

DUTIES OF IMPLEMENTATION TEAM MEMBERS

Team members are appointed to implementation teams by the Office of the Secretary in recognition of the particular expertise, insight and/or skill(s) which they can contribute to implementing a settlement. Membership on a team is a personal appointment and is not transferable to others within a team member's agency or bureau. Team members function under the direction of the team chair who, in turn, functions under the direction of the Chairman of the Working Group through the Secretary's Indian Water Rights Office (SIWRO). Team members are required to fulfill certain responsibilities as outlined below.

Roles

The role of the Implementation teams is to ensure that a settlement is carried out and implemented in a manner calculated to achieve settlement success while taking into consideration all Department interests implicated in the settlement. Teams utilize the expertise and ideas of team members in order to implement the settlement. Team members are expected and encouraged to share their expertise and perspective on technical, factual and policy matters with team as it works toward final implementation. Team members may also be asked, and will be expected to, identify resources to assist the team implementing the settlement. Team members are to serve as the principle resource for development of data, services or other expertise from their agencies.

Team members are responsible for identifying issues that are of interest to the agencies they represent, communicating those issues to their agencies and bringing agency interests or concerns to the attention of the team. However, team members do not function merely as advocates for their agencies, but as representatives of the Secretary and are charged with the achieving the success of a settlement in a manner that inures to the benefit of the Department as a whole. In the event that a conflict among agency interests poses an obstacle to implementing a settlement, the team chair will refer the matter to the SIWRO. The SIWRO will report the conflict to Chairman of the Working Group who will work directly with appropriate Departmental policy officials to resolve the matter. If these efforts fail to resolve the conflict, the issue may be presented to the Working Group for review and resolution.

The team duties and workload commitments of team members should be discussed with and developed in consultation with the team chair and coordinated with the team member's agency. Nonetheless, all team members will be expected to be familiar with the status of settlement implementation and the issues that are arising in implementation so that they can effectively assist the team and communicate issues to their agency. Team members are expected to attend team meetings as requested by the team chair. If a team member can not attend a meeting, an alternate from the team member's agency may attend only on the consent of the team chair. Use of alternate members is not encouraged and if a team member is unable to participate regularly in team activities, the matter should be discussed with the team chair and the member's agency. If it is determined that a team member should be replaced, the SIWRO must be notified so that a replacement appointment may be made.

Communication

Except for internal communication within their agencies, team members are to report and communicate matters relating to settlement implementation through the team chair. Team members are not to meet or communicate with settlement parties or any member of the public without the consent of the team chair.

In addition to identifying issues that are of interest to their agencies and communicating those issues to their agencies, team members are also responsible for informing their agencies about the activities of the team in general, with appropriate caveats about any confidentiality orders or agreements. Communications should follow appropriate agency protocol.

Team members, as well as team chairs, are responsible for notifying the SIWRO when they can no longer serve on a team. The SIWRO will then work with the affected agency to identify a replacement who is acceptable mutually to the agency and the Office of the Secretary.

Reports

Team members are responsible, under the direction of the team chair, for preparing reports and briefing papers requested by SIWRO or the Chairman of the Working Group.

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