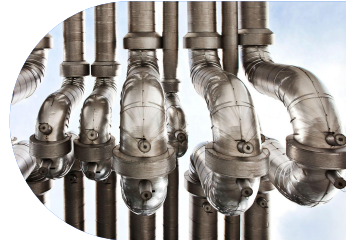


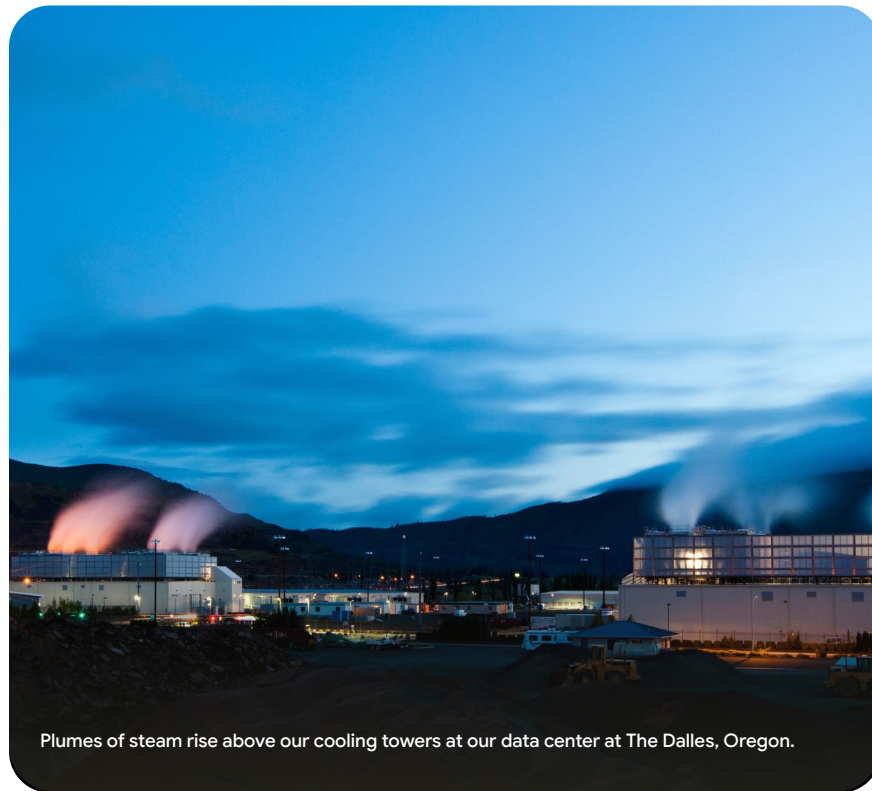
# Water Replenishment Infrastructure RFI





# Agenda

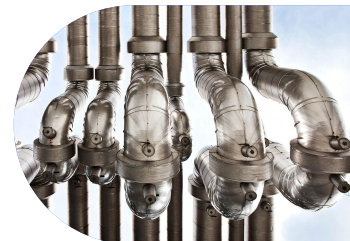
- Program Overview
- Replenishment
- VWBA Guidance
- Eligibility Criteria
- Project Categories
- Project Examples
- Timeline
- Discussion



Plumes of steam rise above our cooling towers at our data center at The Dalles, Oregon.



# Program Overview



# Water Stewardship

Google's water stewardship strategy is centered on advancing responsible water use in our operations, benefiting watersheds and communities, and supporting water security with technology.



