Tribal Case Study: Leveraging Funding

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**TAS Authority**
No WQS approved yet

**LAND BASE:**
- 13,000 acres
  - Valley Floor/Village Area ~ 5 square miles
- Population ~ 1,300

**WATER RESOURCES:**
- 28 stream miles
- Mostly ephemeral
- San Luis Rey River

**note: aerial taken during a flood year**
Federal Sources – USEPA
Water Related Programs

Types of Projects Funded

- Conduct water quality sampling
- Develop baseline WQ data
- Develop WQ database
- Inventory tribal waters / impairments
- Related water studies
- Develop TAS applications
- Develop Tribal WQS (or federally approved WQS)
- Develop WQS related permit protocols, templates, forms, etc.
- Integrate WQS protocols into tribal codes and ordinances
- Develop Wetland WQS
- Install stream gages
Federal Sources – USEPA

You can combine many of these grants into a **PPG – Performance Partnership Grant**

**Benefits of a PPG**

Ultimately, the benefits of a PPG outweigh the extra financial tracking challenges.

- **Flexibility**
  - Provides flexibility to move $s around BETWEEN GRANTS
  - BETWEEN YEARS
  - (even BETWEEN CATEGORIES)
  - Easy to add in new EPA grants as you get them
  - Increases tribal control over your environmental program

- **Streamlines Reporting**
  - Fewer Grant Financial Reports
  - 1 quarterly report combines all grants under PPG
  - 1 grant application submission under Grants.gov

- **Lowers Match**
  - Rolling your grants into a PPG reduces the match to 5%

**PPG’s do require more robust financial tracking & more communication with project officers**
Water quality = linked to quantity and water rights
(eg) hydrographic survey reports
(eg) PIA studies – practically irrigable acreage
(eg) determine SW/GW supplies

Federal Sources – BIA
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Water Resource Programs

Water Management, Planning, Pre-Development Program

Water Rights Negotiation / Litigation Program

Very useful & widest applicability
(eg) manage, conserve wtr resources
(eg) inventory/categorize wtr resources
(eg) SW/GW assmnts; wtr mngmt.
(eg) monitoring; modeling; gauging

https://www.bia.gov/bia/ots/dwp/branch-water-resources
Federal Sources – BIA
Natural Resource Program & Internships

- Training & Internship Opportunity
- Open to Native American HS grads (ages 18-34)
- Teaches water resources & technical / practical skills
- Trains interns for your program

Natural Resource Program:
- Fisheries Hatchery Operations
- Tribal Mgmt / Dvlpmnt
- Nat Res Damage Assessment
- Rights Protection Program

Water Resources Technician Training:

https://www.bia.gov/bia/ots/division-natural-resources/branch-fish-wildlife-recreation
Federal Sources – BOR [Bureau of Reclamation] 
WaterSMART Programs

WaterSMART (Sustain & Manage America’s Resources for Tomorrow) Program – plan / implement actions to increase water supply through investments to modernize infrastructure. 
https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/

- Modeling, forecasting tools
- Hydrologic data platforms
- New data sets

Applied Science Grants

- Watershed restoration planning
- Watershed group development
- Some water sampling/planning

Cooperative Watershed Management Program

Other programs include = Baseline Assessments; Basin Studies, & many others...
Federal Sources – BOR
Other Programs

The programs below might be helpful if you need to find/fill in data gaps, or if you can incorporate a WQS-related component within a larger project.

https://www.usbr.gov/main/water/

BOR Water Operations
- Data / resources
- RISE (Reclamation Information Sharing Environment)

Water Conservation Field Services Program
- Focus on water conservation planning
- BOR will provide technical assistance
State Funding & Other Pots of Money

**PROS**
- Use federal $ as in-kind
- Tribes get priority in funding (?)

**CONS**
- Tribes not always eligible
- CEQA requirements

**Consider This**
- Partner w/ nonprofits
- Try to fit in with larger project

**CA Department of Fish & Wildlife**
- Partnered with a watershed council (main grantee) on a large water conservation project
  - water harvesting installations (e.g. LTL, rain gardens, rain cisterns)
  - agricultural irrigation efficiency pilot (weather station, soil moisture sensors)

**DWR – Department of Water Resources**
- SGMA-related projects (Sustainable Groundwater Management Act)

**Prop Funding**
- State Environmental Departments (eg – CalEPA)
- Environmental Justice Grants
- County/City Projects (local)
Partnerships: Nonprofits & Academia

**PROS**
- More resources
- Technical expertise

**CONS**
- Usually need to share your data

**Consider This**
- Mutually beneficial
- Be clear about your needs

**Academia**
- Increases technical expertise / sampling reach
- Student projects

**Nonprofits / Foundations**
- Partner w/other nonprofits as part of larger grant-funded projects/plans
- Tribal participants makes a grant more competitive
- Partners can ensure more resources / data / upper watershed information
  - (eg) local watershed council
Tribal Resources
Matching/In-Kind Funds & Other Ideas...

**Tribal Labor**
- GIS staff
- Inventory
- Mapping
- Database
- Outreach
- Maintenance staff
  - On-the-ground work
  - Stream gage installation
- Environmental staff
  - Writing grants
  - Sampling assistance

**Tribal Equipment**
- Tribal drone to inventory waters
- Tribal water lab equipment
  - Share meters, reagents, etc.

**State Funds**
- Use as a match for federal grants
- Nonprofit / Foundation
  - Good source of supplemental funds

- Partner w/other tribes/academia to share equipment/lab
- Break up a large plan/project into smaller tasks & use multiple grants
- Overlap water quality monitoring with other environmental / drinking water programs
- Use tribal funds to pull water quality data
- Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) Funds
Questions?

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