



State Engineer's Office

HERSCHLER BUILDING, 4-E CHEYENNE, WYOMING 82002
(307) 777-7354 FAX (307) 777-5451

seoleg@state.wy.us

DAVE FREUDENTHAL
GOVERNOR

PATRICK T. TYRRELL
STATE ENGINEER

December 8, 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 December 7, 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 January 4th in the State Engineer's Office Conference Room at 10:00 a.m.

WATER FORUM SCHEDULE 2010-2011 1st TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH

DATE	INVITED GUEST	DISCUSSION ITEM
January 4 th	Kim Johnson – WY Office of Homeland Security	WY Flood Map Modernization Program
February 1 st	Dr. Ron Surdam – UW – Director – Carbon Management Research Center – School of Energy Resources	Carbon Sequestration
March 1 st	Tim Bartos – USGS	High Plains Aquifer
April 5 th	Bureau of Reclamation	Water Supply Forecast
May 3 rd		

SPECIAL REPORT

The next meeting of the Water Forum will be January 4, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. in the State Engineer's Office conference room. We will be hearing from Kim Johnson, with the Wyoming Office of Homeland Security. Mr. Johnson's presentation will be on the WY Flood Map Modernization Program.

WYOMING STATE WATER FORUM MEETING MINUTES

December 13, 2010

Jodee Pring called the two hundred and ninety-seventh 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@usbr.gov (phone)
Matt Bilodeau	COE	matthew.a.bilodeau@usace.army.mil
Liberty Blain	LCCD	liberty@lccdnet.org
Joel Farber	Trihydro	jfarber@trihydro.com (phone)
Beth Hoobler	SEO	bhoobl@seo.wyo.gov
Matt Hoobler	SEO	mhoobl@seo.wyo.gov
Greg Kerr	UW – Office of Water Programs	rrek@uwyo.edu
Barry Lawrence	WWDO	blawre@state.wy.us
Brian Lovett	WDEA-WQD	blovet@wyo.gov
Kathy Muller Ogle	WDEQ-LQD	kmogle@wyo.gov
Jodee Pring	SEO	jpring@seo.wyo.gov
Cathy Rosenthal	WACD	ccooper@tribcsp.com (phone)
Ron Vore	WWDO	rvore@state.wy.us
Justin Williams	AG	jwilli7@state.wy.us

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)

Jodee Pring reported the following:

The Water Development Commission will be holding a workshop December 13th. At this workshop, a representative of the Army Corps of Engineers – Omaha District will be present to give an update on the Missouri River Ecosystem Restoration Plan (MRERP). The workshop will begin at 1:30 p.m.

A Yellowstone River Compact Commission meeting will be held Dec. 8th in Red Lodge, MT.

In the MT. v. WY case, Pete Michaels will be arguing before the Supreme Court on January 10th at 11:00 a.m., Eastern Time.

A Belle Fourche Compact meeting will be held January 6th in Sundance. This is a chance for irrigators to get together with each other as well as the states of Wyoming and South Dakota and discuss the past irrigation season.

Ms. Pring passed around a copy of the Monday morning snow report for December 6th. A copy of that report can be found [here](#).

Matt Hoobler reported the following:

Under the provisions of the North Platte Decree, a request for proposal is out on the streets for the installation of a weir above the state line. Interviews will take place in the upcoming weeks.

LARAMIE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT (LCCD)

Liberty Blain reported the following:

The Conservation District will be holding a public meeting on Oil and Gas Development in Laramie County on December 9th. The meeting will be held at the Burns Town Hall. Speakers include Tom Doll of the Wyoming Oil and Gas Conservation Commission, John Barnes of the State Engineer's Office and John Corra, of the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality. As of today, approximately 60 people have stated they will attend.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY – WATER QUALITY DIVISION (WDEQ – WQD)

Brian Lovett reported the following:

The staff has been working on storm water permits as well as pesticide permit. WQD has also been working with CAFO (confined animal feeding operations) on their permits. Five CAFO operations in the state are currently working under an administrative extension on their permits.

WQD has been receiving some complaints concerning dumping of water which has been used or recovered from the drilling of oil and gas wells in and around Laramie County. The water disposal facility in Southeast Wyoming has been shut-in due to emulsified products being found in the water. WQD is working with operators to educate them on water disposal.

