



# State Engineer's Office

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GOVERNOR

PATRICK T. TYRRELL  
STATE ENGINEER

December 8, 2009

## 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 1, 2009 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 5<sup>th</sup> in the State Engineer's Conference Room at 10:00 a.m.

### WATER FORUM SCHEDULE 2009-2010 1<sup>st</sup> TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH

DATE	INVITED GUEST	DISCUSSION ITEM
December 1 <sup>st</sup>	Cheryl Miller	Groundwater, Surface Water Interaction
January 5 <sup>th</sup>	Bern Hinckley	Lusk Area Groundwater Level I Study
February 2 <sup>nd</sup>	John Henz and Bill Badini	Extreme Precipitation Analysis tool and Climate Change and Water Supply
March 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Blaine Christopherson	Allison Draw Project
April 6 <sup>th</sup>	Bureau of Reclamation	Water Supply Forecast
May 4 <sup>th</sup>	Tim Bartos	High Plains Aquifer Study

### SPECIAL REPORT

The next meeting of the Water Forum will be January 5, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. in the State Engineer's Office conference room. We will be hearing from Bern Hinckley, who is with Hinckley and Associates. Mr. Hinckley will be giving us a presentation on the Lusk Area Groundwater Level I Study that was recently completed for the Wyoming Water Development Commission.

# WYOMING STATE WATER FORUM MEETING MINUTES

December 1, 2009

Steve Wolff called the two hundred and eighty-eighth 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>
Matt Bilodeau	COE	matthew.a.bilodeau@usace.army.mil
Nephi Cole	NRCS – WACD	nephi.cole@wy.usda.gov
Paul Dey	WY Game and Fish	paul.dey@wgf.state.wy.us
Jane Francis	WDEQ – WQD	jfranc@wyo.gov
Kristi Hansen	UW – Ag. Econ. Dept.	khanse18@uwyo.edu
Matt Hoobler	SEO	mhoobl@seo.wyo.gov
Jeremy Manley	SEO	jmanle@seo.wyo.gov
Cheryl Miller	USGS	cemiller@usgs.gov
George Moser	SEO	gmoser@seo.wyo.gov
David Mott	USGS	dmott@usgs.gov
Kathy Muller Ogle	WDEQ – Land Quality	kmogle@state.wy.us
Chris Nicholson	WRDS	cnichol5@uwyo.edu
Ken Von Buettner	NRCS	kenneth.vonbuettner@wy.usda.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](mailto:jpring@seo.wyo.gov). For more information on the following reports, please contact the agency representative listed above.

### LARAMIE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT (LCCD)

Liberty Blain sent in the following:

The Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (WDEQ) has sent out a request for proposal and scope of work for the Crow Creek Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL). This TMDL will only be developed for the Cheyenne area of Crow Creek and will not include other portions of the watershed. The focus for Phase I is bacteria and selenium and Phase 2 will address sediment concerns. The LCCD will participate in the selection of the consultant as well as the entire TMDL process.

### WATER RESOURCES DATA SYSTEM

Chris Nicholson reported the following:

Chris passed out handouts: one on Wyoming Precipitation: Departures from Normal, one showing the December temperature average max, record max, average min and record min in Casper from 1948 – 2008 and the December temperature average max, record max, average min and record min in Cheyenne from 1915 – 2008. A copy of these handouts can be found [here](#).

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS)

Lee Hackleman reported the following:

Lee provided a copy of the Monday morning snow report. A copy of that report can be found [here](#).

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION / WYOMING AREA OFFICE

John Lawson submitted the following:

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

November 30, 2009 Reservoir Conditions

<u>Reservoir</u>	<u>Elev. (Ft)</u>	<u>Content (AF)</u>	<u>% Full Conservation Storage</u>	<u>% Avg.</u>
Seminole	6338.51	693,183	68	119
Pathfinder	5835.32	725,659	71	142
Alcova	5488.22	156,538	85	101
Glendo	4600.74	207,157	40	93
Guernsey	4401.82	11,747	26	167

November 30, 2008 Reservoir Conditions

<u>Reservoir</u>	<u>Elev. (Ft)</u>	<u>Content (AF)</u>	<u>30 Year Average (AF)</u>
Seminole	6325.54	520,249	583,600
Pathfinder	5809.80	385,066	512,800
Alcova	5488.30	156,718	154,900
Glendo	4598.47	192,490	221,800
Guernsey	4401.30	11,130	7,000

November 2009 Inflows

<u>Reservoir</u>	<u>Inflows</u>	<u>% Of Average</u>
Seminole	40.1	134
Pathfinder (Sweetwater)	1.2	26
Alcova to Glendo Gains	10.8	96
Glendo to Guernsey Gains	2.0	111

Kendrick ownership was 1,010,147 acre-feet (AF) on November 30, 2009 and approximately 116% of average (868,100 AF), which compares to the ownership of 525,619 AF last year at this date. The November 30, 2009, North Platte ownership was 636,292 AF, which was approximately 137% of average (464,800 AF), which compares to 647,588 AF of North Platte ownership on this date last year. The Glendo ownership was 120,481 AF on November 30, 2009, which was approximately 99% of average (121,400 AF), which compares to the 84,296 AF of Glendo ownership on this date last year.

Flows in the Miracle Mile below Kortez Dam are approximately 550 cubic feet per second (cfs). Releases from Gray Reef Reservoir are approximately 500 cfs. The level of Alcova Reservoir is approaching the winter operating range of 5488± one foot.

2. Water Supply Conditions of the Big Horn Basin

November 30, 2009 Reservoir Conditions

<u>Reservoir</u>	<u>Elev. (Ft)</u>	<u>Content (AF)</u>	<u>% Full Conservation Storage</u>	<u>% Avg.</u>
Bull Lake	5780.07	81,538	53	108
Boysen	4720.59	658,859	89	112
Buffalo Bill	5368.41	456,827	71	109
Pilot Butte	5454.82	29,199	87	108

November 30, 2009 Reservoir Conditions

<u>Reservoir</u>	<u>Elev. (Ft)</u>	<u>Content (AF)</u>	<u>30 Year Average (AF)</u>
Bull Lake	5783.22	89,612	75,300
Boysen	4718.72	626,094	589,200
Buffalo Bill	5368.75	459,067	420,900*
Pilot Butte	5453.81	28,351	27,100

\* The average used for Buffalo Bill Reservoir reflects data from 1993 through 2009. 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 2009 Inflows

<u>Reservoir</u>	<u>Inflows (KAF)</u>	<u>% Average</u>
Bull Lake	3.1	100
Boysen	49.0	101
Buffalo Bill	23.1	109

The release from Buffalo Bill Reservoir to the river and the springs is approximately 410 cfs as measured at the Cody river gage. The release from Boysen Dam is approximately 900 cfs.

SPECIAL REPORT

Cheryl Miller of the United State Geological Survey, Wyoming Water Science Center gave a presentation on the Determination of Groundwater/Surface Water Interaction on Fish Creek. A copy of Ms. Miller's presentation can be found [here](#).

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm.