
3.0 Roles and Responsibilities



3.0

Roles and Responsibilities

Effective implementation of the BRMaP requires that the roles and responsibilities be well defined within DOE-RL, as well as within each of its contractors. General roles and responsibilities for each of these organizations or groups are described in the following sections. Figure 3.1 depicts the broad overall relationships.

3.1 Department of Energy— Richland Operations Office

The DOE-RL has numerous responsibilities concerning biological resource management. As Figure 3.1 indicates, ultimate decisions on Department policy regarding management of Hanford’s biological resources is vested with the manager, Richland Operations Office. The Office of Site Services, however, plays a key role in developing such policy and in overseeing its implementation across the Site. Ownership of the BRMaP lies with this office.

Cross-programmatic responsibilities include adhering to the biological resource policy statements outlined in Section 2.2.1. In addition to these broad DOE-RL responsibilities, each program manager is responsible for applying the provisions of these policies to each site, facility, or project under their responsibility and for coordinating with their respective contractors to ensure that project planning and funding will support, as appropriate, DOE-RL’s policy objectives. This will ensure that biological resource protection measures are applied consistently site-wide.

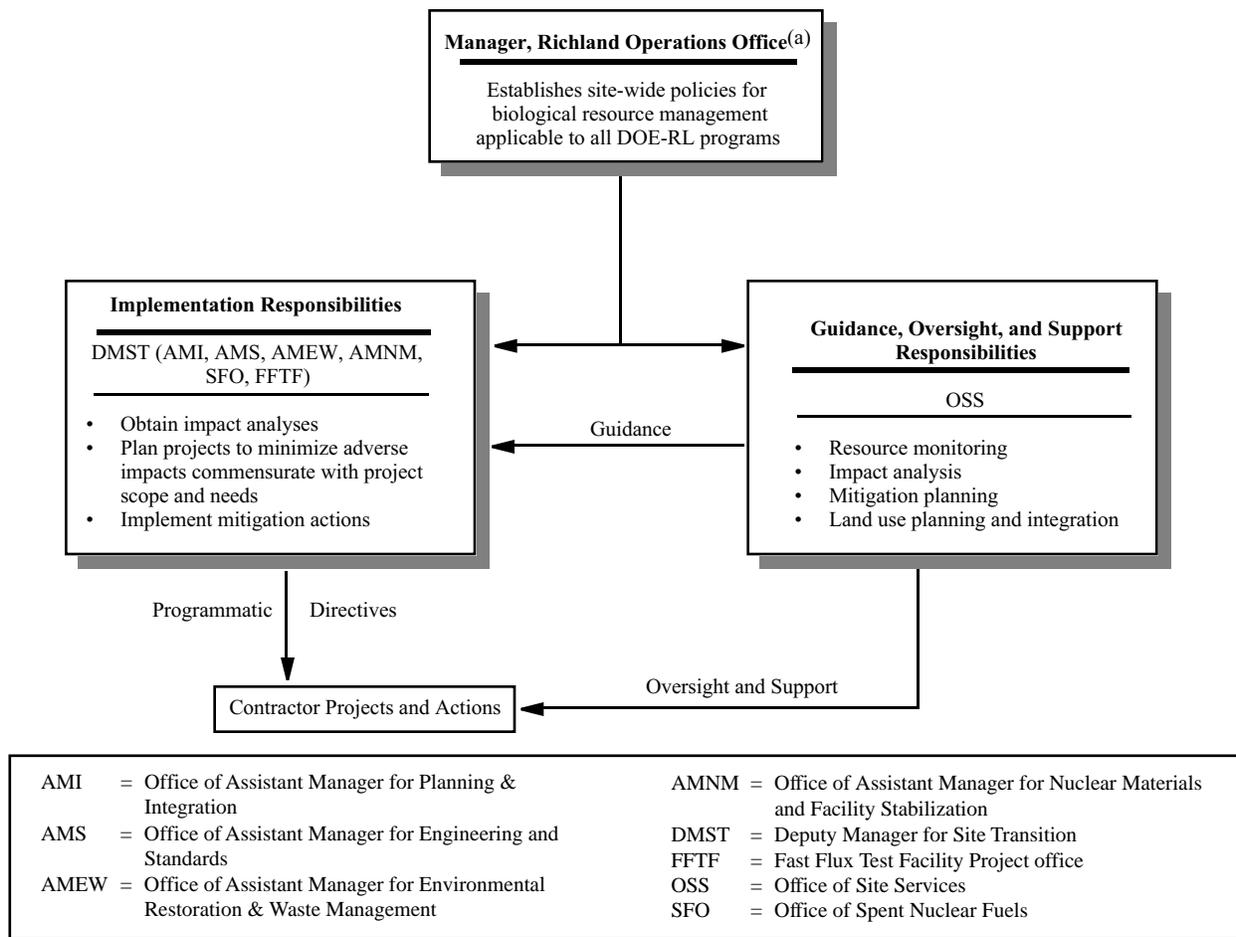
Specific roles assigned to various offices and programs within DOE-RL are outlined in the following sections.

3.1.1 Office of Site Services

As part of its biological resources management activities, the DOE-RL’s Office of Site Services¹ will:

- take the lead in defining Hanford’s ecosystem management approach to biological resource management
- work with the Site Management Board to continually update DOE-RL’s biological resource policies, as appropriate
- provide assistance and oversight to the DOE-RL programs/contractors on interpreting the requirements and guidance found in BRMaP.
- track the performance of contractor projects that implement monitoring and impact assessment activities
- provide guidance on mitigation threshold determinations and track the results of mitigation actions as they affect Hanford’s biological resources
- track annual reporting on mitigation action plans
- track through its Office of Performance Evaluation the overall implementation effectiveness of BRMaP, especially as it relates to the consistent application of BRMaP’s guidance by DOE-RL programs and Hanford contractors

¹ Point-of-contact responsibilities will be handled by staff of the Resource Protection and Analytical Services Team.



(a) Office of River Protection has parallel responsibilities.

Figure 3.1 Roles and Responsibilities

- review BRMaP’s ability to meet DOE-RL’s biological resource management needs at least every 2 years and determine when updates to BRMaP are necessary to reflect new information or changes in management methods
- act as DOE-RL’s point-of-contact for forming ecosystem management partnerships with outside organizations.
- consider and incorporate biological resource values and management strategies in all site project and construction planning to ensure appropriate mitigation actions are taken when biological resources of concern (Levels II-IV) may be adversely impacted
- early in the project planning process, identify any potential adverse impacts to resources of concern that may result from site development activities

- coordinate with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to ensure their management of DOE-owned property is consistent with biological resource management policies.

3.1.2 Deputy Manager for Site Transition

The Office of the Deputy Manager for Site Transition, as part of its responsibilities for biological resources management on the Hanford Site, will:

- consider and incorporate biological resource values and management strategies into the early phases of both remedial actions and new facility projects to ensure appropriate mitigation actions are taken when biological resources of concern (Levels II-IV) may be adversely impacted

- early in the project planning process under NEPA or CERCLA, identify to the Office of Site Services any potential adverse impacts to resources of concern that may result from program activities.

3.1.3 Natural Resources Working Group

A DOE-RL/contractor Natural Resources Working Group is established to assist the Office of Site Services Resource Protection and Analytical Services Team in providing assistance and oversight support to DOE-RL programs/contractors, resolving technical issues associated with BRMaP implementation, and determining when updates to BRMaP are necessary. The working group will be composed of staff representatives from the Natural Resources Trustee Council and resource professionals from the Hanford Site contractors. The working group will meet at least quarterly to address any significant problems of BRMaP implementation and new resource management issues. Each of the DOE-RL programs and their contractor

representatives will be invited to send representatives to these meetings, as needed, to voice their concerns or to seek additional guidance.

3.2 Contractors

As a general principle, Hanford contractors will be expected to incorporate biological resource values and management strategies into the early phases of their project planning. Existing contracts may be modified as necessary to meet DOE-RL's biological resource management responsibilities and objectives.

3.3 Permit and Lease Holders

Several entities use land on Hanford under permit or lease with DOE-RL. Existing permits and leases may be modified as necessary to meet DOE-RL's biological resource management responsibilities and objectives.