

*Do you have
a question*

**about
Reclamation**

Questions & Answers on RECLAMATION

1. What is Reclamation?

The Federal Reclamation program was authorized by Congress in 1902, during the administration of President Theodore Roosevelt, to reclaim and settle arid lands in the West. Subsequent legislation broadened the program to provide for multiple-purpose water resource planning and development in the 17 contiguous Western States and Alaska.

2. What does the Bureau of Reclamation do?

Under Congressional authorization, the Bureau plans water resource developments, and builds and operates storage and diversion works, water carriage and distribution systems, pumping and hydroelectric powerplants, and related structures to store, divert and deliver water for domestic and industrial use, irrigation, power generation, flood control, river regulation, fish and wildlife, recreation, pollution abatement, and other purposes.

3. Who pays the cost of Reclamation?

Water users and power users in areas directly benefited will repay to the Treasury more than 90 percent of Reclamation project construction costs, with interest on the

investment in power and municipal and industrial water facilities. The remaining 7 percent represents the Federal investment for such general public purposes as flood control, fish and wildlife propagation, and recreation. Operation and maintenance costs are paid by water and power users.

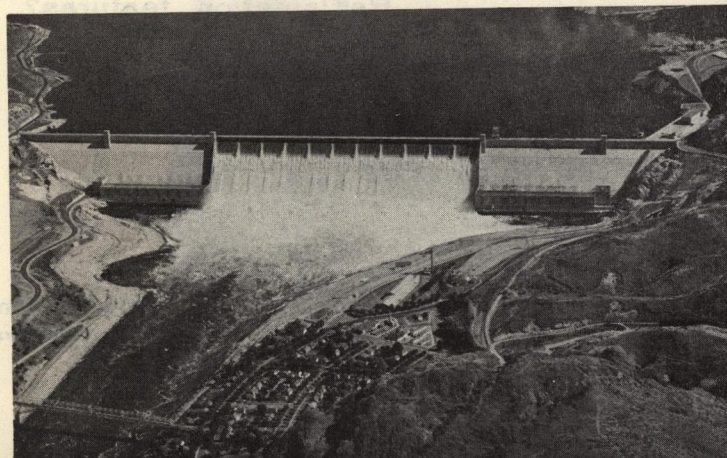
4. How many people are employed by the Bureau of Reclamation?

The Bureau employs about 11,000 persons--largely in field offices at Denver, Colo.; Sacramento, Calif.; Boise, Idaho; Boulder City, Nev.; Salt Lake City, Utah; Amarillo, Texas; and Billings, Mont.; and at construction sites and operating projects. About one-fifth of these are professional engineers.

5. Have any Bureau of Reclamation works won engineering honors?

Yes. In 1955, for example, the American Society of Civil Engineers selected the Bureau's Hoover Dam and Grand Coulee Dam

Grand Coulee Dam Dam, Washington.



Cover: Trinity Dam California

and the Columbia Basin Project for its list of "Seven Modern Wonders," marvels of civil engineering in the United States. The Bureau-designed, high steel-arch bridge across the Colorado River at Glen Canyon Dam, Arizona, was designated the most beautiful highway bridge of its size opened to traffic in 1959.

6. How many dams have been built by the Bureau of Reclamation?

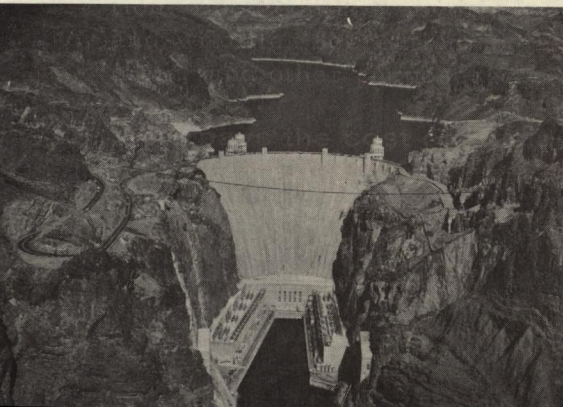
A grand total of 339 dams --220 storage dams and reservoirs, and 119 diversion dams, including dams under construction.

7. What are the largest and highest dams built by Reclamation?

Highest (Concrete) --Hoover Dam (726 feet)
(Earthfill) --Trinity Dam (537 feet)

Largest (Concrete) --Grand Coulee
(10,585,000 cu. yds.)
(Earthfill) --Trinity Dam
(28,986,000 cu. yds.)

8. What are three internationally known Reclamation features?



Hoover Dam
Arizona-Nevada

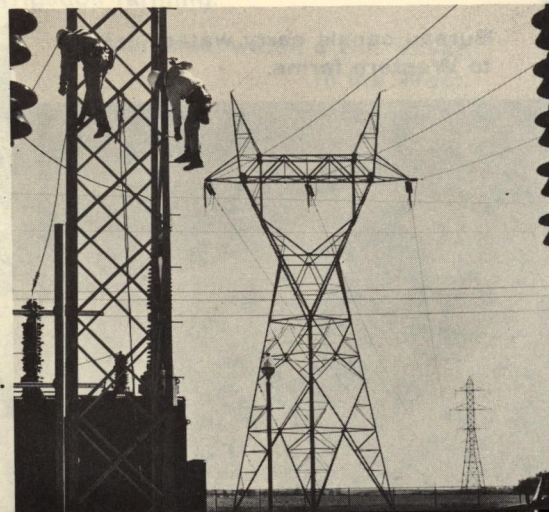
(1) Hoover Dam--For two decades after its completion in 1936, it was the world's highest dam; it remains among the top five.

(2) Grand Coulee Dam--Largest concrete structure in North America, and one of the world's foremost hydroelectric facilities.

(3) Central Valley Project, California--A 500-mile-long irrigation system and one of the world's most productive agricultural areas.

9. How does irrigation contribute to agricultural economic stability?

Irrigation helps provide efficiency in farming and adds stability to Western agriculture and adjacent communities without contributing significantly to the crop surplus problem. Farmers, assured of a dependable water supply, are freed from the hazards of weather and dependence on a dry farm, one-crop economy and can produce crops for local needs and of high market demand.



Power from
Bureau dams.

10. Is Reclamation know-how used to help people in arid lands overseas?

Yes. Teams of technical experts from the Bureau of Reclamation have been sent to nearly a score of foreign countries, and on-the-job training at Reclamation projects has been provided for hundreds of technicians and administrators from virtually every major Nation in arid and semiarid areas outside the Iron Curtain.

11. Is interest paid on any Federal funds invested in Reclamation?

Yes. Funds expended to construct municipal and industrial water and hydroelectric power facilities are returned to the Treasury with interest.

12. What are the national benefits of the Reclamation program?

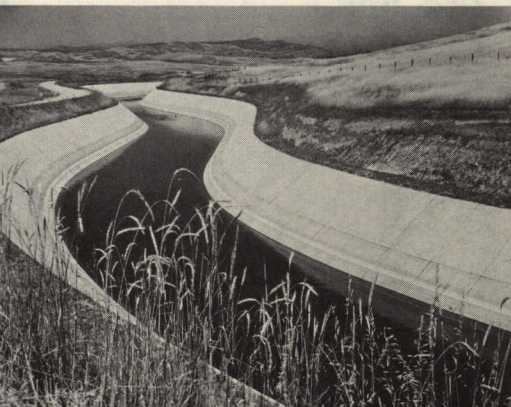
The Bureau of Reclamation has played a major role in providing water and hydro-

power in the development and settlement of the West, and to support the recent and continuing amazing population growth and industrial expansion of the West. Both during and after construction, Reclamation project areas constitute a major market for goods and materials from all the States. A dependable water supply and irrigated agriculture have provided the economic base for community growth and development of new industries and increased gross national product.

13. How many acres of Western farm land can be supplied with water from Reclamation reservoirs?

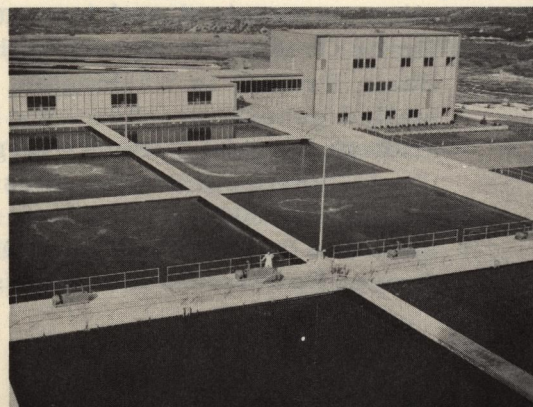
Water from Reclamation projects is available for about 8 million acres of farming land in 17 Western States. This is approximately one-fourth of the total irrigated acreage in the West.

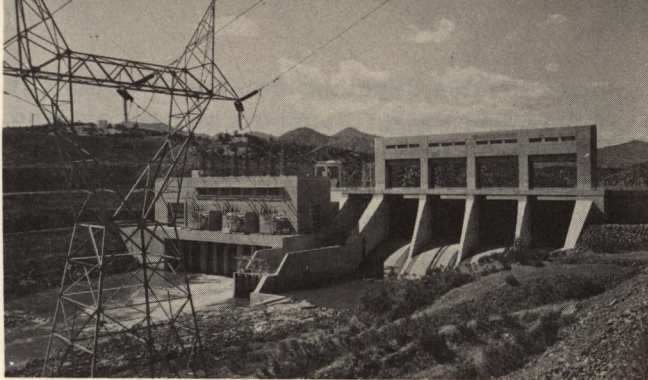
Bureau canals carry water to Western farms.



Irrigation farming.

Municipal water, a vital asset in the West.





Keswick Dam, California.



Fishing on Lake Berryessa, California.

14. Why is electric power generated at Reclamation projects?

Hydroelectric generating plants are built at Bureau of Reclamation storage dams so that the energy resource of falling water can be utilized as water is released through the dam. Basic to multipurpose development in many areas, these hydropower operations provide cheap power for irrigation pumping and a power supply for municipalities and other preference customers. In the West, power is known as the "paying partner" of irrigation.

15. What is the largest Bureau of Reclamation powerplant and transmission line?

Grand Coulee Powerplant on the Columbia Basin Project in Washington, with an installed generating capacity of 1,974,000 kilowatts, is the Bureau's largest powerplant. The largest transmission line will be the 345,000-volt line now under construction between the 900,000-kw. Glen Canyon Powerplant and the Pinnacle Peak

Substation near Phoenix, Ariz.

16. How much power is sold annually by the Bureau of Reclamation?

During a recent typical year, the Bureau reported power sales in excess of 26 billion kilowatt-hours, with gross power revenues from sales and other electric power operations of \$77 million.

17. How many people are provided with municipal and industrial water from Reclamation projects?

Reclamation projects deliver water to 83 primary contracting entities, which supply more than 480 billion gallons of municipal and industrial water to more than 9 million people.

18. How many recreational visits are made to Reclamation reservoirs?

Recreational use of Reclamation projects totaled 25.6 million visitor days during 1961 and is increasing at a rate of more than a

million visitor days annually.

19. How do Reclamation projects help the conservation and development of fish and wildlife?

Reclamation projects create artificial lakes and store flood waters in semiarid and arid areas. Most of these impoundments become a haven for fish and wild game and are open to fishing and hunting under State regulation. All Reclamation planning relating to recreation is coordinated with the National Park Service, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, and with State fish and wildlife agencies.

