Comments on this draft release must be submitted to mbowman@usbr.gov by September 7, 2019.

Background and Purpose of the Following Draft Reclamation Safety and Health Standards (RSHS)

The RSHS are being updated by the Bureau of Reclamation Safety and Occupational Health Office to reflect new requirements from Reclamation, the Department of the Interior, and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. This public release is intended to provide the public an opportunity to comment on each updated section in draft form. This process will enhance transparency and eliminate potential confusion about Reclamation’s safety standards.


See the following pages for the draft RSHS.
Section 1

Authority, Purpose and Scope

1.1 Authority

1.2 Purpose
The purpose of these standards is to assist Reclamation personnel, contractors, and visitors to understand the safety and health safety requirements for operations performed or controlled by Reclamation.

1.3 Scope
This section sets forth the authority, purpose, and scope of the Reclamation Safety and Health Standards. The standards prescribe the safety and health requirements for all Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) activities and operations. All contracts or agreements for performance of work on Reclamation facilities must incorporate provisions for compliance with these standards. These standards are consistent with the health and safety standards prevalent in industry, the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (Public Law 91-596), and Department of the Interior regulations.

1.4 General Requirements
These standards are incorporated into the Reclamation Manual by reference through SAF 01-01, Occupational Safety and Health - General, para. 6. D, under a waiver authorized by the Commissioner and dated December 22, 2009.

1.5 Definitions

| Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) | The codification of the general and permanent rules and regulations (sometimes called administrative law) published in the Federal Register by the executive departments and agencies of the Federal Government of the United States. The CFR is divided into 50 titles that represent broad areas subject to Federal regulation. |
The record of department-wide policies and procedures for the Department of the Interior. It contains long-term policies, mandatory procedures, and descriptions of major organization components, as well as selected Secretary’s Orders from 1992 to the present.

A rule or order issued by the President to an executive branch of the Government and having the force of law.

The official compilation and codification of the general and permanent Federal statutes of the United States. It contains 53 titles.

1.6 References

29 CFR 1910: Occupational Safety and Health Standards
29 CFR 1926: Safety and Health Regulations for Construction
29 CFR 1960: Basic Program Elements for Federal Employees
Executive Order 12196: Occupational Safety and Health Programs for Federal Employees
Occupational Safety and Health Act 1970 (Public Law 91-596)
Department of Interior Departmental Manual, Part 485: Safety and Occupational Health Program
Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (CWHSSA)