

(Pub. L. 102-490, § 4, Oct. 24, 1992, 106 Stat. 3142.)

§ 10344. Coordination with other research

The research program established under section 10342 of this title shall be carried out in coordination with any other related Federal research efforts.

(Pub. L. 102-490, § 5, Oct. 24, 1992, 106 Stat. 3143.)

§ 10345. Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Director of the National Science Foundation, from sums otherwise authorized to be appropriated, \$2,500,000 for fiscal year 1993, for carrying out this chapter.

(Pub. L. 102-490, § 6, Oct. 24, 1992, 106 Stat. 3143.)

CHAPTER 109B—SECURE WATER

Sec.	
10361.	Findings.
10362.	Definitions.
10363.	Reclamation climate change and water program.
10364.	Water management improvement.
10365.	Hydroelectric power assessment.
10366.	Climate change and water intragovernmental panel.
10367.	Water data enhancement by United States Geological Survey.
10368.	National water availability and use assessment program.
10369.	Research agreement authority.
10370.	Effect.
10371.	Water prediction and forecasting.

§ 10361. Findings

Congress finds that—

(1) adequate and safe supplies of water are fundamental to the health, economy, security, and ecology of the United States;

(2) systematic data-gathering with respect to, and research and development of, the water resources of the United States will help ensure the continued existence of sufficient quantities of water to support—

- (A) increasing populations;
- (B) economic growth;
- (C) irrigated agriculture;
- (D) energy production; and
- (E) the protection of aquatic ecosystems;

(3) global climate change poses a significant challenge to the protection and use of the water resources of the United States due to an increased uncertainty with respect to the timing, form, and geographical distribution of precipitation, which may have a substantial effect on the supplies of water for agricultural, hydroelectric power, industrial, domestic supply, and environmental needs;

(4) although States bear the primary responsibility and authority for managing the water resources of the United States, the Federal Government should support the States, as well as regional, local, and tribal governments, by carrying out—

- (A) nationwide data collection and monitoring activities;
- (B) relevant research; and
- (C) activities to increase the efficiency of the use of water in the United States;

(5) Federal agencies that conduct water management and related activities have a responsibility—

(A) to take a lead role in assessing risks to the water resources of the United States (including risks posed by global climate change); and

(B) to develop strategies—

(i) to mitigate the potential impacts of each risk described in subparagraph (A); and

(ii) to help ensure that the long-term water resources management of the United States is sustainable and will ensure sustainable quantities of water;

(6) it is critical to continue and expand research and monitoring efforts—

(A) to improve the understanding of the variability of the water cycle; and

(B) to provide basic information necessary—

- (i) to manage and efficiently use the water resources of the United States; and
- (ii) to identify new supplies of water that are capable of being reclaimed; and

(7) the study of water use is vital—

(A) to the understanding of the impacts of human activity on water and ecological resources; and

(B) to the assessment of whether available surface and groundwater supplies will be available to meet the future needs of the United States.

(Pub. L. 111-11, title IX, §9501, Mar. 30, 2009, 123 Stat. 1329.)

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

SHORT TITLE OF 2024 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 118-174, §1, Dec. 23, 2024, 138 Stat. 2602, provided that: “This Act [amending section 10367 of this title] may be cited as the ‘Water Monitoring and Tracking Essential Resources (WATER) Data Improvement Act’.”

WATER DATA SHARING PILOT PROGRAM

Pub. L. 117-58, div. E, title II, §50213, Nov. 15, 2021, 135 Stat. 1172, provided that:

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of appropriations, the Administrator [of the Environmental Protection Agency] shall establish a competitive grant pilot program (referred to in this section as the ‘pilot program’) under which the Administrator may award grants to eligible entities under subsection (b) to establish systems that improve the sharing of information concerning water quality, water infrastructure needs, and water technology, including cybersecurity technology, between States or among counties and other units of local government within a State, which may include—

“(A) establishing a website or data hub to exchange water data, including data on water quality or water technology, including new and emerging, but proven, water technology; and

“(B) intercounty communications initiatives related to water data.

“(2) REQUIREMENTS.—

“(A) DATA SHARING.—The Internet of Water principles developed by the Nicholas Institute for Environmental Policy Solutions shall, to the extent practicable, guide any water data sharing efforts under the pilot program.

“(B) USE OF EXISTING DATA.—The recipient of a grant under the pilot program to establish a website or data hub described in paragraph (1)(A) shall, to the extent practicable, leverage existing data sharing infrastructure.

“(b) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—An entity eligible for a grant under the pilot program is—

“(1) a State, county, or other unit of local government that—

“(A) has a coastal watershed with significant pollution levels;

“(B) has a water system with significant pollution levels; or

“(C) has significant individual water infrastructure deficits; or

“(2) a regional consortium established under subsection (d).

“(c) APPLICATIONS.—To be eligible to receive a grant under the pilot program, an eligible entity under subsection (b) shall submit to the Administrator an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Administrator may require.

“(d) REGIONAL CONSORTIA.—

“(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—States may establish regional consortia in accordance with this subsection.

“(2) REQUIREMENTS.—A regional consortium established under paragraph (1) shall—

“(A) include not fewer than 2 States that have entered into a memorandum of understanding—

“(i) to exchange water data, including data on water quality; or

“(ii) to share information, protocols, and procedures with respect to projects that evaluate, demonstrate, or install new and emerging, but proven, water technology;

“(B) carry out projects—

“(i) to exchange water data, including data on water quality; or

“(ii) that evaluate, demonstrate, or install new and emerging, but proven, water technology; and

“(C) develop a regional intended use plan, in accordance with paragraph (3), to identify projects to carry out, including projects using grants received under this section.

“(3) REGIONAL INTENDED USE PLAN.—A regional intended use plan of a regional consortium established under paragraph (1)—

“(A) shall identify projects that the regional consortium intends to carry out, including projects that meet the requirements of paragraph (2)(B); and

“(B) may include—

“(i) projects included in an intended use plan of a State prepared under section 606(c) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1386(c)) within the regional consortium; and

“(ii) projects not included in an intended use plan of a State prepared under section 606(c) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1386(c)) within the regional consortium.

“(e) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act [Nov. 15, 2021], the Administrator shall submit to Congress a report that describes the implementation of the pilot program, which shall include—

“(1) a description of the use and deployment of amounts made available under the pilot program; and

“(2) an accounting of all grants awarded under the program, including a description of each grant recipient and each project funded using a grant under the pilot program.

“(f) FUNDING.—

“(1) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out the pilot program \$15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026, to remain available until expended.

“(2) REQUIREMENT.—Of the funds made available under paragraph (1), not more than 35 percent may be used to provide grants to regional consortia established under subsection (d).”

§ 10362. Definitions

In this chapter:

(1) Administrator

The term “Administrator” means the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

(2) Advisory Committee

The term “Advisory Committee” means the National Advisory Committee on Water Information established—

(A) under the Office of Management and Budget Circular 92-01; and

(B) to coordinate water data collection activities.

(3) Assessment program

The term “assessment program” means the water availability and use assessment program established by the Secretary under section 10368(a) of this title.

(4) Climate division

The term “climate division” means 1 of the 359 divisions in the United States that represents 2 or more regions located within a State that are as climatically homogeneous as possible, as determined by the Administrator.

(5) Commissioner

The term “Commissioner” means the Commissioner of Reclamation.

(6) Director

The term “Director” means the Director of the United States Geological Survey.

(7) Eligible applicant

The term “eligible applicant” means—

(A) any State, Indian tribe, irrigation district, or water district;

(B) any State, regional, or local authority, the members of which include 1 or more organizations with water or power delivery authority;

(C) any other organization with water or power delivery authority; and

(D) any nonprofit conservation organization, if—

(i) the nonprofit conservation organization is acting in partnership with and with the agreement of an entity described in subparagraph (A), (B), or (C); or

(ii) in the case of an application for a project to improve the condition of a natural feature or nature-based feature on Federal land, the entities described in subparagraph (A), (B), or (C) from the applicable service area have been notified of the project application and there is no written objection to the project.

(8) Federal Power Marketing Administration

The term “Federal Power Marketing Administration” means—

(A) the Bonneville Power Administration;

(B) the Southeastern Power Administration;

(C) the Southwestern Power Administration; and

(D) the Western Area Power Administration.

(9) Hydrologic accounting unit

The term “hydrologic accounting unit” means 1 of the 352 river basin hydrologic ac-