

Summary of Environmental Account Manager's Responsibilities

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Introduction

This document summarizes the Environmental Account (EA) Manager's responsibilities and water management decisions. It's a collection of information gathered from the following reference materials: the Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District's (CNPPID) Administrative Plan for Managing Water commitments (1999); and the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program (Program or PRRIP) (2006), especially Attachment 5, Section 1 (Water Management Process) and Attachment 5, Section 5 (An Environmental Account for Storage Reservoirs on the Platte River System in Nebraska). The EA Manager has a broad role and supports the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) in water management decisions associated with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC) Kingsley Dam Project (Project No. 1417), North Platte/Keystone Dam Project (Project No. 1835), and the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program.

This document is intended to assist the EA Manager by organizing responsibilities and roles into one place, and all care was taken to ensure its accuracy. However, the content of this document does not replace or rescind what was written in the Program or licensing FERC documents.

EA Manager Responsibilities

The EA Manager's principal responsibilities are to manage and request releases from the EA and coordinate EA operations. To do so, the EA Manager principally follows the Program's proposed program management process outlined in the Program document (Attachment 5, Section 1, Subsection 2); provides guidance on whether to support waivers for the non-irrigation season releases; works with CNPPID to develop a pulse flow shaping plan; establishes benchmarks for the flow attenuation plan; requests water delivery from the Pathfinder accounts; maintains an EA flow at Brady; and enhances EA releases.

Program Water Management Process

The proposed program water management operation process is outlined in the Program document (Attachment 5, Section 1, Subsection 2) and is inserted below.

2. Program Water Operation Process. *The following proposed Program water operation process builds on the existing structure that is in place for the Lake McConaughy EA and integrates that structure into the Program.*

a. The role of the Service's EA Manager as the Lake McConaughy EA operator will be expanded. The EA Manager will prepare an annual AOP for the Program water (Program AOP) in the manner described below. The right to request water from individual projects may be accomplished through contracts, letter agreements, or whatever means is acceptable to the Project Sponsor, EA Manager, and Governance Committee. Project Sponsors retain the authority, unless delegated to the Governance Committee or EA Manager, to develop and implement individual operating plans for Program water, provided such operations are consistent with applicable state laws, compacts, decrees, and the Program first increment water objectives.

b. The responsibility for accounting, tracking, regulating, and protecting Program water rests with each state's water administration. Any changes in state laws or procedures relating to the accounting, tracking, regulating, and protecting water will be reported to the Governance Committee.

c. In October, the Project Sponsors will report to the EA Manager on the status of the water supply conditions projected in their respective written AOP's. The projected water supply conditions will initially be based on average inflow conditions.

d. The EA Manager, in consultation with the Executive Director, will use the information provided by the Project Sponsors, EAC, and RCC to develop a draft Program AOP. The Program AOP will match the projected water supply conditions to the EA Manager's stated goals and priorities.

e. In November, the EA Manager and the Executive Director will meet with the Project Sponsors, EAC, and RCC to discuss and receive input on the draft Program AOP. After consideration of the information received, the EA Manager will make any appropriate revisions in the Program AOP and

distribute it to the Executive Director and the Project Sponsors. The Program AOP will include a description of the goals and purposes for which releases of Program water will be requested by the EA Manager.

f. The Executive Director will report to the Governance Committee on the status of the Program AOP. If needed, the Governance Committee will seek additional review/guidance on the Program AOP from the Water and Technical Advisory Committees. The Governance Committee or its individual members may recommend changes to the Program AOP.

g. At least once a month, the Project Sponsors may update their projected water supplies conditions and include the estimated snowmelt run off and actual inflow/demand data.

h. The EA Manager may use the updated water supply information provided by the Project Sponsors to update the Program AOP at least once a month.

i. The Executive Director will report monthly to the Governance Committee on the status of the Program AOP. If needed, the Governance Committee will seek additional review/guidance on the updated Program AOP from the Water and Technical Advisory Committees. The Governance Committee or its individual members may recommend changes to the Program AOP at any time.

j. The EA Manager will request the release of Program water in accordance with the Program AOP and the contracts and agreements with the Program Sponsors. However, it is understood that the EA Manager will need to react and adapt to the actual hydrologic events that may impact the planned deliveries to the habitat. To the extent possible, the EA Manager will keep the Executive Director informed of the day-to-day operations for the Program water.

k. At the end of each water year, the EA Manager will prepare a report comparing the actual Program water operations during the water year with the operations outlined in the Program AOP, identifying and explaining any differences in actual operations from the operations proposed in the previous year's Program AOP, and providing other information requested by the Governance Committee. The year-end report will also describe whether the EA releases met the goals and purposes for which the water was used. This year-end report and any Governance Committee comments

on that report will be used by the EA Manager as input to the subsequent year's Program AOP.

Environmental Account Committee and Reservoir Control Committee

The following section will briefly describe the Environmental Account Committee (EAC) and the Reservoir Control Committee (RCC), which are important components in the program's water management process. The EAC is organized by the EA Manager to work with and provide guidance to the EA Manager in the development and refinement of the AOP. The committee has representatives from: the CNPPID, the Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD), the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (NeDNR; formerly NEDWR), the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, the State of Colorado, the State of Wyoming, the Audubon Society, and the Crane Trust (formerly Platte River Whooping Crane Critical Habitat Maintenance Trust).

The RCC was established to give context to decisions regarding use of the EA and to provide a forum to coordinate operations plans and review reservoir accounting, inflow projections, storage and release goals and river monitoring methodologies. The following entities are members of the RCC: the CNPPID; the NPPD; the EA Manager; Reclamation; the State of Colorado; the State of Wyoming; and the NeDNR.

Environmental Account Crediting/Debiting

Annually, the EA is credited with 10 percent of the storable natural inflows (SNI), which occur from October 1 through April 30, the annual credit is not to exceed 100,000 acre-feet (af). In addition, the EA may be credited with water from the upstream Pathfinder accounts (Environmental and Wyoming aka Municipal accounts); from the Net Controllable Conserved Water; from leased or purchased irrigation water; and other PRRIP water projects. Water contributed to the EA, regardless of its source, loses any separate identity upon entering Lake McConaughy or another approved storage facility, and simply becomes part of the EA. The NeDNR performs the EA accounting, which includes the crediting for inflows and debiting for outflows (e.g., seepage, evaporation, and releases).

EA can be carried over from a previous year and at no time exceed 200 thousand acre-feet (kaf). The EA will be reset to 100 kaf if Lake McConaughy either reaches the maximum operating level (also referred to as reservoir filling) or reaches effective capacity. Lake McConaughy is at effective capacity when outflows are in excess of what is normally required for irrigation and/or hydropower to avoid reservoir filling. There are generally two time periods when the EA is at risk of resetting: 1) in May/June when snowmelt and rainfall is at its peak for the year, and 2) on October 1 when the FERC-mandated maximum operating level of the lake is reduced. Both conditions are triggered when the amount of snowmelt and/or rainfall is higher than forecast, so higher lake inflows substantially exceeds outflows. When

the EA resets, it may either be debited down to 100 kaf or credited up to 100 kaf, depending on whether the total EA is above or below 100 kaf, respectively.

Non-irrigation Season Releases (FERC requirements)

Non-irrigation season releases were established through the Kingsley Dam Project to partially meet Service target flows. The releases require the maintenance of a minimum flow and/or average flow within the Keystone Canal and at the CNPPID Diversion Dam from October 1 through April 30. Flow requirements vary by date, throughout the non-irrigation season, and by year type (e.g., very wet, wet, transitional, dry, and very dry). Year types are based on reservoir content on October 1 and predicted Storable Natural Inflow (SNI) for the upcoming water year.

CNPPID has sought FERC waivers from the non-irrigation flow requirements and has requested Service support for them. CNPPID requests waivers during times of both low storage content at Lake McConaughy and expected low inflows. They typically request the waiver prior to October 1, since the waivers often determine allocations for the upcoming irrigation season. Full waivers were granted from Water Year (WY) 2005 through 2010. Partial waivers were granted for WY 2014 and 2015, which allowed waivers for requirements at the CNPPID Diversion Dam from October 1 through February 28.

Pulse Flow Shaping Plan

A pulse flow shaping plan is developed if Lake McConaughy is at risk of filling. Under the pulse flow shaping plan, Lake McConaughy releases may be made in a controlled manner to enhance Service pulse flows. Releases cannot cause downstream flooding, violate dam safety requirements, or risk damage to reservoir infrastructure. Implementation of the pulse flow shaping plan may occur when Lake McConaughy is predicted to fill and spill. The EA Manager and CNPPID would decide on the timing, magnitude, and duration of releases.

High inflows at Lake McConaughy, in WY 2011 and 2015, warranted development of a pulse flow shaping plan; however, flow restrictions on the North Platte River at the City of North Platte limited the Service's ability to shape pulse flows with releases from Lake McConaughy. During these two years the Keystone Canal would have been at maximum capacity and releases into the North Platte River would have exceeded flood stage at the City of North Platte.

Due to hydrologic conditions in WY 2011, 2015, and 2016, the Service deferred to CNPPID on how best to manage the release to minimize downstream flooding. A proposed increase in channel capacity for the North Platte River, facilitated by the PRRIP, should improve CNPPID's operational flexibility for the pulse flow shaping plan.

Flow Attenuation Plan

The purpose of the flow attenuation plan is to minimize peak flow events in the central Platte River, from June 1 through August 15, to lessen the threat of inundating Interior least tern (tern) and/or piping plover (plover) nests or chicks. Under the plan, the highest flow observed prior to June 1 establishes the flow benchmark. Then CNPPID utilizes their facilities to attenuate upstream peak flows so the benchmark is not exceeded on or after June 1. The EA Manager initially has to do one of the following by June 1: a) establish a benchmark; b) postpone the establishment of a benchmark; or c) waive the requirement for a benchmark.

The EA Manager should postpone the establishment of a benchmark at times when a long duration peak flow event has extended past June 1. Under these circumstances, CNPPID and the Service have agreed to postpone setting a benchmark until after the peak flow event has receded. This situation has occurred in 2013 and 2014. The EA Manager has also waived the benchmark requirement for years when extremely high peak flow events were observed on the central Platte River. Under these conditions, the peak flow was of high enough magnitude that it would be unlikely that any subsequent peak flows could effectively be attenuated by CNPPID facilities. This situation has occurred in 2011, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, and 2019.

After establishment of a benchmark, CNPPID will contact the EA Manager if upstream flows are anticipated to exceed the benchmark. The EA Manager could request that CNPPID not exceed the benchmark by using their facilities to attenuate the peak flow and thus minimize nest inundation. This situation has occurred in 2008, 2009, 2010, 2012 and 2013. There have also been times (e.g., 2010) when CNPPID made their best effort to attenuate a high flow event, and the benchmark was still exceeded. When this happened, the EA Manager requested that the peak flow of this event be maximized, so the new peak flow's magnitude would build higher bars for re-nesting birds.

CNPPID Modified Hydrocycling Operations

On August 13, 2007, the Service and CNPPID formalized an agreement that modifies operations at the J-2 Hydro for the benefit of the tern, plover, and whooping crane. Key hydrocycling dates are described below.

March 18 to April 30: CNPPID will modify hydrocycling operations to minimize impacts to whooping crane.

May 1 through May 7: CNPPID will maintain normal hydrocycling operation to encourage tern and plover nesting at higher elevations. To minimize impacts to nesting terns and plovers, CNPPID will modify hydrocycling operations from May 8 through May 30 to minimize peak flow exceedances that could inundate nests. Once the Flow Attenuation Plan

benchmark is established on June 1, CNPPID will modify hydrocycling operations, from June 1 through August 15, to avoid exceeding the benchmark.

October 17 through November 10: CNPPID will again modify hydrocycling operations to minimize impacts to whooping crane.

There are times when a pulse or a short-duration high flow (SDHF) release will require CNPPID to operate the J-2 Hydro inconsistent to the agreement. Under these circumstances, the EA Manager should authorize a variance for the release.

Pathfinder Modification Project: Environmental and Wyoming (or Municipal) Accounts

Pathfinder Modification project created two accounts that may supply water to the EA: the environmental account and Wyoming account. Guidelines and the schedule for water deliveries are discussed below.

By May 1 of each year the Director of the Wyoming Water Development Office (WWDO) notifies the PRRIP and the EA Manager of anticipated available water from the both accounts. The PRRIP and EA Manager have until June 1 to request the amount to be delivered. Water is released from Pathfinder Reservoir at the end of the irrigation season and delivered to Lake McConaughy during late September through early October, when both accounts' contributions are credited to the EA.

Deliveries from the environmental account should be always accepted since acceptance of current water year frees available storage capacity available for storage within the project for the subsequent water year. Wyoming (Municipal) account deliveries, subject to the Pathfinder Municipal Account Lease, are paid for by the PRRIP, and is part of the PRRIP Water Action Plan. Deliveries may be refused by the EA Manager, in consultation with the PRRIP EDO, especially, if the EA is at risk of being debited to 100 kaf due to reservoir filling, or reaching effective capacity. However, a best effort should be made to accept all deliveries to utilize all available water. In 2016, the EA Manager and the PRRIP Executive Director did not accept 4,800 af from Wyoming account because of the risk of the EA account being debited. Unlike the environmental account, the refusal of Wyoming account deliveries does not affect water availability for subsequent years.

Maintaining EA Release at Brady Gage

The EA Manager may request CNPPID to release and route EA water through the Jeffrey Return to maintain total flow of up to 200 cfs at the Platte River at Brady gage. The EA Manager can only request the release in March or April when year type is very wet, wet or transitional (as defined in Attachment 5, Section 5 of the Program Document). The total volume of EA water released shall not exceed 3,000 af in any water year.

EA Release Enhancement

To enhance peak, pulse, or short-duration high flows (described in Attachment 5, Section 1 [Subsection 3]), the EA Manager may request CNPPID and NPPD (collectively the Districts) to re-regulate water in their systems downstream of Lake McConaughy. The regulation of water may occur with or without intentionally bypassing EA water that Districts are allowed to divert at their diversion structures. The EA Manager may assist in developing a plan for re-regulation in close coordination with the Districts. The retiming of water associated re-regulation must be conducted safely to avoid damage to Districts' infrastructure. Any request to bypass water at the Districts diversions require approval from the PRRIP Governance Committee because PRRIP reimburses Districts for lost hydropower.

EA Release Decision Factors

Planning for EA releases requires balancing the need to release water when there is an ample supply versus storing water for release during times of drought. The planning required to successfully meet this balance is based on a high degree of uncertainty. Generally, short-term decisions have less uncertainty than those in the longer term. At this point in time, EA short-term planning extends to approximately six months, and long-term planning from six months to several years

The following section will briefly describe long-term and short-term decision making that attempts to strike the balance between releasing or storing EA water.

A. Long-term time scale (beyond six months to several years) – One example of a long-term decision is at the beginning of the water year, in October or November, when the AOP is developed. If all indications that a dry year is going to occur then the AOP's top priority may be to store water for use in subsequent water years.

Another example of a decision with a long-term implication is the granting a waiver for a FERC required non-irrigation flow. CNPPID may request a waiver when Lake McConaughy inflows or levels drop, or are forecast to drop, below defined thresholds. Granting flow waivers may contribute to a quicker recovery in the Lake McConaughy water volume (since the water for the flow is now stored instead of being released) and a quicker return to the required flows in the following year(s).

In years of surplus, EA water may be transferred into other Program projects to store the water for use in the later years. An example would be releasing EA water, before a potential resetting of the EA down to 100 kaf, to a downstream aquifer storage project. The Service may also prioritize releases within the WY if Lake McConaughy to reduce likelihood of EA resetting to 100 kaf due to the filling of Lake McConaughy (or reaching effective capacity).

B. Short-term time scale (up to six months) – Decisions within this time space involve those during a release (day) to those involved in updating the AOP (month or more).

