

2016 Annual Capacity Development Report to the US Environmental Protection Agency

**State Fiscal Year 2016
(July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016)**



**State of Nevada
Division of Environmental Protection**

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Contents

Background 1

A. *New Systems Program Annual Reporting Criteria* 1

B. *Existing System Strategy* 2

 Compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act 3

 Focused Technical Assistance for Significant Deficiencies 4

 Capacity Assessments 4

 Cross-Connection Control, Emergency Restoration, Operation/Maintenance, Water Conservation, & Sampling Site Plans 5

 Water System Mapping 5

 Found Systems Program Technical Assistance 6

 Compliance Assistance & Other General Technical Assistance 6

 Operator Training and Certification 7

 Integrated Source Water Protection/Wellhead Protection 8

 Sustainable Infrastructure 10

 Funding 11

Challenges 12

 Drought 12

The Future 12

ATTACHMENT 1 –Technical Assistance Provided by Nevada Rural Water Association
ATTACHMENT 2 – DWSRF/CWSRF Program Flyer

Background

The Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) implements the state's capacity development program (http://ndep.nv.gov/bffwp/dwsrf1_cap_dev.htm). The following annual capacity development implementation report describes the capacity development efforts conducted by the Office of Financial Assistance (OFA), Bureau of Safe Drinking Water (BSDW), Bureau of Water Pollution Control (BWPC), and Technical Assistance (TA) provider – Nevada Rural Water Association (NvRWA), from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016, in the administration of the Capacity Development Program.

The capacity development program is funded primarily with set-aside monies from the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF). In developing and implementing this program, the NDEP accomplished tasks in the following areas:

- ◆ New Systems Program Annual Reporting Criteria
- ◆ Existing System Strategy

A. New Systems Program Annual Reporting Criteria

1. *Has the State's legal authority (statutes/regulations) to implement the New Systems Program changed within the previous reporting year?*

Nevada's legal authority to implement the New Systems Program did not change during state fiscal year (SFY) 2016.

2. *Have there been any modifications to the State's control points?*

There have been no modifications to Nevada's control points during SFY 2016.

3. *List new systems (PWSID & Name) in the State within the past three years and their ETT scores.*

Figure 1 shows the new systems in the State within the past three years and their Enforcement Targeting Tool (ETT) scores.

ACTIVITY DATE	COUNTY	TYPE	PWS ID	PWS NAME	POP	ETT
5/26/2016	WHITE PINE	NTNC	NV0001142	MIDWAY PAN LLP	100	
5/18/2016	NYE	NTNC	NV0001145	US ECOLOGY	90	
4/28/2016	WASHOE	NC	NV0004088	ANIMAL ARK	100	
4/21/2016	LYON	NC	NV0004107	SMITH VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH	500	
4/13/2016	CHURCHILL	NC	NV0004028	OLAM SVI	98	
4/6/2016	EUREKA	NTNC	NV0001131	HALLIBURTON DUNPHY MILL	90	
3/2/2016	CHURCHILL	NC	NV0002580	HARMON JUNCTION	1,000	
2/11/2016	WHITE PINE	NC	NV0004101	LUND MEETINGHOUSE LDS	25	
1/11/2016	WASHOE	NC	NV0004103	COLD SPRINGS MEETINGHOUSE LDS	25	
1/7/2016	LANDER	NC	NV0004105	ANTELOPE VALLEY MEETINGHOUSE LDS	25	
1/7/2016	EUREKA	NC	NV0004104	EUREKA MEETINGHOUSE LDS	25	
1/7/2016	LANDER	NTNC	NV0001100	FIRE CREEK MINE	60	
1/7/2016	CLARK	NC	NV0004102	SANDY VALLEY MEETINGHOUSE LDS	25	
1/7/2016	LYON	NC	NV0004100	SILVER SPRINGS MEETINGHOUSE LDS	25	
11/30/2015	CLARK	NTNC	NV0001144	GRANDVIEW AT LAS VEGAS	5,750	
11/13/2015	CHURCHILL	C	NV0000059	CASEY ROAD MHP	30	6
9/22/2015	CLARK	NC	NV0003103	SPRING MOUNTAINS VISITOR GATEWAY	215	
8/11/2015	NYE	NC	NV0004018	PAHRUMP FIRE STATION BLM	25	5
6/24/2015	ESMERALDA	NTNC	NV0001151	MINERAL RIDGE MINE	60	
6/23/2015	PERSHING	NC	NV0001124	GOLD DIGGERS SALOON & GRUBB HOUSE	25	
5/7/2015	ELKO	NC	NV0002080	WILDHORSE RESORT	25	
2/13/2015	CLARK	NTNC	NV0001140	SLOAN ARMY RESERVE CENTER	348	
2/6/2015	CLARK	NTNC	NV0001139	TIMET CORPORATION	574	1
11/21/2014	HUMBOLDT	NTNC	NV0002198	KINGS RIVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	27	
9/9/2014	ELKO	NC	NV0004005	LDS LEE RECREATION CAMP	100	
9/1/2014	CLARK	NTNC	NV0001137	COSMOPOLITAN HOTEL	5,534	
7/15/2014	CLARK	NTNC	NV0001141	WYNN RESORTS	9,416	
7/1/2014	LYON	NC	NV0000881	GOLD CANYON CAFE	25	

Figure 1. New water systems within Nevada in the last 3 years.

B. Existing System Strategy

1. *In referencing the State’s approved existing systems strategy, which programs, tools, and/or activities were used, and how did each assist existing Public Water Systems (PWS) in acquiring and maintaining Technical, Managerial, and Financial (TMF) capacity? Discuss the target audience these activities have been directed towards.*

Helping water systems develop and maintain capacity is the backbone of the Capacity Development Strategy. Many water systems throughout Nevada have increased their

capacity through the TA program. In SFY 2016, NDEP contracted with the NvRWA to provide TA to small water systems. The TA program provides “targeted” assistance by focusing on specific issues or problem areas. Specific assistance to small water systems is shown in Attachment 1. Some of the more recent program highlights are described below.

Also in SFY 2016, BSDW worked with the new EPA Small Systems TA providers (Nevada Rural Water Association [NvRWA], Environmental Finance Center [EFC], and the Rural Community Assistance Corporation [RCAC]) to bring additional, focused training into Nevada. A major focus of the work for NvRWA and RCAC in SFY 2016 was to assist small systems to better understand and address the significant deficiencies found in their sanitary surveys.

Compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act

Our state capacity development coordinators and TA providers work closely with state enforcement staff and review the ETT list provided each quarter to identify systems that lack TMF capacity and to determine steps to help the system return to compliance in a timely manner. With funding provided through the DWSRF small systems TA contract, NvRWA focuses on systems with less than 11 threshold “points” to help keep them off the ETT list altogether. Through this process, Nevada has made significant progress in assisting water systems return to compliance.

There has been an emphasis on requesting TA for public water systems with 6 - 10 points, and the number of systems with points in this range continues to decrease. During SFY 2016 there have been between 9 and 13 systems in this range; whereas, during SFY 2015 there were between 22 and 29 systems. As shown in Figure 2 below, non-compliance continues to hit new lows throughout the year. The most recent data for July 2016 indicates the lowest value since inception of the ETT. For SFY 2016, the percent of community water systems in compliance with maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) was 90.57 percent, and the percent of population served by community water systems in compliance with MCLs was 99.64 percent.

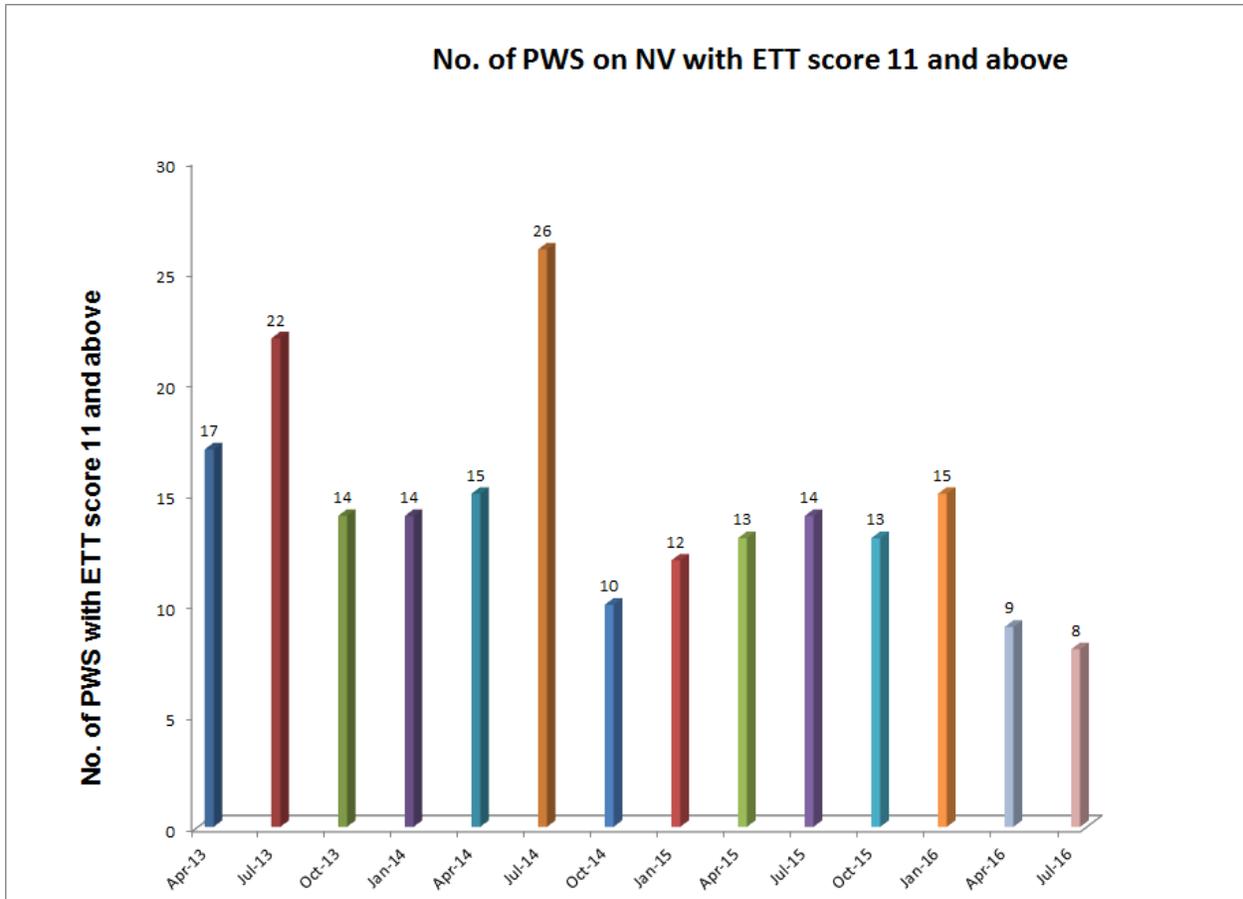


Figure 2. ETT Tracking Over Time

Focused Technical Assistance for Significant Deficiencies

In 2016, EPA provided Technical Assistance Grant money to RCAC and NvRWA for PWS assistance and training. EPA requested that Nevada identify a type of project that would help the drinking water program. It was decided that the money would be best spent on addressing significant deficiencies found on recent sanitary surveys. TA providers worked with PWSs to correct the problems, assisted in the submittal of documentation indicating the deficiency was resolved, and assisted in the submittal of any corrective action plans, if needed, for review and approval by the regulating agency.

Capacity Assessments

Capacity assessments are useful tools for water systems to measure their strengths and identify weaknesses and are also useful tools for state staff and TA providers to identify the most appropriate assistance for water systems. In addition, the DWSRF uses the capacity assessments as a tool in determining eligibility for loans.

In past years, accurate and complete maps and asset information were limited. In addition, systems lacked Operation & Maintenance, Emergency Response, Cross Connection Control and Capital Improvement plans. Nevada has made a special effort to assist systems with these common deficiencies while also continuing to provide assistance to systems for compliance

issues, distribution and treatment training, and other TMF capacity development. Nevada's current capacity assessment form is available at: http://ndep.nv.gov/bffwp/dwsrf1_cap_dev.htm.

Cross-Connection Control, Emergency Restoration, Operation/Maintenance, Water Conservation, & Sampling Site Plans

Public Drinking Water systems in Nevada are required to have site-specific plans approved by BSDW for cross-connection control, operations and maintenance, and restoration of services in an emergency. Water systems are also required to have a water conservation plan that must be updated every five years and be approved by the Nevada State Engineer's Office. In the past year NvRWA assisted twelve (12) small water systems with these plans. This was accomplished by working closely with system personnel so that they could gain working knowledge and ownership of their site-specific plans. Water loss auditing is an important component of conservation, and four (4) systems received hands-on assistance to identify leaks and training in the leak detection and water loss calculation.

Developing operation and maintenance plans and cross-connection control plans provides staff with an opportunity to systematically examine their customers' and their own facilities. Nationwide, cross-connections represent the single largest source of contamination of drinking water. The challenge is in moving from no program to a costly device installation and testing scenario, which by-and-large impacts businesses. Future efforts will continue to be multi-phased and include: updating plans, additional training for system staff and local governing boards, conducting public education, and finding community-appropriate ways to carry out implementation.

Assistance with emergency response and restoration remains an important focus for the capacity development program. Emergency restoration plans provide a framework for dealing with emergencies. The planning exercise is valuable, in itself, as participants gain greater understanding of system vulnerabilities and develop action plans for dealing with unusual conditions. A greater understanding of system responsibilities under the Public Notification Rule is one outcome of this planning process. Testing the plans by conducting tabletop exercises is another way TA providers increase water systems' preparedness.

Water System Mapping

Capacity assessments revealed that many water systems had limited mapping of their systems and assets were, largely, undocumented. Maps are critical for basic operations and maintenance, cross-connection control, water conservation, and emergency response. Systems with the highest TMF capacity have digital utility maps, on-hand, of the entire service area that include the location of each water source, treatment facility, pumping station, reservoir, pressure zone, control and isolation valve, hydrant, and meter. Some of these also include future growth areas.

In order to take advantage of available information technologies and to capture and transfer institutional knowledge and outdated paper maps to electronic media, TA is being provided to small water systems to create electronic system maps and asset databases in a GIS format.

With the evolution of GIS over the years, electronic mapping is easier and more cost effective for small systems due to the availability of free imagery and high resolution aerial photographs, increased accuracy of GPS data collectors, and ArcGIS on line. With the assistance and training from NvRWA, Nevada's small water systems collect and own their GIS data. Users can access and view their maps using any internet enabled device, and they can choose how they want to use their data. In the past year, NvRWA worked with nine (9) small water systems in an effort to assist them in identifying their assets and getting them mapped, at no charge, as a part of the DWSRF TA outreach.

Found Systems Program Technical Assistance

A drinking water system that serves more than 25 people regularly and/or has more than 15 service connections is a Public Water System (PWS). As communities and business grow many systems serving drinking water cross this minimum threshold in a given year and require permitting. Other systems have been constructed or begin operations without knowledge of the BSDW and begin operation outside of the regulatory program. Systems meeting either of these situations have been dubbed 'Found Systems,' and a special program for capacity development was implemented in SFY 2016. This program is funded through the DWSRF 10% set-aside.

The BSDW contracted with NvRWA to provide special TMF capacity assistance for these systems. The goal of the program is to determine if each Found System meets the definition of a PWS, and if so, the NvRWA will assist the system in completing the work necessary to document the PWS infrastructure, complete a sanitary survey of the water system, and provide the necessary TA for proceeding with the proper permitting and monitoring for protection of public health.

NvRWA started by providing a review and ranking of the initial list of approximately 150 Found Systems. Systems possibly meeting the definition of community water system as well as schools and churches were ranked highest on the list for review and/or assistance. Fifteen (15) systems have been identified as new Found Systems with regulatory compliance responsibility and are being assisted by NvRWA. There are approximately twenty-five (25) additional systems that appear to meet the definition of a Found System with regulatory compliance responsibility and will be assisted by NvRWA. So far, twenty (20) systems on the list did not qualify as Found Systems and were eliminated.

By the end of SFY 2016 more than half of the systems on the initial list were reviewed and/or assisted. Approximately sixty (60) additional systems were added to the list during the year. Many of these additions were mines; some of which have been or are expected to be short-lived. Currently, one of the found community water systems is in the process of receiving assistance from its County and the DWSRF, at no cost to the found system, to consolidate with the County municipal water system assuring full compliance with all drinking water standards.

Compliance Assistance & Other General Technical Assistance

NvRWA assisted twenty-two (22) system operators to understand their sanitary survey results, write corrective action plans, and work to address deficiencies. Triggering this assistance were

situations ranging from addressing an immediate coliform positive result, disinfection followed by sampling for coliform, lead and copper reporting, disinfection byproducts compliance, water quality or monitoring issues, or development of standard operating procedures. Where sanitary deficiencies or water quality/monitoring issues needed to be addressed, discussion during examination of the deficiency instilled greater understanding of the concept of sanitation for public health protection.

Assistance was provided to sixteen (16) systems to address mechanical-electrical problems, and general operations. Working closely with the staff at each system, NvRWA provided hands-on assistance or guidance with troubleshooting, made recommendations for repairs, and helped to identify parts, materials, or actions needed. By working alongside experienced TA providers, system operators gained a deeper knowledge of troubleshooting techniques and of the equipment installed in their facilities, including where to obtain supplies.

The success or failure of a water system often depends on the knowledge and experience of its board. The board, working through the operations staff, is ultimately responsible for ensuring that they distribute water that is safe to drink. Nine (9) systems received training and assistance at the board and administrative levels to enhance understanding of their roles in keeping small drinking water systems in compliance and financially viable. Training ranged from basic governing responsibilities to developing sustainable rate structures.

BSDW and NvRWA staff actively worked with fifteen (15) Community and Non-Community water systems to develop or update Site Sampling Plans for compliance with the Revised Total Coliform Rule and the related Groundwater Rule. Developing these plans requires working with system personnel to educate them on the nuances of each Rule, identify appropriate sample locations, and establish appropriate sampling schedules. Expanded capacities among these system personnel include: competency about how the rule applies to their system; actions to take in case of positive coliform or E. coli results; timely interaction with the primacy agency; knowledge of the concepts of representative sampling; and the ability to modify their plans as their system grows in the future. With the development of these site sampling plans, the small systems have an additional tool at their disposal in the event of the presence of Total Coliform or E. coli bacteria in the water system or a water related emergency, including effective public notification language and methods.

Operator Training and Certification

Nevada currently has 598 public water systems. These systems include: 214 community water systems; 134 non-transient, non-community water systems; and 250 transient, non-community water systems. Nevada requires all community and non-transient, non-community public water systems to have certified operators; a total of 348 systems. Transient non-community water systems that use surface water or groundwater under the direct influence of surface water must also be operated by a certified operator. Compliance with the operator certification requirements for all water systems statewide is at 99.7 percent.

The NvRWA is instrumental in providing training to small, rural water systems. With funding from the DWSRF TA contract, NvRWA provides operator training using remote video-

conferencing. This method of offering training has been very successful in part because it meets the needs of a very specific audience, the very small system operators (those that serve between 25-100 customers). The sessions are broadcast to sites all over the state and offer the advantage of being interactive training that is relevant and cost-effective; requiring minimal travel for the participants. In SFY 2016, NvRWA conducted 11 interactive videoconference trainings. These sessions provided a total of 33 hours of training to 553 participants representing 270 water systems. Sessions were broadcast monthly and included a wide array of topics (e.g., *Inspection, Maintenance & Repair of Tanks; Emergency Preparedness; Disinfection Equipment; Revised Total Coliform Rule*). A listing of all training sessions for SFY 2016 is included in Attachment 1.

In addition to the video-conferencing, NvRWA hosts an annual spring conference in Reno to provide training and general information to water system operators, managers, and board members. The class sessions and vendor displays at this conference give operators information on basic as well as state-of-the-art equipment and methods in the industry and focused training in distribution and treatment systems. The conference also helps to prepare operators for certification testing. The DWSRF TA contract with NvRWA also provides scholarship money to operators to assure that they are able to attend the spring conference and gain the benefits of the certification training and testing. In order to help meet local small system needs, training for Backflow Assembly Tester certification has also been funded using this method.

NDEP has also funded the NvRWA to provide both group and individual operator training at the operator's water system. In thirty-four (34) on-site sessions, NvRWA provided 146 hours of training to 111 people representing a total of 63 water systems. Training topics are selected depending on system needs, and often topics are requested by system managers. These sessions are open to any interested individual, and staff from nearby systems often participate. Specific assistance to small water systems in SFY 2016 is shown in Attachment 1. This and other training has been instrumental in helping individuals become certified, including many new operators who need to become certified and treatment operators who needed new certifications as a result of arsenic treatment being implemented at their systems.

The Nevada Water and Wastewater Operators Forum (Forum) is hosted by the BSDW and supports the protection of human health and the environment through collaboration among water and wastewater system operators and the NDEP. The Forum provides a regular mechanism for communication among the regulated community of certified operators, the American Water Works Association, NDEP, the Nevada Water Environment Association, and others. BSDW hosts a webpage for the Forum at <http://ndep.nv.gov/dwo/index.html> and supports the administrative needs of the entity.

Integrated Source Water Protection/Wellhead Protection

Groundwater is the source of drinking water for approximately 90 percent of Nevada's public water systems. Nevada created the Wellhead Protection Program in 1994 to assist public water systems and local communities in protecting drinking water supplies from contamination. Since 2009, Nevada has updated and is implementing a multi-faceted Integrated Source Water Protection Program (ISWPP) to help communities coordinate countywide efforts to protect

drinking water supply sources. It is Nevada’s belief that effective source water protection must be developed and administered by the community in conjunction with local water suppliers. A local plan should be a long-term commitment on the part of the community to protect its drinking water sources from becoming contaminated or polluted by various land use activities.

The BWPC administers the ISWPP, which provides assistance to communities in the development and implementation of Community Source Water Protection Plans (CSWPPs). Local CSWPPs are developed through a county-wide planning and coordination approach which provides a framework for all public water systems within a specific county to work together to examine shared water sources, evaluate community development impacts to those sources, and discuss how to collectively manage potential risks from a broader perspective. The ISWPP’s multi-jurisdictional approach provides opportunities for public water systems ranging from very small taverns and mobile home parks to larger districts and municipalities in order to pool resources and promote community-wide awareness and implementation of the plan. This ultimately increases opportunities for small public water systems with limited resources and/or capacity to be included under a more comprehensive CSWPP and implementation effort.

The BSDW Vulnerability Assessment and Waiver program shares information collected under those program efforts with the ISWPP to document Potential Contaminant Sources (PCS) for public water systems. The vulnerability assessment reports document PCS and rank them for potential to adversely impact a water supply source. Initial project implementation efforts were funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act set-asides and continue with a combination of state and federal resources, including the Wellhead Protection DWSRF set-aside.

The current ISWPP planning schedule and funding allocations allow every public water system in the State of Nevada an opportunity to participate in the planning process over the 12 to 15-year cycle. In addition, the program planning schedule goal is to provide assistance for up to three counties at a time; approximately two years of TA is dedicated for each county to include team building, plan development and implementation, and promoting public acceptance of the plan.

Currently, 271 of the 582 public water systems in Nevada are covered under a source water or wellhead protection plan. Of those, 245 systems are covered under plans that significantly implemented one or more management strategies. Table 1 below lists countywide plan development and implementation projects since the program was updated in 2009.

Plan Approved	Participating Counties	Implementation Activities
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2012	Douglas	Public education and outreach, GIS mapping, well abandonment, integration of Source Water Protection Plan into local master planning documents and development/planning tool development
2012	White Pine	Integration of Source Water Protection Plan into local master planning documents, public education and outreach
2012	Nye	Public education and outreach, GIS mapping, technical training, facilitate local agency coordination to facilitate source water protection activities
2014	Lyon	Local source water protection code development & updates, well abandonment
2014	Carson City	Public education and outreach, trail improvement project: Kings Canyon Trail and Waterfall, GIS mapping, multi-agency coordination to facilitate source water protection activities
2016	Churchill	Abandoned well inventory in source water protection areas, prioritization of well abandonments in source water protection areas, public education and outreach, GIS mapping, local agency coordination to facilitate source water protection activities.
Pending	Humboldt	Public education and outreach, Development of an inter-local communication process considering source water protection areas, facilitate investigations to improve understanding of nitrate management area in Grass Valley, include source water protection areas in adopted plans and policies.

Table 1. Countywide plan development and implementation projects since 2009

For more information on Nevada’s ISWPP visit our website at:

<http://ndep.nv.gov/bwpc/sourcewater.htm>

Sustainable Infrastructure

Nevada’s capacity development efforts support the EPA’s sustainable infrastructure priorities:

- ◆ Better Management
- ◆ Full Cost Pricing
- ◆ Water & Energy Efficiency
- ◆ The Watershed Approach

Nevada has recognized that good management is critical to a well-functioning utility. Nevada offers TA in the form of Board training to assist in better management. In terms of full cost pricing, Nevada's TA providers have completed a number of rate studies for water systems and presented the findings to the governing boards and the public. Being the driest state in the U.S., Nevada has long recognized the value of water. The Nevada Division of Water Resources requires that every water system submit a Water Conservation Plan that includes measures to evaluate the effectiveness of the plan. TA providers have helped a number of communities prepare and update these plans. In addition to user-based conservation measures, systems are being educated to audit and chart the amounts of water produced and sold on a monthly basis. Boards are being informed to ask for this information each month. Once usage patterns are established, changes in use will prompt managers to implement leak detection studies. NvRWA trains water system staff on electronic and acoustic leak detection equipment specifically to enhance their technical capacity by being up-to-date on detection technologies, while also locating any leaks real-time. Control of leakage in water systems not only saves water but pumping costs and energy. Although the concept of "Watershed Approach" is more focused on management of pollution sources, Nevada's Integrated Source Water Protection Program also fits into this concept.

Funding

The Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) provides low interest loans to both publicly and privately owned water utilities. As part of the DWSRF, Nevada has created a "disadvantaged community" program to address low income areas that have infrastructure deficiencies that pose a health threat. The Nevada Administrative Code defines a disadvantaged community as an area served by a public water system in which the average income per household is less than 80 percent of the median household income of the state. Starting in 2009, the federal appropriations for the DWSRF required that the state use a percentage of its grant to provide additional subsidy to eligible recipients in the form of forgiveness of principal, negative interest loans, or grants or any combination of these. Water systems that qualify for the disadvantaged program may be eligible for this additional subsidy. The additional subsidy requirements allowed resolution of many of the acute and chronic health risk needs. With the most serious health risks addressed, NDEP expanded subsidy eligibility criteria to include small system consolidation with larger systems and capital project planning documents. The subsidy program funded seven (7) projects totaling approximately \$2.4 million dollars in SFY 2016. The terms and amount of the additional subsidy are determined on a case by case basis based on the individual community's financial situation.

In SFY 2016, the Nevada DWSRF continued to reach out to communities with high interest rate debt and offer refinancing at today's lower interest rates. Projects interested in refinancing had to show that all proceeds were spent on the projects and all relevant federal crosscutting requirements were met. One (1) community was approved for \$412k in loan refinancing during SFY 2016. The savings realized through the refinancing helped to keep water rate increases to a minimum and allowed the system to start planning future debt for projects to sustain the system for the long term.

Nevada, as a whole, recognizes that the needs associated with infrastructure deficiencies are increasing while many federal and state funding resources are dwindling. Collaboration between the major funding agencies in the state was initiated in 2006. NDEP hosts a webpage for the joint funders group at <http://ndep.nv.gov/bffwp/nwwpa.htm>. This site offers a "pre-application" common to all of the funders that makes coordination and communication between the funding agencies and applicants simple and allows the funding agencies to suggest funding solutions that are most appropriate for the communities while leveraging all of the funding available in the state. Along with participating in the annual funders' roundtable session, the Nevada DWSRF again co-sponsored a booth with the USDA at the March 2016 NvRWA Conference. These activities gave water systems the opportunity for more one-on-one time to discuss their system needs and potential funding packages. The SFY 2016 DWSRF/CWSRF program flyer is included as Attachment 2.

Challenges

Drought

The summer of 2016 is revealing the effects of ongoing drought. A few communities are experiencing a drop in groundwater levels that are affecting operation of wells or flow from springs. Improving system capacity includes discussions related to predicting potential drought impacts and planning responses before the situation becomes critical.

In April 2015, Governor Brian Sandoval signed an Executive Order establishing the Nevada Drought Forum. "The Nevada Drought Forum will bring together some of the best minds in the water science, conservation, government and industry sectors to ensure that Nevada's path forward is clear. The Forum will provide an opportunity for all Nevadans – urban and rural, north and south – to come together to help address this most critical challenge."

The drought forum consists of members of local water municipalities, state government, higher education, and climate experts and is tasked with examining water policies currently in effect around the state and recommending any changes. Information and updates on the drought and activities related to the Forum are available at <http://drought.nv.gov/>.

The Future

As the capacity development program grows and evolves, lessons learned have resulted in a program that continues to improve and better serve the needs of Nevada's water systems. From the beginning of the program, Nevada has maintained that the Capacity Development Strategy is a 'living' document and will be revised as needed. Although the Strategy document, itself, has not been revised, the method of implementation of the Strategy has evolved.

While all systems are unique, the vast majority of water systems in Nevada still need particular assistance with managerial and financial principles and planning. Full cost pricing is required in order for a water system to fully function as it should. Operation and maintenance activities, such as valve exercising and line flushing, are also important to extending the life of the infrastructure and maintaining high water quality.

Proper management of infrastructure assets is critical to sustainability. Although the concept of managing assets is relatively simple, many water utilities do not understand how to design and implement an effective asset management program. Managing a utility effectively requires a proactive approach to managing infrastructure assets. The primary objective of asset management is to manage system assets in a way that meets long-term service requirements reliably and cost-effectively. Future TA efforts will include asset management training and assistance to:

- ◆ develop a record of their assets & create a tailored asset management plan
- ◆ perform all required maintenance tasks
- ◆ understand their financial situation and assure proper rates are in place to keep the water system sustainable and provide the level of service expected by customers

There are requirements and issues that will continue to challenge many Nevada water systems in the coming years. Among them are the Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rule, the Groundwater Rule, the Revised Total Coliform Rule, impacts caused by growing or declining populations, the need to conserve the State's precious water resources, and finding qualified professionals in the water industry. The focus of TA over the near term will be on the critical issues that are identified above.

2. *Based on the existing system strategy, how has the State continued to identify systems in need of capacity development assistance?*

Compliance problems, sanitary survey deficiencies, requests for TA, and capacity surveys are all used to identify systems in need of capacity development assistance.

3. *During the reporting period, if statewide PWS capacity concerns or capacity development needs (TMF) have been identified, what was the State's approach in offering and/or providing assistance?*

TA has been offered both by state staff and through third party contractors (see TA section above).

4. *If the State performed a review of implementation of the existing systems strategy during the previous year, discuss the review and how findings have been or may be addressed.*

Nevada evaluates the effectiveness of the existing systems strategy on an ongoing basis and adjusts the program when needed improvements are identified.

5. *Did the State make any modifications to the existing system strategy?*

No changes to Nevada's Capacity Strategy were made during SFY 2016; however, a thorough review of the Strategy is underway for SFY 2017.

**ATTACHMENT 1 –Technical Assistance to Small Systems
Provided by Nevada Rural Water Association
Using DWSRF 2% & 15% Set-Asides**

Technical Assistance provided by Nevada Rural Water Association (Components A & B)

The following list identifies the initiation of technical assistance. Completion of assistance may take longer than one quarter.

<u>Water System Name</u>	<u>Description of Assistance</u>
Jul-Sep 2015	
1 Big Bend Water District (NV0004082)	Assisted during boil water incident
2 Gabbs Water System (NV0000063)	Assisted operator with problem with free chlorine residuals
3 Manhattan Town Water (NV0000165)	Assisted operator with system iron issues
4 Riverside Resort (NV0001042)	Assisted during boil water incident
5 Shoshone Estates Water Co Inc (NV0005028)	Reviewed procedure for POU participation/agreement with operator
6 Wildhorse Resort (NV0002080)	Assisted owner with Sanitary Survey response requirements
7 Canyon GID (NV0005056)	Reviewed compliance with missing arsenic sample and system operations
8 Old River Water Company (NV0000303)	Assisted operator with issues with POU units used for arsenic compliance
9 Rye Patch Travel Center (NV0002222)	Assisted owner with Sanitary Survey significant deficiencies/repairs & response requirements
10 Lander Co Sewer & Water Dist 2 - Austin (NV0000006)	Assisted operator with incorporating new data points to their system webmap & provided additional training on use of ArcGID On-line
11 Calliente Public Utilities (NV0000013)	Assisted with capital improvement plan & general distribution system maintenance
12 Tolas Waterworks Co-op (NV0000055)	Assisted with leak detection & determined one positive leak
13 Lovelock Meadows Water District (NV0000161)	Assisted with troubleshooting pressure issues at a residence
14 Virgin Valley Water District (NV0000167)	Assisted operator with download of data from GPS, updated imagery for use in webmaps
15 Pioche Public Utilities (NV0000186)	Assisted training on webmaps & assisted operator with what data (e.g., system drawings) he should collect
16 Tuscarora Water System (NV0000189)	Assisted with map revisions
17 Silver Springs Mutual Water Company (NV0000223)	Reviewed plans for replacing the Deodar Well & provided information on drilling & sampling
18 Topaz Ranch Estates GID (NV0000239)	Attended Board Meeting & made arrangements for necessary Board trainings
19 West Wendover Water System (NV0000246)	Assisted operator with data collection (e.g., valves) & processing for use in webmap
20 Yerington City of (NV0000255)	Provided operator hands-on training with ArcGID webmaps
21 Schurz Elementary School (NV0000897)	Provided information on training necessary for treatment certification
22 Laker Plaza Inc (NV0000942)	Assisted with minor deficiencies found on Sanitary Survey
23 Sage Valley MHP (NV0002023)	Assisted operator with repair to chlorinator
24 Rye Patch Travel Center (NV0002222)	Reviewed necessary repairs to fire system & back-up generator with operator
25 Dressler Park (NV0002593)	Observed water & irrigation systems & made recommendations on installing vacuum breakers on freeze faucets that are tied into the drinking water system
26 Schurz Elementary School (NV0000897)	Training: Small System Compliance (7 people, 3 systems, 5 hours)
27 Ely Municipal Water Department (NV0000036)	Assisted with EPR & CCCP
28 Fallon Livestock Exchange (NV0002594)	Reviewed sanitary survey & CCCP. Recommended RP assembly device.
29 Fireside Inn (NV0002170)	Reviewed site & provided instruction on monitoring/sampling
30 Hollywood Skate (NV0002586)	Reviewed sanitary survey & correspondence with BSDW. Started corrective action list & provided training in sampling procedures.
31 Ironwood Equestrian Center	Reviewed system conditions & operation. Assisted with troubleshooting of hard-cycling of booster pumps & system pressure loss.
32 Old River Water Company (NV00000303)	Assisted system with POU maintenance plan & schedule
33 Canyon GID (NV0005056)	Provided direction with weak solution of NAOCl at WTP01 & Cla-Val control valve repair
34 Rye Patch Travel Center (NV0002222)	Reviewed 24-hour repeat sampling procedures. Also assisted with manual starting procedures for well pump.
35 Silver Springs Mutual Water Company (NV0000223)	Observed fire hydrant repairs & provided direction with HMI problems due to sunlight exposure on panels
36 Gardnerville Ranchos GID (NV0000066)	Training: D1/D2 (4 people, 2 systems, 4 hours)
37 Silver Springs Mutual Water Company (NV0000223)	Training: Fire hydrants, flushing procedures, & customer service (1 person, 1 system, 3.5 hours)
38 Topaz Ranch Estates GID (NV0000239)	Training: Board training (4 members, 1 system, 0.45 hour)
39 Buckboard General Store (NV0000369)	Assisted with the TCRSSP
40 CG Bar (NV0002128)	Assisted with the TCRSSP
41 Gas Store West (NV0002587)	Assisted with the TCRSSP
42 HeyDay Inn (NV0004037)	Assisted with the TCRSSP
43 Inlay Water System (NV0000226)	Provided direction with system's 2015 water quality sampling requirements
44 Indian Springs Water Co Inc (NV0000082)	Provided system with overview of process for consolidating Creech AFB system with Indian Springs
45 Riverside Resort (NV0001042)	Assisted with O&M update
46 Ruby Lake Resort (NV0000904)	Observed backflow device during system inspection an provided information on CCCP

Technical Assistance provided by Nevada Rural Water Association (Components A & B)

The following list identifies the initiation of technical assistance. Completion of assistance may take longer than one quarter.

	<u>Water System Name</u>	<u>Description of Assistance</u>
Jul-Sep 2015		
36	Rye Patch Travel Center (NV00002222) Stage Stop Cafe (NV00002178)	Assisted with update & instruction on TCRSSP Reviewed TCRSSP with system to be sure is complies with new requirements
39	Topaz Ranch Estates GID (NV00002398) Wildes Manor (NV00000958)	Assisted operator with obtaining previous lead & copper results Assisted new park manager with compliance issues (arsenic pou, TC sampling, etc)
40	Yerington City of (NV00000255) Lanhoritan Dam State Park (NV00002028)	Reviewed plans & schedule for rebuilding Mason Valley regulator station with operator Assisted operator with leak detection & system troubleshooting
41	McGill Water & Sewer District (NV0000163)	Training: ArcGIS On-line (2 people, 1 system, 2 hours)
42	Moapa Valley Water District (NV0000180)	Assisted operator with ArcMap 10.3 installation & file recovery & provided new image mosaic
43	Silver Springs Mutual Water Company (NV00002223) Tonopah Public Utilities (NV0000237) Tuscarora Water System (NV0000188) Virgin Valley Water District (NV0000167)	Reviewed Board training materials & rate setting with manager Reviewed duties & assignments with utilities manager & staff to assist with transition when Town Manager departs Provided printed system maps
	Gardnerville Ranchos GID (NV0000066) Gardnerville Ranchos GID (NV0000066) Gardnerville Ranchos GID (NV0000066) Gardnerville Ranchos GID (NV0000066)	Provided new image mosaic for the ArcGIS On-line system Training: D1/D2 (4 people, 2 systems, 4.5 hours) Training: D1/D2 (4 people, 2 systems, 4 hours) Training: D1/D2 (7 people, 4 systems, 4 hours) Training: D1/D2 (7 people, 3 systems, 4 hours) Training: D1/D2 (3 people, 2 systems, 4 hours) Training: D1/D2 (4 people, 2 systems, 4 hours)
	Silver Springs Mutual Water Company (NV00002223) Silver Springs Mutual Water Company (NV0000223) Silver Springs Mutual Water Company (NV0000223) Silver Springs Mutual Water Company (NV0000223) Silver Springs Mutual Water Company (NV0000223)	Training: Basic Operator Math (1 person, 1 system, 4 hours) Training: Board training (7 members, 1 system, 4.5 hours) Training: D1/D2 (4 people, 2 systems, 4 hours) Training: Board training (5 members, 1 system, 1 hour)
Oct-Dec 2015		
44	Cherry Creek Water District (NV00002165)	Assisted with TCRSSP
45	Riverside Resort (NV0001042) Rosies Place (NV0000951) Dressler Park (NV0002593)	Assisted with responses to recent sanitary survey Assisted with system inspection after TC positive sample, also assisted with TCRSSP & boil water notice Assisted with seasonal start up/shut down plans
46	Humboldt Conservation Camp NDOC (NV00005069)	Assisted with nitrate POU operations
47	Turn 3 RV Park & Store (NV0003072)	Assisted with TCRSSP
48	Valmy Station (NV0002112) McGill Water & Sewer District (NV0000163) Old River Water Company (NV0000303)	Assisted with O&M, ERP, CCCP, & reviewed lead & copper sample site plan with operator Assisted system with GIS attribute tables
	Plodie Public Utilities (NV0000186) Canyon GID (NV00005066) McGill Water & Sewer District (NV0000163) Gardnerville Ranchos GID (NV0000066)	Assisted system with attribute data collection for ArcGIS On-line Assisted with data editing and attribute tables for upload to ArcGIS Online Assisted operator with system troubleshooting & repair of 2-in & 4-in Cla-Vals Training: Board training (5 members, 1 system, 4.5 hours) Training: D1/D2 (8 people, 5 systems, 4 hours)
49	Stagecoach GID (NV0000224) Valmy Station (NV0002112) Yerington City of (NV0000255) Riverside Resort (NV0001042)	Assisted operator in repair of 6-in Waits control valve Training: Basic Operator (1 person, 1 system, 1.5 hours) Assisted operator in repair of 6-in Cla-Val & associated CRD pilots Assisted with determining extents of pressure zones
	Shoshone Estates Water Co Inc (NV00005028)	Reviewed sanitary survey & deficiencies found with new operator. Provided overview of process to come into compliance with the arsenic rule using POU devices.
50	Latin Farms (NV00008938)	Assisted with O&M update, ERP & CCCP
51	Riverbelle Properties LLC MHP (NV0000244)	Assisted with O&M, ERP, CCCP, & TCRSSP
52	Wellington Station Resort (NV0000243) Lovelock Meadows Water District (NV0000161)	Reviewed sanitary survey with maintenance worker & discussed solutions for cross-connection between potable & irrigation systems Assisted operator in using leak detection equipment to identify leak in system

Technical Assistance provided by Nevada Rural Water Association (Components A & B)

The following list identifies the initiation of technical assistance. Completion of assistance may take longer than one quarter.

	<u>Water System Name</u>	<u>Description of Assistance</u>
Oct-Dec 2015		
	Old River Water Company (NV00003003)	Assisted system with ArcGIS online & webmaps creation
	Old River Water Company (NV00003003)	Assisted operator in using leak detection equipment to survey system & also assisted with source meter replacement
	Caliente Public Utilities (NV0000013)	Training: Board training (9 people, 1 system, 3 hours)
53	Old Forty West Motel (NV0000797)	Assisted with shock chlorination of system after TC+ & installation of new chlorine pump
	Riverside Resort (NV0001042)	Assisted with pressure zone delineation for site sampling plans
	Shoshone Estates Water Co Inc (NV0005028)	Assisted operator & Board with review of arsenic mitigation options, sustainable rate structures, & policies/procedures
	Old Forty West Motel (NV0000797)	Assisted with TCRSSP
	Stagecoach GID (NV0000224)	Assisted with sanitary survey corrective action plan, TCRSSP, CCCP, ERP, & O&M plans
54	Town of Minden (NV0000168)	Assisted the operations crew with chlorination system issues
	Old Forty West Motel (NV0000797)	Training: Sampling procedures for total coliform & secondary IOCs (1 person, 1 system, 4.5 hours)
	Wellington Station Resort (NV0000243)	Assisted with sanitary survey corrective action plan & TCRSSP
Jan-Mar 2016		
	Riverbelle Properties LLC MHP (NV0000244)	Assisted owner with review of temporary water service from Verdi Meadows & old well
	Stagecoach Market (NV0004040)	Assisted with TCRSSP
55	Beatty Water & Sanitation District (NV0000009)	Training: Basic Operator (1 person, 1 system, 7.5 hours)
56	Beatty Water & Sanitation District (NV0000009)	Training: D1/T1 (6 people, 3 systems, 3 hours)
57	Hawthorne Utilities (NV0000073)	Training: D3 (2 people, 1 system, 4 hours)
	Tonopah Public Utilities (NV0000237)	Assisted with TCRSSP, CCCP, & O&M plans
	Fireside Inn (NV0002170)	Training: D1 (1 person, 1 system, 4 hours)
	Beatty Water & Sanitation District (NV0000009)	Training: D3/4 (3 people, 1 system, 4.5 hours)
58	Edgewood Water Company (NV0000235)	Training: D3/4 (3 people, 1 system, 5 hours)
	Edgewood Water Company (NV0000235)	Training: D3/4 (3 people, 1 system, 6 hours)
	Edgewood Water Company (NV0000235)	Training: D3/4 (4 people, 2 systems, 4.5 hours)
	McGill Water & Sewer District (NV0000163)	Training: Basic Operator Math (2 people, 1 system, 8 hours)
	Town of Minden (NV0000168)	Training: D1/D2 (7 people, 5 systems, 4.5 hours)
	Town of Minden (NV0000168)	Training: D1/D2 (5 people, 3 systems, 4.5 hours)
	Town of Minden (NV0000168)	Training: D1/D2 (4 people, 3 systems, 4.5 hours)
	Town of Minden (NV0000168)	Training: D1/D2 (4 people, 2 systems, 4.5 hours)
	Fireside Inn (NV0002170)	Assisted with review of probable cause of positive bac-t sample & disinfection procedures
59	Beaver Dam State Park (NV00002120)	Assisted with seasonal start up/shut down plans
60	Dutchman Acres (NV0000809)	Assisted with plans for well-to-waste provisions for back-up well & disinfection procedures
	Humboldt Conservation Camp NDOC (NV0005069)	Assisted with sampling schedule
	Ironwood Equestrian Center	Assisted 'found' system with ER, CCCP, & O&M plans
61	LDS Lemmon Valley	Assisted 'found' system with ER, CCCP, & O&M plans
62	Steamboat Springs Waterworks Inc (NV0000282)	Provided templates for GDP deflator rate increase
	Dutchman Acres (NV0000809)	Provided system map requested by PUC
	Lander Co Sewer & Water Dist 2 - Austin (NV0000006)	Prepared water system map in Google Earth format for the Bureau of Safe Drinking Water
	Edgewood Water Company (NV0000235)	Training: D3/4 (3 people, 1 system, 4 hours)
	Silver Springs Mutual Water Company (NV0000223)	Training: D1/D2 (1 person, 1 system, 1 hour)
	Silver Springs Mutual Water Company (NV0000223)	Training: D1/D2 (1 person, 1 system, 4.5 hours)
Apr-Jun 2016		
	Caliente Public Utilities (NV0000013)	Advised City on funding options for capital projects
63	Air Base Inn (NV0000703)	Assisted with ER & O&M plans
64	Panaca Farmstead Water Association (NV0000185)	Assisted system with RTRC Level 1 Assessment

Technical Assistance provided by Nevada Rural Water Association (Components A & B)

The following list identifies the initiation of technical assistance. Completion of assistance may take longer than one quarter.

