



UTAH CENTER FOR WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH
UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY
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<http://uwrl.usu.edu/research/ucwrr>

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February 28, 2022

Subject: USGS 104b Opportunity – Utah Update

Dear Colleague:

This is an update on the Utah Center for Water Resources Research USGS 104b funding opportunity. The USGS has just released the fiscal year 2022 request for proposals (<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=338369>). I sent information earlier inviting pre-proposals to be considered for inclusion in the Utah full proposal. This message serves as a reminder of this and provides additional information on dates and the procedure to be followed.

1. Utah pre-proposals are still due March 14, 2022, emailed to carri.richards@usu.edu.
2. Pre-proposals will be selected for inclusion in the Utah Center for Water Resources Research USGS 104b proposal by April 8, 2022.
3. Full proposal content for selected pre-proposals will be due to the UWRL by April 18, 2022, to allow time for integration and submission to the USGS by May 2, 2022, the deadline set in the RFP USGS just released.
4. A one-to-one non-federal to federal funding match is required.
5. Proposers should plan for 1-year projects with start and end dates of September 1, 2022, and August 30, 2023, respectively.

The USGS RFP indicates funding of \$125,000 for fiscal year 2022. We thus plan to select 4 projects with budgets of up to \$30,000 from federal funds (plus \$30,000 of matching funds) for inclusion in the Utah proposal.

For additional details see <https://uwrl.usu.edu/research/ucwrr/2022-ucwrr-104b-rfp>. Pre-proposals should include the 15 items listed under contents at <https://uwrl.usu.edu/research/ucwrr/2022-ucwrr-104b-rfp>. These have been written to closely match and be a subset of the project proposals content listed on pages 9–10 of the USGS RFP, with the intent that content from the selected pre-proposals will simply be copied into the Utah proposal. Proposers of selected pre-proposals will need to provide the additional information listed in the USGS RFP and detailed budgets and match commitments for inclusion in the Utah proposal. Please do not hesitate to contact us (carri.richards@usu.edu) if you have any questions.

Thank you,

David G. Tarboton,
Director UWRL/UCWRR



Utah Water Research Laboratory
UtahStateUniversity

Utah Center for Water Resources Research
USGS 104(b) Competitive Research Grants Program
Request for Pre-Proposals FY 2022

Deadline: **March 14, 2022, 5:00 PM**

Project Period: **9/1/2022 – 8/31/2023**

Send To:

Carri Richards
Utah Center for Water Resources Research
Utah Water Research Laboratory
Utah State University, Logan, Utah

Email: carri.richards@usu.edu

For further Information:

See the UCWRR website:
<https://uwrl.usu.edu/research/ucwrr/>
or USGS website:
<https://water.usgs.gov/wrri>

Questions:

Carri Richards: (435) 797-8040

Program Description and Objectives:

The Utah Center for Water Resources Research (UCWRR) is one of 54 federally authorized water resource institutes in the United States. It operates under the authority of the Water Resources Research Act of 1964, as amended in 1984, through the Water Resources Research Institutes Program administered by the USGS. Program objectives are as follows:

- Plan, facilitate, and conduct research to aid in the resolution of State and regional water problems
- Promote technology transfer and the dissemination and application of research results
- Provide for the training of scientists and engineers through their participation in research
- Provide for competitive grants to be awarded under the Water Resources Research Act

Eligibility:

Any faculty member or affiliate at an institution of higher education in the State of Utah can apply. Federal employees are NOT eligible as a principal investigator but may participate as a co-investigators.

Research Priorities

USGS Circular 1488 (<https://doi.org/10.3133/cir1488>), *Water Resources Research Act Program—Current Status, Development Opportunities, and Priorities for 2020–30*, lists seven focus areas for this program:

- Water Scarcity and Availability
- Water Related Hazards and Climate Variability
- Water Quality
- Water Policy, Planning, and Socioeconomics
- Ecosystem and Drainage Basin Functions
- Water Technology and Innovation
- Workforce Development and Water Literacy

Proposed projects should articulate how they align with these focus areas and the associated goals and opportunities listed in this circular with application to Utah and the western US.

Funding Information:

Pre-proposals should be for projects of 12 months duration that address water problems in the State of Utah. It is anticipated that 4 to 7 projects will be selected to submit full proposals. Requested funding amounts should not exceed \$30,000 (matching funds are required).

The funding for this grant is contingent upon congressional appropriations. Congress has authorized \$12 million for the USGS 104b program as part of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. This is an increase over prior years and could result in a total of \$200,000 to be awarded to Utah. However, the federal budget is not yet approved and the federal government is operating under a continuing resolution that would provide \$125,000 to Utah. Based on the USGS 104b proposal for this fiscal year, we plan to award 4 projects at the level of ~\$30,000 per project. Delays in funding are possible.

Matching Requirement:

This program requires applicants to match each Federal dollar provided with not less than one dollar from non-federal sources (**1:1 match**). The RFP indicates the following:

- Federal funds shall not be used to pay indirect costs
- Matching funds may contain indirect costs and non-federal salaries and benefits

The use of indirect costs and non-federal salaries and benefits to fulfill match requirements is illustrated in this [match budget example](#).

