

EPA Region 10 SRF **WATERS** Awards



2019
WATERS

Well-Planned
Affordable
Transferable
Efficient
Resilient
Sustainable

2019 WATERS Award Winners

Alaska

- City of Soldotna

Idaho

- Central Shoshone County
Water District
- City of Weiser

Oregon

- City of Hines

Washington

- City of College Place
- Skagit County PUD No. 1

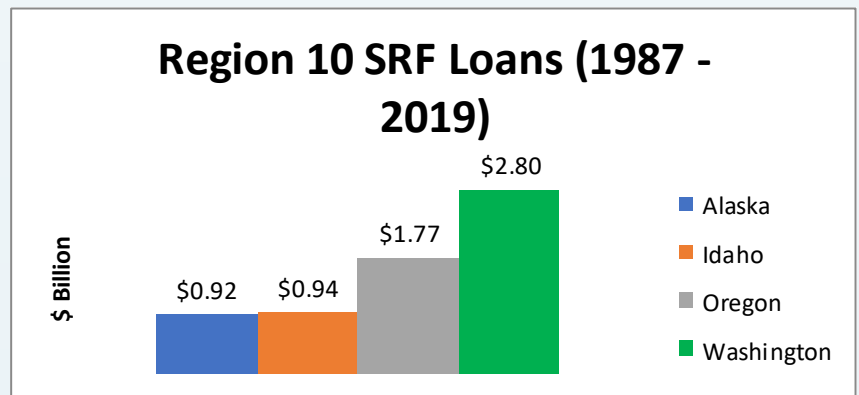
About The **WATERS** Awards

Recognizing the most innovative and effective CWSRF and DWSRF projects.

Since program inception, borrowers have utilized the State Revolving Fund (SRF) program to fund millions of dollars of projects that deliver environmental and public health benefits. The EPA Region 10 WATERS award program seeks to recognize exceptional SRF projects. These projects are nominated by the state SRF staff who implement this program, and projects that help communities attain goals or requirements under the Clean Water Act or Safe Drinking Water Act, as well as achieve one or more elements of the **WATERS** award. Those elements include projects that: are **Well-planned**, address **Affordability** issues, include innovative ideas or technology that is **Transferable** to other communities, provide benefits for water or energy **Efficiency**, or incorporate elements of **Resiliency** and/or **Sustainability**.

About the Region 10 SRF Program

Over the past 30+ years, the Region 10 SRF program has been capitalized at a total of \$3 billion. To date, using those funds, along with state match, repayments and interest earnings, Region 10 states have provided more than \$6.5 billion in SRF loans.



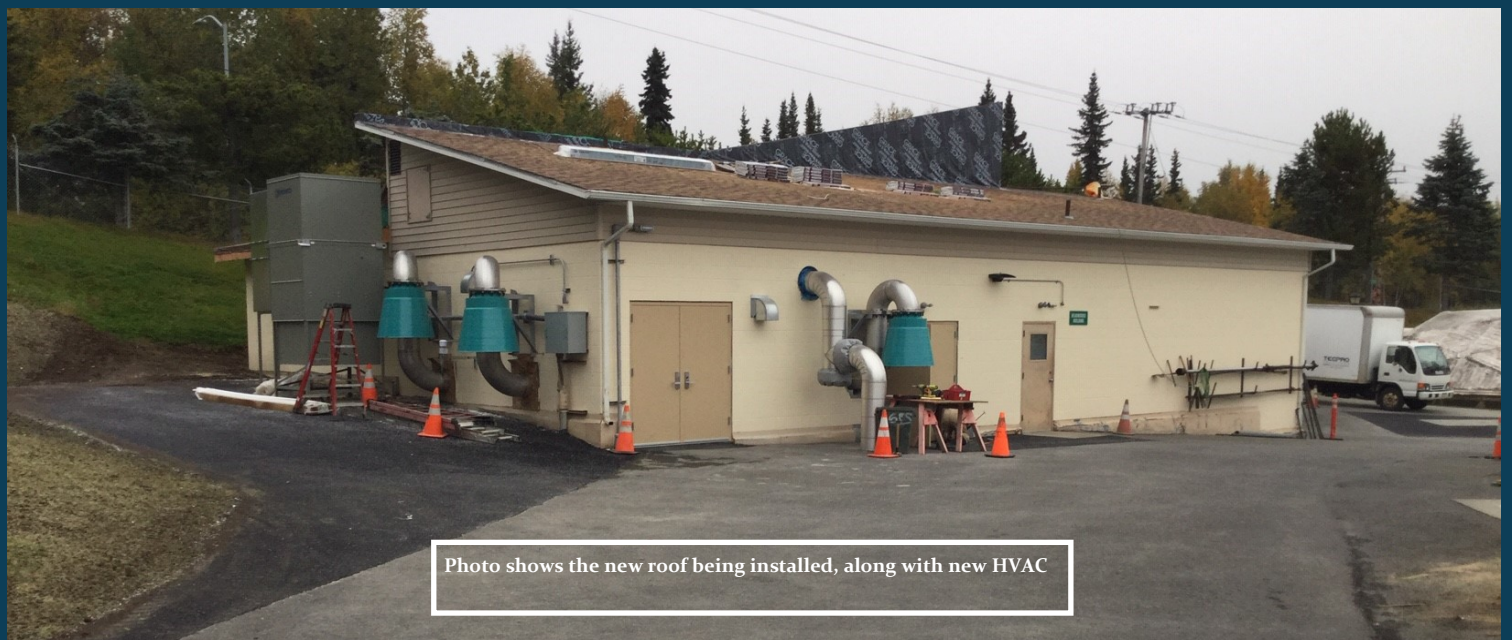
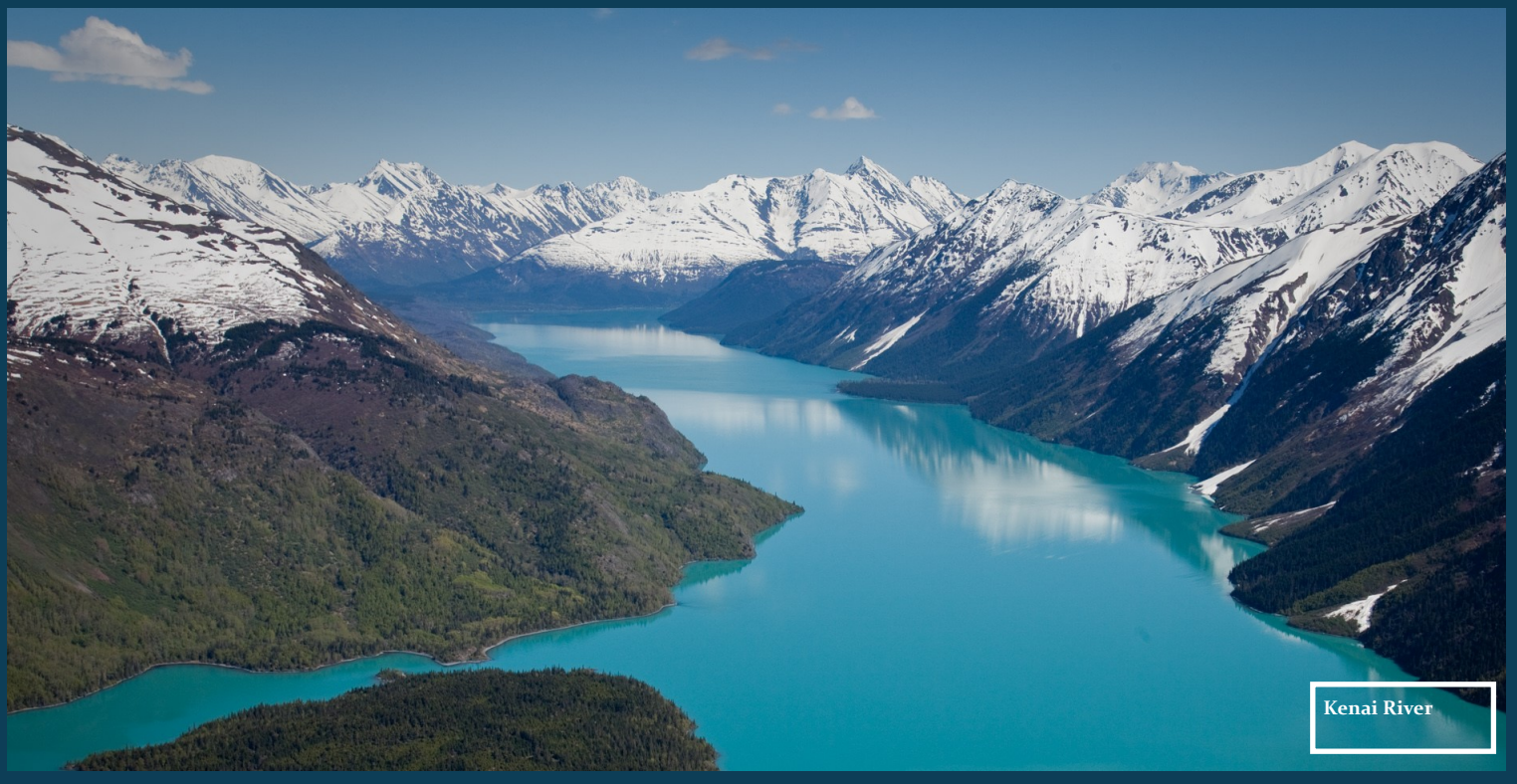


Photo shows the new roof being installed, along with new HVAC

City of Soldotna, Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements Project

Upgrades funded by a low interest \$2.5 million loan from the Alaska CWSRF program are saving the City of Soldotna approximately \$40,000 each year in energy costs. The loan paid for the installation of new high speed turbo blowers, to replace aging and inefficient centrifugal air blowers. The installation provides better treatment, reduced maintenance and saves on utility costs. During the design phase efficiency was a key consideration. The blower manufacturer was selected through an RFP process in order to obtain the most efficient equipment that met the plant's flow rates. Additional upgrades included LED lighting, new HVAC systems, repair of leaking air piping, new electrical equipment, roof replacement, and new clarifier equipment. The treatment plant upgrades were driven primarily due to aging equipment that was becoming unreliable and difficult to maintain and repair. Proper operation and treatment at Soldotna's WWTP is critical since it discharges treated effluent within permit requirements to the Kenai River, which is one of the most popular sport fishing salmon streams in the state of Alaska.



Kenai River

City of Weiser Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Project

The City of Weiser wastewater system serves approximately 6,000 people and is located in Idaho's Washington County. The project, funded by a \$6 million CWSRF loan, provides energy efficient improvements to bring the City's wastewater treatment plant into compliance. By using premium efficiency motors, variable speed drives, a fine bubble diffused aeration system, screw compressor blowers with oxygen probes, and SCADA, this community will save over \$45,000 per year in energy costs. The project was made affordable through extended term financing with a simple interest rate of 1.25%, representing savings of about \$1.9 million when compared to municipal general obligation debt issuances.



New blower system



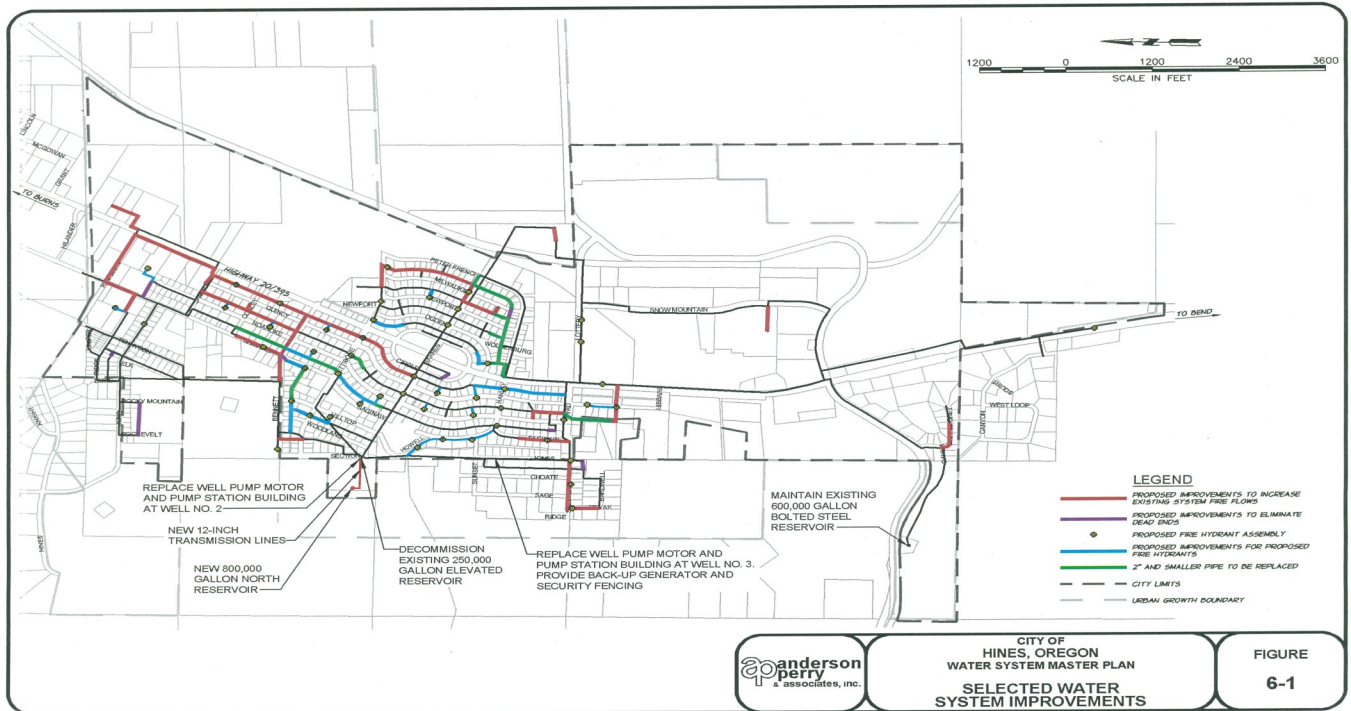
Bird's-eye view of City of Weiser WWTP

Central Shoshone County Water District, Lead Service Line Replacement Project

Central Shoshone County Water District, Shoshone County, Idaho, used a \$456,000 low-interest DWSRF construction loan to replace service connections with lead and copper-free connections as necessary on the community's drinking water service lines. To safeguard the health and welfare of the community, the Idaho SRF expedited the work by covering the project with a blanket Categorical Exclusion exclusively for copper and lead drinking water replacement projects, and composed the loan entirely of principal forgiveness funds. A total of 64 mainline connections and 1513 linear feet of service pipeline were replaced.

Photos show various pipes and fittings that were removed as part of this project





Schematic showing the different project components

City of Hines, Storage/Reservoir, Supply, and Distribution Piping Improvements

The City of Hines, Oregon, is using a \$7.2 million DWSRF loan to replace steel water mains that were installed in the 1930s, construct a new reservoir, as well as make other needed water system improvements. The community, located in Oregon's Harney County, initially used a SIPP grant to pay for a water rate study, which helped them plan for and implement the water rates necessary to afford this project. In addition, the project was made more affordable by having more than \$1 million of the loan forgiven, and the remainder offered at 1% for a 30 year loan term. The project also addresses resiliency by incorporating backup power generation in case of an emergency due to unforeseen environmental impacts or power outages.

The City of Hines' existing water reservoir





Gilligan Creek

Skagit County PUD No. 1, Gilligan Creek Watershed Source Water Protection Project

In order to improve and protect water quality, Skagit PUD used a \$1.5m CWSRF loan to purchase 250 acres of forestland around a critical municipal public water system source and fish habitat and created a property management plan. The acquisition protects land in the sanitary control area of the Gilligan Creek Watershed from land use activities such as clearcut logging, chemical use, and forest road construction. The project reduced risks of sediment delivery, chemical pollution, temperature impacts, and landslides to the stream in addition to protecting a public water supply source. The project protects portions of Gilligan Creek, which is a tributary to the Skagit River. The Skagit River serves as an important migration corridor, spawning area, and rearing area for five major species of salmon as well as steelhead, cutthroat trout, Dolly Varden, and bull trout. The Skagit River contains the second largest wild run of coho salmon and the largest run of Chinook salmon in the Puget Sound region. Gilligan Creek is designated as a shoreline of the state and provides habitat for multiple species of salmon and trout. The terms of the loan, 2% for 20 years, along with nearly \$400,000 of principal forgiveness, made this project more affordable.



Skagit PUD's surface water diversion site at Gilligan Creek

City of College Place, Christ Community Fellowship Consolidation Project

Christ Community Fellowship serves the College Place community near Walla Walla as both a place of worship as well as a Pre-K to 8th grade school with a population of 100 students. Christ Community Fellowship's well was impacted by nitrates almost twice the maximum contaminant level. The initial compliance proposal was for Christ Community Fellowship to drill a new well. However, the City of College Place offered to connect the church and school to its municipal water system. In order to facilitate this connection, a new water main and well were needed. Given the large scope of work, the City phased the project over the course of three years. The City agreed to install the new transmission main first to allow connection of Christ Community Fellowship, which happened in August 2019 in time to provide safe drinking water to the students for the 2019 school year. In addition, this project will provide City of College Place with a new well to better serve Christ Community Fellowship and improves the resiliency of College Place's water system in response to the declining aquifer in this area. College Place received three DWSRF loans for a total of \$5.9 million and each loan included 50% principal forgiveness as the project consolidated a troubled water system.



Crew doing directional drilling of new transmission main

The new well

