



State Engineer's Office

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STATE ENGINEER

December 26, 2006

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the State Water Forum

FROM: Patrick Tyrrell, Chairman

SUBJECT: Attached for your review and information is a copy of the December 5, 2006 Water Forum meeting minutes. Please take a few moments and pencil into your calendar the Water Forum dates for this year. The next meeting will be January 2nd in the State Engineer's Conference Room at 10:00 a.m.

WATER FORUM SCHEDULE 2006-2007 1ST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH

DATE	INVITED GUEST	DISCUSSION ITEM
January 2 nd	Slade Franklin - Dept. of Agriculture, Weed and Pest Coordinator	Noxious Weed Control in WY
February 6 th	Scott Yates, Laurie Goodman - Trout Unlimited	Legislative Update
March 6 th	Tom Annear - WY Game and Fish	Behavior, bioenergetics and survival of trout below dams in the winter
April 3 rd	John Lawson, Mike Beus - Bureau of Reclamation	Water Forecast
May 1 st	Sarah Strauss - UW, Assoc. Professor, Dept. of Anthropology	Climate Change and the Social Life of Water in Leukerbad, Switzerland

SPECIAL REPORT

The next meeting of the Water Forum will be January 2, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. in the State Engineer's Office conference room. We will be hearing from Slade Franklin who is the Weed and Pest Coordinator for the Department of Agriculture. Mr. Franklin will be speaking to us about new methods they are using for controlling tamarisk and other noxious weeds.

WYOMING STATE WATER FORUM MEETING MINUTES

December 5, 2006

Steve Wolff called the two hundred and sixty-first meeting of the State Water Forum to order at 10:00 a.m. The following were in attendance:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Sheri Culver	SEO	sculve@seo.wyo.gov
Paul Dey	WGFD	paul.dey@wgf.state.wy.us
Steve Gray	WRDS/State Climatologist	sgray8@uwyo.edu
Jeremy Manley	SEO	jmanle@seo.wyo.gov
Cheryl Miller	USGS	cemiller@usgs.gov
Kathy Muller Ogle	DEQ-LQD	kmogle@state.wy.us
Mark Opitz	NRCS	mark.opitz@wy.usda.gov
Jack Scott	BOPU	jscott@cheyennebopu.org
Kelly Scott	NRCS	kelly.scott@wy.usda.gov
Deb Sherman	NRCS	deb.sherman@wy.usda.gov
Phil Stump	SEO	pstump@seo.wyo.gov
Justin Williams	WY Dept. of Agriculture	jwilli7@statew.y.us
Mahonri Williams	USBR	mlwilliams@gp.usbr.gov
Steve Wolff	SEO	swolff@seo.wyo.gov

AGENCY REPORTS

In order to assure accurate reporting in the minutes, all attendees are asked to email a copy of the report they gave at the meeting. These minutes consist of a compilation of the written reports received. Please email a report to Jodee Pring, State Engineer's Office at jpring@seo.wyo.gov. This will increase the efficiency and accuracy of completing the minutes for the Water Forum. For more information on the following reports, please contact the agency representative listed above.

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION / WYOMING AREA OFFICE

John Lawson submitted the following:

1. Water Supply Conditions of the North Platte River Basin.

November 30, 2006 Reservoir Conditions

<u>Reservoir</u>	<u>Elev. (Ft)</u>	<u>Content (AF)</u>	<u>% Full Conservation Storage</u>	<u>% Avg.</u>
Seminoe	6300.48	280,700	28	46
Pathfinder	5791.01	230,700	23	43
Alcova	5488.05	156,200	85	101
Glendo	4601.74	213,800	41	96
Guernsey	4399.01	8,700	19	128

November 30, 2005 Reservoir Conditions

<u>Reservoir</u>	<u>Elev. (Ft)</u>	<u>Content (AF)</u>	<u>30 Year Average (AF)</u>
Seminoe	6316.52	421,500	612,000
Pathfinder	5796.60	270,700	534,100
Alcova	5488.40	156,900	154,900
Glendo	4600.37	204,700	223,600
Guernsey	4399.57	9,200	6,800

November 2006 Inflows

<u>Reservoir</u>	<u>Inflows</u>	<u>% Of Average</u>
Seminoe	37.9	132
Pathfinder (Sweetwater)	1.5	31
Alcova to Glendo Gains	5.8	50
Glendo to Guernsey Gains	0.9	47

Kendrick ownership was 439,900 acre-feet (AF) on November 30, 2006 and approximately 48% of average (920,800 AF), which compares to the Kendrick ownership of 538,800 AF last year at this date. The November 30, 2006 North Platte ownership was 409,500 AF, which was approximately 90% of average (454,900 AF), which compares to 457,400 AF of North Platte ownership this date last year. The Glendo ownership was 28,800 AF on November 30, 2006, which was approximately 22% of average (129,400 AF), which compares to the 53,400 AF of Glendo ownership on this date last year.

Flows in the Miracle Mile below Kortess Dam are approximately 530 cubic feet per second (cfs). Releases from Gray Reef Reservoir are approximately 500 cfs. The level of Alcova Reservoir is at the normal winter operating range of 5488 ± one foot.

2. Water Supply Conditions of the Big Horn Basin

November 30, 2006 Reservoir Conditions

<u>Reservoir</u>	<u>Elev. (Ft)</u>	<u>Content (AF)</u>	<u>% Full</u> <u>Conservation Storage</u>	<u>% Avg.</u>
Bull Lake	5770.28	58,200	38	76
Boysen	4709.09	480,200	65	80
Buffalo Bill	5367.01	446,700	69	108
Pilot Butte	5410.20	3,900	12	15

November 30, 2005 Reservoir Conditions

<u>Reservoir</u>	<u>Elev. (Ft)</u>	<u>Content (AF)</u>	<u>30 Year Average (AF)</u>
Bull Lake	5775.85	71,200	76,500
Boysen	4718.27	618,400	601,000
Buffalo Bill	5369.84	466,800	415,100*
Pilot Butte	5453.75	28,300	26,800

* The average used for Buffalo Bill Reservoir reflects data from 1993 through 2006. In 1992, the capacity of the reservoir was increased to approximately 646,565 AF as a result of raising the dam. A long term average cannot be calculated until several years of operation occur under the increased storage.

November 2006 Inflows

<u>Reservoir</u>	<u>Inflows (KAF)</u>	<u>% Average</u>
Bull Lake	3.1	107
Boysen	41.0	84
Buffalo Bill	25.4	125

The total release from Buffalo Bill Reservoir to the Shoshone River is approximately 200 cfs and with additional flow from the springs is approximately 260 cfs as measured at the Cody river gage. The release from Boysen Dam is currently 500 cfs.

SPECIAL REPORT

Steve Wolff, Colorado River Coordinator for the State Engineer's Office, gave a presentation on the Colorado River Compact Administration project. Mr. Wolf began with a brief history of the Colorado River basin and what brought us to this point. He then outlined his project tasks and long term goals for his work in the Colorado River basin. Mr. Wolff's presentation can be found [here](#).

The meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.