Selection Criteria:

- 30% – Scientific merit / Research approach
- 25% – Applicability to Utah’s need
- 25% – Research Impact
- 20% – Training potential / Technology transfer

Instructions:

Project pre-proposals should include:

- (1) A project description of no more than 5 pages (excluding citations & investigator qualifications)
- (2) A 1-page draft budget. Formal institutional commitment from sponsored programs is not required at the pre-proposal stage, but the budget draft should state how the 1:1 match requirement will be met.

NOTE: Projects selected for inclusion in the full UCWRR proposal to USGS will be required to submit content responsive to the [FY2022 USGS 104b request for proposals](#). This content must be submitted to the UCWRR no less than three weeks prior to the USGS deadline to allow time for us to assemble the full proposal. The FY2022 USGS 104b RFP was released on February 28, 2022, with the full proposal due May 2, 2022.

Contents:

- 1) Title. Concise but descriptive.
- 2) Project Type. Choose from the following: Research, Information Transfer, Information Management System, or Education.
- 3) Focus Categories. Choose a maximum of three focus categories from the list provided (See Attachment A below), with the most preferred focus category first.
- 4) Research Category. Choose from the following the one category that most closely applies
 - a. Water Scarcity and Availability
 - b. Water Hazards and Climate Variability
 - c. Water Quality
 - d. Water Policy, Planning, and Socioeconomics
 - e. Ecosystem and Drainage Basin Functions
 - f. Water Technology and Innovation
 - g. Workforce Development and Water Literacy
- 5) Keywords. Enter keywords of your choice descriptive of the work
- 6) Principal investigator(s). Provide name, academic rank, university, email address and phone number of the principal investigators
- 7) Abstract. Provide a brief description of the problem, methods, and objectives.
- 8) Statement of regional or State water problem. Include an explanation of the need for the project, who wants it, and why. Describe how the work proposed aligns with one or more focus areas in USGS Circular 1488 (<https://doi.org/10.3133/cir1488>), *Water Resources Research Act Program—Current Status, Development Opportunities, and Priorities for 2020–30*.
- 9) Statement of results or benefits. Specify the type of information that is to be gained and how it will be used.
- 10) Nature, scope, and objectives of the project, including a timeline of activities.

- 11) Methods, procedures, and facilities. Provide enough information to permit evaluation of the technical adequacy of the approach to satisfy the objectives.
- 12) Related research. Show by literature and communication citations the similarities and dissimilarities of the proposed project to completed or ongoing work on the same topic.
- 13) Training potential. Estimate the number of graduate and undergraduate students, by degree level, who are expected to receive training in the project.
- 14) Budget breakdown. A one-page draft budget and basic budget justification including details on meeting the 1:1 match. ([Example budget spreadsheet](#))
- 15) Investigator's qualifications. Include resume(s) of the principal investigator(s). Limit to 2 pages with no more than 15 pertinent publications.

Reporting Requirements:

At the completion of the project, recipients will be required to prepare a final report summary.

The USGS tracks project productivity such as research publications, conference proceedings, patents, student participation, training sessions, etc., and you will be required to provide this information in your project summary report and to report on publications and other outcomes that result from this project in subsequent years.

All outputs of your 104b supported research must acknowledge both the USGS and UCWRR for the 104b grant opportunity and must include the project number assigned to your research. The following additional information must be provided as a reporting requirement:

- Name, major, degree program of all students who have worked on the project
- One or more publication quality photo(s) of project-related work (and/or student performing such work)
- Electronic copies of any student thesis or dissertation, poster, or PowerPoint presentation resulting from the project
- Journal articles submitted for publication or link to publication
- Fact sheets or any other materials produced as part of the project
- A final abstract (around 250 words) summarizing major findings of the project suitable for newsletter publication
- Publications, presentations, information transfer, student support, and notable achievements and awards

ATTACHMENT A

FOCUS CATEGORIES

ACID DEPOSITION	ACD
AGRICULTURE	AG
CLIMATOLOGICAL PROCESSES	CP
CONSERVATION	COV
DROUGHT	DROU
ECOLOGY	ECL
ECONOMICS	ECON
EDUCATION	EDU
FLOODS	FL
GEOMORPHOLOGICAL PROCESSES	GEOMOR
GEOCHEMICAL PROCESSES	GEOCHE
GROUNDWATER	GW
HYDROGEOCHEMISTRY	HYDROGEO
HYDROLOGY	HYDROL
INVASIVE SPECIES	INV
IRRIGATION	IG
LAW, INSTITUTIONS, AND POLICY	LIP
MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING	M&P
METHODS	MET
MODELS	MOD
NITRATE CONTAMINATION	NC
NON POINT POLLUTION	NPP
NUTRIENTS	NU
RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCES	RAD
RECREATION	REC
SEDIMENTS	SED
SOLUTE TRANSPORT	ST
SURFACE WATER	SW
TOXIC SUBSTANCES	TS
TREATMENT	TRT
WASTEWATER	WW
WATER QUALITY	WQL
WATER QUANTITY	WQN
WATER SUPPLY	WS
WETLANDS	WET