<u>Water System Name</u>	<u>Description of Assistance</u>
Apr-Jun 2016	
65 Ploche Public Utilities Castleton (NV0000187)	Reviewed ownership of Castleton system with Ploche Utilities personnel
66 NV Copper Pumpkin Hollow	Training: D1 (2 people, 1 system, 8 hours)
67 Trout Canyon Land & Water Users Assoc (NV0004060)	Training: Board training (2 people, 1 system, 4 hours)
Trout Canyon Land & Water Users Assoc (NV0004060)	Training: Board training - Record Keeping (1 person, 1 system, 2 hours)
Yerington City of (NV0000255)	Training: D1/D2 (1 person, 1 system, 5 hours)
Yerington City of (NV0000255)	Training: D1/D2 (1 person, 1 system, 2 hours)
Yerington City of (NV0000255)	Training: D1/D2 (1 person, 1 system, 2 hours)
68 Alamo Sewer & Water GID (NV0000005)	Review of SRF funding requirements for new loans & refinanced loans
69 Blue Diamond Saloon (NV0000323)	Reviewed regulatory deficiencies with system personnel
70 Blue Diamond Travel Center (NV0000955)	Reviewed regulatory deficiencies with system personnel
71 Brandos Sports Bar (NV0000321)	Provided information to system personnel on services from NVRWA & project funding sources
72 Com Creek Field Station FWS (NV0001024)	Reviewed sanitary survey deficiencies & corrective actions with system personnel
73 Desert Paradise MHP (NV0000149)	Reviewed operations, system deficiencies & corrective actions with system personnel

General Training provided by Nevada Rural Water Association (Component C)

Course Title	Date	Contact Hours	Number of Participants	Number of Systems	Locations
<i>Emergencies Can Happen: Are You Ready?</i>	7/17/2015	3.00	42	18	Videconferrence to multiple locations
<i>Meter Training Course</i>	8/14/2015	3.00	46	18	Videconferrence to multiple locations
<i>Inspection, Maintenance, & Repair of Tanks</i>	9/18/2015	1.50	27	16	Videconferrence to multiple locations
<i>Application of Equipment for Disinfection of Potable Water</i>	10/16/2015	3.00	40	26	Videconferrence to multiple locations
<i>pH Testing, Field Testing, Instrument Analysis</i>	11/13/2015	3.00	37	23	Videconferrence to multiple locations
<i>Selection, Operation, & Maintenance of Valves</i>	12/11/2015	3.00	52	31	Videconferrence to multiple locations
<i>Metering 101: Large Meters</i>	1/15/2016	3.00	35	16	Videconferrence to multiple locations
<i>Revised Total Coliform Rule</i>	2/12/2016	3.00	125	61	Videconferrence to multiple locations
<i>Water Quality Sampling</i>	4/22/2016	3.00	73	31	Videconferrence to multiple locations
<i>Operator Certification Exam Review</i>	5/20/2016	3.00	54	24	Videconferrence to multiple locations
<i>The Health Benefits of Fluoridation</i>	6/17/2016	3.00	22	6	Videconferrence to multiple locations

ATTACHMENT 2 – SFY 2016 DWSRF/CWSRF Program Flyer

What can the Office of Financial Assistance do for you?

What is the benefit of obtaining funding through the Office?

The following table illustrates the potential cost savings of obtaining a loan with the Office versus traditional financing. The Loan assumes a public entity taking a 20 year loan with a market rate of 4%.

Size of Loan	Interest Savings
2,000,000	175,034
10,000,000	608,759
50,000,000	3,043,795

Communities meeting certain requirements could qualify for principal forgiveness loans.



Searchlight new drinking water source



Mountain City pond rehabilitation

What cannot be funded by the Office?

- Construct or rehabilitate a dam
- Purchase water rights
- Construct or rehabilitate a reservoir except finished water reservoirs or those that are part of a treatment process
- Monitoring costs and laboratory fees
- Operating and Maintenance costs
- Projects mainly for fire protection
- Projects solely for future growth (DW only)
- Refinancing loans for private systems
- Projects for systems that fail to meet financial, managerial, and technical capacity.

Want more information?

Drinking Water Website:

<http://ndep.nv.gov/bffw/dwsr1.htm>

Clean Water Website:

<http://ndep.nv.gov/bffw/psr/f01.htm>

Program Manager:

Daralyn Dobson

775.687.9489

ddobson@ndep.nv.gov



NDEP

NEVADA DIVISION OF
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Office of Financial Assistance for

Drinking Water and Clean Water Project

Do you own or operate a public or private water system that needs funding to meet EPA standards, rehabilitate an aging system, or improve an existing system for efficiency and environmental changes?

For information:
775.687.9489



Minden Gardnerville Sanitation District wastewater energy co-generation enhancement



Las Vegas finished water reservoir rehabilitation

Green Infrastructure Projects

Projects that address green infrastructure, water or energy efficiency improvements or other environmentally innovative activities receive incentives in the Program.

- ◆ Greywater and Blackwater Reuse
- ◆ Wet Weather Management Systems
- ◆ Stormwater Harvesting and Reuse
- ◆ Permanent Riparian Buffers
- ◆ Green Energy that Provides Significant Energy Savings

Drinking Water systems can receive technical support at no charge to help with:

- ◆ Emergency planning
- ◆ Sanitary Survey Deficiencies
- ◆ Cross Connection Controls
- ◆ Asset Management
- ◆ Budgeting and Rate Setting
- ◆ Board and Staff Training
- ◆ Digital Mapping

What can be funded with Drinking Water funds?

- ◆ Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) exceedances and prevention of future SDWA exceedances
- ◆ Well rehabilitation and drilling
- ◆ Rehabilitation of failing systems
- ◆ Consolidation and interties to other systems
- ◆ Storage, treatment, transmission, distribution, and SCADA
- ◆ Preliminary Engineering Reports, planning and design
- ◆ Security
- ◆ Energy efficiency upgrades
- ◆ Climate change remediation

This list is not all-inclusive.

To date, Nevada has obligated \$228,258,311 in loans, benefiting 91 projects in 53 separate jurisdictions across Nevada. Contract amounts have ranged from \$20,000 to \$21.9 million. No minimum or maximum loan amount is established to obtain funding.

What can be funded with Clean Water funds?

- ◆ Clean Water Act (CWA) exceedances and prevention of future CWA exceedances
- ◆ Rehabilitation of failing systems
- ◆ Septic to sewer conversion
- ◆ Collection, interceptors, treatment, pumping stations, and SCADA
- ◆ Preliminary Engineering Reports, planning and design
- ◆ Energy efficiency upgrades
- ◆ Landfill foreclosures, stream bank restoration, and wetland flood prevention, and other nonpoint source pollution mitigation.

This list is not all-inclusive.

To date, Nevada has obligated \$441,847,089 in loans, benefiting 77 projects in 37 separate jurisdictions across Nevada. Contract amounts have ranged from \$43,005 to \$46.5 million. No minimum or maximum loan amount is established to obtain funding.