

Western Water Assessment (NOAA-funded RISA Program) Adapting to Climate Change in Wyoming

Deadlines:

[Informational Webinar \(registration required\)](#): March 3, 2023, 12-1pm

Proposal Deadline: March 31, 2023

Awards Announced: May 1, 2023

Award Period: July 15, 2023-July 15, 2025

Background. [Western Water Assessment \(WWA\)](#) is pleased to announce its **Adapting to Climate Change in Wyoming** grant competition. The competition will award up to \$30,000 each to 3-4 projects over two years for climate adaptation planning or implementation for rural and Tribal communities in the state.

Wyoming communities face increasing climate-related risks including wildfire, drought, flooding, and heat waves. Grants may include activities such as understanding perceptions and risk, bringing community partners together to understand projected impacts, assessing vulnerability, planning adaptation actions, adapting to changes, addressing baseline vulnerabilities and stressors, or extending existing programs to serve rural and underserved communities. We are especially interested in proposals from entities and communities who have been historically underserved including Indigenous and small rural communities.

The Western Water Assessment team will collaborate with each grantee to support projects. Western Water Assessment has developed a list of services to support winning proposals ([posted here](#)). Successful proposals will clearly demonstrate which support service they will use and how the project will advance the goals listed below.

About Western Water Assessment. With funding from National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Western Water Assessment provides useable science to decision-makers and communities. It serves Wyoming, Colorado, and Utah, although this grant is limited to Wyoming. For more information, please visit [this website](#).

Competition Approach. We seek applications from a diverse set of organizations and entities including local, state, or Tribal governments; non-profit organizations; or private entities serving Indigenous and small rural communities. Applicants should be working on or interested in working on addressing climate risks based on the needs of local communities.

- All applicants must be [registered](#) in System for Award Management (SAM) and have a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) number. Both are free and easy to establish and will be required in the application materials.
- There is an option to include financial documentation with the application. While this is not required until awards are determined, including it in the application will speed up dispersal of funds.
- Applications and submitter details can be [submitted on InfoReady](#).

Grant Requirements. All grant proposals must follow proposal criteria (see below), serve Indigenous or rural communities in Wyoming, and address building community resilience to changes in climate.

Grant Goals. Goals are to: **1)** build *resilience* of underserved communities, enabling people, communities, institutions, and ecosystems to be prepared for, withstand, and emerge stronger from shocks and chronic stresses; **2)** catalyze *local and regional adaptation and innovation* that has the

capacity to inspire communities across the state; **3)** leverage the *resources of Western Water Assessment* and build relationships that have the potential to last beyond the proposal duration; and **4)** meet *locally-defined and relevant needs* of community members, organizations or institutions.

Anticipated Deliverables: **1)** short (2-3 pg) summary report, **2)** ongoing conversations with Western Water Assessment contact, **3)** outreach/engagement materials.

Proposal Criteria

Proposals should be **no more than five pages** of single-spaced text in 11pt font, not including the cover page, budget, and budget justification. Each should include:

Cover Page (*not included in page count*): The cover page should include the title, proposer's names, sponsoring organization, contact information, Unique Entity Identifier number (generated with the [System for Award Management](#) registration), project partners, appropriate Western Water Assessment service subcategory, and requested funds for the 2-year period (not to exceed \$30,000).

Background and Rational (*1 page*): This section will describe why this project is needed, the climate challenge your project will address, and who it will serve, and what you hope to accomplish during the project duration. Make sure to address how this project will build community resilience to climate change.

Project Plan (*1-2 pages*): This section will describe what you plan to do as part of the project. Define the objectives and outcomes you hope to accomplish during the project and how you will accomplish them over the two-year grant period. Discuss project feasibility, including existing support (resources, networks, and existing efforts), and project partners/collaborators, including short biographies about relevant experience and expertise.

Collaboration and Communication Plan (*0.5-1 page*): In this section you should describe how your project would like to work with Western Water Assessment and how you will leverage their resources (see [WWA service sub-categories](#)). Each proposal should indicate at least one service sub-category that could serve the project. In this section you should also describe what type of public outreach materials you plan to develop (see information below in grant requirements).

Budget and Justification (*not included in page count*) – Grantees may ask for any monetary amount up to \$30,000 (USD) for 2-year projects. Budgets should be simple, outlining expenses in a table format. Budgets can cover direct and indirect costs, with indirect costs not exceeding 20%. Funds may be used to support salaries and fringe benefits, stipends for community participation, travel, and costs associated with hosting meetings (i.e. facilities, supplies, refreshments). Include a budget justification narrative that clearly describes why each expense is necessary.

Grant Requirements

- **Meetings with Western Water Assessment team.** We will have three meetings with our team during the course of the project.
- **Summary report.** A short 2-3 page summary report will be due at the end of the project duration (June 2025). This report should express progress towards project objectives, lessons learned, and challenges faced in implementation.
- **Public Outreach materials.** We would like each grantee to develop a public facing deliverable to communicate what the project has accomplished with grant funding to a general audience. This could be a video, podcast, webinar, factsheet, or other public facing communication deliverable.