## Replenishing water

We're taking a local approach  
to water stewardship

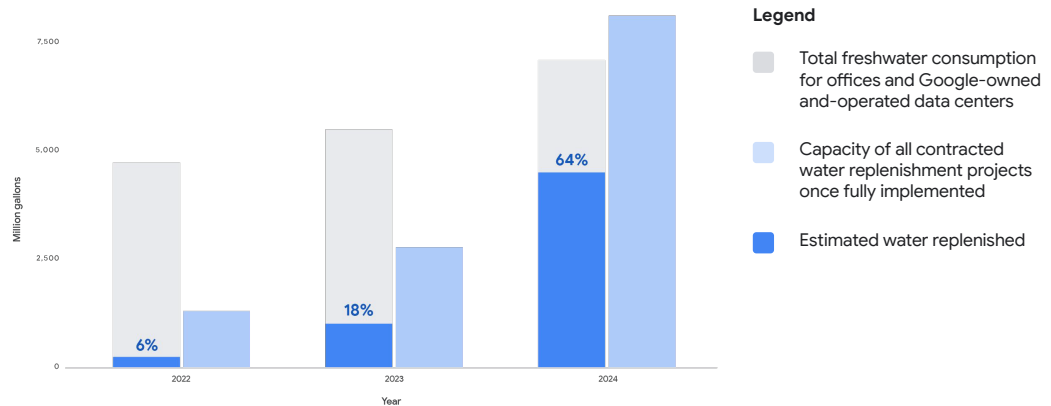
# Google's 2024 water highlights

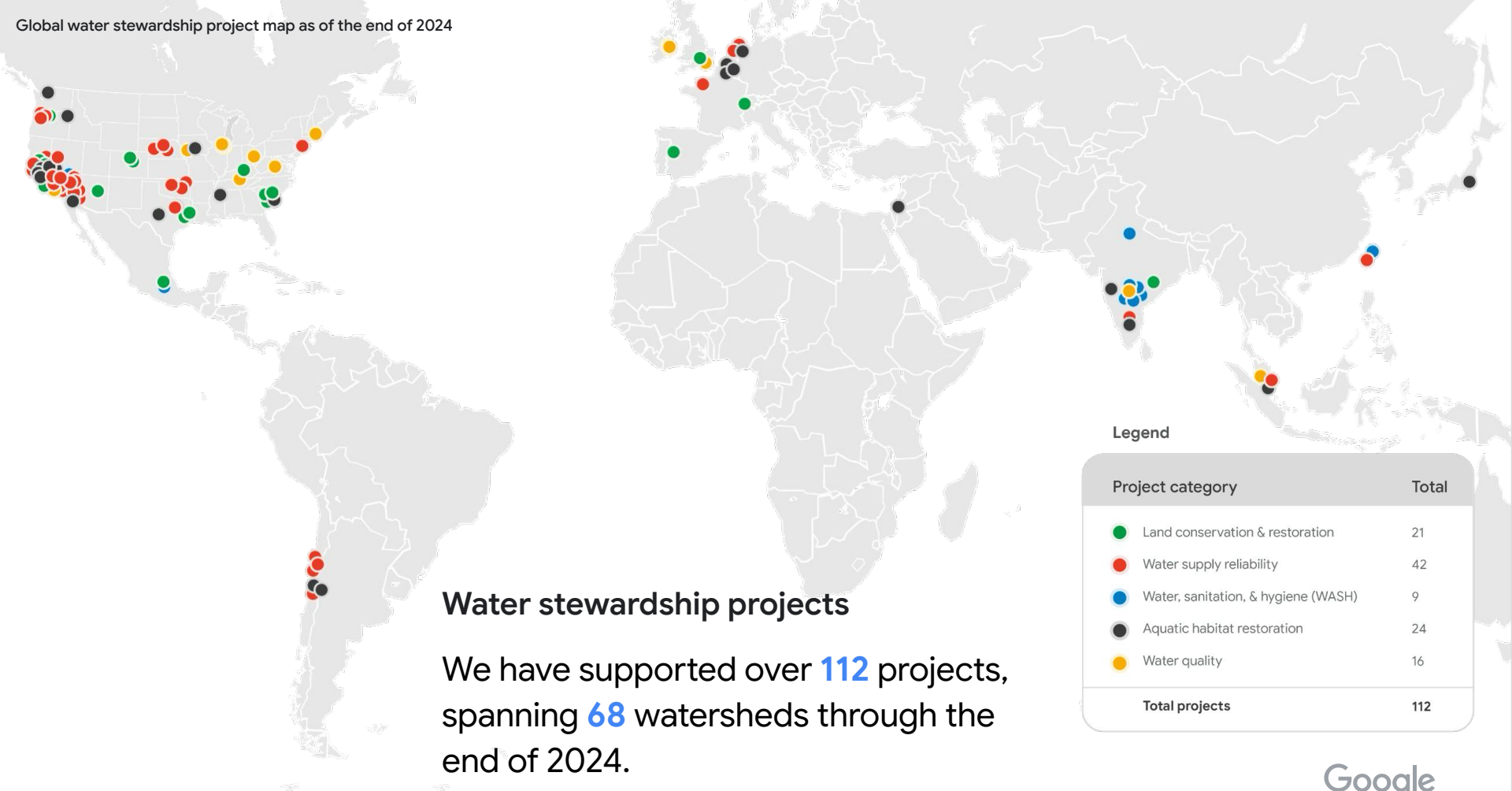
## Ambition

We aim to replenish **more** water than we consume across our offices and data centers **by 2030**.

## Progress

In 2024, our water stewardship projects replenished approximately **4.5 billion gallons** of water, roughly **64%** of our 2024 freshwater consumption.





### Water stewardship projects

We have supported over **112** projects, spanning **68** watersheds through the end of 2024.

**Legend**

Project category	Total
Land conservation & restoration	21
Water supply reliability	42
Water, sanitation, & hygiene (WASH)	9
Aquatic habitat restoration	24
Water quality	16
<b>Total projects</b>	<b>112</b>

# North America Program | Roles & Responsibilities

**Owner**



**Partners/Facilitators**

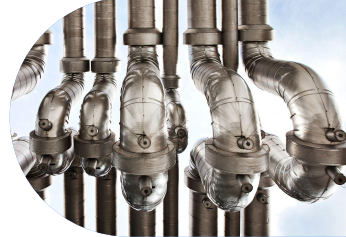


**Third-Party Validator**





# Replenishment



# What is replenishment?

Any project that conserves, restores, or retains water in the watershed where it would otherwise be lost, flow out of the watershed, or be inaccessible due to water quality issues, may be considered “replenishment.”





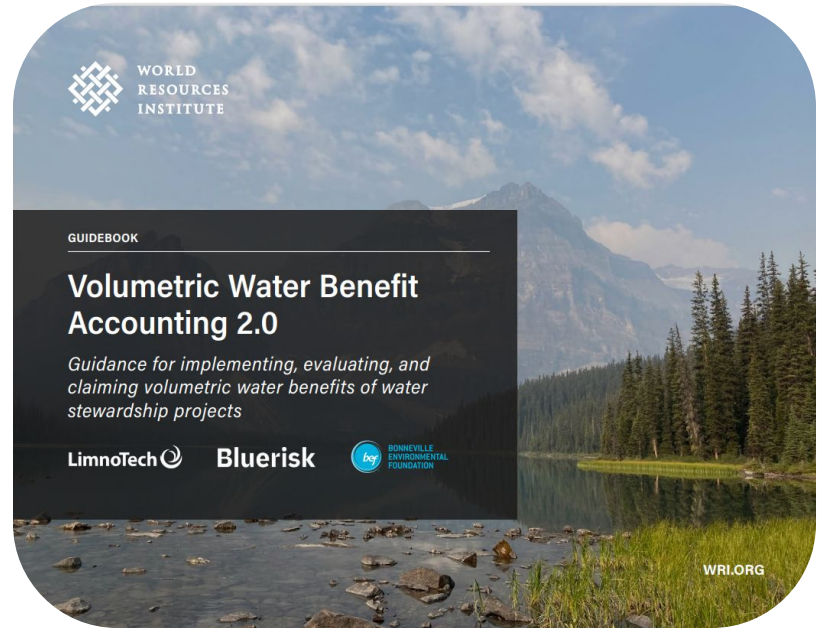
# VWBA Guidance



# Volumetric Water Benefit Accounting Guidance

“ VWBA 2.0...aims to help companies and practitioners make consistent, credible volumetric water benefit claims across diverse geographies and water stewardship activities through the implementation of a six-step process.

-WRI



Source: [Volumetric Water Benefit Accounting 2.0](#)

# VWBA 2.0 Methodology

1 Understand the local catchment context

2 Identify and evaluation potential project activities and partners

3 Quantify the VWBs of project activities

4 Plan and agree

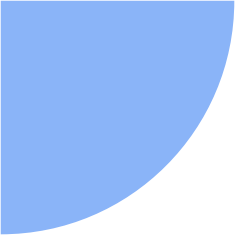
5 Implement project and track progress

6 Confirm and prepare for VWB communications

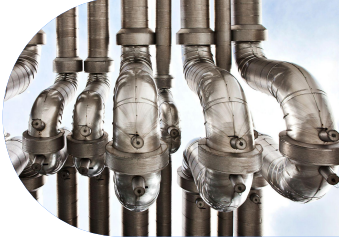
## Volumetric Water Benefit (VWB) Indicators

