

Chris Wright Missouri Basin Assistant Regional Director



Chris Wright serves as Assistant Regional Director for the Missouri Basin & Arkansas-Rio Grand-Texas Gulf Regions, the largest and most ecologically diverse region in Reclamation. Wright, along with the Regional Director, and Assistant Regional Director, directs a work force which strives to manage, develop, and protect water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner. He helps lead a workforce of 650 professionals, who together manage a portfolio of 80 reclamation reservoirs, including 20 hydropower facilities, and 93 recreational areas hosting more than 14 million visitors each year. Wright will work on complex water supply issues, such as aging infrastructure and ongoing drought. He will also focus on endangered species recovery, the Indian Water Rights Settlement, infrastructure rehabilitation, and municipal and irrigation water supply planning, among other things.

Wright has been with Reclamation off and on for over 20 years and began his career as a Communication and Instrumentation Mechanic for Green Mountain Power Plant with the Eastern Colorado Area Office. Most recently he has been serving as the Deputy Area Manager for the Montana Area Office of the Missouri Basin and Arkansas- Rio Grande - Texas Gulf Region.

Prior to working in Montana, Wright served in various field maintenance and power program roles with multiple agencies, to include the USBR, CPN, Yakima Field Office in Yakima, WA and the Dardanelle Power Office with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Russellville, Arkansas. In addition to his public service, he has spent time in the private sector with Solix Biofuels and Timber Line Electric and Control Corporation as a field maintenance technician and IT manager. Wright is no stranger to the extreme cold offered by Montana as he also worked on voice communications for the National Science Foundation at McMurdo Station Antarctica following his first enlistment in the United States Marine Corps.

Wright grew up in southeast Tennessee, but quickly moved west over 20 years ago. His military service ended in March of 2013 and included active and reserve time with multiple activations and a deployment to Ramadi, Iraq in 2006. He enjoys everything the outdoors in Montana and the western states have to offer. He has a true passion and heart for the resource Reclamation serves and manages as well as the people who make it great.