

A scenic landscape featuring a river flowing through a rocky valley. In the background, there are rugged mountains with a prominent peak, illuminated by warm, golden light, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The foreground shows large, reddish-brown rocks and some sparse vegetation. A blue semi-transparent banner is overlaid across the middle of the image, containing the title text.

# New Mexico Integrated Water Financing Plan

Introductory Webinar | Dec 18, 2023



## Webinar Topics

- **Welcome and Introduction of Project Partners**
- **Overview of Project Purpose**
- **Project Scope**
- **Survey of Federal Funding and State Water Needs**
- **Roles and Responsibilities**
- **Next Steps and Timeline**

# Project Partners



**MICHELLE BUSHMAN**

**Deputy Director & General Counsel**

Western States Water Council



**MADELINE FRANKLIN**

**Federal Liaison to Western States Water Council**

Western States Federal Agency Support Team  
WestFAST



**STATE OF NEW MEXICO**

**Water Financing Working Group\***

Agencies, Water Ambassadors, Stakeholders



**ERICA GADDIS**

**Project Manager**

SWCA Environmental Consultants



**WENDY BLACKWELL**

**Coordination and Facilitation Lead**

SWCA Environmental Consultants

# FACING NEW MEXICO'S 21ST CENTURY

# WATER

## CHALLENGES

Community drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure capacity and finance.

Water resources management and planning.

River, aquifer, and watershed health.

### Definitions of The Five Key Areas that Need Solutions

#### Capacity

*The ability of existing state and local entities to cope with the growing scale and complexity of the problems.*

#### Funding

*The lack of resources to fix the problems we know we have, including the resources needed to effectively spend the bounty of federal and state money now available.*

#### Science, Data, and Planning

*Major gaps in our scientific understanding of New Mexico's water resources should be filled by hydrogeologic investigations and aquifer research.*

#### Community Engagement

*Solutions cannot be imposed from above, they must draw on knowledge and values of those closest to the problems and potential solutions.*

#### Water Conservation

*We all will need to use less water.*

# Project Purpose

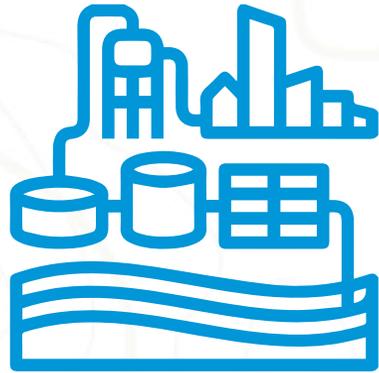
*Maximize federal funding including from Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) and Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) invested in New Mexico's top water priorities.*

*Strengthen connections between state and federal agencies.*

*Share lessons learned with other western states.*

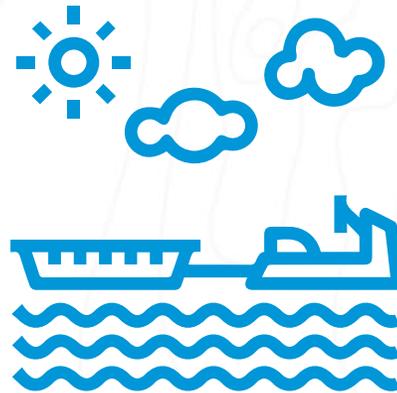


# Types of Water Resource Activities



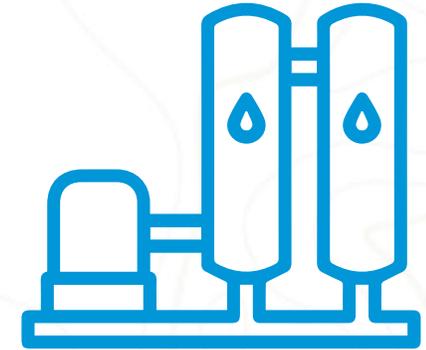
## HIGH PRIORITY INFRASTRUCTURE AND RESTORATION PROJECTS

*Examples: water and wastewater infrastructure, dam safety, water reuse, post-fire watershed restoration, climate resilience initiatives*



## STATE WATER PROGRAMS

*Examples: Strategic Water Reserve and River Stewardship Program, Water Infrastructure Projects Authority (WIPA), state revolving loan fund programs*



## BUNDLES OF SMALL PROJECTS

*Examples: agricultural system improvements, rural community water and sewer, information and education campaigns, stream and wetland restoration, water monitoring initiatives*

*\*Activities: Water programs, projects, and initiatives*

# NEVADA EXPERIENCE

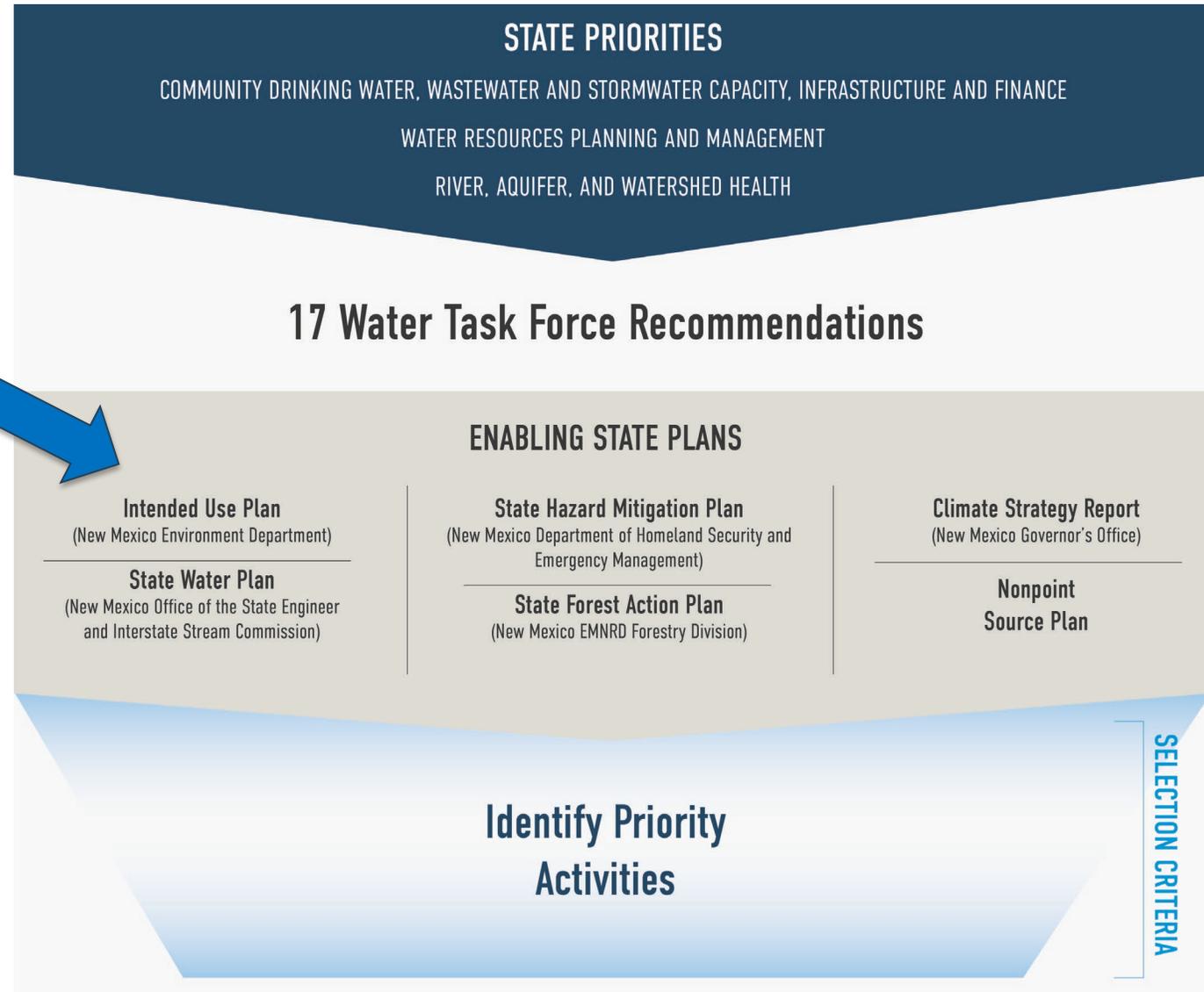
- Focused on priority drought initiatives.
- Collaboration between state agencies and federal agencies via WestFAST.
- Resulted in amendment to State Hazard Mitigation Plan to add drought as a High-Risk Hazard
- Opened FEMA funding opportunities for drought mitigation to leverage EPA SRF funds.



