



State Engineer's Office

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GOVERNOR

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STATE ENGINEER

February 10, 2010

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the State Water Forum

FROM: Patrick Tyrrell, Chairman

SUBJECT: Attached for your review and information is a copy of the February 2, 2010 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 March 2nd in the State Engineer's Conference Room at 10:00 a.m.

WATER FORUM SCHEDULE 2009-2010 1st TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH

| DATE | INVITED GUEST | DISCUSSION ITEM |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| February 2 nd | John Henz and Bill Badini | Extreme Precipitation Analysis tool and Climate Change and Water Supply |
| March 2 nd | Blaine Christopherson | Allison Draw Project |
| April 6 th | Bureau of Reclamation | Water Supply Forecast |
| May 4 th | Tim Bartos | High Plains Aquifer Study |

SPECIAL REPORT

The next meeting of the Water Forum will be March 2, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. in the State Engineer's Office conference room. We will be hearing from Blaine Christopherson, who is with the Natural Resources Conservation Service. Mr. Christopherson will be giving us a presentation on the Allison Draw project, which is located in Cheyenne.

WYOMING STATE WATER FORUM MEETING MINUTES

February 2, 2010

Steve Wolff called the two hundred and ninetieth 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> |
|------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Tom Annear | WY Game and Fish | tom.annear@wgf.state.wy.us |
| Bill Badini | HDR – Atmospheric Science | william.badini@hdrinc.com |
| Matt Bilodeau | COE | matthew.a.bilodeau@usace.army.mil |
| Lee Hackleman | NRCS | lee.hackleman@wy.usda.gov |
| John Henz | HDR – Atmospheric Science | john.henz@hdrinc.com |
| Matt Hoobler | SEO | mhoobl@seo.wyo.gov |
| Greg Kerr | UW – Office of Water Programs | rrek@uwyo.edu |
| Barry Lawrence | WWDO | blawre@state.wy.us |
| Becky Mathisen | SEO | bmathi@seo.wyo.gov |
| David Mott | USGS | dmott@usgs.gov |
| Chris Nicholson | WRDS | cnichol5@uwyo.edu |
| George Parks | WAM | gparks@wyomuni.org |
| Mike Wachtendonk | WDEQ – Water Quality | mwacht@wyo.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.

WATER RESOURCES DATA SYSTEM

Chris Nicholson reported the following:

Chris passed out one handout: Wyoming Precipitation: Departures from Normal. A copy of that handout 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**](#).

WYOMING WATER DEVELOPMENT OFFICE (WWDO)

Barry Lawrence reported the following:

Mr. Lawrence passed out a handout on the Wyoming Weather Modification Five-Year Pilot Program. A copy of that handout can be found [**here**](#).

Mr. Lawrence also passed out a copy of the professional services that are being sought for projects that will receive funding under this year's omnibus water bill. A copy of that handout 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.

January 31, 2010 Reservoir Conditions

| <u>Reservoir</u> | <u>Elev. (Ft)</u> | <u>Content (AF)</u> | <u>% Full Conservation Storage</u> | <u>% Avg.</u> |
|------------------|-------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|---------------|
| Seminoe | 6337.69 | 681,048 | 67 | 132 |
| Pathfinder | 5835.68 | 731,894 | 72 | 131 |
| Alcova | 5487.98 | 155,998 | 85 | 101 |
| Glendo | 4611.09 | 282,300 | 55 | 90 |
| Guernsey | 4405.55 | 16,835 | 37 | 153 |

January 31, 2009 Reservoir Conditions

| <u>Reservoir</u> | <u>Elev. (Ft)</u> | <u>Content (AF)</u> | <u>30 Year Average (AF)</u> |
|------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| Seminoe | 6324.48 | 507,780 | 516,800 |
| Pathfinder | 5810.83 | 395,384 | 557,200 |
| Alcova | 5488.26 | 156,628 | 155,100 |
| Glendo | 4608.00 | 258,458 | 315,000 |
| Guernsey | 4404.80 | 15,719 | 11,000 |

January 2010 Inflows

| <u>Reservoir</u> | <u>Inflows</u> | <u>% Of Average</u> |
|--------------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| Seminoe | 29.4 | 116 |
| Pathfinder (Sweetwater) | 2.0 | 34 |
| Alcova to Glendo Gains | 14.0 | 139 |
| Glendo to Guernsey Gains | 1.4 | 93 |

Kendrick ownership was 1,006,660 acre-feet (AF) on January 31, 2010 and approximately 116% of average (865,200 AF), which compares to the ownership of 523,684 AF last year at this date. The January 31, 2010, North Platte ownership was 713,435 AF, which was approximately 132% of average (540,500 AF), which compares to 717,702 AF of North Platte ownership on this date last year. The Glendo ownership was 120,054 AF on January 31, 2010, which was approximately 97% of average (123,500 AF), which compares to the 83,580 AF of Glendo ownership on this date last year.

Flows in the Miracle Mile below Kortez Dam are approximately 530 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

January 31, 2010 Reservoir Conditions

| <u>Reservoir</u> | <u>Elev. (Ft)</u> | <u>Content (AF)</u> | <u>% Full Conservation Storage</u> | <u>% Avg.</u> |
|------------------|-------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|---------------|
| Bull Lake | 5779.93 | 81,186 | 53 | 107 |
| Boysen | 4717.71 | 609,056 | 82 | 110 |
| Buffalo Bill | 5366.14 | 440,800 | 68 | 105 |
| Pilot Butte | 5454.63 | 29,039 | 86 | 106 |

January 31, 2010 Reservoir Conditions

| <u>Reservoir</u> | <u>Elev. (Ft)</u> | <u>Content (AF)</u> | <u>30 Year Average (AF)</u> |
|------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| Bull Lake | 5783.50 | 90,342 | 76,000 |
| Boysen | 4717.38 | 603,591 | 555,800 |
| Buffalo Bill | 5366.57 | 443,663 | 418,600* |
| Pilot Butte | 5453.52 | 28,110 | 27,300 |

* 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.

January 2010 Inflows

| <u>Reservoir</u> | <u>Inflows (KAF)</u> | <u>% Average</u> |
|------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Bull Lake | 1.6 | 73 |
| Boysen | 30.7 | 84 |
| Buffalo Bill | 14.3 | 97 |

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

John Henz and Bill Badini of HDR, Atmospheric Science gave a presentation on their Extreme Precipitation Analysis tool and Climate Change and Water Supply. A copy of their PowerPoint presentation can be found [here](#).

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm.