What’s New in Western Water
Learn about programs in the U.S. Department of Interior’s Bureau of Reclamation that fund water infrastructure. Hear about Title XVI Reclamation Grants, which fund planning, design and construction of water recycling and reuse projects in the 17 states in the American west. Learn about WaterSMART, which is a competitive grant program to modernize existing infrastructure to increase the water supply and mitigate against the potentially devastating public health, environmental, economic and social impacts of drought.

- Maribeth Menendez, U.S. Department of Interior
- Katie Guerra, U.S. Department of Interior

Meet the Speakers

Maribeth Menendez
Bureau of Reclamation
U.S. Department of Interior

Katie Guerra
Bureau of Reclamation
U.S. Department of Interior

Maribeth Menendez
Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Department of Interior
Maribeth has worked for Reclamation in the Water Resources and Planning Office since 2018, where she coordinates the Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse Program under WaterSMART. Through programs under WaterSMART, Reclamation provides cost-shared competitively awarded grants for states, tribes and local entities to make system improvements or complete other activities that increase water supply or improve water management. Maribeth received a
B.A. in Sociology and Spanish from Hamline University and a Master’s in Public Policy from the University of Minnesota Humphrey School of Public Affairs.

Katie Guerra
Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Department of Interior
Katie has worked for the Bureau of Reclamation for over 20 years. She started her career as an engineer and researcher developing and evaluating novel technologies for water treatment. Katie now works as a program coordinator for Reclamation’s Water Recycling Programs. Katie has a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Colorado and a M.S. and Ph.D. in Environmental Engineering from the Colorado School of Mines. Katie is a registered professional engineer in the state of Colorado.