# Project Scope

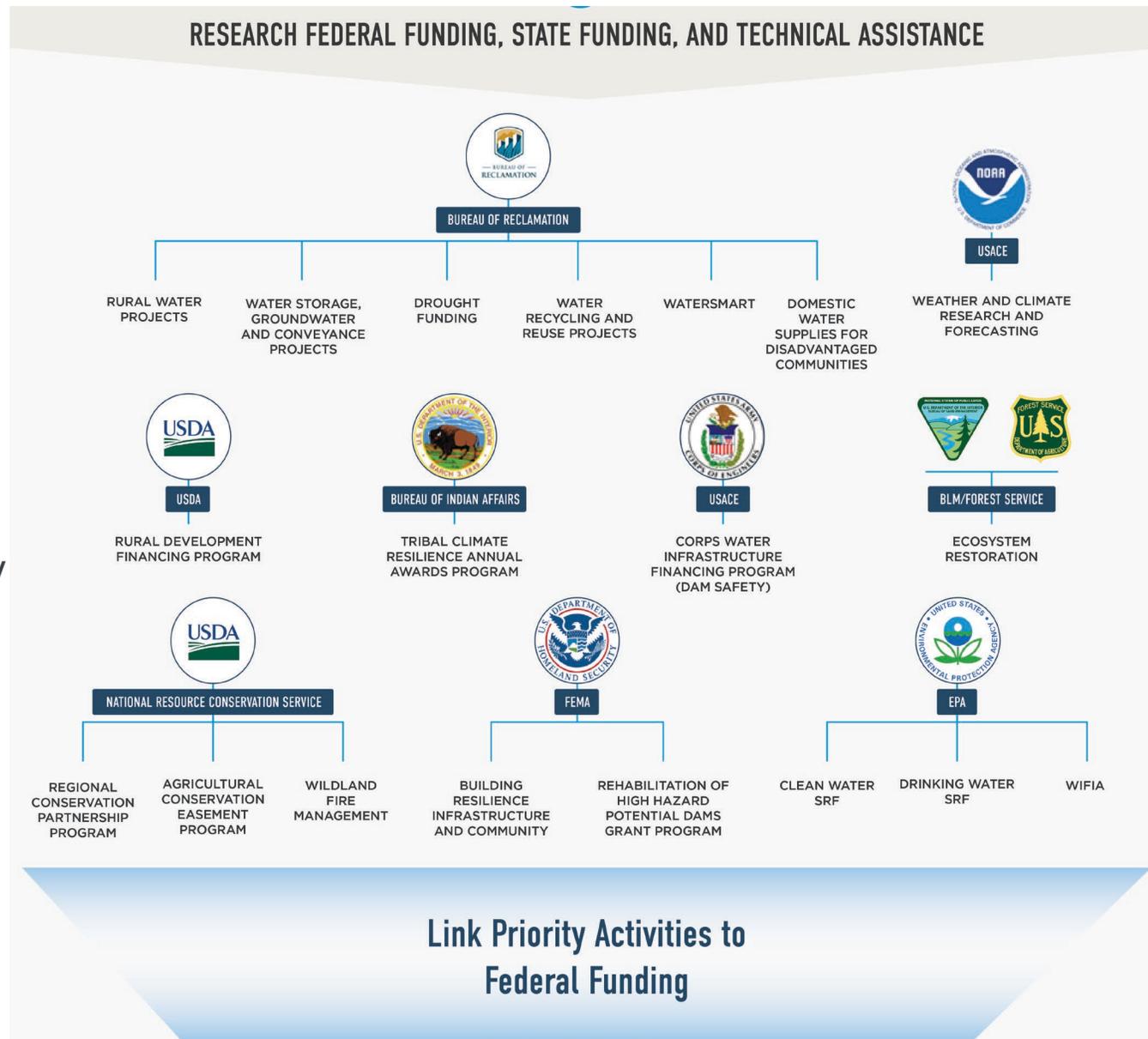
- Building on previous efforts, compile water resources activities\* from relevant state plans and survey results.
- Identify up to 12 priority activities\* using consensus-based selection criteria, structured on the 17 Water Task Force Recommendations

