

Green Careers Day - Experience the Environment



Reclamation's Upper Colorado Region's Public Affairs Office and the Provo Area Office attended the Fairchild Challenge, Green Careers Day, at Thanksgiving Point, Utah, on October 21, 2014. They presented to students that interacted and learned from a variety of professionals working in "green" careers, including water and dam topics from Reclamation. The students got their hands dirty by participating in the actives designed to help them gain awareness of different environmentally-based jobs.

The Fairchild Challenge is a multidisciplinary, environmental education program designed to give high school students an opportunity to express their opinions. By appealing to their innate sense of creativity and curiosity, the Fairchild Challenge invites students to investigate the most difficult



environmental issues, devise imaginative and effective responses to the issues, and take action to address them.

The UC Regional Office explained what the Bureau of Reclamation's mission is, the type of work they conduct, and had the students built fish ladders to migrate the fish by building detour routes so that they could get over or around the "dam" to the bottom banks. It was a fun interactive experience that taught the students about dams, endangered species, the environmental issues we encounter, and the purpose of fish ladders.

Three employees (Susan Corson, Deborah Hilton, & Lee Traynham) from the Provo Area Office attended the Fairchild Challenge, Green Careers Day, at Thanksgiving Point, Utah on Tuesday, October 21st. Several hundred students participated in activities designed to help them gain awareness of different environmentally based jobs (aka "green" careers). The Provo employees engaged 50-60 students in a game that explored the needs of the many water users in Northern Utah that are served by Reclamation facilities. Afterwards, they answered questions related to water supply, water quality, and dam operations, as well as those related to career opportunities within Reclamation and associated education requirements.

It was a successful outreach, with around 300 students in attendance.

Below is some of the student's positive feedback from their experience with Reclamation at the Fairchild Experience.

"It was an exciting time for me."

"The water one, hands on learning."

"Yes, it was cool to be with the presenters."

"Where do I sign up?"

"The second one (Water Works), we had a really fun hands-on and the guy was nice."

"I enjoyed water works, it was fun to see all of the different actives and challenges they had for us."

"We built stuff and talked about future jobs."

"Dams require science and math to build them."

"I liked going to the Museum of Natural Curiosity and building water dams."

"Yeah, there are a lot of things I didn't know were considered "green" careers."

"How much does it cost compared to normal things we use today?"

"What are more jobs? How much do they get paid? What colleges have the best professor in this topic?"

"I would like to see all the areas this field includes."

Photos below



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Albuquerque Area Office Hosts Longfellow Elementary Second Graders



Playing with sand, rocks and water happen to be some of the favorite activities of many kids. The Albuquerque Area Office found a way to use these activities to educate the children on some aspects of water management.

Last week the AAO hosted 60 second graders from Longfellow Elementary School, which is located about a block from the office. With shrinking budgets for field trips, many schools have been left searching for options close to home. Shawndra Benoit, a Reclamation employee and mother of one of those second graders, saw an opportunity to offer some outreach and education close to the school.

Vince Benoit and Shawndra, both of the AAO's Technical Services Division, led the children in an activity of soil sampling. They taught them how to use a separator to reduce the sample size. Then shake the samples in the sieve shaker, and finally they looked at the material retained on each sieve. While one group was participating in the sediment sieving, the other two groups learned how to use a gravelometer for sizing material in field measurements.

The children then got to participate in river and village planning and building with the Rolling Rivers Trailer. This activity was led by Todd Kirkpatrick of the Water Operations Division and Tim Murphy of the Major Projects Division. The Rolling Rivers Trailers were funded in part through Reclamation's Water Conservation Program in the past. They are typically used to educate 4th graders on river behavior and human activities that alter that river.



Teachers and students seemed pleased with the time they spent at the Bureau of Reclamation.

Photos below



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Reclamation Transfers Ownership of the Strawberry Valley Project Power Distribution System



Salt Lake City, Utah: The Bureau of Reclamation today transferred ownership of the Strawberry Valley Project Power Distribution System to the South Utah Valley Electric Service District. The transfer was made under provisions of the South Utah Valley Electric Conveyance Act. The Strawberry Valley Project Power Distribution System consists of 12.5 kilovolt power lines that convey electricity from system substations to end users in south Utah County.

The Department of the Interior supports the transfer of facilities in cases where such projects create benefits for the new owner, other stakeholders and the general public. In an effort to facilitate the project, the District proposed legislation that would allow for the transfer of the Distribution System. The South Utah Valley Electric Conveyance Act was signed into law on July 18, 2013. The law authorizes transfer of the Power Distribution System to the District, and provides the District with access to associated federal lands for operations and maintenance purposes.