*Quantified in volume of water over unit of time*

- Avoided runoff
- Reduced runoff
- Reduced withdrawal
- Reduced consumption
- Increased recharge
- Maintained recharge
- Increased seasonal water storage
- Maintained seasonal water storage
- Increased inundation
- Maintained inundation
- Volume provided
- Volume captured
- Volume maintained
- Volume treated
- Volume improved

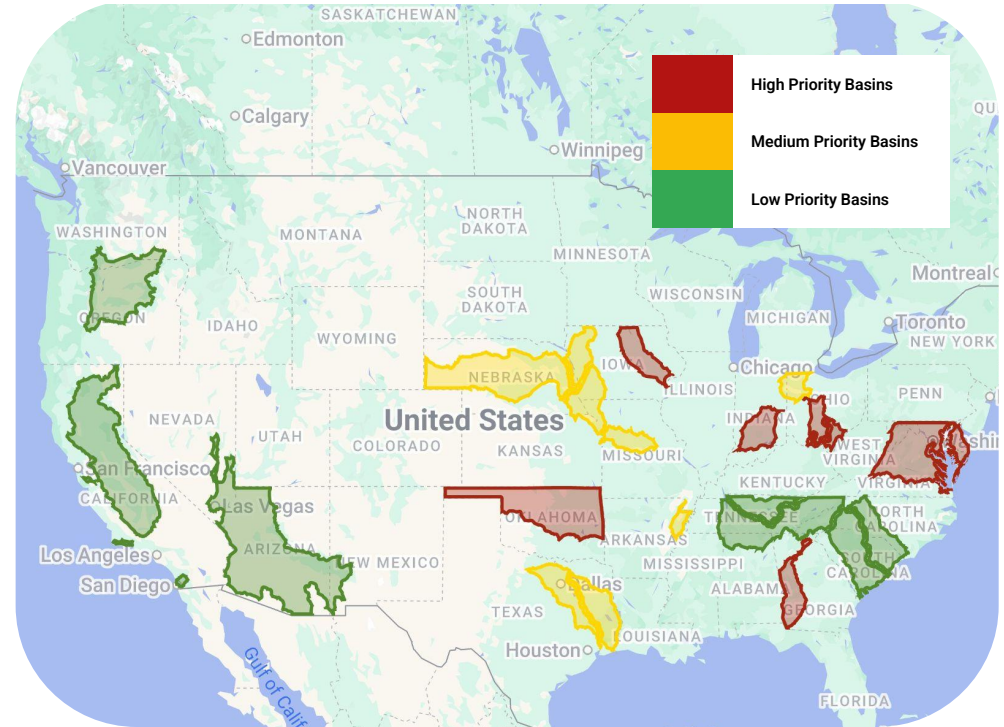


# Eligibility Criteria



# Eligibility Criteria

- Located within priority watersheds
- Eligible entities include water utilities, Tribal Nations, NGOs, technology vendors
- Operational by 2030
- Minimum duration of 7 to 10 years
- Voluntary and not required under law, permit, or settlement
- Volumetric benefit of  $\geq 100$  MGY, except California
- Up to \$6M per project, except California
- Funding may support capital, operations and maintenance, and annual reporting, and may be combined with other funding sources
- No match requirement

