



State Engineer's Office

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PATRICK T. TYRRELL
STATE ENGINEER

November 20, 2007

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the State Water Forum

FROM: Patrick Tyrrell, Chairman

SUBJECT: Attached for your review and information is a copy of the November 6, 2007 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 December 4th in the State Engineer's Conference Room at 10:00 a.m.

WATER FORUM SCHEDULE 2007-2008 1ST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH

DATE	INVITED GUEST	DISCUSSION ITEM
December 4 th	Kyle Cheesbrough - Graduate Student - Civil & Architectural Engineering - UW Office of Water Programs	Use of Remote Sensing Data to Evaluate Glacial Change in the Wind River Range
January 8 th	Glenn Tootle - Faculty Member - Civil & Architectural Engineering - UW Office of Water Programs	Streamflow Reconstruction in the Upper Green and Upper Wind Rivers
February 5 th		
March 4 th	Cody Moser & Ty Soukup - Graduate Students - Civil & Architectural Engineering - UW Office of Water Programs	Improved Streamflow Forecasting of the North Platte River
April 1 st	John Lawson, Bureau of Reclamation	Water Forecast
May 6 th		

SPECIAL REPORT

The next meeting of the Water Forum will be December 4, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. in the State Engineer's Office conference room. We will be hearing from Kyle Cheesbrough who is a graduate student in the College of Civil and Architectural Engineering at the University of Wyoming. Mr. Cheesbrough will be speaking to us on "Use of Remote Sensing Data to Evaluate Glacial Change in the Wind River Range".

WYOMING STATE WATER FORUM MEETING MINUTES

November 6, 2007

Sue Lowry called the two hundred and sixty-ninth 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>
Brian Anderson	USBR	bjanderson@gp.usbr.gov
Matt Bilodeau	COE	matthew.a.bilodeau@usace.army.mil
Myron Brooks	USGS	mhb Brooks@usgs.gov
Paul Caffrey	WYGISC	caffrey@uwyo.edu
Lee Hackleman	NRCS	lee.hackleman@wy.usda.gov
Beth Hoobler	SEO	bhoobl@seo.wyo.gov
Sue Lowry	SEO	slowry@seo.wyo.gov
Chris Nicholson	WRDS	cnichol5@uwyo.edu
Jodee Pring	SEO	jpring@seo.wyo.gov
Mike Sweat	USGS	mjsweat@usgs.gov
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. For more information on the following reports, please contact the agency representative listed above.

STATE ENGINEER'S OFFICE (SEO)

Sue Lowry reported the following:

The Yellowstone River Compact Commission will be meeting Dec. 5 and 6 in Billings, MT. The technical committee meeting will be held the afternoon of the 5th and the commission meeting will be held the morning of the 6th.

The Water Development Commission/Select Water Committee meeting will be held November 7-9 in Casper. The workshop will be the afternoon of the 7th with the joint meeting being held on the 8th and 9th.

Jodee Pring reported the following:

The University of Wyoming - Casper College Center, the Haub School and Ruckelshaus Institute of Environment and Natural Resources, the University of Wyoming Outreach School and the Casper Star-Tribune are sponsoring a series of free public lectures. The series is titled, "Delicate Networks: Wyoming's Land and Water and the Decisions Demanded by Growth." The series will be moderated by Anne MacKinnon and will be held from 7:00p - 9:00p at the Wheeler Auditorium, Room 103 in the Casper College Physical Science Building. The dates of the series are Oct. 18, Nov. 1 and Nov. 15.

The Wyoming Agriculture and Natural Resource Mediation Program and the UW Ruckelshaus Institute of Environmental and Natural Resources are sponsoring a Facilitations Workshop to be held on November 8th in Lander, WY. For more information, contact Lucy Pauley at 777-8788 or lpaule@state.wy.us

The Green River Basin Advisory Group will be meeting on November 14th in Green River. This is the first meeting of the group since the Green River Basin Water Plan II was initiated. The agenda includes presentations by Murray Schroeder of WWC Engineering, the consultant hired for this plan, Bryan Seppie of the Rock Springs/Green River Joint Powers Board and John Shields of the State Engineer's Office.

NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS)

Lee Hackleman reported the following:

There are 6 snow courses that are being converted to snotel sites. These six sites are still under internal discussion, but as information becomes available of the location of these sites, Mr. Hackleman will present that information to the forum.

WYOMING GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SCIENCE CENTER (WyGISC)

Paul Caffrey reported the following:

In celebration of International GIS day on November 14th, WyGISC will be holding an open house. Presentations are scheduled and include a keynote address by former Wyoming Governor Jim Geringer. Please visit <http://www.wygisc.uwyo.edu/gisday> for more information.

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS (COE)

Matt Bilodeau reported the following:

Chandler Peter, currently assigned to the Wyoming Regulatory Office, has accepted a new job position with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District. He will be moving to Littleton, Colorado to take on his new assignment as the Northwestern Division Regional/District National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Clean Water Action Section 404(b)(1) (Guidelines) expert.

His new duty station will be in the Denver Regulatory Office, effective November 25th.

Attached are links to agency websites for the Northwestern Division and Denver Regulatory Office's.

<https://www.nwd.usace.army.mil/et/reg/home.asp>

<https://www.nwo.usace.army.mil/html/od-tl/tri-lakes.html>

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION / WYOMING AREA OFFICE (USBR)

John Lawson submitted the following:

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

October 31, 2007 Reservoir Conditions

<u>Reservoir</u>	<u>Elev. (Ft)</u>	<u>Content (AF)</u>	<u>% Full Conservation Storage</u>	<u>% Avg.</u>
Seminole	6292.09	221,900	22	36
Pathfinder	5784.45	188,900	19	37
Alcova	5489.02	158,300	86	102
Glendo	4593.27	161,700	31	95
Guernsey	4396.12	6,200	14	117

October 31, 2006 Reservoir Conditions

<u>Reservoir</u>	<u>Elev. (Ft)</u>	<u>Content (AF)</u>	<u>30 Year Average (AF)</u>
Seminole	6299.70	274,800	623,500
Pathfinder	5790.28	225,700	507,500
Alcova	5489.19	158,700	155,400
Glendo	4596.54	180,600	171,100
Guernsey	4396.52	6,500	5,300

October 2007 Inflows

<u>Reservoir</u>	<u>Inflows</u>	<u>% Of Average</u>
Seminole	30.8	107
Pathfinder (Sweetwater)	5.0	85
Alcova to Glendo Gains	2.7	21
Glendo to Guernsey Gains	1.2	52

Kendrick ownership was 357,000 acre-feet (AF) on October 31, 2007 and approximately 40% of average (901,300 AF), which compares to the ownership of 440,600 AF last year at this date. The October 31, 2007, North Platte ownership was 322,400 AF, which was approximately 77% of average (420,100 AF), which compares to 371,600 AF of North Platte ownership on this date last year. The Glendo ownership was 52,800 AF on October 31, 2007, which was approximately 42% of average (126,500 AF), which compares to the 29,000 AF of Glendo ownership on this date last year.

Kendrick ownership was the lowest for the end of October in the last 30 years. Glendo ownership at the end of October was the third lowest in the last 30 years.

Flows in the Miracle Mile below Kortez Dam are approximately 500 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

October 31, 2007 Reservoir Conditions

<u>Reservoir</u>	<u>Elev. (Ft)</u>	<u>Content (AF)</u>	<u>% Full Conservation Storage</u>	<u>% Avg.</u>
Bull Lake	5768.04	53,300	35	70
Boysen	4702.57	397,900	54	66
Buffalo Bill	5363.72	424,400	66	103
Pilot Butte	5453.35	28,000	83	110

October 31, 2006 Reservoir Conditions

<u>Reservoir</u>	<u>Elev. (Ft)</u>	<u>Content (AF)</u>	<u>30 Year Average (AF)</u>
Bull Lake	5769.67	56,900	76,000
Boysen	4708.26	469,100	600,600
Buffalo Bill	5365.08	433,500	413,400*
Pilot Butte	5410.63	4,000	25,400

* 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.

October 2007 Inflows

<u>Reservoir</u>	<u>Inflows (KAF)</u>	<u>% Average</u>
Bull Lake	7.7	145
Boysen	33.0	55
Buffalo Bill	39.8	164

The total release from Buffalo Bill Reservoir to the river is approximately 150 cfs and with addition from the springs is approximately 215 cfs as measured at the Cody river gage. The release from Boysen Dam is approximately 400 cfs.

SPECIAL REPORT

James Landmeyer, who is with the South Carolina Water Science Center of the U.S. Geological Survey, was our special presenter today. Mr. Landmeyer gave a very interesting presentation entitled, "From Redwoods to Remediation: The Effect of Plant/Groundwater Interactions on Surface and Groundwater Systems."

A copy of Mr. Landmeyer's abstract can be found [here](#).

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm.