



# State Engineer's Office

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STATE ENGINEER

June 5, 2008

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the State Water Forum

FROM: Patrick Tyrrell, Chairman

SUBJECT: Attached for your review and information is a copy of the May 6, 2008 Water Forum meeting minutes.

The Water Forum will take a break for the summer, but will resume in September. Please visit our website at <http://seo.state.wy.us/> for the 2008-2009 schedule. I would like to send out a big thank you to all of the Water Forum members for your support and encouragement over this last year.

We will see you in September in the State Engineer's Office conference room, Herschler Bldg., 4E.

# WYOMING STATE WATER FORUM MEETING MINUTES

May 6, 2008

Steve Wolff called the two hundred and seventy-fifth 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>
Ryan Athey	Trihydro Corp.	rathey@trihydro.com
Tim Bartos	USGS	ttbartos@usgs.gov
Matt Bilodeau	USACE	matthew.a.bilodeau@usace.army.mil
Liberty Blain	LCCD	liberty@lccdnet.org
Bruce Brinkman	WWDO	bbrink@state.wy.us
Mark Conrad	WDEQ-WQD	mconra@wyo.gov
Jane Francis	WDEQ-WQD	jcrame@wyo.gov
Lee Hackleman	NRCS	lee.hackleman@wy.usda.gov
Laura Hallberg	USGS	lhallber@usgs.gov
Tom Hatton	JR Engineering	thatton@jrengineering.com
Matt Hoobler	SEO	mhoobl@seo.wyo.gov
Scott Horgen	SEO	shorge@seo.wyo.gov
Paul Ivancie	JR Engineering	pivancie@jrengineering.com
Brian Lovett	WDEQ-WQD	blovet@wyo.gov
Jeremy Manley	SEO	jmanle@seo.wyo.gov
Chris Nicholson	WRDS	cnichol5@uwyo.edu
Mark Opitz	NRCS	mark.opitz@wy.usda.gov
Mike Sweat	USGS	mjsweat@usgs.gov
Justin Williams	Dept. of Agriculture	jwilli7@state.wy.us
Steve Wolff	SEO	swolff@seo.wyo.gov

## AGENCY REPORTS

In order to assure accurate reporting in the minutes, forms are passed out to be completed by the representative of each agency at the meeting. These minutes consist of a compilation of the written reports received. Please complete a form either at the Forum meeting or return within a couple of days to Jodee Pring, State Engineer's Office. This will increase the efficiency and accuracy of completing the minutes for the Water Forum. Reports can also be sent via e-mail to: [jpring@seo.wyo.gov](mailto:jpring@seo.wyo.gov). For more information on the following reports, please contact the agency representative listed above.

### STATE ENGINEER'S OFFICE (SEO)

Steve Wolff reported the following:

The SEO and Mike Sweat of the USGS are working to get a NRP lecturer, Bob Jarrett, for September's Water Forum. An email will be sent out to the Water Forum distribution list with a reminder of the date, September 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mr. Jarrett's lecture is titled, "Insights in Flood Science using Paleoflood Hydrology".

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION / WYOMING AREA OFFICE (USBR)

John Lawson submitted the following:

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

April 30, 2008 Reservoir Conditions

<u>Reservoir</u>	<u>Elev. (Ft)</u>	<u>Content (AF)</u>	<u>% Full Conservation Storage</u>	<u>% Avg.</u>
Seminole	6291.88	220,579	22	46
Pathfinder	5784.85	191,282	19	30
Alcova	5498.10	179,742	97	100
Glendo	4624.13	397,855	77	89
Guernsey	4409.11	22,717	50	74

April 30, 2007 Reservoir Conditions

<u>Reservoir</u>	<u>Elev. (Ft)</u>	<u>Content (AF)</u>	<u>30 Year Average (AF)</u>
Seminole	6305.51	320,615	477,700
Pathfinder	5792.30	239,537	644,600
Alcova	5498.66	181,109	178,900
Glendo	4629.36	452,164	449,300
Guernsey	4409.83	24,023	30,700

April 2008 Inflows

<u>Reservoir</u>	<u>Inflows</u>	<u>% Of Average</u>
Seminole	104.8	103
Pathfinder (Sweetwater)	8.7	44
Alcova to Glendo Gains	14.6	23
Glendo to Guernsey Gains	-0.4	NA

Kendrick ownership was 352,000 acre-feet (AF) on April 30, 2008 and approximately 40% of average (896,000 AF), which compares to the ownership of 436,200 AF last year on April 30, 2007. The April 30, 2008 North Platte ownership was 591,700 AF, which was approximately 82% of average (719,100 AF), which compares to 723,200 AF of North Platte ownership on April 30, 2007. The Glendo ownership was 51,100 AF on April 30, 2008, which was approximately 37% of average (139,100 AF), which compares to the 26,700 AF of Glendo ownership on April 30, 2007.

Flows in the Miracle Mile below Kortez Dam are approximately 2120 cubic feet per second (cfs). Releases from Gray Reef Reservoir are approximately 2100 cfs. The level of Alcova Reservoir is at the normal winter operating range of 5488± one foot.

Total expected April through July runoff in the North Platte Basin above Glendo Dam is expected to be 1,000,000 acre-feet (AF) or 113% of the 30 year average of 887,000

AF. Approximately 850,000 AF (121% of average) of the runoff is expected to enter Seminoe Reservoir with an additional 50,000 AF (81% of average) being provided to Pathfinder Reservoir from the Sweetwater River, and the balance of 100,000 AF (83% of average) coming from the basin between Pathfinder Reservoir and Glendo Reservoir.

2. Water Supply Conditions of the Big Horn Basin

April 30, 2008 Reservoir Conditions

<u>Reservoir</u>	<u>Elev. (Ft)</u>	<u>Content (AF)</u>	<u>% Full Conservation Storage</u>	<u>% Avg.</u>
Bull Lake	5768.17	53,552	35	69
Boysen	4706.47	445,741	60	86
Buffalo Bill	5365.83	438,336	68	114
Pilot Butte	5452.33	27,129	80	89

April 30, 2007 Reservoir Conditions

<u>Reservoir</u>	<u>Elev. (Ft)</u>	<u>Content (AF)</u>	<u>30 Year Average (AF)</u>
Bull Lake	5767.96	53,094	77,200
Boysen	4707.80	462,999	519,400
Buffalo Bill	5372.49	485,597	385,700*
Pilot Butte	5452.69	27,424	30,500

\* The average used for Buffalo Bill Reservoir reflects data from 1993 through 2007. 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.

April 2008 Inflows

<u>Reservoir</u>	<u>Inflows (KAF)</u>	<u>% Average</u>
Bull Lake	1.4	38
Boysen	28.7	60
Buffalo Bill	21.3	51

The release from Buffalo Bill Reservoir to the river and the springs is approximately 1190 cfs as measured at the Cody river gage. The release from Boysen Dam is approximately 780 cfs.

The total expected April through July runoff in the Shoshone River Basin above Buffalo Bill Dam is expected to be 720,000 acre-feet (112% of average), compared to a 30 year average of 644,000 acre-feet. The total expected April through July runoff to Boysen Reservoir is 500,000 acre-feet (91% of average).

## SPECIAL REPORT

Paul Ivancie of JR Engineering and Bruce Brinkman, Project Manager for the Wyoming Water Development Office were the special presenters for today. Mr. Ivancie and Mr. Brinkman gave a very interesting presentation on the Laramie County Aquifer Study.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm.