

INFORMATION AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
Meeting Summary  
October 10, 2001, Denver, Colorado

Participants: Chris Treese, Kathy Holley, Jone Wright, David Whitman, Debbie Felker, Angela Kantola, Dan Sobieck, Kara Lamb, Betsy Blakeslee, John Marshall, John Shields and Gerry Roehm.

> Action items.

1. Committee Member Updates -
2. Program Director's Update - Angela Kantola gave an update on recent Program activities. Chris Treese recommended some press notification, etc. when the Program is extended. Chris also recommended that any committee members not subscribed to the Program listserv do so.
3. Interpretive Exhibits - The traveling display currently at the Museum of Western Colorado comes down on October 31, then will be on display at the National Irrigation Water Quality Program open house. Following that it will be set up in the lobby of Alpine Bank in Grand Junction. To reserve the display, contact Kathy Holley at 970-255-9007. Kara Lamb said Reclamation would like to have the display at the State Fair next year. Kathy said she just got proposals for a 6' or 8' display/aquarium planned at the Carpenter Ranch on the Yampa River. The aquarium will be accompanied by interpretive material about the fish and by the newsletter cover story on the Yampa River Basin Partnership. Kathy also is working on the interpretive signs for the Confluence Park. Additional signage for the Riverfront Trail master plan is on hold until the grant funding comes through (and we have flexibility to use the funds we committed for signage if it doesn't). Kathy distributed a draft interpretive exhibit budget projection for FY 01-04. The community list has expanded somewhat based on Program Director Bob Muth's recommendations to have exhibits in areas where the Program will be most active during the next several years. >John Marshall and Debbie Felker will follow up on the status of signs being developed for State Parks. >Kara Lamb recommended putting up a sign at Ruedi Dam and will work with Kathy on that. John Shields recommended considering signs where the text material can be changed (e.g., behind plexiglass) for longevity's sake. John also recommended considering using computer kiosks with PowerPoint displays. Angela Kantola cautioned against going too broad (with too many types of displays), recommending that we keep the exhibits simple enough to make sure we can accomplish interpretive displays in the most important areas around the basin. However, we should keep an open file of these ideas. >John Shields will write up a short description of what would be involved. The Committee expressed a preference for three-dimensional displays where those are appropriate. Exhibits obviously need to be tailored to the site, and should be reproducible. Debbie said that the interpretive signs at the Ouray Hatchery should be ready in about a month. These same signs will also go to other hatcheries (Dexter, Mumma, Wahweap, and Grand Junction).

4. Interactive Map - Chris described this cooperative project with the Colorado River Water Users Association. An interactive web-based map is being developed to provide target audiences with a broader context of the Recovery Program. A consultant has been contracted and the partners working on this will meet in December.
5. Gunnison River PBO and Yampa River Management Plan - Gerry Roehm distributed an update on the Yampa and Gunnison programmatic biological opinions. The final draft of Yampa River Management Plan is now on the Program website. Public meetings will be scheduled in late-November (two in Colorado and one in Wyoming) (these also will serve as the official public scoping meetings for the EA). Gunnison - Gerry said he anticipates resolution of the issues about the Service's flow recommendations by the end of the calendar year. When this report is final, we will need to be prepared to answer how these fit into a Program context (and what it means in light of the National Park Service's Black Canyon of the Gunnison instream flow filing).
6. Traveling Trunk - David Whitman said NPS is targeting school children in the Yampa Valley to describe why the Yampa is unique. NPS received a grant request to prepare a "traveling trunk" that will be circulated among the schools. David is writing a curriculum that fits the Colorado Model Content Standards for Science. As part of this, he's working on revising our "Swimming Upstream" slide show. This trunk also could be a model for what could be done in other watersheds. David will "test drive" the trunk this spring with teachers Betsy knows who have an interest in the fish. David also noted that information and education efforts on the endangered fish would be a perfect fit with grants given by the Turner Foundation. The Committee discussed various other opportunities for trunks.
7. I&E Update - Debbie Felker said the newsletter has been delayed due to recovery goals, but she hopes to have it done by the end of the year. Debbie and Angela are taking the Program display to the Wyoming Water Association meeting in Casper on October 23-25. Debbie distributed an updated public contact calendar.
8. Other Business
  - FY 2002-2003 Scopes of Work - Debbie reviewed the revisions made to the scope of work package.
  - Program Highlights Briefing Book - Debbie said she's going to begin working on this earlier this year, and she plans to print at least twice as many as last year. John Shields said it would be good to make the cover just a little oversized so that the packet of Congressional letters and the like will fit in the back pocket. Also, it would be good if the slots on the flap were cut to fit this year's magnet (Colorado pikeminnow). The Committee agreed that the format is working well, although we should add a page about the recovery goals with the demographic criteria for downlisting and delisting. A sidebar table of the numbers of fish stocked and the numbers to be stocked under the Colorado and Utah stocking plan also would be good. John Shields said we need to be sure we have copies of all the congressional support letters (John said he's never gotten a copy of the letter to Joe Skeen.) John Marshall recommended that since we're printing on recycled paper, we should use the recycled symbol on the back.
  - Annual Reports - Due to Debbie Felker by December 1, 2001.
  - Committee Reports - Kara said they gave away a lot of Program materials away at the

Colorado River Delta Symposium

9. Schedule Next Meeting - January 18 in Grand Junction (at Reclamation office) starting at 9 a.m. and concluding with a tour of the ICM aquarium manufacturing company. We'll order lunch in, adjourn the meeting at 1:30 p.m., then begin the tour at 2:00 p.m. >Kathy will contact ICM to set up the tour.