The Strawberry Valley Project comprises about 45,000 irrigable acres in south Utah County. The project provided the first large-scale transmountain diversion from the Colorado River Basin to the Bonneville Basin. It also was one of the earliest Reclamation projects to develop hydroelectric



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energy. The Strawberry Valley Project Power System had three components; a generation system consisting of power plants; a transmission system consisting of 46.0 kilovolt lines connecting the power plants to substations; and a distribution system that consists of 12.5 kilovolt lines from substations to end users. The Strawberry Valley Project Power System supplies electricity to users in Payson, Salem, Spanish Fork, Springville, and adjacent Utah County areas.

For more information, please contact Provo Area Office Manager Wayne Pullan at 801-369-2778 or Provo Area Office's Public Affairs Specialist Lee Traynham at 801-379-1196.



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Reclamation Transfers Ownership of the Provo River Aqueduct



A crew uses a pump truck to place Controlled Low Strength Concrete Fill Material (CLSM) to the midpoint of the 126-inch Provo Reservoir Canal Enclosure pipe in the Lehi, Utah area. A second crew places and compacts soil backfill material over the top of the pipe.

Project improves water delivery, conservation, recreation and environment

Salt Lake City, Utah – During a late morning signing ceremony on Friday, October 31, 2014, the Bureau of Reclamation, acting under the provisions of the Provo River Project Transfer Act, transferred ownership of the Provo River Aqueduct to the Provo River Water Users Association. The piping of the Provo Reservoir Canal is a notable achievement, improving water delivery, water conservation, public safety, recreation, and the environment for decades to come.

Transfer of ownership is the final step in a major project initiated by the Association in 1998. The project enclosed the former Provo Reservoir Canal, historically known as the Murdock Canal, which provides water for irrigation, municipal and industrial uses to several communities in both Utah and Salt Lake counties. The enclosure was completed in 2012, replacing the canal with the Provo River Aqueduct—a 21-mile long, 10.5-foot diameter pipeline stretching from the mouth of Provo Canyon to the Point of the Mountain in Salt Lake County.

“The Department of the Interior supports the transfer of facilities in cases where such projects create benefits for the new owner, other stakeholders and the general public,” said Jennifer



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Gimbel, the Department of the Interior's Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Water and Science. "This transfer is a milestone achievement built on years of work amongst several partners."

The project will improve water quality, public safety, and recreation. Eight thousand acre-feet of the water conserved by the project will be used for flows to support the endangered June sucker, a fish species native only to Utah Lake and its tributary streams, and to provide benefits to other fish and wildlife.



Representatives from the five funding stakeholders and the numerous federal, state, local and municipal agencies that contributed to the successful completion of the title transfer and enclosure project attended the Provo Reservoir Title Transfer ceremony on October 31, 2014.

"Today's celebration marks the conclusion of one of the most significant recent water projects in Utah," stated Keith Denos, General Manager of the Association. "We couldn't have made it to where we are today without commitment and cooperation from a wide range of stakeholders."

The five funding stakeholders—Provo River Water Users Association, Central Utah Water Conservancy District, Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District, Provo Reservoir Water Users Company, and Metropolitan Water District of Salt Lake and Sandy —along with numerous federal, state, local and municipal agencies contributed to the successful completion of the title transfer and enclosure project.

Following completion of the canal enclosure, local partnerships and a \$12 million grant from the Federal Highway Administration allowed for construction of the Murdock Canal Trail. This 17-mile, multi-use, paved trail passes through seven Utah County communities, from Orem to Lehi, and is referred to as the "crown jewel" of the county trail system.



For more information, please contact Provo Area Office Manager Wayne Pullan at 801-369-2778 or Provo Area Office's Public Affairs Specialist Lee Traynham at 801-379-1196.

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UC Region Big Picture Issues Jennifer Faler

I was fortunate to have had the opportunity to expand my horizons by spending a couple months as the Acting Deputy Regional Director during an interesting time in the Regional Director's Office. With Ann's scheduled retirement and Larry's unscheduled retirement, I was anxious to come up and lend a helping hand. Out in the field offices we called Brent the last man standing and having witnessed it first hand, I can say that I don't think he would still be standing if it weren't for the outstanding support he receives from all of you.

In the Albuquerque Area Office we affectionately refer to ourselves as "Upper Colorado Region – South," so I thought I had a good understanding of the region. I quickly realized that this was not so. With 61 dams and 31 hydroelectric powerplants under its purview, 82 projects and programs, an annual delivery of 12.6 million acre-feet of water, and over 3.5 million acres of irrigated farmland in Idaho, Wyoming, Utah, Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas, the Upper Colorado is quite diverse and complex.

It was also my good luck to have been in the Regional Office when the Glen Canyon Dam turned 50 years old. Reflecting on the sense of accomplishment for Reclamation having constructed such a spectacular structure overcoming many planning, engineering, and construction challenges, I am struck by all that led up the authorization for the project through the modern day operations to manage sediment and species. I'll refer you to [Glen Canyon Dam Construction History](#) for Reclamation's version of the story and to [Wikipedia's Version](#) to hear another version of the story. Stay tuned for another high-flow event starting on November 10th designed to improve marsh and riverside vegetation and backwaters, which are near-shore areas of low-velocity flow, which may be used as rearing habitat by native fish and to benefit sediment-dependent resources including sandbars and camping beaches.

I have benefitted greatly from my experience in the Regional Office and thank you all for your encouragement and support during my detail. Seeing the work that the Regional Office performs day in and day out has been an inspiration for me and has reminded me about the power of team work. I've experienced both the anguish of working on struggling teams and the joy and enhanced productivity of working on successful teams. Fortunately, the majority of the teams I experienced were the latter.

Thankfully this is not a good-bye moments so I will end with a "see you on down the road."

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Provo River Project Tour



An energy dissipation structure is located at the downstream end of the Weber-Provo Canal, immediately above the Francis flow monitoring station.

The Weber-Provo diversion is a Reclamation facility located near Kamas, Utah. The purpose of the structure is to divert surplus flows from the Weber River to the Provo River system. While the Weber-Provo diversion was constructed as a key feature of the Provo River Project, its operation impacts three additional Reclamation projects: the Central Utah, Weber River, and Weber Basin projects.

Following several contentious drought years, the Utah State Engineer tasked Reclamation with resolving conflicts related to the operation of the Weber-Provo Diversion and subsequent impacts on Reclamation projects. To this end, Reclamation has been proactive in working with stakeholders to encourage knowledge sharing, frequent communications, and transparency as part of a cooperative management approach.

Most recently, Provo Area Office staff facilitated a tour of key water rights management sites along the Provo River. The tour took place on Friday, October 17, 2014. The day started with brief presentations covering Provo River water rights, the Utah Lake Distribution Plan, the Deer Creek/Jordanelle Operations Agreement, and automated river monitoring tools. The tour of six key sites included stops at Deer Creek Dam, River Road (Midway) Bridge, Jordanelle Dam, the Weber Provo Canal flow gage at Francis, Beaver Shingle Creek Diversion, and Weber Provo Canal Diversion.

In addition to Reclamation staff, attendees included managers representing four major water users (Central Utah Water Conservancy District, Weber Basin Water Conservancy District, Provo River Water Users Association, and Weber River Water Users Association, both the Provo River and



Weber River water commissioners, engineers from the Utah Division of Water Rights, Colorado Basin River Forecast Center hydrologists, and weather forecasters from the National Weather Service.



Keith Denos, General Manager of Provo River Water Users Association, explains operations at the Beaver Shingle Creek Diversion structure.



Rich Tullis, Assistant General Manager of Central Utah Water Conservancy District, explains key components of the Utah Lake Distribution Plan to tour attendees. Two Francis turbines at Jordanelle Power Plant



Daryl Devey, Bonneville O&M Manager of the Central Utah Water Conservancy District, describes hydro power production during a tour of the Jordanelle Power Plant.

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Albuquerque Area Office Employee Donates Bone Marrow



By Rebecca Onchaga
Albuquerque Area Office

Ted Nelson, IT Specialist at the Albuquerque Area Office, vaguely recalled signing up for the Be The Match's blood marrow donor registry on December 23, 2003. There was a cheek swab taken, maybe when he was in the military or at a health fair; he wasn't certain. It certainly seemed like a good idea and he hoped he'd be able to help someone someday. That said, he was surprised when he received a letter via Federal Express on September 8, 2014, telling him that he had been identified as a possible bone marrow match for a man about the same age as him suffering from leukemia. Ted immediately called the number on the letter and was asked to verify his identity, if he was still interested in being a bone marrow donor, and then answered some basic questions about his medical history.

A week or so after receiving the original letter, Ted received a phone call from the donor coordinator Jamie. She sent him a packet of information about the process and told him that the recipient needed some time to be prepared for the donation. After that, things started to fall into place.

On September 26, Ted flew to Fort Worth, Texas, to have the preliminary physical done. At that time, they did a medical exam and chest x-ray, took samples for lab work, and then had Ted donate



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one unit of double red blood cells to be used to replenish his lost blood after the procedure. Ted's donor coordinator made all of the travel and other arrangements. Be The Match picked up all expenses.

Ted flew to Fort Worth for the actual procedure the night before, in early October. Be The Match also flew in Ted's father, Theodore Nelson, from Decatur, Georgia, to stay with Ted after the procedure.

The morning of the bone marrow donation, Ted had to be at the hospital by 6 am. He went under general anesthetic and the process was completed by 10 am. They usually remove about 1.3 quarts of bone marrow and blood from the donor's pelvic bone; a fairly significant amount. Ted was released from the hospital by noon with a pain prescription. The first few days, Ted had some fatigue, a sore throat, and lower back pain. He said that "it wasn't too bad" and felt mostly like a muscle ache from overexertion. He stopped the pain killers in a few days. Within a week or so, he felt fine. The average recovery time is about 20 days, more or less, and most people experience only relatively mild symptoms after the procedure, similar to what Ted experienced.

In the United States, approximately 10,000 people a year are diagnosed with diseases or disorders that require bone marrow transplants. These include blood cancers like leukemia and lymphoma, as well as people born with blood disorders like sickle cell anemia. For someone with leukemia, for example, a cancer originating in the bone marrow, a bone marrow transplant helps replace diseased and nonfunctioning bone marrow and strengthens the immune system to help continue to fight off the cancer and the effects of chemotherapy. A bone marrow transplant often offers someone with leukemia their best chance at a total remission.

If you have any interest in signing up to be a possible bone marrow donor, please check out <http://www.bethematch.org/>. There is a real need for bone marrow donors of diverse ethnic and racial backgrounds; South Asian and Pacific Islanders, African-American and Blacks, Hispanics and Latinos, Native Americans and Alaskan natives, and people of mixed race. African American patients, in particular, currently have the lowest odds of finding a matching donor.



Peggy Chandler, Ted's Supervisor in Albuquerque, states, "The Bureau of Reclamation recognizes the importance of bone marrow and organ donation by authorizing administrative leave to cover the time away from the office. Bone marrow donation is authorized 7 days of administrative leave and organ donation is authorized 30 days of administrative leave. Both of these circumstances are covered in Regional Letter 500-09-08, page 18, paragraph B.8."

Ted is also willing to answer questions about the bone marrow donation process. He can be contacted at TNelson@usbr.gov or at (505) 462-3642. "I feel really good that I was able to help someone" Ted said.

We at the AAO think Ted should feel great. He sacrificed some time and tolerated a bit of pain to help a total stranger and perhaps, save that person's life.

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Regional Fire Safety Presentation



The Upper Colorado Regional Office had a presentation on fire safety at the end of October. They invited the Salt Lake City Fire Department to present on fire safety. The department, including the chief and other firemen, talked about having monthly fire drills at home and at least twice a year at work. They also talked about 9 volt batteries being a fire risk. They exclaimed that people should never store paper or flammables such as gasoline next to their furnaces or water heaters. They mentioned they see that quite often. Also, keep your dryer vents free of excess lint and make sure the heater is free from dust. Always make sure that your fire alarms have good batteries and never disconnect your alarm. It is also a good idea to have a carbon monoxide detector and if you have more than one level in your house, it is a good idea to have one on each floor. If your house is on fire and you are stuck on an upper floor hang a sheet out of the window. That tells the firefighters that someone is still in there. It is also good to inform your kids of what to do in case of a fire. There are kids who will hide and the firefighters can't find them.

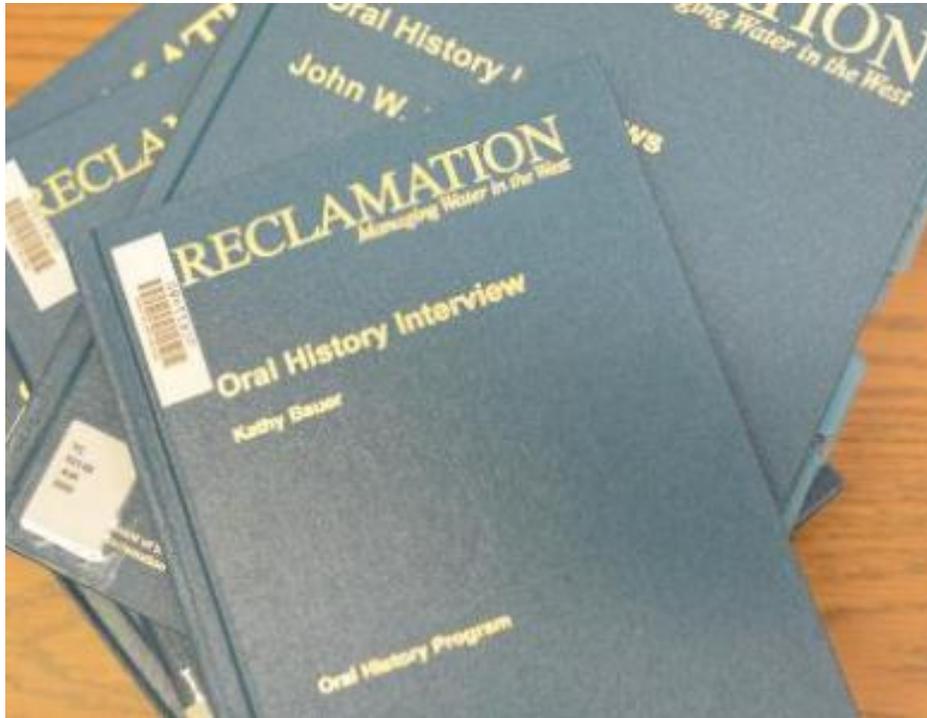
Please check out the informative video on [how 9 volt batteries can burn down your House](#) if stored improperly.

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Oral History Spotlight



The UC Regional Library has a collection of 110 oral history interviews conducted by Historians, with various Reclamation employees throughout the years. The oral histories capture candid “in their own voice” memories of employees and their experiences working for Reclamation. The oral histories preserve information about Reclamation that would not normally appear in Reclamation’s official records. Contents of the oral histories range from the humorous to reflective of the situation at the time, and all are informative!

Oral History Interview Warren Fairchild

Mr. Fairchild graduated from the University of Nebraska and would become a life-long supporter of water conservation and the natural resources districts. He would serve as Executive Secretary of the Nebraska Soil and Water Conservation Commission and progress his way as the assistant Commissioner for Resource Planning for the Bureau of Reclamation. What follows are excerpts from Mr. Fairchild’s oral history book:

Family History and Genealogy

...My mother used to talk about history. This is pretty off the subject. My great-grandmother’s first husband was killed by “Wild Bill” [James Butler] Hickok at Rock Creek Station, Nebraska.

His name was McCandless. She remarried, and it’s when they married that our family comes about. But her first husband was killed at Rock Creek Station. Now, there’s quite a state park there today, because that was on the Pony Express. And there was a ford there. McCandless actually built the station for the Pony Express and for the ford,



and he sold it to what was called the Major Cartage Company or something like that, that carried freight on the Oregon Trail. He sold it to them, and there was a disagreement over paying for the station. He went over to collect, and Wild Bill was one of the employees there. The irony of it was that while McCandless left his gun there and [Hickok] shot him with his own gun while he was in the door. If you go to the Nebraska State Historical Society, the first exhibit you see when you go in there is the picture of Wild Bill shooting McCandless in the door of the station. If they had taken the testimony at that time, of I think he was, a twelve- or fourteen-year-old boy, probably Wild Bill would have been hung in Gage County, Nebraska, and you never would have heard of him again. He was the witness to what happened, but at that time they would not take the testimony, **apparently**, of a minor. So Wild Bill, he left Nebraska; he never came back. After that he never set foot in Nebraska after that.

Storey: So were these people descended from your great-grandmother?

Yes, that's right. From McCandless. Then when he was killed, then she remarried, and she married a Hughes. So my grandmother's name was Hughes. So these people are **half**-relatives to us. Of course, I was never a relative of McCandless, because he was shot and I was never a relative of his. It's kind of interesting history.

Asked about His Interest in Moving to Reclamation as an Assistant Commissioner

So after they were back there for a while, why, there was a desire to do some reorganization of the Bureau, and that was to emphasize some of the new planning techniques that were coming into being at that point in time, and so they were looking around for somebody to come back and be an assistant commissioner for the Bureau of Reclamation. So I was contacted through the assistant secretary's office about whether I would be interested in exploring the possibility of coming back as assistant commissioner. I said, "I'd always be willing to come and talk about things like this," and so then Ellis Armstrong called me. I'd never met Ellis before that. Called me on the telephone. And I said, yes, I would be interested in visiting with him. I was going to be back on the East Coast because we were having a conference on interstate water problems in South Carolina in several weeks, and if it was all right then, why, I'd just come up after that meeting and visit.

So I did, and the decision was made by the powers in the Department of Interior and Ellis that they'd ask me to come back as assistant commissioner for planning and foreign activities, and I accepted. So then I came back in October of that year.

So my contact with Ellis before that, I'd never had any contact with Ellis before that. So his knowledge of my work, I'm sure, was more through the assistant secretary's office than it was through our personal knowledge.

Held Reclamation's First Planning Conference

We did do some things under Ellis that were possible. For instance, the Bureau never had a planning conference where they brought all of personnel together to go over some of the new aspects of planning. This is one thing that we held, the first and maybe

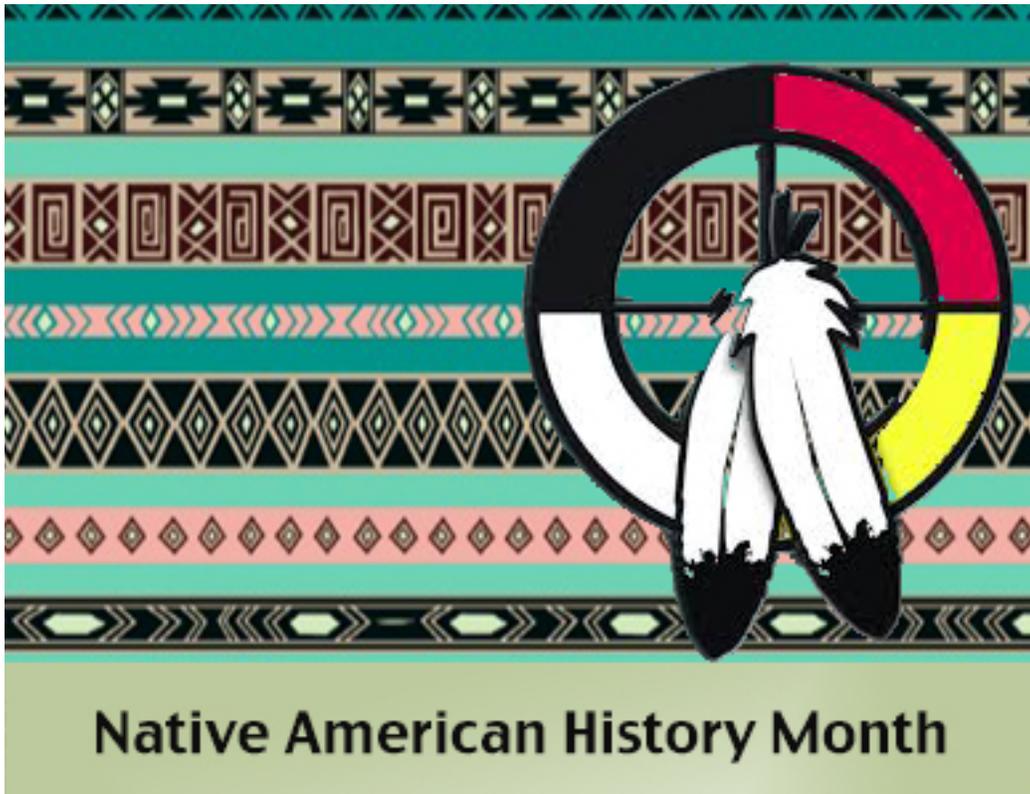


the only planning conference the Bureau of Reclamation ever had, when he was Commissioner, which was a very successful undertaking.

To read the full interview of Warren Fairchild [click here](#), and if you have any questions contact Chantel Bouchard, Regional Office Library Coordinator.

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About Native American Heritage Month



Information courtesy of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior

What started at the turn of the century as an effort to gain a day of recognition for the significant contributions the first Americans made to the establishment and growth of the U.S., has resulted in a whole month being designated for that purpose.

One of the very proponents of an American Indian Day was Dr. Arthur C. Parker, a Seneca Indian, who was the director of the Museum of Arts and Science in Rochester, N.Y. He persuaded the Boy Scouts of America to set aside a day for the "First Americans" and for three years they adopted such a day. In 1915, the annual Congress of the American Indian Association meeting in Lawrence, Kans., formally approved a plan concerning American Indian Day. It directed its president, Rev.



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Sherman Coolidge, an Arapahoe, to call upon the country to observe such a day. Coolidge issued a proclamation on Sept. 28, 1915, which declared the second Saturday of each May as an American Indian Day and contained the first formal appeal for recognition of Indians as citizens.

The year before this proclamation was issued, Red Fox James, a Blackfoot Indian, rode horseback from state to state seeking approval for a day to honor Indians. On December 14, 1915, he presented the endorsements of 24 state governments at the White House. There is no record, however, of such a national day being proclaimed.

The first American Indian Day in a state was declared on the second Saturday in May 1916 by the governor of New York. Several states celebrate the fourth Friday in September. In Illinois, for example, legislators enacted such a day in 1919. Presently, several states have designated Columbus Day as Native American Day, but it continues to be a day we observe without any recognition as a national legal holiday.

In 1990 President George H. W. Bush approved a joint resolution designating November 1990 "National American Indian Heritage Month." Similar proclamations, under variants on the name (including "Native American Heritage Month" and "National American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month") have been issued each year since 1994.

Click here for more information about [Native American Heritage Month](#)

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Who's New

Stacey Stanford

Stacey Stanford, new to us in Albuquerque, has many years of previous experience with the Fish and Wildlife Service. She originally started as a Wildlife Inspector in New York, working to enforce laws related to wildlife imports and exports. Stacey grew up in Massapequa, Long Island, with three sisters and received a Master's in Ecology from Fordham University in New York.

Stacey worked with the Collaborative Program as a term biologist for the Fish & Wildlife Service before coming to work with Reclamation. She continues to work with the Collaborative Program, with a focus on ESA compliance.



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Her hobbies include hiking, drawing, horseback riding, and yoga. We'll have to get her into our Albuquerque Area Office Employee Wellness yoga class! She is also the mother of a beautiful little girl, Josie, who will be two in December, with her husband Russ.



