

# Reclamation Manual

## Policy

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<b>Subject:</b>	Recreation Program Management
<b>Purpose:</b>	Defines the Bureau of Reclamation's requirements in providing public outdoor recreation facilities and opportunities. This Policy benefits Reclamation by providing the basic strategies for implementing a successful recreation program at Reclamation water resource projects.
<b>Authority:</b>	Reclamation Act of 1902 (ch. 1093, 32 Stat. 388; 43 USC 391 et seq.), as amended and supplemented; Economy Act of 1932 (ch. 314; 31 USC 1535), as amended; Reclamation Project Act of 1939 (ch. 418, 53 Stat. 1187; 43 USC 485 et seq.); Federal Water Project Recreation Act of 1965 (Pub. L. 89-72; 79 Stat. 213, 214; 16 USC 4601 et seq.), as amended; Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 (Pub. L. 90-480; 82 Stat. 718; 42 USC 4151 et seq.); Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Pub. L. 93-112; 87 Stat. 355; 29 USC 701 et seq.), as amended; Reclamation Recreation Management Act of 1992 (Pub. L. 102 575, Title XXVIII; 106 Stat. 4690; 16 USC 4601-31-4601-34), as amended; Law Enforcement Authority at Bureau of Reclamation Facilities, 2001 (Pub. L. 107-69; 115 Stat. 593; 43 USC 373b); Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act of 2004 (Pub. L. 108-447, Div. J, Title VIII; 118 Stat. 3378; 16 USC 6801 et seq.); 43 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 21, Occupancy of Cabin Sites on Public Conservation and Recreation Areas; 43 CFR part 24, Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Policy; 43 CFR part 420, Off-Road Vehicles; 43 CFR part 423, Public Conduct on Bureau of Reclamation Facilities, Lands, and Waterbodies; 43 CFR part 429, Use of Bureau of Reclamation Land, Facilities, and Waterbodies; Reclamation project-specific authorities; and Secretarial Order 3376 (SO 3376), Increasing Recreational Opportunities through the use of Electric Bikes
<b>Approving Official:</b>	Commissioner
<b>Contact:</b>	Asset Management Division (86-67200)

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- 1. Introduction.** Reclamation's multi-purpose water projects typically include outdoor recreation facilities and opportunities and may include recreation in the projects' economic justification and financial plan. Reclamation seeks qualified non-federal entities and federal agencies to manage Reclamation project facilities, lands, and waterbodies for recreation purposes in response to increasing public demand for access to reservoirs and rivers for water-based recreation. Through agreements with Reclamation, non-federal partners and federal agencies manage most recreation areas, with some developed recreation areas managed solely by Reclamation without the benefit of a managing partner.

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2. **Applicability.** This Policy applies to Reclamation staff who are responsible for the management of recreation lands and waterbodies under Reclamation's jurisdiction, including those lands and waterbodies managed by a partner (e.g., non-federal entity or another federal agency).
3. **Policy.** In providing recreation facilities and opportunities on Reclamation lands and waterbodies, Reclamation will:
  - A. give full consideration for the inclusion of outdoor recreation opportunities in project planning that is proportionate with public needs and Reclamation responsibilities, objectives, and authorities;
  - B. use effective approaches in managing Reclamation's land and water recreation resources in cooperation with non-federal and federal partners;
  - C. consider laws, regulations, and policies of managing partners when developing partnership agreements and exercise approval authority and oversight of managing partners, permittees, and concessionaires to ensure agreement compliance and the protection and appropriate use of land, resources, and facilities; and
  - D. fulfill Reclamation's stewardship responsibilities by providing recreation opportunities, facilities, and services consistent with authorized project purposes; resource management plans or other planning documents; authorized uses; adjacent commercial or recreational land uses; and applicable laws, regulations, Executive Orders, Secretarial Orders, Departmental requirements, and Reclamation Manual (RM) Policies and Directives and Standards (D&Ss).
4. **Policy Implementation.** Implementation of this Policy and the underlying authorities is the responsibility of Reclamation's directors and managers with overall recreation program administration being provided by the Asset Management Division as provided in RM D&S, *Recreation Program Management* ([LND 01-03](#)).
5. **Recreation Management.** Reclamation will manage recreation facilities and opportunities by entering into management agreements with qualified partners. If a partner cannot be secured, Reclamation will manage recreation areas within the limitations provided by existing authorities. Once a managing partner is secured, make every effort to prevent developed recreation areas from being turned back to Reclamation.
6. **Opportunities for Electric Bikes (E-Bikes) at Recreation Areas.** In accordance with Secretarial Order (SO) 3376 *Increasing Recreational Opportunities through the use of Electric Bikes*, Reclamation will open recreation areas to E-Bikes as defined by Section 4 and in compliance with 43 CFR part 420, *Off Road Vehicle Use*.
7. **Supporting RM Policy and D&Ss.** This Policy is supported by the following RM Policies and D&Ss.

