## Wyoming Water Development Program



June 23, 2021 Brandon Gebhart, PE Director Wyoming Water Development Office Cheyenne, WY



forever west

WYOMING WATER DEVLOPMENT PROGRAM - HISTORY

PROGRAM CREATED IN 1975 WATER DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION CREATED IN 1979 ♦ WDA I NEW PROJECTS - CREATED IN 1989 ♦ WDA II – REHABILTATION CREATED IN 1989 WDA III – DAMS AND RESERVOIRS CREATED IN 2005 ♦ PHILOSOPHY – TO UTILIZE A PORTION OF REVENUE DERIVED FROM NON-RENEWABLE RESOURCES AND INVEST THIS REVENUE IN RENEWALBLE WATER DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS THAT WILL SERVE WYOMING CITIZENS INTO THE FUTURE

## Wyoming Water Development Program Management Vyoming Water Development Commission (WWDC) – 10 Members

- Two Members from each Water Division
- One At Large Member
- One Tribal Member
- Appointed by the Governor
- Four (4) year staggered terms
- Part Split No more than 75% from the same political party
- Legislative Select Water Committee (SWC)
  - Six Senators
  - Six Representatives
- Advisors
  - Wyoming State Engineer
  - Wyoming Attorney General's representative
  - Wyoming Business Council CEO
  - University of Wyoming

## WYOMING WATER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM - OPERATIONS

- Wyoming Water Development Office 25 Employees
  - Director Appointed by the Governor
  - Administration
  - Construction Division
  - Dam and Reservoir Division
  - Planning Division
- Project Sponsors
  - Municipalities
  - Irrigation Districts
  - Special Districts



## **Program Responsibilities**

- NEW WATER PROJECT DEVELOPMENT
- WATER PROJECT REHABILITATION
- DAMS AND RESERVOIR DEVELOPMENT
- WYOMING'S WATER PLANNING AGENCY
- MANAGEMENT OF WYOMING'S WATER INVESTMENTS
- GROUNDWATER EXPLORATION GRANT PROGRAM
- ♦ INSTREAM FLOW WATER RIGHTS
- SMALL WATER PROJECT PROGRAM
- CO RIVER BASIN STATES SALINITY CONTROL PROGRAM
- UPPER COLORADO RIVER BASIN FUND MOA
- EMERGENCY WATER PROJECTS
- ♦ UNIV. OF WYOMING WATER RESEARCH PROGRAM

## PROGRAM FUNDING

#### WYOMING STATUTES PROVIDE A SEVERANCE TAX DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT OF \$155M PER YEAR.

#### WATER DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT NO. I (WDA-I)

- FUNDS AGENCY BUDGET, NEW DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS, PLANNING EFFORTS, GWEP, SWPP, OTHER (non-project)
- ♦ RECEIVES 12.45% OF SEVERANCE TAX DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT (\$19,297,500)

#### WATER DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT NO. II (WDA-II)

- ♦ FUNDS REHABILITATION PROJECTS, SWPP
- ♦ RECEIVES 2.1% OF SEVERANCE TAX DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT (\$3,255,000)

#### WATER DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT NO. III (WDA III)

- ♦ FUNDS DAM AND RESERVOIR PROJECTS
- RECEIVES 0.5 % OF SEVERANCE TAX DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT (\$775,000)

#### EMERGENCY WATER PROJECTS ACCOUNT

- ♦ IRRIGATION INFRASTRUCTURE
- ESTABLISHED WITH \$5M
- ♦ 75%G:25%L

## Levels of Project Development

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#### **Master Plans**

- System Inventory and Assessment
- Mapping/GIS
- Current Operations and Efficiency Analysis
- Identification of Water Rights
- Rehabilitation and Management Plan
- Reconnaissance Level Designs and Cost Estimates
- Economic Analysis and Project Financing



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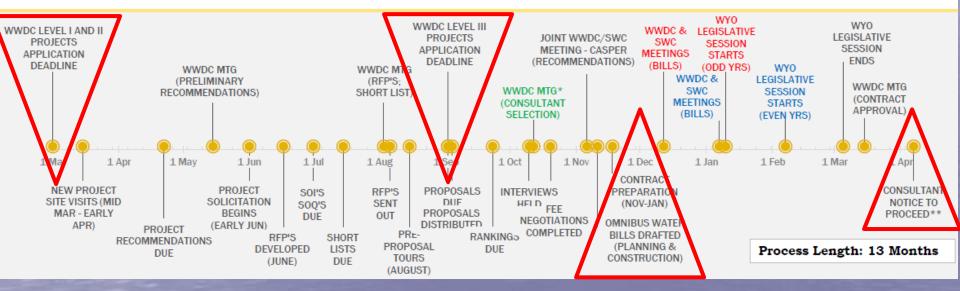
#### Site Specific

#### Examples:

- Exploratory Well Drilling
- Water Storage Tanks
- Transmission Lines
- Diversion Structure Rehabilitation
- Canal Linings
- Pipeline Replacement
- Pump Station Rehab
- Dam Rehabilitation
- Regional Connection Studies

## PROJECT FUNDING PROCESS

#### WWDC PLANNING PROJECT FUNDING APPROVAL AND CONSULTANT SELECTION SCHEDULE



## TYPICAL PROJECT FINANCING

## Planning Studies – Level I and II

- WWDC Funds 100%
- Unbiased analyses

## Level III Design and Construction Projects

- Typically 67% Grant 33%
- Loans are offered at 4% interest for a term up to 50 years

