

Reclamation Manual

Directives and Standards

Subject:	Positions in Professional Public Affairs Positions and Other Related Positions
Purpose:	Prescribes requirements and responsibilities concerning information and outreach positions in the Bureau of Reclamation. The benefit of this Directive and Standard is that it aligns Reclamation procedures with requirements in the Departmental Manual.
Authority:	470 DM 1, 1.3.F - H.
Approving Official:	Deputy Commissioner - External and Intergovernmental Affairs
Contact:	Chief, Public Affairs, 92-40000

1. **Scope.** This Directive and Standard applies to professional-level employees in the following types of positions: public affairs officers, public affairs specialists, information officers, information specialists, other positions in the information series, and any other positions performing similar functions, including those in external affairs. It also includes professional-level publication and visual media personnel engaged in activities related to public information.
2. **Statement of Departmental Policy.**
 - A. Prior approval by the Department of the Interior, Office of Communications (OCO) is required for the creation of new positions, appointments, details, transfers, or termination of existing positions or termination of employment of professional-level employees covered by this Directive and Standard.
 - B. OCO may obtain assistance directly from Reclamation information officers on any information project and, when the occasion arises, may detail Reclamation information personnel to OCO for work on special projects.
 - C. The Interior Director of Communications may issue instructions to Reclamation information officers to carry out the assigned responsibilities of OCO.
 - D. OCO may review performance ratings of personnel described above.
3. **Procedures.**
 - A. Supervisors must request approval through their regional public affairs officer to the Chief, Public Affairs, prior to establishing or advertising a position, and/or prior to hiring, promoting, terminating, or changing the position description of personnel covered by this Directive and Standard.

Reclamation Manual

Directives and Standards

- B. The Chief, Public Affairs, will coordinate approvals with OCO and notify the appropriate region once final approvals are received.