*\*Activities: Water programs, projects, and initiatives*



# Project Scope continued

- Inventory existing competitive federal grant applications and awards
- Build on the data in the DFA BIL/IRA Dashboard
- Link priority activities to federal funding
- Collaboratively develop a financing plan for priority activities with a focus on maximizing the use of federal funds
- Identify barriers to accessing funds and recommend solutions along with resources for implementation



# Survey of Federal Funding and State Needs

- Question 1: Contact information (required).
- Question 2: Add or modify contacts for your agency
- Question 3: Activities that have secured BIL, IRA
- Question 4: Activities not selected for BIL, IRA
- Question 5: Activities that could benefit from BIL, IRA
- Question 6: Existing priority criteria or processes
- Question 7: Support needed to access federal funding
- Question 8: Other comments or feedback

Survey is due back January 8<sup>th</sup>  
Upload existing inventories, lists, charts, files



*This survey is designed to:*

- *Inventory water resources activities or projects that would benefit from federal funding*
- *Assess new federal funds already secured in New Mexico and understand lessons from unsuccessful attempts to secure new federal funds*
- *Focus on BIL and IRA funds, building on the New Mexico Department of Finance and Administration (DFA)'s current dashboard*

# Survey features

3) Has your agency or organization successfully secured BIL or IRA funding for water projects or programs in the past?

-Please select-

Yes

No

Explain BIL or IRA funding that your agency or organization has successfully secured for water projects and programs. Please focus on funding that is available only through these congressionally allocated sources (not the regular annual funding based on formulaic allocations).

You may enter more than one by clicking "+".



3.1 If similar information has been prepared for DFA or other purposes, please provide the link and include a brief description of the information.

Text input field for providing a link and description.

3.2 If available, please upload source documentation here.

8) Other comments or feedback

Please provide other comments here.

Text input field for other comments or feedback. Character count: 1000

To add an additional project or program

Must hit submit to save

Can enter as many surveys as you'd like

Submit

# Timeline

	2023	2024							
TASK	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG
Coordination Sessions	●			●	●	●		●	
Survey of New Mexico Funding Efforts and Needs									
Data Summary and Federal Funding Research									
Interviews, As Needed									
Draft Funding Strategy for Priority Activities									
Draft Integrated Water Financing Plan									
Agency Review									
Final Integrated Water Financing Plan									

**COORDINATION SESSIONS**

- Introductory Webinar
- Activity Screening Panel
- Solutions and Next Steps Meeting
- Funding Coordination Workshop
- Strategy Sessions

# Proposed Role for Working Group

- Provide feedback on scope and process
- Submit survey by January 8<sup>th</sup>
- Participate in
  - ✓ Follow-up interviews
  - ✓ Funding Coordination Workshop (one-day)
  - ✓ Strategy Sessions (based on interest)
  - ✓ Solutions and Next Steps Meeting
- Review of draft Integrated Water Financing Plan



PHOTO 7. VISTA NEAR VELARDE.  
PHOTO CREDIT: B.J. BUMGARNER ON FLICKR



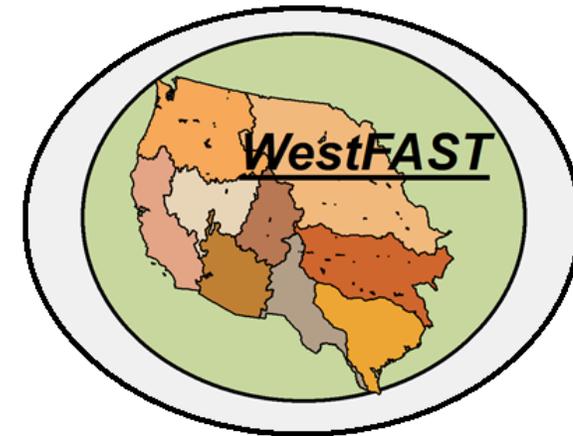
With thanks to funding partners of the  
New Mexico Integrated Water Financing Plan



Thank you for your participation in this introductory webinar for the  
New Mexico Integrated Water Financing Plan



©  
WESTERN STATES  
WATER COUNCIL



For questions or feedback, contact [wendy.blackwell@swca.com](mailto:wendy.blackwell@swca.com) or 505-469-8683