#### Storage Projects

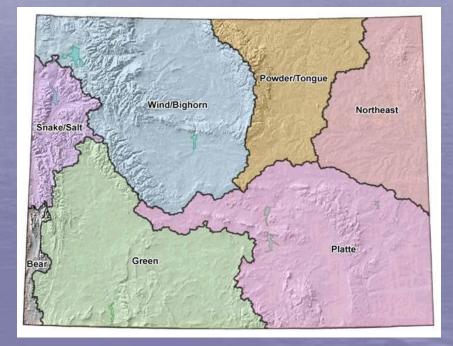
WWDC may fund 100% not to exceed the public benefit

## Sponsor Participation

- Responsible for 33%
- Must provide the financial resources to operation and maintain the project

## WYOMING'S WATER PLANNING AGENCY

## - SURFACE WATER - GROUNDWATER - SEVEN (7) MAJOR DRAINAGE BASINS



## WYOMING'S WATER PLANNING AGENCY

# WATERSHED STUDIES WATER MASTER PLANS FOR MUNICIPALITIES AND IRRIGATION DISTRICTS INSTREAM FLOW FEASIBILITY STUDIES WATER RELATED RESEARCH - UW OFFICE OF WATER PROGRAMS

WATER RESOURCES DATA SYSTEM -UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

## WYOMING'S WATER INVESTMENTS

- BUFFALO BILL ENLARGEMENT 190,000 ACRE FEET
- ♦ FONTENELLE RESERVOIR 120,000 ACRE FEET
- HIGH SAVERY DAM AND RESERVOIR 22,400 ACRE FEET
- PALISADES RESERVOIR 33,000 ACRE FEET
- PATHFINDER MODIFICATION PROJECT WYOMING ACCOUNT-20,000 ACRE FEET/YEAR
- ♦ <u>GLENDO RESERVOIR</u> 10,600 ACRE FEET
- ▲ LAKE DeSMET AND HEALY RESERVOIR 67,000 ACRE FEET
- ▲ <u>MIDDLE PINEY RESERVOIR</u> 3,370 ACRE FEET
- WWDC HOLDS STATE OF WYOMING INSTREAM FLOW WATER RIGHT PERMITS

# GRANT PROJECT

- SPONSORS MUNICIPALITIES AND SPECIAL DISTRICTS
- PURPOSE EXPLORATION FOR AND FEASIBILITY STUDIES OF THE USE OF UNDERGROUND WATER
- MAXIMUM FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION OF PROGRAM IS \$400,000 PER PROJECT
- SPONSORS MUST PROVIDE 25% OF PROJECT COSTS

## SMALL WATER PROJECT PROGRAM

- To provide grant funding for Small Water Development Projects that improve watershed condition and function and provide benefits for...
  - Livestock
  - Wildlife
  - Irrigation
  - Environmental
  - Recreational

Funding – 50% grants up to \$35,000 are available for eligible projects that provide adequate public benefit, improve watershed health, and meet the program definitions as outlined in the criteria.

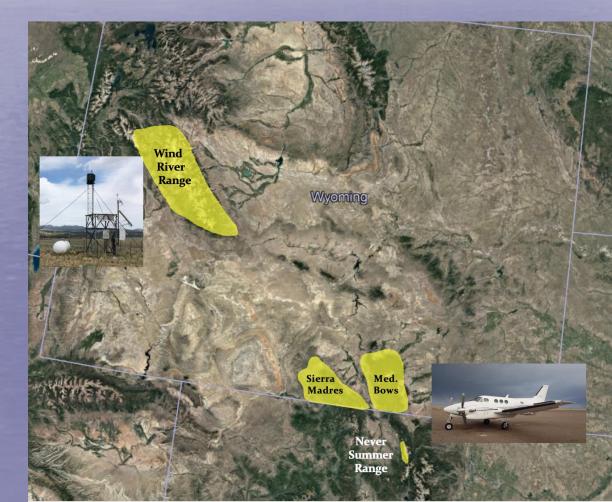
## WEATHER MODIFICATION PROGRAM

#### Two Programs

- Ground based
- Aerial

### Funding

- Ground based
  WY 37%
  Funding partners 63%
  Aerial
  - State Program
  - Funding Partner BOPU
  - Never Summer Range



## CURRENT PROJECT APPROPRIATIONS

#### WATER DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT NO. I (WDA-I)

- 30 Planning Projects \$12,717,454
- 49 Construction Projects \$98,203,130
- Total 79 Projects \$110,920,584

#### WATER DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT NO. II (WDA-II)

- 5 Planning Projects \$5,927,000
- 39 Construction Projects \$53,467,896
- Total 44 Projects \$59,394,896

#### WATER DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT NO. III (WDA III)

- 12 Projects \$21,453,026
- ♦ 6 Construction \$\$137,954,000
- Total 18 Projects \$159,407,026

#### **Direct Appropriations**

Gillette Madison Pipeline (Regional System) \$190,120,000

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#### ♦ 30 Planning Projects - \$12,21,45-

- ♦ 49 Construction Projects \$9,2,3,130
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## WATER DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT NO. II (WDA-II)

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- ♦ 39 Construction Project \$33,467,896
- Total 44 Projects 59,394,896

## WATER DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT NO. III (WDA III)

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 5 Construction - \$\$137,954,000
 6 Construction - \$159,407,026

#### **Direct** Appropriations

Gillette Madison Pipeline (Regional System) \$190,120,000

## ANTICIPATED CHALLENGES

- AGING INFRASTRUCTURE
- CONSTRUCTION COSTS
- **DROUGHT**
- REDUCED REVENUES/BUDGET REDUCTIONS



## Questions ?



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