

Reclamation Safety and Health Standards – 2025 Edition

Chapter 1: General Requirements | Section 1.01 Scope, Authority, and Purpose

Applicability: Reclamation Employees, Facilities, Operations, and Contractors

Section 1.01 Scope, Authority, and Purpose

1. Scope

This section sets forth the scope, authority, and purpose 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 at 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.

2. Authority

Federal law and departmental regulations grant the authority to expend funds and labor to develop and implement programs that protect the safety and health of Federal and contractor employees and prevent accidental damage of Government property. See 5 United States Code (U.S.C.) § 7902; Sections 6 and 19 of Public Law 91-596, Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970; 29 U.S.C. § 651 et seq.; 43 U.S.C. § 1457; Executive Order 12196; 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 1960; Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act; and the Department of the Interior Departmental Manual, Part 485 (485 DM).

3. Purpose

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

4. General Requirements

▲ These standards are incorporated into the Reclamation Manual by reference through Reclamation Manual Policy--Reclamation Safety and Occupational Health Program SAF P01.

RSHS Appendix A – Definitions

RSHS Appendix A ([Definitions](https://www.usbr.gov/safety/rshs/index.html)) is available to print at:
<https://www.usbr.gov/safety/rshs/index.html>.

RSHS Appendix B – Additional References and Citations

RSHS Appendix B ([Additional References and Citations](https://www.usbr.gov/safety/rshs/index.html)) is available to print at:
<https://www.usbr.gov/safety/rshs/index.html>.