

# Dam Safety and Infrastructure



*Effectively managing risk and maximizing the value of Reclamation's assets.*

## BACKGROUND

To ensure the safety and reliability of the Bureau of Reclamation's (Reclamation) diverse infrastructure, Dam Safety and Infrastructure (DS&I) effectively manages risk and maximizes the value of Reclamation's assets for our stakeholders and the American public. We leverage our expertise and unique perspectives to support our mission in collaboration with operating partners, stakeholders, and regional, area, and field offices. DS&I is composed of the Asset Management Division (AMD), Budget and Administrative Services Office (BASO), and Dam Safety Office (DSO).

## ASSET MANAGEMENT DIVISION

AMD oversees Reclamation's water and power related assets by developing maintenance requirements, tracking and reporting condition and inventory, and providing training. It is comprised of three branches: Operations and Maintenance (O&M), Infrastructure Investment and Management, and Land Resources.

The **O&M Branch** coordinates with the regional, area, and field offices on periodic reviews, examinations, preventative maintenance, tracking recommended actions, and facility condition through the Review of Operation and Maintenance (RO&M) Program for Reclamation water-related facilities.

By providing policies, guidance, training, resources and tools, the O&M Branch equips Reclamation personnel to operate and maintain Reclamation's water-related facilities (dams, levees, canals, pipelines, buildings, roads, bridges, etc.) in a safe and reliable manner. As examples, the O&M Branch leads and facilitates the:

- Enterprise Asset Registry
- *Water Operations and Maintenance Bulletin*
- Water Management and RO&M Workshops



Truckee Canal at the Derby Diversion Dam, Newlands Project, Nevada.

The **Infrastructure Investment and Management Branch** facilitates the implementation of the Bureau's Strategic Asset Management Plan, maintains an asset inventory of Reclamation's constructed assets, and provides guidance and support for infrastructure investment strategy and planning. The branch is responsible for the:

- Capital Asset and Resource Management Application (CARMA)
- Major Rehabilitation and Replacement (MR&R) Program
- Federal Real Property Profile (FRPP)
- Title Transfer
- Capital Investment and Repair Needs (CIRN) Reporting

The **Land Resources Branch** specializes in Reclamation-wide land, realty, recreation, and wildland fire management. It is responsible for implementing land management and realty directives on 7.8 million acres of Reclamation-managed land. The branch is supervised by the Chief Realty Officer for Reclamation. Land Resources activities include:

- Recreation Program
- Realty and Land Management
- Wildland Fire Management Program
- Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT)
- Reclamation Land and Realty School

## **BUDGET AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES OFFICE**

BASO provides planning, analyses, and advice for the internal business operations of DS&I, which includes the management of budget, information technology, writing and editing, and administrative activities and reports; and the development and implementation of business practices and procedures for DS&I. BASO ensures that efficient and effective internal systems, practices, and messages are in place, using continuous process improvement methodologies, that enable DS&I to effectively accomplish its important mission activities and objectives. Among its responsibilities, BASO assists with:

- Budget Formulation and Execution
- Dam Safety Information System (DSIS)
- Writing Best Practices Instruction

## **DAM SAFETY OFFICE**

Under the authority of the Safety of Dams (SOD) Act, Reclamation addresses dam safety issues related to hydrologic, seismic, or state-of-the-art design and construction practices. Continued safe performance of aging dams requires an emphasis on the risk management activities conducted by the DSO. Reclamation implements ongoing risk management activities, including monitoring, incident response, examinations, and re-analyses, to assure safe dam performance. The Dam Safety Program identifies developing adverse performance at Reclamation dams and carries out corrective actions expeditiously when unreasonable public risk is identified.

Reclamation leads the **Department of the Interior (DOI) Working Group on Dam Safety and Security (WGDSS)** to foster collaboration across dam safety programs within DOI. The **Safety Evaluation of Existing Dams (SEED)** Program supports recurring performance monitoring, examinations, analyses, field data investigations, technical studies, and technology development activities for dams in the program. Public safety risks associated with dam safety issues are investigated and assessed to determine if SOD corrective actions are warranted; if so, subsequent activities are funded by the **Initiate Safety of Dams Corrective Action (ISCA) Program**.

ISCA supports SOD modifications and includes project formulation, approval, preconstruction, and construction activities for Reclamation dams where assessed dam safety risks justify modifications to reduce risk to the downstream public in accordance with Reclamation's Public Protection Guidelines. Changes in schedule or scope of work may occur in response to increased knowledge of risks, changes in dam performance, or impacts on critical water supplies from interim actions such as reservoir restrictions. ISCA allows resources to be readily focused on priority structures, as determined by identification of risks and needs. Modification reports are prepared and submitted to Congress for modifications with estimated construction costs exceeding \$20 million (October 2015 price level), as required by the SOD Act.



B.F. Sisk Dam and San Luis Reservoir, approximately 12 miles west of Los Banos, California (Dudek).

**DAM SAFETY AND INFRASTRUCTURE  
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