Jeff Payne is Deputy Regional Director in the Bureau of Reclamation’s California-Great Basin Region, a federal agency under Department of the Interior that delivers water and power to California, northern Nevada, and the Klamath Basin.

Payne was appointed in January 2020 and oversees area offices in Klamath Falls, Oregon and Carson City, Nevada, as well as two regional divisions, being Resources Management; and Safety, Security, and Emergency Management.

Payne has previously held positions as Director of Water Policy for the Friant Water Authority, and as Principal Engineer for MWH, where he led the development of several Reclamation projects, including risk assessments, feasibility studies, operation plans, and infrastructure investment strategies.

Payne holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Kentucky and a Master of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Washington. Payne is a licensed California Professional Engineer.