service Completes Doppler Radar Upgrades; see [link](#).

Upcoming Meetings/Events

- **June 24-26, 2013:** Summer Council Meeting; Casper, Wyoming; Hilton Garden Inn.
- **August 13-15, 2013:** Indian Water Rights Settlement Symposium; Santa Fe, New Mexico; Hilton Santa Fe at Buffalo Thunder.
- **October 2-4, 2013:** Fall Council Meeting; Deadwood, South Dakota; The Lodge at Deadwood.



WestFAST News is published monthly. To get an Agency Announcement published or to get added to the WestFAST News distribution list contact:

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Check out the WestFAST Web Site: <http://www.westernstateswater.org/westfast>