



— BUREAU OF —  
RECLAMATION

## Douglas L. Davis

### Native American Affairs Manager



Douglas L. Davis serves as the Manager for the Missouri Basin Region's Native American Affairs Program. He provides leadership for the management and oversight of outreach and technical assistance to the 69 Native American Tribes, and for the Department's Federal Reserved Indian Water Rights efforts, within the Region. He executed development and implementation of Reclamation's largest Indian Self-Determination Program from 2009 to 2021.

Davis serves on several Federal Reserved Indian Water Rights Assessment, Negotiation, and Implementation Teams, having been recommended by the Commissioner and appointed by the Secretary's Indian Water Rights Office to serve either as Team Chair, or as Reclamation's representative. He formerly Chaired the Crow and Rocky Boys Implementation Teams and Fort Belknap Negotiation Team and is currently a representative on the Osage

Assessment Team and Kickapoo Negotiation Team. He ensured completion of all enforceability requirements for Crow, final completion and closeout of four Dam rehabilitation and repair projects for Rocky Boys and ensured Tribal-Federal negotiations for Fort Belknap proceeded to Congressional hearings.

Davis transferred to Reclamation in 2009, after serving 16 years with the Bureau of Indian Affairs. During his tenure there, he served many roles as an engineer and manager, including Acting Agency Superintendent. Davis provided managerial leadership and technical engineering assistance and expertise to Montana and Wyoming Tribes and Agencies for the operation and maintenance of irrigation projects, dams, federal and tribal water resources programs, and numerous federal and tribal water rights and water resources projects. He served as BIA's representative, technical lead, or Chair on many of the same Federal Reserved Water Rights Teams, including Blackfeet, Flathead, and Wind River Negotiation Team's. Davis was the Technical Lead for the Crow Water Rights Negotiations and Fort Belknap Water Rights Negotiations, his expertise and leadership and the technical data and information developed helped serve as the foundation for successful negotiations resulting in successive back-to-back Tribal-State of Montana Water Rights Compacts in 1999 and 2000.

Davis also spent several years in the private sector with Morrison-Knudsen Corporation (MK), one of the world's former largest design, engineering, and construction companies, working on numerous large-scale civil engineering and construction projects throughout the world, including serving as Project Engineer completing the H-3 Highway Tunnels and Portals Project (Tetsuo Harano Tunnels) in Oahu, Hawaii, recognized as the 1994 Civil Engineering Achievement of the World by the American Society of Civil Engineers. Davis began his professional career with the Montana Department of Highways, transferring to the BIA for a short stint before leaving to work for MK.

Davis has received numerous awards and accolades for significant achievement during his professional career, including the Department of Justice's Special Achievement Water Rights Recognition in 2007, selection as Reclamation's Great Plains Region Engineer of the Year in 2011, and as the Montana State University, Norm Asbjornson College of Engineering, Alumni Achievement Award in 2023.

An enrolled member of the Blackfeet Tribe, and native of the Blackfeet Indian Reservation, Montana, Davis began his education and experience early on the family ranch, earning a Bachelor of Science Degree in Construction Engineering Technology from Montana State University-Bozeman, in 1988, and graduating from the United States, Federal Graduate School, Executive Potential Program in 2001.