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### A. RM Policy

- (1) Concessions Management, [LND P02](#)
- (2) Land Program Management, [LND P06](#)
- (3) Visitor Centers, [LND P13](#)
- (4) Allocation of Operation, Maintenance and Replacement Costs, [PEC P07](#)

### B. RM D&S

- (1) Review of Operation and Maintenance Program Examination of Associated Facilities (Facilities Other Than High- and Significant Hazard Potential Dams), [FAC 01-04](#)
- (2) Implementing Cost Sharing Authorities for Recreation and Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Facilities, [LND 01-01](#)
- (3) Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (REA) Program Management, [LND 01-02](#)
- (4) Recreation Program Management, [LND 01-03](#)
- (5) Concessions Management by the Bureau of Reclamation, [LND 04-01](#)
- (6) Concessions Management by Non-Federal Partners, [LND 04-02](#)
- (7) Land Use Authorizations, [LND 08-01](#)
- (8) Private Exclusive Recreational or Residential Use, LND 08-04
- (9) Visitor Centers, [LND 13-01](#)

## 8. Definitions.

- A. **Concession.** A non-federal commercial business that supports appropriate public recreation uses and provides facilities, goods, or services for which revenues are collected. A concession involves the use of the federal estate and usually involves the development of real property improvements.
- B. **Management Agreement.** A contractual agreement between Reclamation and a partner that outlines each party's duties and responsibilities and establishes a management relationship that provides public recreational uses and services on Reclamation lands and waterbodies.

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- C. **Managing Partner.** A federal or non-federal public entity that manages recreation and other agreed-upon cultural, natural, and environmental resources through a management agreement with Reclamation.
  - D. **Planning Document.** A Reclamation-approved plan formulated to achieve specific goals or objectives.
  - E. **Reclamation Project.** Any land, facilities, and waterbodies used for water supply, water delivery, flood control, hydropower, or other authorized purposes including fish, wildlife, and recreation administered by Reclamation under federal laws.
  - F. **Resource Management Plan.** A comprehensive plan that (1) is consistent with applicable laws; (2) is developed in consultation with appropriate federal and non-federal departments or agencies, tribes, authorized beneficiaries, and public; (3) provides for the development, use, conservation, protection, enhancement, and management of resources; and (4) is prepared in a manner that is compatible with the authorized purposes of the Reclamation project and associated lands.
9. **Review Period.** The originating office will review this release every 4 years.

## RECLAMATION MANUAL TRANSMITTAL SHEET

Effective Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Release No. \_\_\_\_\_

Ensure all employees needing this information are provided a copy of this release.

### Reclamation Manual Release Number and Subject

### Summary of Changes

NOTE: This Reclamation Manual release applies to all Reclamation employees. When an exclusive bargaining unit exists, changes to this release may be subject to the provisions of collective bargaining agreements.

### Filing instructions

Remove Sheets

Insert Sheets

All Reclamation Manual releases are available at <http://www.usbr.gov/recman/>

Filed by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_