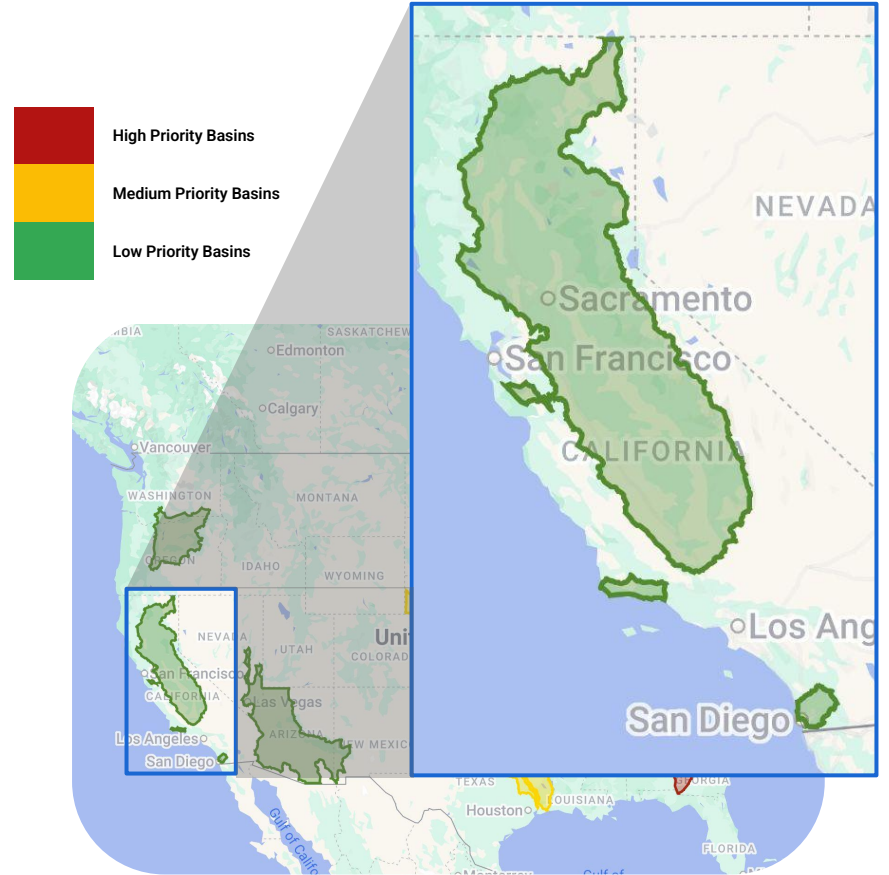


**Priority locations and watersheds. An interactive map is available [here](#).**

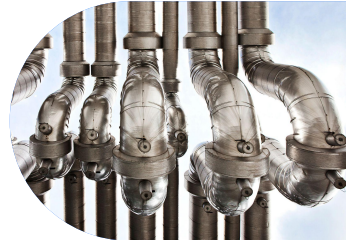
\* Projects outside of these boundaries may also be considered if they have a hydrologic interconnection to the priority watersheds (e.g., through inter-basin transfers or overlapping groundwater basins); please refer to the Resources section below for clarification.

# California

- Volumetric benefit of ~5+ MGY
- ~\$100k to \$600k per project
- Watershed health co-benefits
  - Biodiversity
  - Water quality
  - and/or ecosystem health
- Scale impact beyond the site (e.g., via collective action, public-private partnerships, innovation pilots, policy, governance solutions)
- FAQ has watersheds listed



# Project Categories



# RFI Project Characterization Guide



## INFRASTRUCTURE

These projects involve engineered solutions and "gray" infrastructure to improve water efficiency, supply, or quality.

[Submission Link](#)



## AGRICULTURE

These projects focus on farm-level practices and technology to reduce agricultural water demand and improve soil health.

[Submission Link](#)



## NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS

These projects preserve or restore elements of natural systems, such as forests, rivers, and wetlands, to improve the hydrologic cycle.

[Submission Link](#)

# Project Examples





# Infrastructure Projects | Example Activities

Example Activity	Relevant VWBA 2.0 Indicators				
	Reduced Withdrawal	Volume Treated	Volume Provided	Volume Captured	Reduced Consumption
Leak detection and repair (utility or building scale)	✓				
Wastewater treatment plants (new or enhanced)		✓			
Well construction/rehabilitation, drinking water treatment facilities			✓		
Stormwater detention/retention ponds (gray)				✓	
Operational efficiency measures/water reuse					✓

## Previously Funded Projects

# Cherokee Nation Leak Repair

**Project:**

Rural water system repairs

**Scope:**

Funding the replacement of a 4-mile segment of leaking water main, reducing significant water loss, decreasing reliance on groundwater, improving water access for a rural community within Cherokee Nation, and lowering system operating costs

**Location:**

Oklahoma, USA

**Watershed:**

Neosho River

**Status:**

Complete

Source: [2025 Water Stewardship Project Portfolio](#)



