

From the Commissioner



I am pleased to present the Bureau of Reclamation's 2002 Annual Report to the Congress and the public. It provides ample evidence of the contributions Reclamation makes to the economy and quality of life in the West and across the Nation.

This year, Reclamation celebrated its centennial, 100 years of service to the Nation. We are proud of our accomplishments.

Reclamation is the Nation's largest wholesale water supplier, administering 348 reservoirs with a total storage capacity of 245 million acre-feet of water. One out of every five Western farmers receives water from Reclamation projects, producing 60 percent of the Nation's vegetables and 25 percent of its fruits and nuts. Reclamation is rated as the Nation's second largest producer of hydroelectric power, generating more than 42 billion kilowatt hours of energy each year from 58 hydroelectric powerplants. Reclamation reservoirs provide many other important benefits, including recreation, wildlife habitat, and flood control.

Reclamation's centennial not only was a time to celebrate our past, but also an opportunity to focus on our future. We are placing increasing emphasis on operating and maintaining our projects to protect the health and safety of the public and our employees. In partnership with States, tribes, water users, and others, we will develop creative solutions to ensure continued delivery of water and power to our users while meeting environmental requirements and honoring State water rights, interstate compacts, and other laws. We are striving to improve the operational efficiency of our facilities, implement efficient water conservation measures, research and develop innovative water recycling and reuse techniques, and assist with contingency planning for floods and droughts.

Using Interior Secretary Norton's four C's—communication, consultation, and cooperation, all in the service of conservation—I am confident that we can successfully meet the challenges we face today and in the future.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John W. Key, III". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Reclamation Celebrates A Century of Water for the West



Air Force Thunderbirds team performs a flyover at the Hoover Dam centennial events.

Visitors admire the centennial quilt sewn by volunteers from Reclamation's Pacific Northwest Region.

Members of the Sacramento County Sheriff's Color Guard participate in the Mid-Pacific Region's centennial ceremonies.



Every Reclamation region embraced the centennial year with events for employees, retirees, and members of the public. In addition, regional employees created displays, and even a quilt, depicting Reclamation's 100-year history.

Three "Western Water Tour" display trailers traveled the 17 Western States, appearing at dams, local fairs, water festivals, water district offices, and schools. In every location, a Reclamation staff person or retiree was present to greet the public and discuss Reclamation's 100 years of water service to the West.



Commissioner John Keys and Interior Secretary Gale Norton present President George W. Bush with a jacket commemorating Reclamation's centennial.



Commissioner Keys receives the Navajo Nation flag at an Upper Colorado Region centennial event.



Great Plains Regional Office employee explains Reclamation history to visitors at the Western Water Tour trailer.



Children of Lower Colorado Region employees enjoy a centennial event.



A centennial birthday cake is cut at the Pacific Northwest Regional Office during its centennial celebration.

Reclamation employees serve pizza at the Denver Office employee celebration.

