

Trip Report
April 11 through April 18, 2000
2000 Washington, D. C. Briefing Meetings
Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Implementation Program
and
San Juan River Basin Endangered Fish Recovery Implementation Program
Prepared by John Shields, Chairman, Upper Colorado Program Management Committee

SYNOPSIS AND PURPOSE: During the period April 12th through April 18th, representatives of the non-federal participants in the Upper Colorado River and San Juan River Basin Endangered Fish Recovery Implementation Programs¹ met with Congressional staff to brief them on the status of the two endangered fish recovery programs. The group met with the Congressional Delegations of the States of Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming, and Congressional committee staff for the authorizing and appropriations committees having jurisdiction over the Bureau of Reclamation and Fish and Wildlife Service, Administration officials and several other entities. The meetings addressed three matters:

1. Status of the Recovery Program and its accomplishments.
2. Fiscal Year 2001 funding needs and inclusion of Recovery Program funding line-items in the budgets for the USFWS and the Bureau of Reclamation in the President's Fiscal Year 2000 recommended budget to meet those needs.
3. Authorization legislation for the Upper Colorado River Recovery Implementation Program and the San Juan River Basin Recovery Implementation Program (H.R. 2348 and S. 2239).

At the meetings with appropriations subcommittee staff, our group explained the continuing need for funding and the uses and benefits being obtained with Program funding. Joint-delegation letters addressed to the House and Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development and the Subcommittee on Interior and Related Agencies (expressing funding support for funding line-items in the President's FY 2001 recommended Bureau of Reclamation and USFWS budgets for these two recovery programs) were circulated on Capitol Hill last week. Copies of the funding support letters submitted to the appropriations subcommittees by Governors Leavitt and Geringer, the Colorado Dept. of Natural Resources Director and the New Mexico State Engineer were provided to legislative staff at each meeting. In addition, many letters of support have been submitted by water, power and environmental interests. As measured by having the majority² of the signatures of the Members of Congress from the four involved states on the joint delegation letters, we have demonstrated the support of our Congressional delegations for Fiscal Year 2001 funding for these two recovery programs.

A copy of our briefing booklet may be downloaded from the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Implementation Program's internet home page. The URL to view or download the booklet is: <http://www.r6.fws.gov/crrip/doc/2000BriefingBook.pdf>. A list of trip participants is found on the next to last page (inside back cover) of the briefing booklet. Copies of the circulated joint delegation letters are

1 Program participants represented at these briefing meetings were the four involved states of Colorado, Utah, Wyoming and New Mexico, water users, environmental groups and Colorado River Energy Distributors Association [CREDA - an association of the entities that buy power generated at Colorado River Storage Project (CRSP) projects and re-sell it to local distributors].

2 House Delegations' Members who signed were: DeGette, Udall (CO), McInnis, Schaffer, Tancredo, Udall (NM - separate letter), Hansen, Cook, Cannon and Cubin. It is anticipated that Rep. Wilson will submit separate letters this week. Rep. Hefley did not. Senate Delegations' Members who signed were: Allard, Hatch, Bennett and Bingaman. Senators Campbell, Domenici, Thomas and Enzi did not. Senator Enzi's staffer did indicate his belief that Senator Enzi will vote "aye" when S. 2239 comes to a vote.

transmitted with this trip report document in two ZIP files that can be opened and the individual letters printed.

Overall, the trip was a success and the participants feel that we did about all that we could while we were in Washington, D.C. A list of those who participated in the meetings/briefings is attached to this report. Not all participants were in Washington, D.C. during the entire period of the trip nor did all participate in each meeting, nonetheless the roster provides a listing of all who participated in one or more meetings.

Bill Synopsis: H.R. 2348 and S. 2239 authorize up to \$46 million of appropriations for federal cost sharing by the USBR of capital construction projects for the two recovery programs. The bill establishes that the total costs of the capital projects undertaken for the Recovery Programs shall not exceed \$100 million, of which \$82 million through the year 2005 is for the Upper Colorado River Recovery Program and \$18 million through the year 2007 is for the San Juan River Recovery Implementation Program. The Federal Government would pay \$46 million toward the cost of completing capital projects. The four participating states would contribute \$17 million and \$17 million would be contributed from revenues derived from the sale of hydroelectric power from the Colorado River Storage Project with the remaining \$20 million is being contributed through sunk costs incurred due to the cost of replacement power purchased as a result of the modification of the operation of the hydropower facilities associated with the Colorado River Storage Project, chiefly at Flaming Gorge Dam. The bill further provides that up to \$6 million (up to \$4 million for the Upper Colorado program and up to \$2 million for the San Juan Program) of non-reimbursable CRSP hydropower revenues may be used for base (non-capital) funding for these two programs. The capital construction program includes facilities for the genetic conservation and propagation of the endangered fish species, for the restoration of floodplain habitat and fish passage, for regulation and/or supply of instream habitat flows, for preventing fish entrapment in canals and for the removal or relocation of non-native fishes. This legislation will allow two model programs to proceed to completion.

Meetings with Authorizing Committee Staff: During our meetings (4/13 and 4/14) with the authorizing committee staff, Jim Beirne, Majority Staff Counsel for the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, indicated he will be heavily involved with the upcoming Water and Power Subcommittee hearing on S. 2239 for Chairman Gordon Smith. Mr. Beirne drew attention to Section 4 of the bill and requested that we ask the House Resources Water and Power Subcommittee counsel (and noted he would be following up with Mr. Faber as well) if the provisions of this section, entitled "Effect on Reclamation Law" are sufficiently broad. Mr. Beirne expressed some concern that as written³, the language of the bill does not specify that additional benefits accruing to existing Reclamation projects, which may or may not be already "paid out," and arise pursuant to the expenditure of the authorized funding for capital construction projects to benefit the endangered fish species, cannot be a nexus to make those existing facilities subject to the Reclamation Act as amended and supplemented. He suggested that protecting existing facilities that are already paid out but that are re-operated in some manner may be desirable. He indicated that amending this section of the bill is an option, as is developing and inserting report language (as in the Committee report for S. 1211 passed by the Senate last November to increase the appropriations authorization for the USBR basin-wide Colorado River Salinity Control Program) to ensure a clear hearing record and understanding about existing facilities and activities and expenditures authorized by this measure. Mr. Beirne indicated that he will be inquiring of the Dept. of the Interior on several other minor clarifications and matters about this bill in advance of the hearing.

During our meeting with Mr. Bob Faber, Counsel and Staff Director for the House Resources Water and Power Subcommittee, Faber indicated that he will converse with Mr. Beirne regarding the present

³ Section 4. "EFFECT ON RECLAMATION LAW" of S. 2239 now reads: "Construction of a facility or acquisition of an interest in land or water under this Act shall not render the facility or interest in land or water or associated processes and procedures subject to the Act of June 17, 1902 (32 Stat. 388, chapter 1093), and Acts supplemental to and amendatory of that Act (43 U.S.C. 371, et seq.)."

language of Section 4 of the bill. Faber could not indicate when H.R. 2348, for which a hearing was held on October 21, 1994, will be marked up. Congressman Hansen and Chairman Doolittle will be meeting to resolve remaining issues with the bill shortly after the current recess of the Congress (Mr. Hansen told us this directly on 4/13/2000).

Synopsis of Meetings and Contacts
Made During the 2000 Washington, D. C. Briefing Trip
Upper Colorado River and San Juan Endangered Fish Recovery Programs
April 11 through April 18, 2000

April 11 (Tuesday)

5:00 p.m. Shields accompanied Renee Howell, Legislative Assistant for Rep. Scott McGinnis around to the House delegation offices of those who had committed to sign the House side joint delegation letters. It was necessary to circulate the House side letters in advance of the briefings on account of the fact that the House appropriations subcommittees moved their deadline for submittal of letters and testimonies up to the close of business on April 12th, while all of our briefings with House delegation members and staff had been previously set for Thursday, April 13th. Despite the fact that we performed the briefings and letter circulation process out of order, we were successful in getting all of the the signatures that we could have reasonably hoped to obtain. Briefing booklets were distributed and mention was made at each office of the upcoming meetings and their time. House Delegations' Members who signed were: DeGette, Udall (CO), McInnis, Schaffer, Tancredo, Udall (NM - separate letter), Hansen, Cook, Cannon and Cubin. It is anticipated that Rep. Wilson will submit separate letters during the week of April 17th. Rep. Hefley did not.

April 12 (Wednesday)

7:15 a.m. Trip participants held pre-briefings meeting in Room 108 at the Capitol Hill Suites Hotel.

8:30 a.m. Met with Senator Orrin Hatch and Legislative Assistant J.J. Brown, for (131 Russell Senate Office Building -- 224-5251). Senator Hatch signed all of the letters during the meeting.

9:00 a.m. Met with Andy Colosimo, Legislative Assistant for Senator Wayne Allard (513 Hart Senate Office Building -- 224-5491; andrew_colosimo@allard.senate.gov).

9:30 a.m. Met with Legislative Assistant, Fitz Elder, for Senator Robert Bennett (431 Dirksen Senate Office Building -- Phone 224-5444).

10:00 a.m. Met with Seth Voyles, Legislative Assistant for Senator Ben Nighthorse-Campbell (380 Russell Senate Office Building -- 224-5852).

4 Deputy Secretary David Hayes testified for the Administration at the Water and Power Subcommittees hearing on H.R. 2348. The Program participants were very pleased with and grateful for the leadership Mr. Hayes displayed in his testimony development and delivery and his enthusiastic and effective support for these two programs. The Deputy Secretary's monitoring and communication with key staff prior to the upcoming April 25th Senate side hearing is sought by all of the four States. We need this bill this year. In addition, Secretary Babbitt's remarks about the Upper Colorado Program to the Colorado River Water Users Association in his December 17, 1999 speech in Las Vegas were both extremely positive and very well received by those involved with the Program.

- 10:30 a.m. Met with Anne-Kathryn Ziehe, Legislative Assistant for Senator Pete Domenici (328 Hart Senate Office Building -- Phone 224-6621). Ms. Ziehe indicated that she would check but she was doubtful that Sen. Domenici would sign our joint delegation letters or cosponsor S. 2239 but he would support our appropriations behind the scene.
- 11:30 a.m. Met with Rich Bechtel, Director, Washington Office, Western Governors Association (400 North Capitol Street N.W., Suite 388, 624-5402), and Steve _____ of Region 2 Office of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service who is on detail to the Western Governors Association working on habitat conservation project efforts. Rich took a copy of our briefing books and supporting correspondence and materials to the office of Gary Taylor, International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (624-7890; iafwa@sso.org). This meeting will be held at the WGA offices, Suite 388.
- 1:30 p.m. Met with Celia Wallace, Legislative Assistant, and Jody Woirhaye, Legislative Aide, for Senator Craig Thomas (109 Hart Senate Office Building -- Phone 224-6441).
- 3:00 p.m. Met with Mark Edwards, Legislative Assistant for Jeff Bingaman (703 Hart Senate Office Building -- Phone 224-5521). Mr. Edwards requested that Randy Kirkpatrick of the San Juan Water Commission testify at the hearing on S. 2239 on April 25th.
- 3:30 p.m. Met with Dallas Scholes, Legislative Assistant for Senator Mike Enzi (293 Russell Senate Office Building -- 224-3424). Scholes indicated that Senator Enzi would likely vote for S. 2239 when it reaches the floor of the Senate and that Sen. Enzi recognizes our efforts are the only game in town, but it does not fit his political agenda to sign the funding support joint delegation letters or to cosponsor the bill. He indicated that we "really don't need Senator Enzi or Senator Thomas to be on board" given the support that we have mustered (this is progress).
- 4:00 p.m. Met in 468 Dirksen Senate Office Building with John Pemberton, Counsel, Senate Environment and Public Works Committee (415 Hart Senate Office Building 224-8216, john_pemberton@epw.senate.gov) and Mike Evans, Minority Counsel (458 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg., 224-8832, mike_evans@epw.senate.gov). Sharla Moffett-Beall was unable to attend but briefing materials were provided to Pemberton to deliver to her. Shields visited with Beall at the NWRA reception later this evening and believes that she is favorably disposed to our efforts.
- 5:00 p.m. Met with Valerie West, Legislative Assistant for Senator Gordon Smith, Chairman, Water and Power Subcommittee, Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee. (404 Russell Senate Office Building, direct line: 224-8328; 224-3753; fax: 228-3997.
- 6:00 p.m. A number of our group attended the NWRA Congressional Reception held in Room 106 of the Senate Dirksen Senate Office Building. Shields briefly spoke with Senator Gordon Smith and expressed our thanks to him for expeditiously scheduling the hearing (consistent with the Senator's commitment made on 12/17/99 during Smith's speech to the CRWUA annual meeting in Las Vegas). The Senator said "we are going to help you out the best we can." Shields visited briefly with Senator Thomas relative to his speech to the NWRA the next morning and that he had met earlier in the day with Wallace and Woirhaye about several matters, but avoided dialogue about the endangered fish recovery program.

April 13 (Thursday):

- 9:00 a.m. Met with Stan Sloss, Legislative Director for Rep. Mark Udall (128 Cannon House Office Building -- Phone 225-2161).
- 9:30 a.m. Met with Larry Hojo, Legislative Director for Rep. Joel Hefley (2230 Rayburn House Office Building -- Phone 225-4422). Shields went over to Rep. Cubin's office and made copies, etc.
- 10:15 a.m. Met with Mary Booth, Legislative Assistant for Rep. Diana DeGette (1339 Longworth House Office Building -- Phone 225-4431).
- 11:00 a.m. Met in 320 Cannon House Office Building with Renee Howell, Legislative Assistant for Rep. Scott McInnis (320 Cannon House Office Building -- Phone 225-4761). We thanked Renee profusely for getting the joint delegation letters circulated and submitted by the House Appropriations Subcommittees' deadline of April 12th. AND met at the same time in the same location with Xenia Horczakiwskyj, Legislative Assistant for Rep. Bob Schaffer (212 Cannon House Office Building -- Phone 225-4676).
- 11:45 a.m. Met with Jim Beirne, Counsel for the full committee of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee (312 Hart Senate Office Building, 224-2564). We had scheduled a meeting with Colleen Deegan, Majority Counsel (308 Dirksen, 225-2564) and David Brooks, Minority Senior Counsel, Senate Water & Power Subcommittee of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee (314 Dirksen, 224-4103). Mr. Beirne indicated he will be conducting the hearing on S. 2239 for Chairman Gordon Smith and hence that is why he was at this meeting. Mr. Beirne drew attention to Section 4 of the bill and requested that we ask the House Resources Water and Power Subcommittee counsel (and noted he would be following up with Mr. Faber as well) if the provisions of this section, entitled "Effect on Reclamation Law" are sufficiently broad. Mr. Beirne expressed some concern that as written⁵, the language of the bill does not specify that additional benefits accruing to existing Reclamation projects, which may or may not be already "paid out," and arise pursuant to the expenditure of the authorized funding for capital construction projects to benefit the endangered fish species, cannot be a nexus to make those existing facilities subject to the Reclamation Act as amended and supplemented. He suggested that protecting existing facilities that are already paid out but that are reoperated in some manner may be desirable. He indicated that amending this section of the bill is an option, as is developing and inserting report language (similar to that in the Committee report for S. 1211 passed by the Senate last November to increase the appropriations authorization for the USBR basin-wide Colorado River Salinity Control Program) to ensure a clear hearing record and understanding about existing facilities and activities and expenditures authorized by this measure. Mr. Beirne indicated that he will be inquiring of the Dept. of the Interior on several other minor clarifications and matters about this bill in advance of the hearing.
- Shields spoke with Brooks on the telephone on Monday afternoon, April 17th and Brooks advised that "he had what he needed" and that it appeared that we are in good shape having Senator Bingaman on board as a co-sponsor (Brooks works for Sen. Bingaman).
- 2:00 p.m. Met in 242 Cannon House Office Building with Rep. Jim Hansen and Legislative Assistants Alan Freemeyer and Kimo Kaloi, , Rep. Merrill Cook and Legislative Assistant Windsor Freemeyer and Sarah Anderson, Legislative Assistant for Rep. Chris Cannon. Rep. Hansen

⁵ Section 4. "EFFECT ON RECLAMATION LAW" of S. 2239 now reads: "Construction of a facility or acquisition of an interest in land or water under this Act shall not render the facility or interest in land or water or associated processes and procedures subject to the Act of June 17, 1902 (32 Stat. 388, chapter 1093), and Acts supplemental to and amendatory of that Act (43 U.S.C. 371, et seq.)."

indicated that he will set a meeting with Chairman Doolittle right after the end of the Easter recess and resolve remaining issues with the bill

