

July 21, 2009

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

August 10, 2009

[SpringHill Suites](#)

416 W. Fox Farm Rd.

(West of the Holiday Inn on Fox Farm Road, 1 block South and 2 blocks West of the Central Avenue/South Greeley Highway Interchange (Exit 362) off of Eastbound Interstate 80)

Cheyenne, Wyoming

NOTE: Those who have the lead for the agenda items listed below are *expected* to post a synopsis of your report on the fws-coloriver list-server or to the Management Committee in advance of the meeting. Committee members are reminded that this makes for a better meeting, so please comply with this request if possible.

Monday, August 10

CONVENE: 1:00 p.m.

1. Introductions, review/modify agenda and time allocations, and appoint a timekeeper (5 min.)
– *The Committee will consider the agenda, allotted time for each item, and make any necessary additions or revisions.*
2. Approve June 4, 2009, meeting summary and review previous meeting assignments (All, 5 min.) – *Tom Pitts proposed revisions which John Shields e-mailed the Committee with this meeting agenda. Previous meeting assignments are found in Attachment 1.*
3. Review of tasks called out in FY 2009 sufficient progress memo (see Attachment 2) (All, 20 min.)
4. Updates/Follow-up on Legislative and Program Authority-related activities
 - a. Status of legislation to maintain annual base funding for the Bureau of Reclamation for the Upper Colorado River and San Juan fish recovery programs through FY2023 (Shields & Pitts, 5 min.)
 - b. Status of requested legislation to permanently reallocate 5,412.5 acre-feet of the regulatory capacity of Ruedi Reservoir for delivery to endangered fish habitat on the Colorado River and assign all costs associated with the re-allocated water as non-reimbursable. (Pitts, 20 min.)
 - c. Status of Fiscal Year 2010 Program-Related Funding Within the Bureau of Reclamation and Fish and Wildlife Service Appropriations Bills (Shields, 5 min.)
 - d. Extension of the Recovery Program's Cooperative Agreement (Kantola, Felker, 5 min.)
– *The agreement will be routed for signature following review/approval by the Secretary of the Interior's office.*

5. OMID proposal update (Uilenberg) (30 min.) – Update on River District Board action on acquisition of site for re-regulating reservoir and discussions concerning annual O&M costs; discussion of potential meeting and field trip in late September/early October.
6. [10,825 Alternatives](#) update (Pitts) (15 min.)
7. Review/Recommendations/Approval of FY 2010-2011 Work Plan. (Kantola, All, 1.5 hours, continued Tuesday morning, if needed)

IMPORTANT NOTE: Management Committee members need to ask their respective Implementation Committee members if they wish to delegate approval of the work plan to the Management Committee versus having the Implementation Committee approve the work plan at their meeting scheduled for September 24 in Broomfield, Colorado.

The Committee will review (and approve, if so delegated by the Implementation Committee) the draft FY 10-11 work plan. Information about the plan (technical committee reviews, budget spreadsheets, and [the link to proposed scopes of work](#)) will be posted to the fws-coloriver listserv by Angela Kantola.

ADJOURN 4:30 p.m.

BARBECUE: 5:30 p.m. until 9:30 p.m.

No-host barbecue is being held at the home of John and Janelle Shields, 7535 Jessica Drive. (**Prior RSVP required** (just call or e-mail John) for head-count purposes and **\$10 payment** to cover the catering food cost is being collected at the meeting). Soft drinks and ice-tea will be provided with the meal – iced coolers will be available for attendees who wish to bring your own beverage. All are invited and encouraged to attend.

Driving Directions from the SpringHill Suites to the Shields' home (Travel time ~ 8-10 minutes): Travel West on I-80 to the I-25 Northbound Interchange (Exit 359) and exit Northbound. Travel North on I-25 to the Vandehi Avenue Interchange (Exit 13), turn Westbound (left) at the Interchange crossing over the Interstate and then immediately turn right (North) onto Bishop Blvd. Travel North for 3 blocks on Bishop Blvd. and then turn left (West) on Brittany Blvd. Travel West on Brittany Blvd for 3 blocks and turn right (North) on Jessica Drive. Travel to the end of the cul-de-sac (1 block) to 7535 Jessica Drive.

Tuesday, August 11

CONVENE: 9:00 a.m.

(Work plan review continued, if necessary)

8. Section 7 and related issues
 - a. [Summary of depletions](#); update on pending “*de minimis*” exclusion (Kantola) (5 min)

- b. Update on Aspinall PBO & [EIS](#) (Service, Reclamation) (10 min)
9. Updates
- a. Capital projects (Uilenberg) (10 min)
 - b. Hydrology update (Mohrman) (15 min) – *Update on summer hydrological conditions and plans for fish flows.*
 - c. Staff updates (Chart, Czaplá, Felker, 30 min) – *Updates for the Committee on important recovery activities not discussed elsewhere on the agenda.*
 - d. [Recovery goals](#) revision (Czaplá) (10 min)
 - e. Update on environmental groups’ representatives to the Management, Biology, and Information and Education committees (10 min.)
 - f. Reports status (Kantola/Muth) (5 min.) – *An updated reports list will be provided and the Committee will be alerted as to Biology Committee’s actions on recent reports.*
10. Upcoming Management Committee tasks, schedule next meeting (All) (10 min) – *OMID field trip in late September/early October?*
11. Agenda items for September 24 Implementation Committee meeting (All, 10 min) – *The next Implementation Committee meeting has been scheduled for September 24 from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Tri-State’s office in Broomfield, CO (the Committee having agreed that September is a better time for them to meet than February).*

ADJOURN by 12:00 p.m.

Attachment 1
Assignments from Previous Meetings

1. The **Service** will meet to consider if it would be acceptable to screen the irrigation water and not the low-head hydropower water at Tusher Wash or if there are other ways (e.g., a weir wall) to achieve our objectives for screening Tusher Wash. *Discussions underway; but pending decisions on dam rehabilitation.*
2. The **Program Director's office** will provide a more specific recommendation regarding establishing a basinwide recovery/conservation oversight team for the endangered fishes.
3. **Brent Uilenberg** will provide revised RIPRAP budget table ASAP. *Pending now that capital funds indexing has been determined.*
4. **John Reber** will notify Steve Guertin (and cc: the rest of the Implementation Committee and the PD's office) that he is now the Park Service's representative on the Implementation Committee.
5. **The Program Director** will further discuss with the Service developing a programmatic biological opinion for the White River when the Gunnison PBO nears completion.
6. **Tom Chart** will discuss with **UDWR** whether the Tusher Wash canal might be a potential site for a weir.
7. **Randy Seaholm** will update a relevant Board memo to better explain the issues related to the proposed Ruedi legislation, then **Tom Pitts** will schedule a conference call of the non-federal Program participants (before the August Management Committee meeting).
8. **The Committee** will schedule a future meeting (perhaps with the Water Acquisition Committee) in Grand Junction in late September or early October to more fully understand and discuss the OMID project and take a field tour.
9. **Brent Uilenberg, Randy Seaholm, Dan Birch, and OMID** will work on the O&M agreement/concept to try to move it far enough forward to give the District the necessary comfort to close on the property.
10. **Randy Seaholm** will talk to the Division Engineer about Reclamation and/or the Division Engineer summarizing Aspinall/Black Canyon operations each year for the first several years.

