

Adam Nickels, Principal Deputy Regional Director



Adam Nickels is principal deputy regional director of the Bureau of Reclamation's California-Great Basin Region, a federal agency under the Department of the Interior that delivers water and power to California, Nevada, and the Klamath Basin.

Appointed in December 2023, Nickels serves as senior advisor to the regional director and deputy regional directors on water storage projects, resources issues, compliance, operations and maintenance on aging infrastructure, project management, and planning.

He began his career with Reclamation in 2003 as an archaeologist at the Montana Area Office in Billings, Montana. Moving to California in 2006 to continue his career in cultural resources for the California-Great Basin Region, Nickels served as a project manager and as the deputy

program manager for water management in the San Joaquin River Restoration Program.

He previously served as the manager for the regional Resources and Planning Division where he managed water rights, water-related contracts, lands resources, facility inspections, planning, water conservation, WaterSMART, Native American affairs and water transfers.

Nickels holds a bachelor's degree in anthropology and a master's degree in resources management from Central Washington University.