- 3:00 p.m. Met with Michelle Renee, Legislative Assistant for Rep. Tom Udall (502 Cannon House Office Building -- Phone 225-6190). Renee provided us with copies of the letters that Rep. Udall had sent to Chairman Regula and to Ranking Member Dicks of the House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee. We provided a computer disk with the draft letters in digital format and requested that Rep. Udall send a letter to the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the House Appropriations Energy and Water Development Subcommittee and that we be provided with copies of these two letters when Rep. Udall sends them.
- 3:30 p.m. Met with Kristen Astor, Legislative Assistant for Rep. Heather Wilson (226 Cannon House Office Building -- Phone 225-6316; kristen.astor@mail.house.gov). Astor indicated that she believes that she will be able to get Rep. Wilson to send letters to Chairmen Regula and Packard during the early part of the week of April 17th. Shields dropped off copies of the four joint delegation letters that had been signed by the Colorado, Utah and Wyoming House delegation Members the following day and requested that we be provided with copies of the letters that Rep. Wilson sends.
- 4:00 p.m. Met with Jim Richards, Legislative Assistant for Rep. Joe Skeen (2302 Rayburn House Office Building -- Phone 225-2365). We had talked with Mr. Richards at the NWRA Congressional Reception and Randy Kirkpatrick met with Mr. Richards and the other Jim in Rep. Skeen's office. They were assured that Rep. Skeen will work behind the scenes to secure the USFWS and USBR funding in the President's budget although Rep. Skeen has a policy that as an appropriations "cardinal he does not send letters to the other cardinals."
- 4:30 p.m. Met with Bryan Jacobs, Legislative Director for Representative Barbara Cubin (1114 Longworth House Office Building -- 225-2311; bryan.jacobs@mail.house.gov). This meeting went well although Bryan asked few questions. I saw him several times thereafter during the trip and he did not have follow-on questions or comments - we talked about other things.
- 5:15 p.m. Met with Matt Knoedler, Legislative Assistant for Rep. Thomas G. Tancredo (1123 Longworth House Office Bldg.-- Phone 225-7882, e-mail: matt.knoedler@mail.house.gov).
- Sometime Spoke on the phone with Robin Spriggs, Scheduler for Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks Laura Brown (208-1452) and A.J. Wojciak, Assistant to Acting Assistant Secretary for Water and Science Mary Doyle (208-3171). We shared information for the briefing on Tuesday, April 18th with Spriggs for her to relay to Laura Brown and attempted to e-mail same to A.J. Wojciak. Made the point on the phone that we are requesting that Deputy Secretary Hayes serve as the Administration witness on April 25th so as to avoid the need to have OMB re-review the testimony and potentially create problems.

April 14 (Friday):

- 9:30 a.m. Met briefly with Allen Freemeyer, House Resources National Parks Subcommittee staff member and Legislative Assistant for Chairman Jim Hansen concerning the upcoming meeting with Bob Faber and what we had heard during our meeting with Jim Beirne, Counsel for the Senate Energy and Natural Resources (140 Cannon House Office Building, 225-7736).
- 10:00 a.m. Met in 2362B Rayburn House Office Building with Bob Schmidt, Majority Prof. Staff Member, and (225-3421) Sally Chadbourne, Minority Prof. Staff Member, (1016 LHOB -- 225-3481); House Energy & Water Development Appropriations Subcommittee, AND
Met with Dave Gwaltney, Majority Prof. Staff Member (127 Dirksen Senate Office Building - 224-7260, Fax: 224-8796). Witt Anderson of the US Army Corps of Engineers Pacific-Northwest Regional Office attended this meeting (t.d.y. assignment on the Hill working with Gwaltney). Drew Willison, Minority Staff Member of the Senate Energy & Water Development Appropriations Subcommittee (156 Dirksen Senate Office Building, 224-0335) was unable to attend the meeting but briefing materials had been left at his office for him in advance of the meeting. Gwaltney asked why there aren't more folks out there who are trying our approach - why has our Program had success and others either don't or haven't tried. He attributed part of our success to luck - several of us said we would take it.
- 11:00 a.m. Met with Bob Faber, Republican Staff Director and Counsel for the Water and Power Subcommittee, House Resources Committee (1522 Longworth, 225-8331), Josh Johnson, Staff Member (same), Steve Lanich, Minority Prof. Staff Member (H1-509 OHOB, 226-2311) and Liz Megginson, Counsel for the Resources Committee. During our meeting with Mr. Bob Faber, Counsel and Staff Director for the House Resources Water and Power Subcommittee, Faber indicated that he will converse with Mr. Beirne regarding the present language of Section 4 of the bill. Faber could not indicate when H.R. 2348, for which a hearing was held on October 21, 1999, will be marked up. Congressman Hansen and Chairman Doolittle will be meeting to resolve remaining issues with the bill shortly after the current recess of the Congress (Mr. Hansen told us this directly on 4/13/2000). Ms. Megginson noted that the ESA is not administered to the same level or with the same intensity in the East as it is in the West. She also asked about why we need to have this authorization bill passed. Faber asked that we provide copies of any questions that Beirne forward to us to him as well.
- Sometime Delivered briefing booklet and handout material by the office of Senator Byron Dorgan for Legislative Assistant Curtis Jabs (713 Hart Senate Office Building, 224-2551). Advised with message about the Western Water Caucus briefing on Monday. Senator Dorgan is the ranking minority member of the Senate ENR Water and Power Subcommittee).
- Sometime Dropped briefing booklets off at Rep. Cal Dooley's office (1201 Longworth House Office Building - 225-3341) for Legislative Assistant Connie Lawsten as a means to personally invite her to attend Monday's Western Water Caucus briefing.
- Sometime Dropped briefing materials off at the office of Shannon Smith, Secretary to Laura Brown, Deputy to the Acting Assistant Secretary for Water and Science and visited with and delivered briefing materials to Bob Quint, Staff for Deputy Acting Assistant Secretary Laura Brown.

- 1:00 p.m. Met with USFWS Directorate (Room 3241, 3rd Floor, Main Interior Building, 1849 C Street, N.W.). Attendees included: A.J. Wojciak, Deputy to Acting Assistant Secretary for Water and Science Mary Doyle, Cathleen Short (Assistant Director - Fisheries), Chris Nolin, (Deputy Assistant Director for Ecological Services), Charlie Scott (Chief Branch of Recovery and Delisting, 703-358-2106) and Elena Babidge of his staff and Christine Eustis USFWS Washington Office Legislative Affairs Specialist (202-208-5403). Two other gentlemen from USFWS attended but their names and titles were not recorded.
- 3:00 p.m. Met with Whitney Tilt, Director of Conservation, for the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (1120 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Suite 900 -- 857-0166). Mr. Tilt indicated that the NFWF is willing to enter into additional or supplemental agreements that will allow all, some or any of the four states to "park" appropriated funds for capital construction projects associated with the Programs with the NFWF. We indicated that we will follow-up and provide Tilt with a copy of the report being developed for the Management Committee regarding how to handle the States' capital construction funds.
- Sometime Visited with Melissa Carlson, Press Secretary for Rep. Ralph Regula, Chairman of the House Appropriations Interior and Related Agencies Subcommittee.

April 17 (Monday):

- 10:30 a.m. Met in 131 Dirksen Senate Office Building with Christine Drager, Prof. Staff Member, (131 Dirksen Senate Office Building -- 224-2168). Bruce Evans, Majority Staff, (131 Dirksen Senate Office Building -- 224-7262) and Peter Kiefhofer, Minority Staff, (123 Hart Senate Office Building -- 224-5271) for the Senate Interior Appropriations Subcommittee were unable to attend this meeting. Briefing materials had been e-mailed to Evans and Kiefhofer prior to the D.C. trip and a hard copy of the briefing booklet and supporting correspondence had been delivered to Kiefhofer's secretary sometime on Thursday, April 13th.
- Sometime Delivered briefing booklet to the office of Senator Slade Gorton, Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Interior Subcommittee. These were delivered to the attention of Kari VanDerstoep, Legislative Assistant for Senator Gorton (730 Hart Senate Office Building, 224-3441).
- 12 to 1:30 p.m. Put on briefing for members of the Western Water Caucus Members in Room SC-6 (this was a change in meeting location as the briefing was to be held in Room SC-4 but SC-6 had been set up and SC-4 had not) of the U.S. Capitol Building. A Powerpoint presentation was made by Shields and briefing booklets and other handouts were provided. Attendees at the briefing were: Connie Lawsten, Legislative Assistant for Rep. Calvin Dooley (Ranking Minority Member of the House Water and Power Resources Subcommittee) and Michelle Pico of Senator Judd Gregg (who sits on the Senate Appropriations Interior Subcommittee). We used a computer projector borrowed from the USFWS on Friday, 4/14, through arrangements made by Christine Eustis. The "Dear Colleague" letters circulated to all members of the House and Senate were signed by Rep. George Radanovich (House Resources Water and Power Subcommittee member from the 19th District in CA) and Senator Mike Crapo (Senate ENR Committee). The briefing had been set up by and was attended by Joe Raeder of the Ferguson Group (202-331-8500), Lobbyist for the Family Farm Alliance, who will be attending. The involvement of Mr. Raeder is gratefully acknowledged.
- Sometime Delivered briefing materials to the secretary for Loretta Beaumont, Professional Majority Staff, House Appropriations Interior Subcommittee (B308 Rayburn House Office Building,

225-3081) who was unable to attend the 10:30 a.m. meeting with the Senate Appropriations Interior Subcommittee staff.

Sometime Delivered and held a short but informative discussion with Mike Stephens, Minority Staff Member of the House Appropriations Interior Subcommittee (1016 Longworth House Office Building, 225-3481). Stephens apologized for not being in attendance at the 10:30 a.m. meeting with the Senate Appropriations Interior Subcommittee staff. Stephens encouraged us to stay in touch, noting that Loretta will be a key player as the Interior Approps. bill is developed. The budget mark made to the Interior Approps. subcommittee is less than last year and it will be a difficult task to develop the bill. Stephens asked about who our "champions" are on the House and Senate side for the appropriations we are seeking, etc.

Sometime Delivered briefing materials and held a brief meeting with Casey Stemler, Congressional Fellow for Chairman Ralph Regula of the House Appropriations Interior Subcommittee (2309 Rayburn House Office Building, 225-3876).

Sometime Delivered briefing materials to and extended a warm thank you to Tricia Geringer, Senior Legislative Assistant for Rep. George Radanovich (123 Cannon House Office Building; 225-4540) for circulating the Dear Colleague letter allowing our briefing to take place in the Capitol during the lunch hour. Visited with Chad Calvert (Legislative Assistant for the Western Caucus concerning the endangered fish recovery program and items re: Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Program. (He is married to a staff member, Jennifer Johnson, on Rep. Hefley's staff and indicated that Rep. Hefley doesn't hate the ESA he just hates to spend money on its administration).

Sometime Retrieved the Senate joint delegation funding support letters from the office of Senator Ben Nighthorse-Campbell. Spoke briefly with Laurel Reid Preler, Legislative Assistant for Appropriations for Senator Campbell (380 Russell Senate Office Building, 224-5852). Senator Campbell did not sign the letters but Ms. Preler indicated that the Senator would definitely work behind the scenes to help secure the line-item funding that we are seeking (the Senator's policy is to not sign letters to the Appropriations Committee or its subcommittees as he is a member of same). Senate Delegations' Members who signed were: Allard, Hatch, Bennett and Bingaman. Senators Campbell, Domenici, Thomas and Enzi did not. Senator Enzi's staffer did indicate his belief that Senator Enzi will vote "aye" when S. 2239 comes to a vote.

April 18 (Tuesday):

Sometime Senate side joint delegation letters were submitted to the Subcommittee offices by hand-carry delivery by Tom Pitts.

11:30 a.m. Met with USBR Commissioner Eluid Martinez; Laura Brown, Deputy to Acting Assistant Secretary for Water and Science; Sean Skaggs, Counselor to the Assistant Secretary for Fish Wildlife and Parks; and Acting UCRC Liaison Officer Clay Kirtbaugh (Room 7631, Main Interior Building, 1849 C Street, N.W.). Steve Saunders, Deputy to Don Barry, Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks and Robert F. Snow, Attorney, Office of the Solicitor (MS-6412, 208-4379) were unable to attend this meeting. Commissioner Martinez indicated that he would try to make the time to be the Administration witness for the April 25th Senate ENR Water and Power Subcommittee hearing on S. 2239. He was very supportive of our efforts and indicated that he did not see a problem with the legislation or continuing funding being included in the USBR's proposed budgets for Recovery Program capital construction.

List of Participants In Meetings Held During the 2000 Washington, D. C. Briefing Trip

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