ATTACHMENT 2

Action Items from the Draft 2009 Sufficient Progress Memo

ACTION ITEM	LEAD	DUE DATE	STATUS
<p>The Service will continue to closely follow the effectiveness of nonnative fish management actions and the responses of the endangered and other native fishes. Data should continue to be reported annually, and necessary changes to nonnative fish management actions should be made in a timely fashion.</p>	<p>FWS, CDOW, UDWR</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>7/13/09: Critical data from 2008 have now been submitted. CDOW has discontinued translocation of smallmouth bass to Craig Justice Center Ponds, which will be returned to a trout fishery. Elkhead Reservoir will remain the primary translocation site for smallmouth bass (subsequent to spills or until the upper reservoir can be accessed). CDOW will continue to translocate northern pike to State Parks Headquarters Pond (Kyle's pond), Loudy Simpson, and Yampa State Wildlife Area ponds (subsequent to connection in the latter two locations). Northern pike CDOW is removing from Catamount Lake are now euthanized. Future actions are contingent on further contaminant results from riverine samples of northern pike and smallmouth bass. Elkhead Reservoir is still under a public fish consumption advisory. December nonnative fish workshop to be scheduled soon.</p>
<p>A research framework project was initiated in 2005 to conduct additional data analyses to further understand environmental variables and life-history traits influencing the dynamics of Colorado pikeminnow and humpback chub populations. The draft research framework report is behind schedule (originally due in 2007), but is expected in July 2009. Results will be used to refine hypotheses and direct management actions.</p>	<p>Valdez, Bestgen</p>	<p>7/31/09</p>	<p>7/21/09: Draft to PD's office pending (and expected by July 31).</p>
<p>The Flaming Gorge Technical Work Group (Reclamation, the Service, and Western) needs to continue to provide brief updates on current and projected Flaming Gorge operations at Biology Committee meetings.</p>	<p>USBR, FWS, WAPA</p>		
<p>The Recovery Program and the Utah's State Engineer's office have been working on mechanisms to protect year-round flows in the Green River; however, this is behind schedule. A schedule and outline of the steps required for both the year-round protection above the Duchesne (to occur in 2009) as well as flow protection below the Duchesne is needed: a) the public meeting held by August 31, and the protection finalized by December 31, 2009; and b) by September 30, 2009, a</p>	<p>Utah</p>	<p>Public meeting: 8/31/09 Schedule/outline: 9/30/09</p>	<p>7/20/09: Public meeting scheduled for 8/20/09; completion anticipated by 12/30/09 (year-round above Duchesne). Outline/schedule for protection below Duchesne anticipated by 9/30/09.</p>

schedule outlining steps for year-round protection downstream of the Duchesne to the confluence with the Colorado River.			
The Colorado Division of Wildlife will complete the Yampa River Aquatic Management Plan (with an Upper Yampa River northern pike strategy) by early July 2009. The Program will use this strategy and available information to evaluate the need to expand northern pike control upstream of Hayden to Steamboat Springs, possibly including removal efforts.	CDOW		7/13: Draft will be available for internal review by mid-July. CDOW will send the draft out the States and Service (NNFSP) prior to Greg Gerlich's final approval.
Now that the Myton Diversion rehabilitation has been completed, the Program, Service, and Duchesne Work Group will work together to determine if any changes are needed in ongoing monitoring efforts necessary to evaluate the flow recommendations.			7/20: Diversion operational; SCADA may not yet be online.
Implementation of Coordinated Reservoir Operations (CROS) provided some peak flow augmentation in 2008; however, constraints on operations due to flooding concerns need further investigation to determine the feasibility of further enhancing CROS benefits.			
Work on Coordinated Facilities Operations Project (CFOPS) will resume and is expected to be completed in 2010, but a specific schedule needs to be developed by October 1, 2009.			
Close coordination will be maintained by meeting twice a year with Grand Valley water users and conducting conference calls as needed to discuss river conditions prior to the weekly Historic User Pool calls. The focus should be on taking full advantage of water savings brought about by operation of the Grand Valley Water Management project for late summer flow augmentation.	USBR, PD's office		
The goal of the 10,825 Project is to have agreements signed with the Service prior to December 2009 committing east slope and west slope water users to permanent sources of Ruedi replacement water, as required by			7/21/09: Colorado River Water Conservation District requested Representative Salazar and Senator Mark Udall to Legislation introduce legislation to permanently reallocate 5,412.5 acre-feet of the regulatory capacity of Ruedi Reservoir for delivery to endangered fish habitat on the Colorado River and assign all costs

the Colorado River programmatic biological opinion.			associated with the re-allocated water as non-reimbursable.
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