

Department of the Interior Departmental Manual

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Series: Organization

Part 155: Bureau of Reclamation

Chapter 12: Deputy Commissioner, Operations

Originating Office: Bureau of Reclamation

155 DM 12

12.1 Deputy Commissioner, Operations. The Deputy Commissioner, Operations, manages the Assistant Deputy Commissioner, Operations, Regional Directors, and the Chief Engineer. The Deputy Commissioner, Operations, also oversees the management of regional programs and issues, operation and maintenance of projects, engineering and technical services, hydropower, dam safety, asset management, research and development, Native American and International Affairs, and regional liaison programs. Working with the Program and Budget Office, ensures that the Commissioner's goals and objectives are translated into operating programs. Functions under the Deputy Commissioner, Operations are described below and the regional activities are further described in 155 DM 10.

A. Assistant Deputy Commissioner, Operations. The Assistant Deputy Commissioner, Operations, serves as liaison between the regions and the Deputy Commissioner, Operations, including identifying and resolving regional programmatic and budgetary issues and administrative supervision of the regional liaisons; international policy, technical cooperation, technology exchange, and coordination; developing and coordinating policy and technical guidelines for Reclamation's Native American affairs, delivering technical assistance to Native American Tribes, overseeing water rights settlements, and other negotiation activities; and providing liaison with Reclamation offices, Department of the Interior (Department) officials, and other Federal officials. In addition, this office coordinates and provides technical assistance related to water resources development and utilization to foreign countries in cooperation with the Department of State, its Agency for International Development, and other agencies engaged in international technical cooperation to the extent that funds are available for that specific purpose. This office is located in Washington, D.C. The following office reports to the Assistant Deputy Commissioner, Operations:

(1) The Program Manager, Native American and International Affairs, develops and coordinates policy and technical guidelines and delivers technical assistance to tribes for Bureau of Reclamation's (Reclamation) Native American affairs program; oversees water rights settlement and other negotiation activities; and serves as liaison with the Department, other Federal agencies, international organizations, international lending institutions, and private sector entities involving Reclamation's international activities. This includes serving as the principal staff official responsible for initiating, developing, administering, and evaluating Reclamation's participation in all international programs,

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including those for technical assistance and cooperation, international travel, and international visitor and training programs. This office is located in Denver, CO.

12.2 Regional Directors. See 155 DM 10.

12.3 Chief Engineer. Serves as the lead engineer and scientist managing, overseeing, and supervising all operations services within the Commissioner's Office, located in Denver, CO. The Chief Engineer provides a consistent unifying construct to provide customer service for Reclamation resources from research through design, construction, and long-term operations and maintenance as well as tools to best allocate funds to external entities through financial assistance programs. The following offices report to the Chief Engineer:

A. The Senior Advisor for Research and Development (R&D) formulates new initiatives and programs within the programmatic areas of data management and research and development. The position is responsible for maintaining communities of practice across Reclamation focused on climate change, hydrology and hydraulics, and peer review. The office and all subordinate offices are located in Denver, CO. The following positions report to the Senior Advisor for R&D:

(1) The Program Manager, Research and Development Office, identifies and anticipates needs to determine the direction of Reclamation's research program; serves as a consultant for Reclamation research programs to offices throughout Reclamation and the Department; plans, executes, and reports the results of the Science and Technology, and Desalination and Water Purification Research, Open Water Data, and Reclamation Geographic Information Systems programs; ensures interchange of scientific knowledge between researchers and operational programs and compliance with the Federal Technology Transfer Act and related intellectual property protection acts; provides expert technical, fiscal, legislative, and policy advice and assistance to the Science Senior Advisor for R&D on the Science and Technology, and Desalination Reclamation research programs; oversees Research Program Coordinator who implements and coordinates the day-to-day operations of the Reclamation-wide research and technology transfer programs; provides program development and evaluation, budget development, and financial management; and coordinates with Reclamation offices, including the Technical Service Center, and other government and non-government agencies.

(2) The Associate Chief Data Officer is responsible for developing and managing Reclamation's data programs to deliver mission outcomes; is accountable to the Department of the Interior Chief Data Officer as well as Reclamation's leadership; is responsible for lifecycle data management of a portfolio of Reclamation's data assets; contributes to the development of an enterprise-wide data strategy; collaborates with Reclamation leadership, managers, and Department to facilitate the effective use of data assets in Reclamation's decision-making; leads data resource management across Reclamation, including governing, guiding, monitoring, analyzing, and operationalizing data, to steward Reclamation's data assets for maximum utility and openness; and, coordinates and works in partnership with Federal, state, tribal and local government agencies, academia, and private sector to efficiently and cost-effectively collect, integrate, maintain, disseminate, and preserve data to carry out the mission and responsibilities of Reclamation and the Department.

B. The Manager, Water Resources and Planning Office manages and coordinates programs related to Reclamation's water conservation, drought, water reuse, and climate change activities, including the associated water resources planning activities and construction activities carried out internally and with external partners through those programs. The Water Resources and Planning Office is directly responsible for the management of Reclamation's WaterSMART Program and the Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Program. The Water Resources and Planning Office provides Reclamation-wide policy and program guidance for these programs and other related programs and serves as the principal office for communications about these programs, both internal and external to Reclamation.

C. Senior Advisor, Hydropower/Electric Reliability Compliance Officer (Senior Advisor, Hydropower). The Senior Advisor, Hydropower, is responsible for establishing power program requirements and developing Reclamation Manual releases which define the implementation of said requirements; serves as the liaison on intergovernmental initiatives associated with hydropower delivery; formulates and coordinates the implementation of corporate partnership efforts involving Reclamation's power functions and activities in support of Departmental goals and objectives in collaboration with Federal and non-Federal partners; represents Reclamation and coordinates with the Western Electricity Coordinating Council, the North American Electric Reliability Corporation, and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission; and oversees and is responsible for Reclamation's reliability compliance pertaining to Western Electricity Coordinating Council standards. The following office reports to the Senior Advisor, Hydropower:

(1) The Manager, Power Resources Office, facilitates the development of Reclamation Manual releases, including policy, directives and standards, and technical documents, as well as supporting business practices for power program activities. These activities include but are not limited to Federal and non-Federal power development sited on Reclamation projects, Reclamation power facility operations and maintenance (including regulatory compliance), power repayment, and power program reviews. The Power Resources Office provides power program support via workshops, trainings, legislative analysis, and technical consultation, and administers power program oversight via reviews and other internal controls. The Power Resources Office work is conducted in coordination with regional power programs.

D. Director, Technical Services Center. The Director, Technical Service Center provides scientific, applied research, and engineering services related to water resources projects and programs in support of Reclamation's major functions. Technical support is provided in broad areas of water and power resources development and management; geotechnical, civil, mechanical, and electrical engineering; dam safety; social and environmental science; and laboratory services. The following offices report to the Director, Technical Services Center.

(1) Chief, Civil Engineering Services Division #1 provides design and structural analysis of pumping plants, power plants, fish facilities, wetlands, roads, bridges, pipelines, tunnels, canals, diversion structures, and water treatment plants; and research and investigative services for water treatment and desalting pilot plants and water quality chemical analyses.

(2) Chief, Civil Engineering Services Division #2 provides structural and hydraulic design and analysis of waterways and concrete dams; and construction management consultation and engineering services such as cost estimates; planning and technical specifications.

(3) Chief, Water, Environmental and Ecosystems Division conducts environmental studies and examines the interrelationships between the environment and regulated aquatic systems; applied research, planning investigations and water operations support, and special studies related to Reclamation's water management needs; provides technical support including design, analysis, studies, and reviews in the areas of water supply availability, dependability, requirements, use, and rights; water quality; flood hydrology and hydrometeorology; sedimentation and river hydraulics; drainage and groundwater activities; and performs development, design, and compilation of tabular and graphic spatial databases, water resource-related economic and financial analysis, as well as social analysis and public involvement on the impact of government actions.

(4) Chief, Geotechnical Services Division conducts geotechnical studies, analyses, and designs of embankment dams, structure foundations, and surface and underground excavations including landslides; provides geologic services including development and interpretation of exploration and laboratory testing programs; and specialized geological, seismological, and geophysical investigations of regional earthquake hazards, engineering geophysics, and paleo floods; and monitors dam performance and safety through the dam safety program.

(5) Chief, Electrical and Mechanical Engineering Division provides engineering services for mechanical and electrical equipment and systems related to primary hydropower generation and water delivery equipment; complete electrical and mechanical design, inspection, installation, testing analysis, and operation and maintenance services for powerplants, pumping plants, dams, and water conveyance structures; and specialized operation and maintenance services such as diagnostics and repair for generators, power transformers, switch gear, protective relaying, and provides power system studies.

(6) Chief, Engineering and Laboratory Services Division provides laboratory and field material engineering services, specializing in technologies such as corrosion, coatings, plastics, concrete, soil, and rock; and laboratory modeling of hydraulic analyses of structures and fish protection facilities, and laboratory and field studies of invasive species.

E. The Director, Dam Safety and Infrastructure. The Director, Dam Safety and Infrastructure, provides management and oversight of Reclamation's dam safety program; management and oversight of Reclamation's constructed assets exclusive of hydropower assets, and management and oversight of Reclamation's public lands and uses. The following offices report to the Director, Dam Safety and Infrastructure:

(1) The Chief, Dam Safety Office, ensures that High Hazard Potential Dams do not present unreasonable risks to the public, public safety, property, and/or the environment; monitors, examines, and evaluates the performance of dams in Reclamation's inventory of facilities; evaluates issues in terms of loading conditions, structural response, and the potential

consequences of dam failure; and when Reclamation determines that risk reduction is necessary, implements reasonable risk reduction actions.

(2) The Manager, Asset Management Division, provides strategy, requirements, and guidance to ensure the reliability of Reclamation's portfolio of water related constructed assets. The Division is comprised of three branches: Operation and Maintenance, Infrastructure Investment and Management, and Land Resources. The Division is responsible for developing requirements, guidance, and training for each of these functional areas. The Operation and Maintenance Branch coordinates and tracks periodic reviews, examinations, preventative maintenance, recommended actions, and facility condition for Reclamation's non-hydropower facilities. The Infrastructure Investment and Management Branch maintains Reclamation's real property inventory, Major Rehabilitation and Replacement program, computerized maintenance management system, title transfer, capital planning reporting, and implements Reclamation's Strategic Asset Management Plan. The Land Resources Branch provides information, guidance and training on land, wildfire management, recreation, concession, and visitor management, including a registry of Reclamation's land interests, the Reclamation Recreation Use Data Registry, and Reclamation's real estate and real property information system.