20. Are the views of States sought in Reclamation developments?

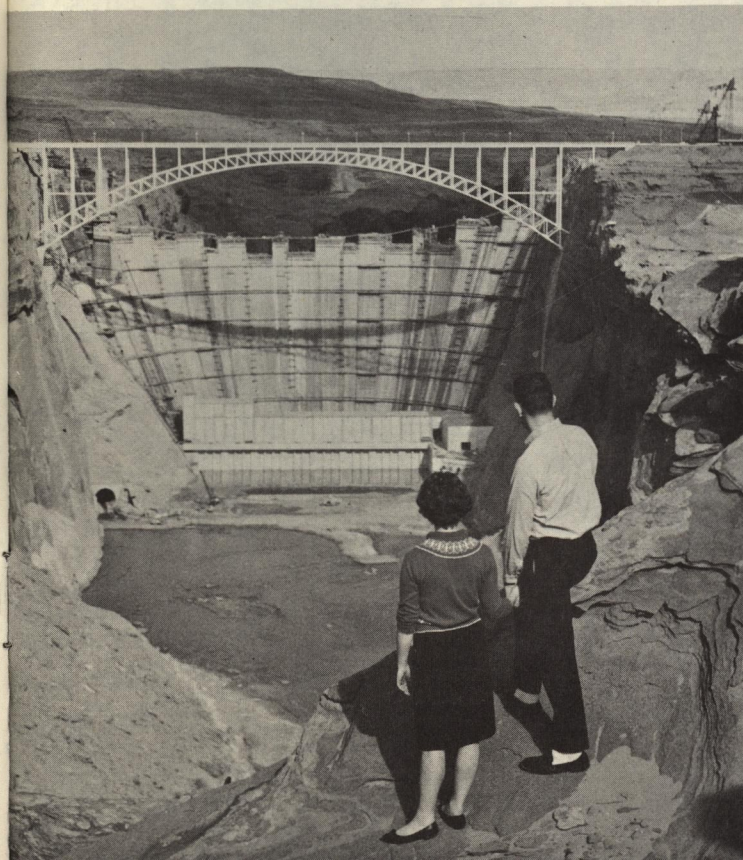
Yes. Every planning report of the Bureau of Reclamation is submitted for review and comment by the interested States and Federal agencies, and the comments of the States and agencies accompany the Bureau's recommendations to the Congress.

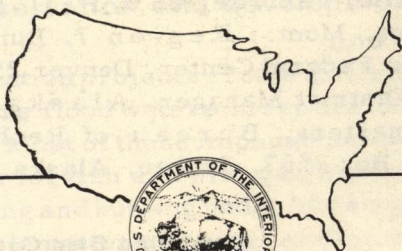
21. Where can we get additional information about Reclamation projects, recreational facilities at reservoirs, tours of dams and powerplants, etc.?

Write to the Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation, Department of the Interior, Washington 25, D. C., or to the Regional Director, Bureau of Reclamation, at any one of these field headquarters--Region 1, P. O. Box 937, Boise, Idaho; Region 2, P. O. Box 2511, Sacramento 11, Calif.;

Region 3, P. O. Box 427, Boulder City, Nev.; Region 4, P. O. Box 360, Salt Lake City, Utah; Region 5, P. O. Box 1609, Amarillo, Tex.; Region 6, P. O. Box 2553, Billings, Mont.; Region 7, Building 46, Denver Federal Center, Denver 25, Colo.; or to District Manager, Alaska District Headquarters, Bureau of Reclamation, P. O. Box 2567, Juneau, Alaska.

**The rising Glen Canyon Dam,
keystone of the Colorado
River Storage Project.**





In its assigned function as the Nation's principal natural resource agency, the Department of the Interior bears a special obligation to assure that our expendable resources are conserved, that renewable resources are managed to produce optimum yields, and that all resources contribute their full measure to the progress, prosperity, and security of America, now and in the future.

U. S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
1963