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In Transition

Sandra Caskey from Western Colorado Area Office Retires



Sandra (Sandi) Caskey started her career with Reclamation as a typist in the Western Colorado Area Office 23.9 years ago. Two years later she was accepted into an upward mobility program in the Land and Recreation Group. Eight years ago she was accepted in another upward



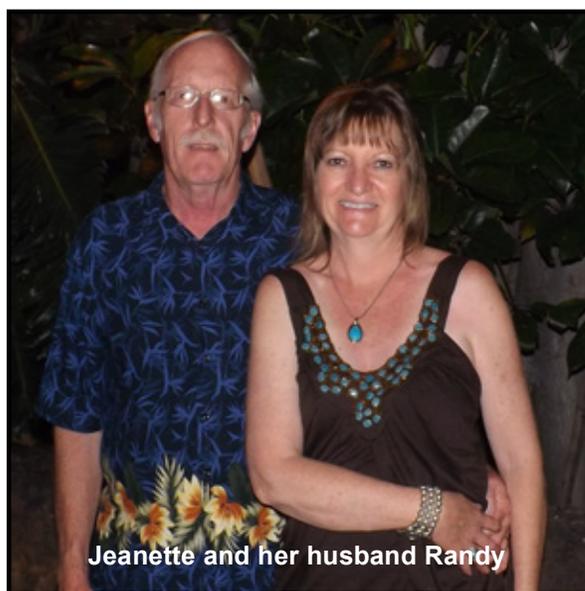
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mobility program for her current position in the Water Management Group as a Repayment Specialist. January 2, 2015, will be her final (really final) day with Reclamation. We say “really final” because she has been trying to retire since 2012.

Sandi said that, “I am sad leaving all the wonderful folks I’ve met and had the privilege to work with over the years. I’ve also been blessed to have had such caring and supportive supervisors. However, with that said, I am also looking forward to spending time with my husband traveling in our RV and Zenith 801 airplane. I have plans to continue my involvement with my church, the Commemorative Air Force, painting, cooking, keeping up my exercise program, and so much more. May God bless you all.”

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Jeanette Schielke from Western Colorado Area Office Retires



On December 31, 2014, Jeanette Schielke will retire from the Western Colorado Area Office. Jeanette began working for Reclamation on March 19, 1984 in the Montrose Projects Office that was constructing Ridgway Dam. She worked there for five years before the Montrose Projects Office closed when construction of the dam and reservoir were completed. Jeanette started her career with Reclamation as a roving secretary, and then began working as a computer assistant. After 16 years as a computer assistant, Jeanette was made an offer she couldn’t refuse. If she went to college and got Cisco Telecommunications and Networking degrees, she would become the next IT Specialist for the Western Colorado Area Office in Grand Junction. Jeanette went back to school and graduated with two associates degrees and began her career as an IT Specialist.

Jeanette is excited to retire and has lots of plans for the future including; planting a large vegetable garden in the spring, traveling, charity work, and spending quality time with her husband, Randy. Congratulations, Jeanette!

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Goodbye Tension, Hello Pension - Linda M. Ashby Retires

Starting work for the Bureau of Reclamation began as a way to earn money - but as my retirement nears, leaving the Bureau of Reclamation ends with appreciation for all the wonderful people I've known, and who have helped me immeasurably in my 26-year journey with BOR. It is the people I will miss, not so much the work!

From my beginning as a Mail/File Clerk, to Library Assistant, Training Assistant, Classifier, and Staffer, I've been fortunate to learn about Reclamation and it's mission. I've loved traveling the UC Region, visiting employees in every area and field office, and seeing in your eyes the pride that you have as you explain how you contribute to that mission. Our Reclamation mission is one of honor - bringing the scarce resource of water - for water is life - to arid regions.

My husband and I have "Grand Plans" - on January 1st, 2015, a visit to Okinawa to see our son who is stationed there with the USAF, and to Taiwan where my nephew is a British Diplomat. In April, we embark on a 26-day cruise from Florida across the Atlantic and around the Mediterranean, ending in Venice, Italy, then we'll go overland to Switzerland and enjoy a 10-day Viking River Cruise down the Rhine. We were stationed in Germany and the Netherlands with the military, so these are "old stompin' grounds" for us, and this will be a trip down memory lane. From Amsterdam, we'll go across the Channel to England where my six brothers and two sisters still live. When they get tired of us, we'll come back to the USA, and with friends, take the RV across America, from Utah to Florida and back, going east across the northerly route, and returning westerly through the South. All of that will take until about October - and then we'll do whatever we choose!

Who has time to work?

I'll enjoy keeping up with the happenings of our employees via UC today, and wish the best for each of you. Farewell to all the wonderful people in this region who journeyed with me, and especially to my HR co-workers, who are THE BEST; farewell to all those I've worked with in any capacity around the UC region; and to all my Albuquerque Area Office friends, whom I've grown to know and love over the past years. I've hired more than 130 of you - including Mike, Jennifer and Ken! My last day at work is December 31.

My personal e-mail is englishborn53@yahoo.com if you'd like to stay in touch.

Linda M. Ashby

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In Memoriam - Casey A. Nielson from Provo Area Office Employee

Beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother, son, uncle, and friend, Casey A. Nielson, age 57 of Payson, passed away Saturday, November 22, 2014.



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He was born March 3, 1957 in Payson, Utah to Alton and Lois Mae Walker Nielson. He married Debbie Tanner, May 11, 1979 at Payson, Utah.

Casey graduated from Payson High School and attended Utah Trade Technical College, BYU, and Utah Valley State College. He worked as a systems analyst for 38 years at the Federal Bureau of Reclamation. He enjoyed computers and technology. Casey loved to learn new things especially when it involved helping others. He loved to tie flies and go fly fishing and hunting with his boys. He loved his children and grandchildren and attending their special events. He was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Survivors include: his wife, Debbie; children, Jared (Katie), Shane (Shantel), Bowdy (Tasha) Nielson all of Payson, 8 grandchildren, Zac, Whitney, Evan, Brinley, Rylee, Zoey, McKelle, Bentley; the granddogger, Remy; his nieces, Marshayla and Maralee; his parents, Alton and Lois Nielson, Payson; sisters, Julie Nielson, Payson; MariKo Nielson, Sandy and parents-in-law, Lynnette (Keith) Buys of Payson. He was preceded in death by his father-in-law, Douglas Tanner.

Funeral services will be Monday, December 1, 2014, 11:00 a.m., in the Mtn. View 4th Ward Chapel, 681 East 500 North. Friends may call at the Walker Mortuary, 587 South 100 West, Payson, Sunday, 6-8:00 p.m. or at the church on Monday, 9:45-10:45 a.m. Burial will be in the Payson City Cemetery.

<http://www.paysonchronicle.com/paysonchronicleobituaries/>

Condolences may be sent to the family at: www.walkerobits.com.

What Is the Media Saying About Reclamation This Week?

[50th Anniversary Celebration: Glen Canyon Dam \(video\)](#)

[50th party out powers Dam monsoons](#)

[Monsoon Rains Help Fill Dry Reservoirs in New Mexico \(video\)](#)

[Lake Powell is getting outmuscled by quaggas](#)

[Leaders detail Utah's water challenges](#)

[Focus shifts to damage assessment from flooding](#)

[Engineers inspect 'sloughing' of Steinaker Dam face](#)

[Group wants all to pay 'true' price for water, property taxes phased out](#)

[Eddy County officials say damage is significant from record rainfall, flooding](#)

http://www.biologicaldiversity.org/news/press_releases/2014/rio-grande-cutthroat-trout-90-30-2014.html

[Critic slams Bear River dam 'boondoggle'](#)

[Pecos River floods fed by Black Canyon Draw](#)

[West Jordan Water Line Breaks \(video\)](#)

[Why not drink our good, local water?](#)



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[Elephant Butte, Caballo lakes boosted by monsoon rains](#)

[New Mexico drought conditions best since late 2010](#)

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Staff in the Provo Area Office took part in Halloween holiday festivities by dressing up in a range of costumes on Friday, October 31st. From left to right: Wayne Pullan, Steve Corless, Aubrielle Watson, Deborah Hilton, Keri Reed, Rachelle Vanderplas and Susan Corson.

Reclamation Trivia

Here's this week's set of questions:

1. Brent said that Glen Canyon Dam is an _____ that has created memories that are woven into the fabric of the west and the nation.
2. Situated on the Colorado River in northern Arizona, Glen Canyon Dam is the second highest concrete-arch dam in the United States, _____ feet above bedrock, second only to Hoover Dam, which stands at _____ feet.
3. The effort to educate the public about the issues related to disability and employment began in _____, when Congress enacted Public Law 176, declaring the first week of _____ each year as National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week.

Last week, We asked,

1. About **40 children** gathered there September 13 for the Annual C.A.S.T. for Kids Foundation event. Reclamation staff joined with New Mexico State Parks and volunteers to provide the children with a morning of fishing and activities followed by a lunch.
2. The observation started in **1968** as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon



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Johnson and was expanded by President Ronald Reagan in [1988](#) to cover a 30-day period starting on September 15 and ending on October 15.

3. Chris came to UC Region in 2001 as a [hydraulic engineer](#) for the Water Resources Group and then moved to the Program Management Group as a [Projects Specialist](#) before serving as the [UC Regional Liaison](#) in Washington, DC, for 2 years.

Last winner was – [N/A](#)

Please use this [link to send your answers](#). To be fair we will draw names from the winners and one person will receive a prize. We will reach into the prize bin for something suitable for the winner...as long as supplies last.

[Return to UC Today](#)



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