



DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES & WATER COMMISSION



MISSION

To responsibly manage North Dakota's water needs and risks for the people's benefit.

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) has several responsibilities on behalf of the people of North Dakota. DWR serves as the primary funding entity for critical water infrastructure; appropriates the state's water resources; and is responsible for other water-related regulatory and management functions that ensure public safety and support the long-term sustainability and beneficial use of North Dakota's water resources.

DWR FACTS

Department of Water Resources Full Time Equivalents (FTE)



Groundwater Monitoring Wells



PRESENS (Pushing REmote SENSors) Real-Time Environmental Data Loggers Have Collected Measurements



Senate Bill (SB) 2020 was the DWR budget bill for the 2023-2025 Biennium.



Available For Water Supply, Flood Protection & Other Water Projects (2023-25 Biennium)



Average Increase In Temporary Water Permit Applications Annually - Last 10 Years



WHO WE SERVE



Water Users

Citizens, businesses, and public water systems who require permits to put ND's water resources to beneficial use.



Agricultural Producers

Livestock producers and farmers who are mitigating impacts from drought, are irrigators, or benefit from hail suppression and rainfall enhancement.



Water Project Sponsors

Cities, rural and regional water systems, water boards, irrigation districts, or other political subdivisions that cost-share with DWR to develop water projects, or require permits.



General Public/Students/Teachers

Anyone interested in learning more about ND's water resources, permitting through DWR, or floodplain management.



Water-Related Data Users

Water managers, consultants, water resource professionals, surveyors, and the general public who are seeking water, land, survey, elevation, and weather-related data.



Government Officials

Federal, state, and local government agencies; Congressionals; Legislators; Tribes; and Governor's Office - who cooperate to improve water management and development.

WATER COMMISSION



Scan to view Water Commission Members

The Water Commission consists of the Governor as chairman, the Commissioner of Agriculture, and eight members representing major drainage basins who are appointed by the Governor to serve terms of six years each. The primary function of the Water Commission is to review and consider cost-share requests from project sponsors seeking financial assistance from the Department of Water Resources. Water Commission members meet on a monthly basis. The Director serves as Secretary to the Water Commission.

WHAT WE DO | DWR DIVISIONS CONTACT US



DWR DIRECTOR

Reice Haase, Director
rehaase@nd.gov | 701-328-4940

The Director is appointed by the governor, serves as a Cabinet member, provides overall leadership and decision-making, and oversees the State Engineer and DWR team members.



STATE ENGINEER

John Paczkowski, P.E., State Engineer
jpaczowski@nd.gov | 701-328-4940

ND's State Engineer is responsible for several regulatory functions and responsibilities, including allocation of the state's waters, dam safety, and drainage.



ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Chris Kadrmaz, Director
ckadrmaz@nd.gov | 701-328-1956

Accounting, general support, budget development, records management, human resources, State Water Commission meeting preparation, data/technology, and PRESENS.



ATMOSPHERIC RESOURCES

Darin Langerud, Director
dlangerud@nd.gov | 701-328-4751

Cloud Modification Program, weather research, data collection, licenses and permits, and radar operations.



PLANNING & EDUCATION

Patrick Fridgen, Director
pfridgen@nd.gov | 701-328-4964

Water Development Plan, media relations, public outreach and education, Livestock Water Supply Program, Cost-Share Program, and MR&I Program.



REGULATORY

Aaron Carranza, P.E., Director
acarranza@nd.gov | 701-328-4813

Construction and drainage permits, sovereign lands, dam safety, floodplain management, and Silver Jackets.



WATER APPROPRIATION

Andrew Nygren, Director
anygren@nd.gov | 701-328-1069

Water rights permitting, ground and surface water management, subsurface exploration, data management, and water resource investigations.



WATER DEVELOPMENT

Sindhuja S. Pillai-Grinolds, Director
spillai@nd.gov | 701-328-4954

Investigations and surveying, construction operations, Southwest Pipeline, Northwest Area Water Supply, Red River office, and Devils Lake outlet operations.

5-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

PURPOSE

DWR developed a five-year strategic plan to guide the deployment of resources toward key objectives, goals, and tactics that will remain a focus from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2027. This plan is also intended to help create awareness among the public and stakeholders about DWR priorities.

BACKGROUND

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Surveys
Completed

The North Dakota Department of Water Resources (DWR) was created in 2021 by legislative action through House Bill 1353. DWR was previously called the State Water Commission, which itself was created by legislative action in 1937 for the specific purpose of fostering and promoting water resources development throughout the state. The 2021 legislation also moved functions of the Office of the State Engineer (OSE) within the DWR, and allows the Governor to appoint a DWR Director subject to approval by the State Water Commission.

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Personal
Interviews

DWR has the authority to investigate, plan, construct, regulate, provide water appropriations, develop water-related projects, and serves as a mechanism to financially support those efforts throughout North Dakota. There are currently six divisions that make up the DWR: Administration, Atmospheric Resources, Planning and Education, Regulatory, Water Appropriation, and Water Development.

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Focus
Groups

In developing this plan, DWR commissioned a third-party vendor, Odney Inc., to engage DWR team members and stakeholders to gather input for the development of objectives, goals, tactics, and metrics.



MISSION STATEMENT

To responsibly manage North Dakota's water needs and risks for the people's benefit.



VISION STATEMENT

The Department of Water Resources will sustainably manage and develop North Dakota's water resources for the health, safety, and prosperity of its people, businesses, agriculture, energy, industry, recreation, and natural resources.



VALUES STATEMENT

The Department of Water Resources values fairness, objectivity, accountability, responsiveness, engagement, and credibility. We pledge to use professional and scientific methods to maintain the highest of standards in our delivery of services.

OBJECTIVES

The DWR Strategic Plan outlines five key overarching objectives to be accomplished with establishment of goals and tactics for each objective.



1 Effectively communicate with the public and stakeholders with a primary focus on collaboration and building partnerships.

2 Develop world-class, sustainable, and resilient water development and management practices.

3 Support beneficial use of Missouri River system water and other available water supply sources.

4 Implement innovative ideas, technology, and grow analytic capabilities to improve efficiencies in water management and development.

5 Improve the department's internal resilience and promote a positive culture.





COST-SHARE PROGRAM: DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

ABOUT

The primary purpose of the Department of Water Resources' (DWR) Cost-Share Program is to assist local project sponsors with financial support of water development projects – making them more affordable to local constituents. The decision-making body that reviews cost-share requests is the State Water Commission. The 10-member SWC consists of the Governor as chairman, the Agricultural Commissioner, and eight members appointed by the governor who represent the state's major water drainage basins. Decisions related to the Cost-Share Program are guided by the SWC's Cost-Share Policy, Procedure, and General Requirements.

FUNDING SUPPORT

North Dakota funds the majority of its water projects through the DWR. State funding that is provided through DWR primarily comes from the Resources Trust Fund (RTF). The RTF is funded with 20.5 percent of revenues from North Dakota's oil extraction tax. Funding available through the Cost-Share Program is appropriated by the North Dakota Legislature. In recent budget cycles, the Legislature has specified amounts of funding available for specific project purposes, including water supply, rural water, flood protection, general water, and state-owned projects.

LOAN OPPORTUNITIES



In 2021, the Legislature and Governor's Office worked to advance legislation intended to support and create loan opportunities for a broad spectrum of infrastructure needs. This included the creation of the Water Infrastructure Revolving Loan Fund (WIRLF), and continued support of the Infrastructure Revolving Loan Fund (IRLF).

HOW TO APPLY

Project sponsors who are seeking cost-share grants through DWR, loans from the WIRLF or IRLF, or loans through the Department of Environmental Quality-administered Drinking/Clean Water State Revolving Fund Programs must apply through North Dakota's WebGrant's portal. For additional details on how to apply, go to dwr.nd.gov, click on Project Development, and then Cost-Share Program.



COST-SHARE PERCENTAGES

DWR shares in the costs of eligible projects at different percentages, depending on project type.

40%	Recreation
45%	Rural Flood Control
50%	Snagging & Clearing
50%	Bank Stabilizations
60%	FEMA Levee Accreditation
60%	Flood Control
60%	Municipal Water Supply
60%	Dam Repairs, Removals, & Retention
75%	Irrigation
75%	Rural Water & Regionalizations
75%	Low Head Dam Roller Mitigation
80%	Emergency Dam Action Plans

CONTACT US

(701) 328-4989 or dwrcostshare@nd.gov



NORTH
Dakota | Water Resources
Be Legendary.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

On 11/15/68, the following information was received from the [redacted] regarding the [redacted] of [redacted] on [redacted] at [redacted].

The [redacted] stated that [redacted] had been [redacted] by [redacted] on [redacted] at [redacted].

[redacted] advised that [redacted] had been [redacted] by [redacted] on [redacted] at [redacted].

[redacted] further stated that [redacted] had been [redacted] by [redacted] on [redacted] at [redacted].

[redacted] concluded that [redacted] had been [redacted] by [redacted] on [redacted] at [redacted].

[redacted] advised that [redacted] had been [redacted] by [redacted] on [redacted] at [redacted].

[redacted] further stated that [redacted] had been [redacted] by [redacted] on [redacted] at [redacted].

[redacted] concluded that [redacted] had been [redacted] by [redacted] on [redacted] at [redacted].

[redacted] advised that [redacted] had been [redacted] by [redacted] on [redacted] at [redacted].

[redacted] further stated that [redacted] had been [redacted] by [redacted] on [redacted] at [redacted].



SWC PROJECT PRIORITIZATION GUIDANCE

Projects submitted during the project planning inventory process¹ that meet SWC cost-share eligibility requirements will be considered for prioritization. In the interest of strategically investing in the state's highest water development priorities, the Water Commission will give funding preference to projects designated as high or moderate priorities for the first 6 months of each budget cycle. Sponsors who are able to accept reduced SWC cost-share of 10% or more of the maximum allowable amount can be moved up one priority designation level.

ESSENTIAL PROJECTS (No Priority Ranking)

Agency operational expenses.
 An imminent water supply loss to an existing multi-user system, an immediate flood or dam related threat to human life or primary residences, or emergency response efforts.
 Existing agency debt obligations.
 SWC project mitigation.

HIGH PRIORITY PROJECTS

Federally authorized water supply or flood control projects.
 Mitigation of low head dam roller effects.
 New water supply connections between communities and rural or regional water systems that result in reduced costs through economies of scale.
 Corrects a violation of a primary drinking water standard under the Safe Drinking Water Act.
 Addresses severe or anticipated water supply shortages for domestic use in a service area or city with rapid population growth.
 Protects primary residences or businesses from flooding in population centers or involves flood-related property acquisitions.

MODERATE PRIORITY PROJECTS

Dam safety repairs and emergency action plans.
 Expansion of an existing water supply system (including to industrial water users).
 Levee system accreditations, or water retention.
 Irrigation system construction.
 New rural flood control projects.
 Bank stabilization.
 Snagging and clearing in population centers or specific critical infrastructure locations..
 Main Street Initiative related projects.

LOW PRIORITY PROJECTS

Studies, reports, analyses, surveys, models, evaluations, mapping projects, or engineering designs.¹¹
 Improvement or extraordinary maintenance of a water supply system.
 Improvement or extraordinary maintenance of rural flood control projects.
 Recreation projects.
 Individual rural and farmstead ring dike constructions.
 Replacement of existing infrastructure.
 Snagging and clearing in sparsely populated areas.

Footnotes

1. All local sponsors are encouraged to submit project financial needs during the budgeting process. Projects not submitted as part of the project information collection effort may be held until action can be taken on those that were included during budgeting, unless determined to be an emergency that directly impacts human health and safety or that are a direct result of a natural disaster.

11. May be considered as a higher priority if the related project is of higher priority.

Disclaimer

This process is meant to provide guidance for prioritizing water projects during the budgeting process that may be eligible for cost-share assistance through the Department of Water Resources. Interpretation and deviations from the process are within the discretion of the state as authorized by the State Water Commission or Legislature.