## Previously Funded Projects

# City of Norman Water Reuse

**Project:**  
Non-potable reuse

**Scope:**  
Rehabilitation of an existing non-potable system at a water reclamation facility to enable reuse water for on-site operations, and where feasible, an off-site compost facility, reducing overall water withdrawals

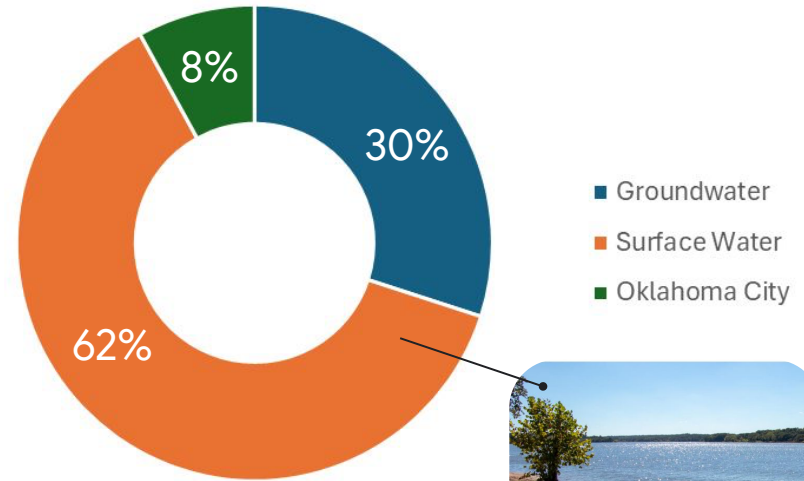
**Location:**  
City of Norman, OK

**Watershed:**  
Arkansas River Basin

**Status:**  
In progress

Source: [The Norman Transcript](#)

Improved water availability



Lake Thunderbird, Norman, OK  
Photo Credit: Bryce Holland

## Previously Funded Projects

# Groundwater Recharge in Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas

### Project:

Aquifer storage and recovery

### Scope:

Increase groundwater recharge and storage, support regional climate adaptation, and demonstrate technology application

### Location:

Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas, USA

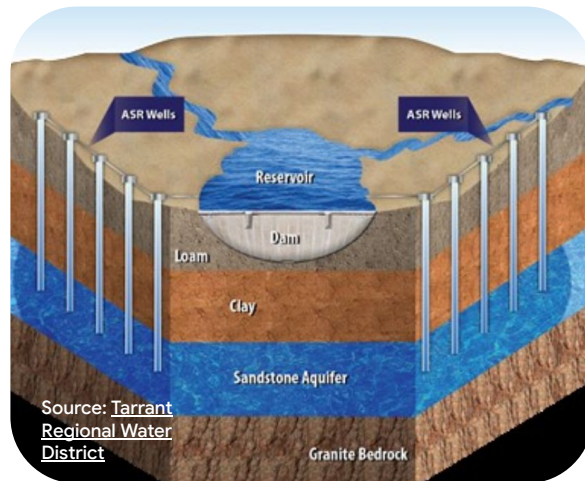
### Watershed:

Lower Trinity, Cedar, Chambers, and Richland

### Status:

In progress

Source: [2025 Water Stewardship Project Portfolio](#)



## Aquifer Storage and Recharge

The City plans to install an aquifer storage and recovery well. This is a voluntary action being done to support the City's water reliability plan. The engineering team determined the project can store water at a rate of 686 gallons per minute with a goal of operating 200 days per year. The project will cost \$4.25 million to complete.

The City is able to receive \$1 million from state grant funding and supply \$250,000 dollars of its own funding. The City is seeking \$3 million in additional funding to complete this project.

# Aquifer Storage and Recharge Budget

Description	Cost
Pumps	\$ 2.0 Million
Wells	\$1.5 Million
Operating Expenses	\$50,000/Year for 10 Years
Permitting/Monitoring and Tracking	\$25,000/Year for 10 Years
Net Present Value	\$4.25 Million

# VWBA Calculation

**Recharge Method:** VWBA 2.0 Appendix D4

$$\mathbf{VWB} = \text{Recharge}_{\text{with project}} - \text{Recharge}_{\text{without project}}$$

$$\mathbf{VWB} = (686 \text{ gpm} * 1,440 \text{ minutes/day} * 200 \text{ days/year}) - 0 \text{ gallons/year}$$

$$\mathbf{VWB} = 197,564,150 \text{ gallons/year}$$

# Unit Cost Calculation

**Total Project Cost:** \$4,250,000

**Total Yearly Replenishment:** 197.6 MGY

**Unit Cost** = Total Project Costs / Total Annual Replenishment

= \$4,250,000 / 197.6 MGY

**Unit Cost** = \$21,512 / MGY



**Project is prioritized for funding!**

# Cost Share and Benefits

**Google Funding:**  $\$3,000,000 / \$4,250,000 = 71\%$  cost contribution

**Google Benefit\*:**  $197.6 \text{ MGY} \times 71\% = 139 \text{ MGY}$



**Project meets > 100 MGY goal**

*\*Annual reporting benefit based on actual volume benefit*

# RFI Live Demo



[Submission Link](#)



## 2026 Water Efficiency and Quality: Infrastructure Projects RFI

Google aims to [replenish more water](#) than we consume by 2030 and help improve water quality and ecosystem health in the communities where we operate. We do this by supporting partners to implement projects that benefit local watersheds, ranging from nature-based solutions to water-saving technologies to infrastructure improvements. In this RFI, we are specifically looking for partners to help expand our impact by implementing infrastructure projects that increase water efficiency or quality in select U.S. watersheds.

# RFP Live Demo



[Submission Link](#)



## Water Efficiency and Quality: Infrastructure Projects Request for Proposal

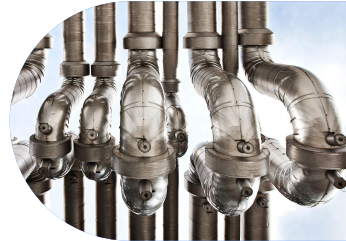
Q2 2026

### Purpose

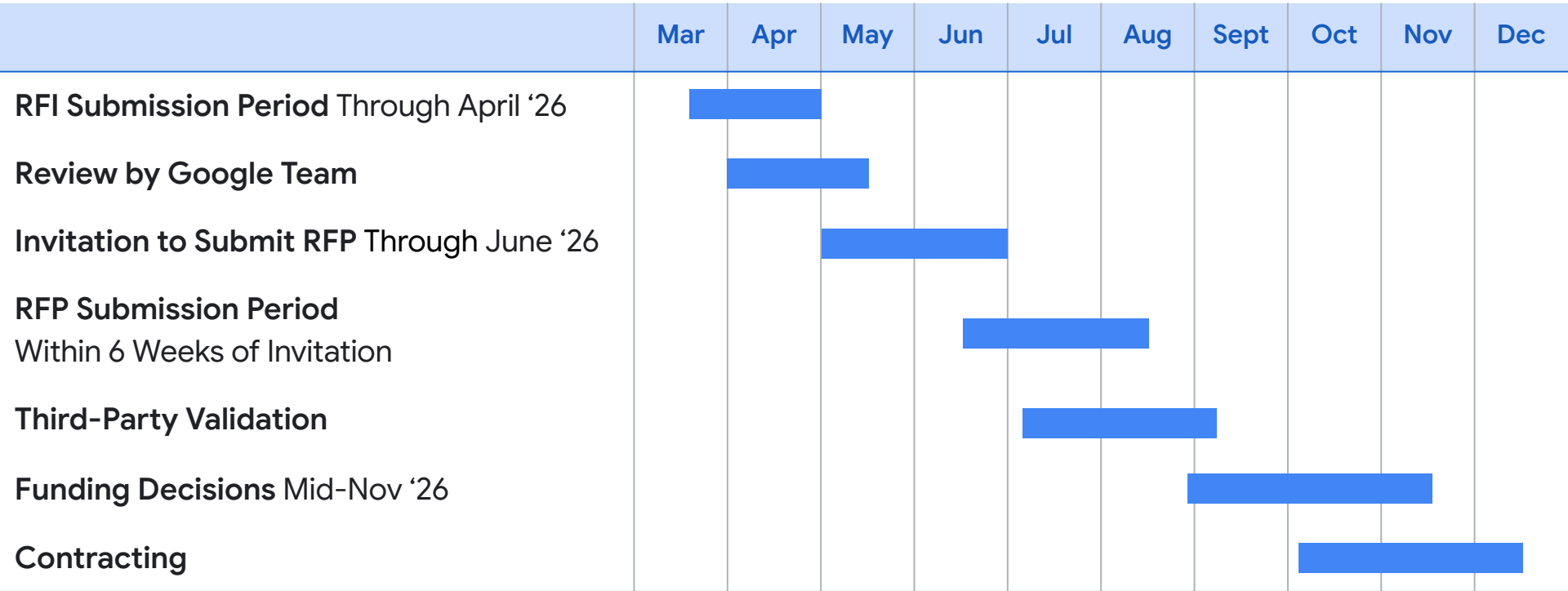
Google aims to [replenish more water](#) than we consume by 2030 and help improve water quality and ecosystem health in the communities where we operate. We do this by supporting partners to implement projects that benefit local watersheds, ranging from nature-based solutions to water-saving technologies to infrastructure improvements. We are specifically looking for partners to help expand our impact by implementing infrastructure projects that increase water efficiency or quality in select U.S. watersheds.



