

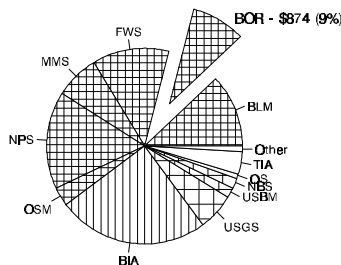


Bureau of Reclamation

The Bureau of Reclamation's water projects have contributed to sustained economic growth and an enhanced quality of life in the Western United States. Reclamation's name is derived from its original mission, chartered in 1902, to reclaim the arid lands of the western United States for farming by providing a secure, year-round supply of water for irrigation.

Today, the mission of the Bureau of Reclamation is to manage, develop, and protect water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American public. Reclamation activities focus on improved management of existing facilities and protection of associated natural resources in response to greater environmental awareness, increased competition for scarce water resources, and fiscal constraints.

FY 1994 BOR Budget Authority
(\$ in millions)



Total DOI Budget Authority - \$9,663

Although Reclamation is best known for its great dams and powerplants, among them Grand Coulee Dam on the Columbia River and Hoover Dam on the Colorado River, the era of large federally constructed water projects is coming to an end. Construction underway on large traditional projects will soon be completed, and new construction is likely to occur only in small increments, narrowly targeted to meet limited and well-defined objectives. Reclamation is instead concentrating on using partnerships and non-structural solutions

to improve water and related resource management.

Reclamation's water projects produce numerous benefits, including irrigation and municipal and industrial water supplies, hydroelectric power, recreation opportunities, and fish and wildlife habitat.

Water: Reclamation is the largest supplier and manager of water resources in the 17 Western States, delivering approximately 30 million acre feet of water annually to 30 million people for agricultural, municipal, industrial, and domestic uses. Through its dams and reservoirs, Reclamation also helps reduce the impact of the destructive cycle of floods and droughts.

Hydroelectric Power: The Nation's second largest producer of hydroelectric power, Reclamation's 56 powerplants generate nearly a billion dollars in annual power revenues. The power generated is enough to serve 6 million homes.

Recreation: Reclamation's multipurpose projects provide recreation opportunities for over 70 million visitors annually. The visitors at over 300 Reclamation recreation areas enjoy fishing, swimming, picnicking, and sightseeing. The reservoir shorelines and newly created wetlands also provide valuable habitat for fish, waterfowl, and other wildlife -- including many endangered species.

In order to ensure the effective and efficient management of water and related resources, Reclamation activities are focused on both traditional and contemporary program priorities:

Operation and Maintenance: Reclamation's infrastructure maintenance and resources management and protection activities are the major components of its Operation and Maintenance

(O&M) Program. This program provides for the effective and responsive management and protection of water, land, and related resources through the operation and maintenance of over 1,200 Reclamation facilities (dams, powerplants, canals, etc.).

Dam Safety: The Safety of Dams activity was born out of concern in the late 1970s over risks posed by the Nation's aging dams. In addition to ensuring that Reclamation dams are maintained in a safe condition, the Safety of Dams activity promotes public safety and welfare, and protects property, the environment, and cultural resources downstream from Reclamation projects.

Water Conservation: In addition to its commitment to protect and enhance water resources, Reclamation places an equally high priority on water conservation. The Reclamation has established water conservation centers in each of its five regional offices and launched a host of water conservation projects throughout the West, providing both technical and financial assistance.

Native American Responsibilities:

Reclamation strongly supports the self-determination and self-sufficiency of Native Americans. Through its Indian Trust Asset Policy and other agreements, the Reclamation has committed to carry out its activities in a manner that protects Indian Trust Assets and avoids or compensates for adverse impacts. Reclamation is also working with tribes to establish educational and technical programs.

In the future, Reclamation will increasingly pursue partnership opportunities with water users and other Federal and non-Federal entities to cooperatively solve resource management issues. Reclamation will also continue to transfer the operation and maintenance of many of its completed facilities to water users, and explore opportunities for transferring the title to those facilities for which there is no major Federal interest. Reclamation's programs will continually evolve as it strives to most effectively manage the Nation's limited water resources and meet the needs of all water users.



Looking upstream at Glen Canyon Dam and Powerplant.