

## MEETING SUMMARY

**Meeting:** Colorado River Management Committee, Denver, Colorado

**Date:** June 25, 2001

**Attendees:** See Attachment 1

>Assignments are highlighted in the text.

1. Review/modify agenda - The agenda was modified as it appears below.
2. Highline Reservoir - Brent said Reclamation and Colorado have exchanged several drafts and incorporated payment for storage space in Highline Reservoir. GVVUA recommended some minor changes regarding monitoring and accounting. Kent noted that the MOU was a 50-year document, and has now been made perpetual unless terminated by mutual agreement. They handled acquisition of storage space by adding: "The parties agree that the State of Colorado shall be paid for the value of the Storage Space (\$480,000) less the cost of the Highline Lake water quality study (currently estimated to be \$180,000)." Kent said the one outstanding issue is when or how often the Association will measure and/or report canal spills. The group modified the MOU so that canal spills into Highline will be measured daily and they added to section 4 "For the purposes of this section, if any of these terms of this MOU are violated, all parties will be notified immediately." >Kent, Randy, Brent, Dick, and Bob Norman will refine this wording today. Tom Iseman raised the concern of precedent and potential impact on the Program's overall budget. Tom Blickensderfer said he thinks the MOU has side-stepped that issue. Susan Baker disagreed, pointing to the 7<sup>th</sup> "whereas," which seems very precedent-setting. Tom Iseman, John Shields, and Tom Pitts agreed. Kent and Tom Blickensderfer agreed to remove that clause. The next "whereas" was modified to "State of Colorado" instead of "State Parks." Colorado would reduce their capital contribution by \$300K between FY 03 and FY 05. The Committee discussed that they're approving this \$300K purchase with the understanding that this is a unique situation (required to achieve the desired yield) and is not considered precedent-setting. >Colorado will put that in the form of a specific motion for approval at the August 7-8 meeting (and will include wording as to what year the expenditure will be understood to have occurred). >Bob Norman will modify the out-year planning budget table to reflect the additional \$300,000 cost of the Grand Valley Water Management Plan. >The re-draft will be out within the next day or so and then will go out to the signatories for review. Bob Norman noted that the MOU isn't valid until Highline is transferred, thus BOR can't start construction until then. >Kent will provide the Committee an update on the progress of the transfer.
3. Recommendations for improving land acquisition - Pat said they're looking into improving turnaround time for contaminant analyses. Dave will send out the letters to remaining landowners (~35) by August 1. Bob Muth said he intended the recommendations to be informational, and to demonstrate that the Program Director's office is taking the issue of finding ways to improve the land acquisition process seriously, but didn't expect the Management Committee to take any formal action on them. However, comments are welcome and should be submitted to Pat.

4. The Committee briefly discussed the negative press regarding nonnative fish. John Shields suggested that the I&E Committee discuss appropriate responses (Bob Muth recommended that response to the articles should come from Colorado). >Kent and Tom Blickensderfer will see if they can find someone to send to the I&E Committee meeting.
5. Schedule next meeting - The Committee will meet August 7-8 in Cheyenne (Herschler Building). The meeting will start at 10:00 a.m. on August 7 and conclude by 4:00 on August 8. John Shields is reserving a block of rooms at the Holiday Inn. Agenda items will include: review of the draft FY 2002-2003 work plan, extending the Recovery Program, and policy/procedures for dealing with late reports.

**Attachment 1**  
**Colorado River Management Committee, Denver, Colorado**  
**June 25, 2001**

Management Committee Voting Members:

Brent Uilenberg	Bureau of Reclamation
Tom Blickensderfer and Kent Holsinger	State of Colorado
Sherman Hoskins	Utah Department Of Natural Resources
Tom Pitts	Upper Basin Water Users
John Shields	State of Wyoming
(No representative)	Western Area Power Administration
Susan Baker	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Leslie James for Dave Mazour	Colorado River Energy Distributors Association
Skipp Ladd and John Wullschleger	National Park Service
Tom Iseman	The Nature Conservancy

Nonvoting Member:

Bob Muth	Recovery Program Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
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Recovery Program Staff:

Angela Kantola	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Pat Nelson	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Dave Soker	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Others:

Bob McCue	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Bob Norman	Bureau of Reclamation
Randy Seaholm	Colorado Water Conservation Board
George Smith	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Dick Proctor	Grand Valley Water Users Association