WYOMING WATER DEVELOPMENT OFFICE (WWDO)

Barry Lawrence reported the following:

This week the Water Development Commission is conducting hearings on 15 Level 3 projects.

Bill Bensel, Dan Budd, Dick Geving and Anne MacKinnon will all be retiring off of the Commission as of December 30th.

Weather Modification Program: 229 generator hours have been recorded in the Wind River Range. The Medicine Bow Range has recorded 5 seeding events, all randomized, for a total of 104 generator hours. The Sierra Madres have had 1 seeding event. Eden Valley Irrigation

District has had to stop seeding as they have reached the thresholds lined out in their Weather Modification permit form the State Engineer's Office.

OFFICE OF WATER PROGRAMS – UW (OWP)

Greg Kerr reported the following:

On December 2, the committee met to review projects submitted under the Water Research Program. Eight projects were submitted for funding, however, there was only enough money to fund 2 projects. The principals of those projects will be contacted today.

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION / WYOMING AREA OFFICE

John Lawson submitted the following:

The following is a listing of reservoir conditions on November 30, 2010:

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

<u>Reservoir</u>	<u>Elev. (Ft)</u>	<u>Content (AF)</u>	<u>% Full Conservation Storage</u>	<u>% Avg.</u>
Seminoe	6347.70	841,748	83	144
Pathfinder	5837.79	769,319	76	149
Alcova	5488.33	156,786	85	101
Glendo	4615.47	318,344	62	144
Guernsey	4399.35	9,018	20	123

November 30, 2009 Reservoir Conditions:

<u>Reservoir</u>	<u>Elev. (Ft)</u>	<u>Content (AF)</u>	<u>30 Year Average (AF)</u>
Seminoe	6338.51	693,183	583,000
Pathfinder	5835.32	725,659	517,600
Alcova	5488.22	156,538	155,000
Glendo	4600.74	207,157	220,900
Guernsey	4401.82	11,747	7,300

November Inflows

<u>Reservoir</u>	<u>Inflows</u>	<u>% Of Average</u>
Seminoe	34.5	114
Pathfinder (Sweetwater)	3.2	70
Alcova to Glendo Gains	9.3	83
Glendo to Guernsey Gains	2.2	122

Kendrick ownership was 1,108,267 acre-feet (AF) on November 30, 2010 and approximately 128% of average (868,300 AF), which compares to the ownership of 1,010,147 AF last year at this date. The November 30, 2010, North Platte ownership was 752,253 AF, which was

approximately 161% of average (468,000 AF), which compares to 636,292 AF of North Platte ownership on this date last year. The Glendo ownership was 174,179 AF on November 30, 2010, which was approximately 144% of average (120,900 AF), which compares to the 120,481 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 has reached the winter operating range of 5488± one foot.

2. Water Supply Conditions of the Big Horn Basin

November 30, 2010 Reservoir Conditions

<u>Reservoir</u>	<u>Elev. (Ft)</u>	<u>Content (AF)</u>	<u>% Full Conservation Storage</u>	<u>% Avg.</u>
Bull Lake	5775.21	69,623	46	92
Boysen	4718.47	621,834	84	105
Buffalo Bill	5368.23	455,551	70	108
Pilot Butte	5453.14	27,795	82	100

November 30, 2009 Reservoir Conditions

<u>Reservoir</u>	<u>Elev. (Ft)</u>	<u>Content (AF)</u>	<u>30 Year Average (AF)</u>
Bull Lake	5780.07	81,538	75,400
Boysen	4720.59	658,859	590,300
Buffalo Bill	5368.41	456,827	421,400*
Pilot Butte	5454.82	29,199	27,700

* The average used for Buffalo Bill Reservoir reflects data from 1993 through 2010. 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 Inflows

<u>Reservoir</u>	<u>Inflows (KAF)</u>	<u>% Average</u>
Bull Lake	2.3	72
Boysen	42.2	86
Buffalo Bill	19.0	89

The release from Buffalo Bill Reservoir to the river is approximately 410 cfs as measured at the Cody river gage. The release from Boysen Dam is approximately 800 cfs.

SPECIAL REPORT

Dr. Ginger Paige, Associate Professor at the University of Wyoming in the Department of Renewable Resources, gave a very interesting presentation on “Wyoming Water: Watershed Hydrologic and Soil Moisture Instrumentation”.

A copy of Dr. Paige's PowerPoint presentation can be found **here**.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.