# Timeline

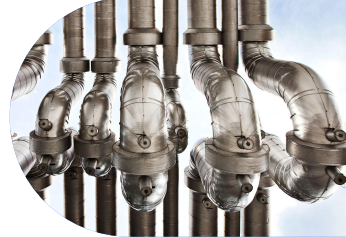


# Timeline





# Discussion



# FAQ

- A. Program Scope and Objectives
- B. Project Eligibility
- C. Project Parameters
- D. Funding Questions
- E. Award Expectations and Reporting
- F. RFI Submissions
- G. RFP Submissions

[Infra.water.RFI@gmail.com](mailto:Infra.water.RFI@gmail.com) for infrastructure-related questions

Source: [FAQ](#)

# Project Eligibility

- Eligible entities must be able to accept corporate funding.
- Projects that have completed the construction phase are not eligible for retroactive funding. Projects under construction would be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.
- Projects designed solely to meet or mitigate legal/regulatory compliance obligations are not eligible.
- Priority locations are defined in the RFI. Refer to the interactive map or FAQ for basin and Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) details.
- Experimental/research components will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Source: [FAQ](#)

# Project Parameters

- Proposals will be evaluated based on alignment with Google's goals, feasibility and technical merit, financial viability and cost effectiveness, and the entity's capacity to execute the project.
- Reasonable contingencies can be included in cost estimates.
- Infrastructure projects must be operational by 2030 and provide volumetric benefits for 7 to 10 years.

# Funding Questions

- No specific budget or numbers of projects limitations.
- No minimum cost-share or matching-fund contributions. Co-funding is acceptable.
- Funding range:
  - \$100K to \$600K (California)
  - \$350K to \$6M (outside of California)

# Award Expectations and Reporting

- RFI will be open March 16 to April 30.
- Select applicants will be invited to submit a technical proposal under the RFP phase (Q2 2026).
- Funding decisions will be made on a rolling basis (Q3/Q4 2026).
- Reporting requirements will be determined on a case-by-case basis.
- A project benefit summary prepared by a third party will summarize volumetric water benefits (VWB). Once implemented, annual reports will summarize monitoring results. Initial VWB estimates will be conservative to allow for fluctuations due to elements outside a partner's control, such as precipitation.

Source: [FAQ](#)

# RFI Submissions

- Project ideas/concepts will be submitted via Google Form for the Infrastructure category.
- There is no limit to the number of projects that can be submitted by a single entity.
- Priority will be given to submittals that include complete information. Preliminary VWB and cost estimates are acceptable as long as assumptions are stated.
- Additional/supporting information can be submitted via [Infra.water.RFI@gmail.com](mailto:Infra.water.RFI@gmail.com)
- Inquiries can be submitted to [Infra.water.RFI@gmail.com](mailto:Infra.water.RFI@gmail.com)
- No extensions will be granted.

Source: [FAQ](#)

# RFP Submissions

- Selected projects will be invited to submit a technical proposal, due within 6 weeks of receiving an invitation.
- All proposals are subject to third-party validation to confirm alignment with VWBA 2.0 guidance.
- Proposal materials will be kept confidential. Any public announcements will be subject to partner review and approval.
- Contractor quotes are not required, and contingencies are allowed.
- If actual project costs exceed the grant award, project partners will be responsible for covering the additional costs.

Source: [FAQ](#)