



**PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE
BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
AND THE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY (CIVIL WORKS)**

Purpose: To promote a long-term working relationship between the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works) (OASA(CW)) on collaborative efforts to improve the management of water and related land resources under the missions and authorities of Reclamation and the Department of the Army (DA) Civil Works mission through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).

Goals: Reclamation and OASA(CW) have established the following partnership goals:

- To work in partnership with State, Tribal, and local entities in implementing comprehensive approaches in the management of water and related resources, including water supply management, dam safety, hydropower, flood damage reduction, fish and wildlife, ecosystem restoration, and recreation.
- To work together to coordinate program and project activities, share expertise to improve information and tools available for regional watershed-level decisions, establish water management training and science and engineering technology exchanges, and foster sustainability in water resources development and management.
- To engage and support local leadership in solving water resources development and management needs that are interrelated and often competing.
- To work together and with other Federal and State partners to improve emergency planning, mitigation, responses to incidents of national significance and disasters, and homeland security issues common to both agencies.
- To identify impediments to Reclamation/USACE partnerships and establish a framework for formal and informal coordination and communication between officials and staff at every level of OASA(CW), USACE, and Reclamation.

Implementation: We commit to achieve our goals through fostering a spirit of teamwork between our organizations at all levels. We agree in principle with the Partnership Guidelines attached to this agreement. We will meet in partnering sessions as needed to ensure that we are achieving our goals. In order to ensure

effective implementation of this agreement, we commit to development of an action plan with measurable milestones to be reviewed on an annual basis.

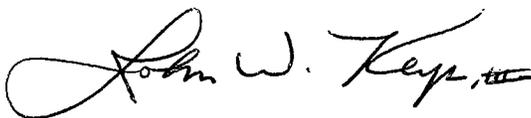
Effective Date, Modification and Termination:

- This agreement will become effective upon the date of the last signature and remain in effect for a period of five years.
- Modifications to this agreement may be proposed by either signatory agency (or designated representatives). Proposals for modification will be circulated to the receiving agency for a 30-calendar-day period of review. Approval of modifications will be indicated by written acceptance by the signatory agencies. Following acceptance, a revised agreement or amendment thereto the agreement will be circulated for execution.
- Participation in this agreement may be terminated by either signatory agency sixty (60) calendar days after providing written notice of such termination to the other signatory agency.

Qualifications and Limitations:

- Participation in this process does not imply endorsement of a proposed plan or project. Nothing in this agreement is intended to diminish, modify, or otherwise affect the statutory or regulatory authorities of the signatory agencies.
- This agreement is not a fiscal or funds obligation instrument. Any commitment of funding must be addressed pursuant to a separate, appropriate funding document(s). Nothing in this agreement will be construed as affecting the authorities of the participants to act as provided by statute or regulation or as binding beyond their respective authorities or to require the participants to obligate or expend funds in excess of available appropriations.
- This agreement does not confer any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or equity, to any third party against the United States, its agencies, its officers, or any other person.

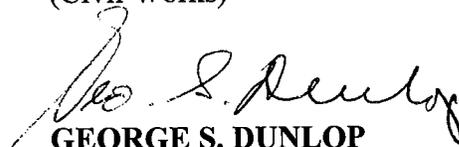
United States Department of the Interior



JOHN W. KEYS, III
Commissioner
Bureau of Reclamation

Date: FEB. 11, 2005

United States Office of the
Assistant Secretary of the Army
(Civil Works)



GEORGE S. DUNLOP
Deputy Assistant Secretary
of the Army (Policy and Legislation)

Date: Feb 11, 2005

PARTNERSHIP GUIDELINES
to accompany
PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT
between the
BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
and the
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY (CIVIL WORKS)

I. Background

A. The mission of the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) is to manage, develop, and protect water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American public. Reclamation is the largest wholesale water supplier and the second largest producer of hydroelectric power in the United States, with operations and facilities in the 17 Western States. Its facilities also provide substantial flood damage reduction, recreation, and fish and wildlife benefits.

B. The Department of the Army (DA) Civil Works mission through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is to provide quality, responsive, engineering and other services to the nation including: planning, designing, building and operating water resources and other civil works projects (navigation, flood damage reduction, environmental restoration, hydropower, disaster response, recreation, and environmental stewardship); designing and managing the construction of military facilities for the Army and Air Force (military construction); and providing design and construction management support for other Defense and Federal agencies (Support for Others). The USACE also develops, manages, and protects our nation's water, wetlands and related land resources, and provides planning, design, and construction services to civil and military customers, and other agencies, worldwide.

C. The USACE and Reclamation both have responsibilities for carrying out policies and programs that address local, regional, and national water resources issues. Both agencies recognize that the policies, programs, plans, and activities implemented to carry out their respective responsibilities may significantly affect the other agency.

D. There are often opportunities for Federal agencies such as Reclamation and USACE to cooperate under their respective missions and authorities. Opportunities also exist for the agencies to provide each other with needed technical expertise. Cooperative management and technical collaboration efforts can help (1) improve resource management and protection; (2) improve public services and make more efficient use of limited public funds; (3) provide a better understanding of both agencies' goals, objectives, and programs; (4) minimize conflicts; and (5) leverage each agency's limited resources.

II. Purpose

The purpose of these Guidelines is to provide direction and intent to achieve the goals stated in the Partnership Agreement between Reclamation and USACE.

III. Areas of Cooperation and Mutual Interest

Listed below are areas of cooperation that may initially be pursued. The items listed are not all inclusive since, as this partnership develops, it is likely that other areas of cooperation and mutual interest will be identified at all levels of the agencies.

A. Water Resources Management. The USACE and Reclamation should coordinate their water resources management initiatives. They should develop agreed upon actions to:

1. Coordinate and collaborate on project, river, and reservoir management activities;
2. Collaborate, when appropriate, in water supply initiatives such as Water 2025;
3. Explore innovations in collaborative partnerships with stakeholders;
4. Coordinate tools, technologies, research and development, and existing interagency efforts related to watershed and sediment management;
5. Encourage innovative and collaborative watershed approaches to resource development and management;
6. Establish training and technology exchanges;
7. Coordinate flood damage reduction operations; and
8. Coordinate environmental protection, threatened and endangered species conservation, and aquatic ecosystem restoration with State and Federal resource agencies, stakeholders, and the public.

B. Hydropower. Reclamation and USACE should create additional interagency workgroups to seek ways to coordinate the two agencies' hydropower programs and initiatives, when appropriate, in order to develop more effective and efficient hydropower operations. The agencies should:

1. Increase coordination and collaboration in asset management, technical assistance, and operation and maintenance principles;
2. Explore innovations in collaborative partnerships for best practices development;
3. Investigate ways of improving hydropower plant employee training and development;
4. Coordinate strategic business initiatives, benchmarking processes, standards, and business practices; and

5. Collaborate to improve the efficiency and quality of Hydropower Science and Engineering Technology (R&D) efforts.

C. Dam Safety. Reclamation and USACE should:

1. Jointly continue to support efforts of the Interagency Committee on Dam Safety (ICODS) to fulfill the requirements of the Federal Guidelines for Dam Safety;
2. Jointly continue to support efforts of the National Review Board in the implementation of the National Dam Safety Program;
3. Work jointly to develop common technologies and guidelines necessary to evaluate dam safety issues in a risk-based context, and/or to achieve a joint standard evaluation method;
4. Review existing agreements between the two agencies and update them as needed; and
5. Identify and develop new agreements considered necessary to ensure the safety of dams, particularly where both organizations have had significant involvement in the design, construction, and/or operation and maintenance of the facilities.

D. Emergency Management. The USACE and Reclamation should coordinate the review and update, as needed, of existing emergency management agreements. Potential actions should include but are not limited to:

1. Confirm or refine delineation of emergency management areas of responsibility through the Interagency Federal Infrastructure Protection group;
2. Coordinate disaster response activities; and
3. Identify Homeland Security issues common to each agency.

E. Security. Reclamation and USACE should:

1. Continue developing and sharing research and analysis related to dam security;
2. Consider sponsoring approved Reclamation employee's connectivity to the Secure Intelligence Protocol Routing Network (SIPRNET) when appropriate to meet mission requirements and subject to Department of Defense (DoD) and Army regulations; and
3. Collaborate on effective security measures for the protection of dams and related facilities that are in the best interest of both agencies, their stakeholders, and the public.

F. Recreation. Reclamation and the USACE should:

1. Provide appropriate support and guidance to the non-federal entities that manage USACE and Reclamation lands; and

2. Coordinate on water-related recreation issues such as fee collection, reservation systems, and concessions operations.

IV. Communications and Coordination

A. To foster the sharing of information and to facilitate contact between the two agencies, Reclamation and USACE should provide each other with a list of points of contact responsible for program areas and other areas of mutual interest. These points of contact should communicate as needed. Early communication should improve public services and resource management consistent with the above mission statements for both agencies through increased efficiency and avoidance of potential conflict. Coordination should occur for planning, programs, research and technology, and other management actions of mutual interest. To the extent possible, each agency should offer the other informal and formal opportunities to review and comment on proposed additions, changes, or updates to agency guidelines, regulations, procedures, directives, and policies that may have impacts on the programs and mission of the other agency.

B. Frequent informal consultation on matters of mutual interest is to be encouraged at all levels. Reclamation Regional Offices and USACE Regional Business Centers will be the primary offices through which field coordination will take place. Each is responsible for ensuring that appropriate personnel of its organization are involved whenever appropriate. To encourage communications, Reclamation and the USACE should:

1. Issue appropriate communication from headquarters to Reclamation Regional Offices and USACE Regional Business Centers encouraging communication and citing examples of existing communications that have proven effective;
2. Publicize in agency personnel newsletters, websites, etc. examples of Reclamation/USACE collaboration resulting from planned Regional/District communications; and
3. Establish points of contact from both agency headquarters' offices, each Reclamation Regional Office, and each USACE Regional Business Center. These representatives should meet with each other at least annually to review the effectiveness of actions and consider needed changes.