

MP Region Public Affairs, 916-978-5100, <http://www.usbr.gov/mp>, September 2015

Mid-Pacific Region Bureau of Reclamation

History

On June 17, 1902, President Theodore Roosevelt signed the Reclamation Act into law, creating the U.S. Reclamation Service (renamed the Bureau of Reclamation in 1923). The agency's mission was to develop and provide water for the 17 arid Western states. The 475 major structures built by Reclamation – including Hoover Dam on the Colorado River and Shasta Dam on the Sacramento River – are testaments to the agency's accomplishment of its early construction mission. In the 1980s, environmental concerns and population growth began to modify Reclamation's priorities, and today, the mission is "to manage, develop, and protect water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American public."

Mid-Pacific Region

The Mid-Pacific Region, one of five Reclamation regions, was created by the Secretary of the Interior in 1942 and is headquartered in Sacramento, California. The Region covers the northern two-thirds of California, most of western Nevada, and a part of southern Oregon. Area Offices are located in Shasta Lake, Folsom, and Fresno, California; Carson City, Nevada; and Klamath Falls, Oregon. Field Offices are located in Byron, Sonora, and Napa, California and Fallon, Nevada. Specialized offices include the Bay-Delta and Central Valley Operations offices in Sacramento, Trinity Restoration Program Office in Weaverville, and the MP Construction Office in Willows.

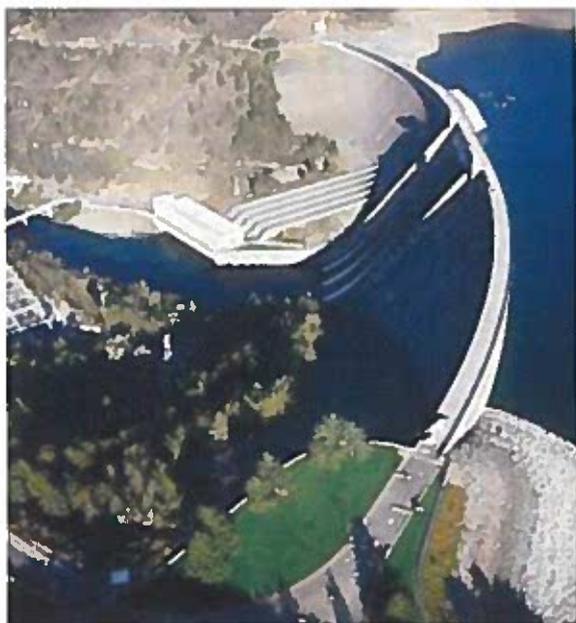
What We Do

The Region strives to develop and implement a balanced approach to water allocation, serving users while protecting the environment. The Mid-Pacific Region manages one of the Nation's largest and best-known water projects, the Central Valley Project (CVP), as well as Oregon's Klamath Project; Nevada's Newlands, Humboldt, Washoe, and Truckee Storage projects; and California's Cachuma, Orland, Santa Maria, Solano, and Ventura River projects.

The Region's goal is to balance competing and often conflicting needs among water uses and users. These include urban and industrial use, agriculture, fish and wildlife habitat, water quality, wetlands, endangered



species issues, Native American Tribal Trust issues, power generation, and recreation.



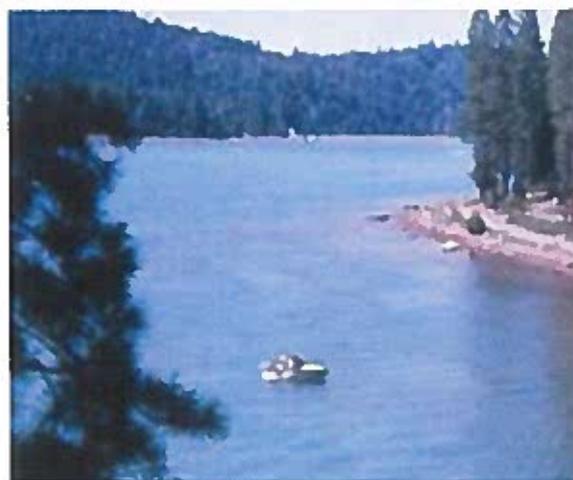
Lake Cachuma

The Mid-Pacific Region currently employs about 1000 people in a wide range of positions from park ranger to engineer to administrative assistant to fishery biologist. Project managers take the lead in negotiating contracts, implementing habitat improvements and furthering ongoing projects. Operations and maintenance personnel manage and maintain critical facilities in drought and flood conditions, monitor facilities instrumentation, perform preventive maintenance and oversee rehabilitation and repair projects. Support staff provides the design, engineering, construction, data processing, human resources, procurement, budget, and other services essential to getting the job done.

With the CVP under its management, the Mid-Pacific Region encounters all the same controversies and pressures that characterize the state's water supply overall. The CVP delivers more water through its facilities than any other single agency in California -

about 5 million acre-feet on average. From Shasta Dam on the Sacramento River near Redding, Folsom Dam on the American River near Sacramento, and Friant Dam on the San Joaquin River near Fresno, and facilities on other major rivers throughout the north state, water is conveyed about 400 miles within the CVP service area from near the Oregon border to the Tehachapi Mountains near Bakersfield.

The CVP with 20 reservoirs and more than 500 miles of canals provides water used to irrigate more than 3 million acres of prime agricultural land in 6 of the top 10 agricultural counties in California, the Nation's leading farm state. This water grows crops such as grapes, apples, oranges, lemons, tomatoes, rice, almonds, peaches, figs, melons, lettuce, pistachios, broccoli, asparagus, corn, wheat, cotton, hay, and flowers. CVP water is also critical to the poultry, beef and dairy industries. Additionally, there are 11 hydroelectric powerplants providing an average of 5.5 billion kilowatt hours of electricity, enough to supply about 1.5 million people with power. With the state's burgeoning population; environmental needs; and unpredictable weather patterns; water delivery and storage challenges are many.



Boating in Shasta Reservoir

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

Facts & Information

The Bureau of Reclamation:

- Manages, develops, and protects water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American public.
- Is the nation's largest wholesale water supplier, operating 348 reservoirs with a total storage capacity of 245 million acre-feet (an acre-foot, about 326,000 gallons of water, supplies enough water for a family of four for one year).
- Provides 1 out of 5 (or, 140,000) farmers in the West with irrigation water for 10 million acres of farmland that produce 60 percent of the nation's vegetables and one quarter of its fresh fruit and nut crops.
- Is the second largest producer of hydropower in the United States and operates 58 hydroelectric power plants that annually produce, on average, 44 billion kilowatt-hours.
- Delivers 10 trillion gallons of water to more than 31 million people each year.
- Manages, with partners, 289 recreation sites that have 90 million visits annually.

The Bureau of Reclamation priorities are to:

- Ensure the continued delivery of water and power benefits in conformity with contracts, statutes, and agreements.
- Operate and maintain projects in a safe and reliable manner, protecting the health and safety of the public and Reclamation employees and improve financial accountability and transparency to our contractors.
- Honor state water rights, interstate compacts, contracts with Reclamation users, further the Secretary of the Interior's Indian Trust responsibilities, and comply with all environmental statutes.
- Plan for the future using programs that focus Reclamation's financial and technical resources on areas in the West where conflict over water either currently exists or is likely to occur in the coming years.
- Enhance the business operations of Reclamation in accordance with the *Managing for Excellence* initiative.
- Provide for the implementation of the Loan Guarantee Program that can assist water districts with large operation and maintenance/replacement projects on Reclamation facilities and facilities used to deliver Reclamation supplies.



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation

The Bureau of Reclamation is:

- Developing strategies to manage and deliver water more efficiently and effectively to our customers in order to help satisfy the many needs of irrigation, municipalities, power and the environment and serve as a technical resource for water users and planners.
- Working in partnership with states, Tribes, water and power customers, and others to seek creative and collaborative solutions to water issues in the West.
- Ensuring our dams do not create unacceptable risk to the public by monitoring, evaluating, and when appropriate, performing risk reduction modifications.

For More Information:

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916-978-5100

www.usbr.gov/mp

July 2013



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation