



Regional Water Planning Organization

COG Annual Meeting

Wednesday, August 7, 2024

Small Systems Support Presentation

Regional Water Planning Organization



Program focus on water regionalization, organizational support, projecteering, developing funding strategies, and other programming support



Regional program to coordinate with state agencies and organizations to provide in-depth technical assistance

NM Environment Department Bureaus
Rural Communities Assistance Corporation
Southwest Environmental Finance Center



Project Development
Small Systems Support

Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan
Training and Funding Opportunities
Water Commons
Rural Water Summit



Function 1: Long-Range Planning & Implementation

1.1 Long-Range Planning & Implementation

- Long-range planning and coordination
 - Update regional water plan
 - Coordinating with Office of the State Engineer with ISC Public Forums
 - Local Plan Updates
 - Cibola County Drainage Master Plan

1.2 Roundtables and Special Meetings

1.3 Implementation



Function 2: Data & Mapping

2.1 Data Collection & Management

- Socio-economic data
 - Assisted NM Rural Water Association to update White Cliffs MDWUA Low- to Moderate Income Survey
 - Collected census data for all small systems
 - Water system data
 - Developing data management system
 - Mapping
 - Working on coordinating with SWEFC to map small systems for Asset Management Plans
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Function 3: Project Development & Monitoring

3.1 Projecteering & Project Development

- Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan (ICIP)
 - ❑ Assisted small systems with updates and submissions, except for Thoreau WSD
 - Identify emergency projects
 - ❑ Assisted White Cliffs MDWUA to secure NMED Rural Infrastructure Funding (\$60K)
 - ❑ San Rafael WSD had emergencies that NMRWA assisted with
 - RWPO priority projects list
 - ❑ Developing regional water/wastewater projects master list
 - Projecteering
 - ❑ Continue to assist small systems with identifying immediate project priorities and looking at available funding opportunities
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Function 3: Project Development & Monitoring

3.2 Project Funding Opportunities

- Application assistance
 - Water Trust Board: Assisted McKinley CO, City of Gallup, Ramah Water & Sanitation District with funding applications
 - Community Development Block Grant: Assisted McKinley CO
 - NMFA Planning Grant: Assisted Gameraco WSD
 - Legislative support
 - COG organized and facilitated legislative forums for McKinley and Cibola Counties
 - Assisted small systems and Navajo Chapters with capital outlay requests and reauthorizations
 - Assisted small systems with bond questionnaires
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Function 4: Small Systems Support

4.1 Organizational Support

- Continued coordination with NMED/RCAC/SWEFC to help Bluewater WSD
- Continued coordination with NMED/RCAC/SWEFC to help San Rafael WSD
- Outreach to San Juan County small systems

4.2 State Programs Coordination

- Continued coordination with RCAC, NMED Bureaus and SWEFC

4.3 Water Regionalization

- Administered CDBG Planning Grant for Allison PER; NWNMUA potential member
 - Providing support to Northwest New Mexico Utility Authority
 - Delivered presentation to San Juan Water Commission
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Function 5: General RWPO Water Commons

5.1 Water Commons Meetings

- ❑ Held six (6) regional water commons meetings virtually
 - ❑ Presentations on ICIP, projecteering, developing funding strategies, overview of funding programs and requirements, training opportunities
- ❑ Rural Water Summit

5.2 RWPO Website

- ❑ Re-organizing the Water webpage (COG website)
 - ❑ Create a one-stop shop for all-things-water
 - ❑ Eliminate multiple tabs
 - ❑ Provide information on meetings, trainings, funding
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Function 6: RWPO Administration

6.1 Regional Work Program

- Developed a two-year work program that is modeled after the Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO)
 - Developed list of June deliverables
- Quarterly & Annual Reports: completed; copies available upon request

6.2 Program Administration & Management

- Drafted Standard Operating Procedures, Public Participation Plan

6.3 Program Budget

- SB1: NMED Water Regionalization Funding (\$350K) for two years
 - Annual Budget: Coordinating with McKinley County and NMED
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Function 6: RWPO Administration

- NMED approval of programming and budgeting
- Reimbursement Packets: drawdowns submitted on a quarterly basis (based on hours committed to water programming and activities)
- Audit: COG Finance team

6.4 RWPO Partnerships & Cooperations

- Continued partnerships with NMED, RCAC and SWEFC
- Regional water planning could help rope in the Office of the State Engineer and the Interstate Stream Commission

6.5 Board Membership & Committee Roster

6.6 Professional Development

- Professional development plan completed for FY2025-2026
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thank
you!

thank
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Regional
Water
Planning
Organization