

Public Involvement Plan Proposed Scope of Work – FY 2002–2003

May 1, 2001
(Rev. 9/28/2001)

Project No.: PIP 12C (CAP 14)

Lead Agencies: Colorado Water Conservation Board and U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

Submitted By: Kara Lamb
Public Involvement Specialist
Eastern Colorado Area Office, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
11056 W. County Rd. 18E
Loveland, CO 80539

Program Leads:

Randy Seaholm
Colorado Water Conservation Bd.
1313 Sherman, Room 721
Denver, CO. 80203
Phone: (303) 866-3441
Fax: (303) 866-4474
email: randy.seaholm@state.co.us

Malcolm Wilson
Eastern Colorado Area Office
11056 West County Road 18E
Loveland, CO 80537
Phone: (970) 962-4362
Fax: (970) 663-3212
email: mwilson@gp.usbr.gov

Title of Proposal: Coordinated Reservoir Operations and Public Involvement

Briefly describe the strategies planned to achieve public involvement goals as they relate to this project. The goals are defined in the Recovery Program's Communications/Public Involvement Plan. Include budget and dates where applicable. (Please limit narrative to one to two pages.)

Strategies/Dates:

April 1- 12 - The Committee meets and characterizes the type of runoff year based upon forecasts from the National Weather Service and other sources. Characterization of the runoff year will determine which set of 15 Mile Reach flow recommendations coordinated reservoir operations should strive to achieve. The committee also determines an approximate starting date and duration time for the voluntarily bypassing of inflows to enhance the peaks.

April 15 - 30 - Press releases and public announcements mailed out.

April 12- 30 - Each reservoir owner / operator prepares annual operating plans for traditional and peak enhancement operations, for their respective reservoirs.

April 25- May 25 - A joint public meeting will be held to present plans for Coordinated Reservoir operations during the spring runoff and Ruedi Reservoir operations to meet flow targets during the late summer. The proposed annual

operating plans for each participating reservoir for the current year will be presented and public comment received. Public comments will be recorded and distributed as soon as possible thereafter.

May-July - The participating entities monitor runoff to determine more accurately the type of year being faced and their abilities to contribute to peak enhancement.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Colorado Division of Water Resources Division 5 Engineer determine when it is most appropriate to begin bypasses of inflow to enhance the peak in the 15-Mile Reach and notify the participants. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, in cooperation with the participating reservoir owner/operators, jointly agree when to initiate the voluntary bypass of inflows to enhance peaks as necessary and as they are able, and adjust operating plans as appropriate, including adjustments made based on public comment.

Colorado Division of Water Resources, Division 5 Engineer conducts an accounting of releases and provides a record of all water bypassed to enhance the peak during the specified time frame. The Recovery Program monitors the effects of peak flows on endangered fish and critical habitat.

During this period the public will be informed through news releases to the media, direct mailings and email as necessary of any decisions to adjust reservoir operations and bypasses made to enhance flows for endangered fish purposes.

January - CWCB prepares a draft summary report with operator reports, Division 5 accounting and the Recovery Program monitoring reports included as attachments. The committee reviews, modifies and submits the report to the Recovery Program Water Acquisition Committee and the Management Committee and makes it available for general distribution. CWCB distributes the report to other interested parties on behalf of the Coordinated Reservoir Operations Committee on an as requested basis.

Budget (FY 2002-2003):

Estimated Costs

Conducting Coordinated Reservoir Operations	Tasks A. 1 - 5
	Federal Labor \$ 10,000
	Federal Travel \$ 2,500
	State Labor \$ 4,000
	State Travel \$ 1,500
Preparing Summary Report	Task A. 6
	Federal Labor \$ 6,000
	Federal Travel \$ 1,500
	State Labor \$ 6,000
	State Travel \$ 1,500

Improving Coordinated Reservoir Operations	Tasks B. 1 - 4
	Federal Labor \$ 4,000
	Federal Travel \$ 1,000
	State Labor \$ 1,000
	<u>State Travel \$ 1,000</u>

Total Annual FY Expenditures:	Federal \$ 25,000
	State \$ 15,000

Public Involvement (capital funds)	Federal Labor*\$ 2,000
	Federal Travel \$ 1,200
	<u>Printing/Mailing \$ 600</u>

Total Annual FY Expenditures:	Federal \$ 3,800
-------------------------------	------------------

Budget Summary	RIP \$	CO State In-Kind \$
FY 2000	\$ 28,800	\$ 15,000
FY 2001	\$ 28,800	\$ 15,000
FY 2002 ¹	\$ 28,800	\$ 15,000
FY 2003 ¹	<u>\$ 28,800</u>	<u>\$ 15,000</u>
Total	\$115,200	\$ 60,000

*5% of full-time public involvement position