During a release, daily decisions need to be made dependent on the weather and flow forecasts. For example, a forecast rain event may bring locations on the Platte River to flood stage, and result in the release being immediately terminated.

The AOP may need to be updated due to the uncertainty involved with water supply forecasts. For example, the forecast predicted a wet spring when the AOP was developed in the beginning of the water year. However, later in the water year (e.g., March) it is evident that the snowpack is very light and the wet spring won't occur and the AOP needs to be updated.

Short term decisions are based on:

1. Current and forecast flow in the South Platte River and Platte River at Overton, Kearney, and Grand Island.
2. EA content.
3. Forecast Lake McConaughy content, North Platte River inflows, and non-EA releases.
4. Anticipated outages for the Kingsley Dam Project or the North Platte/Keystone Dam Project.
5. Precipitation and temperature forecasts.

Monthly EA Decisions and Activities

The following section list the decisions and activities by month. The section begins with September when preparations for the upcoming water year begin.

September

1. Long-term Scale Assessment.
 - a. The Service determines if they should prioritize Lake McConaughy storage or prioritize releases based on current and anticipated EA volume.
 - b. This evaluation is conducted prior to drafting the AOP for the upcoming water year, and the Service may also reassess priorities throughout the water year
2. Pathfinder water deliveries began in September and will reach the EA in late September and early October.

October/November

1. Water project sponsors report to the EA Manager on projected water supply conditions and operating plans.
2. Develop Draft Annual Operating Plan
 - a. Assess quantity of water to use within the water year and/or quantify water that would be carried over into the subsequent water year.
 - b. Prioritize EA releases for water year.
3. EAC/RCC Meeting activities.
4. EA Manager reviews information from the EAC/RCC to revise and finalize Draft AOP by the end of November
5. Pathfinder water deliveries began in September and will reach the EA in late September and early October.
6. Plan for Fall Whooping Crane Release.
 - a. Determine quantity of EA available for a release.
 - b. Coordinate with PRRIP and CNPPID.
 - c. Communicate with EAC/RCC.
 - d. Assess EA content and total Lake McConaughy content at time for release.
The maximum operating level for Lake McConaughy is reduced from October 1 through December 31, so releases may be needed to avoid losing EA before the lake reaching effective capacity.
 - e. Assess quantity of non-irrigation releases within the fall whooping crane time period.
 - f. Anticipate conveyance losses of EA to evaluate whether flow targets can be achieved given EA available for a release.
 - g. Determine if there are outages in CNPPID or NPPD systems that would affect EA conveyance.

7. If approached by CNPPID to support a non-irrigation flow requirement waiver, consider whether there should be support for a full, partial, or no waiver.
 - a. Assess current storage in Lake McConaughy and its possible change throughout the upcoming water year.
 - b. Determine if EA releases would be affected by a waiver.
8. Monitor Non-Irrigation Releases.
9. Monitor Fall Whooping Crane Release (October 1 to November 15).
 - a. Monitor stage at the North Platte River at North Platte (usually only an issue when Keystone canal offline due to maintenance).
 - b. Assess quantity of EA used and consider termination of release when predetermined limits have been reached.
 - c. Monitor locations of whooping crane observations and consider termination of release if majority of whooping cranes have migrated past the Platte River basin.

December

1. Review GC comments on AOP.
2. If needed, update the AOP based on the latest water supply conditions and distribute).

January

1. Monitor Non-Irrigation Releases.
2. Plan for February-March Pulse Release (February 15 to March 15).
 - a. Determine quantity of EA available.
 - b. Coordinate with release operations with PRRIP, NPPD, and CNPPID.
 - c. Communicate release plan with EAC/RCC.
 - d. Identify acceptable ramp rates for the North Platte River and coordinate with canal operators about planned releases into the North Platte River.
 - e. Assess quantity of non-irrigation releases within the February-March pulse time period.
 - f. Assess South Platte River flows to determine if flows provide an adequate base for the EA release.
 - g. Coordinate with county emergency managers and National Weather Service about river ice conditions.
3. Revisit Long-term Scale Assessment
 - a. Remain informed about current and forecast water supply conditions.
 - b. Assess likelihood of reaching effective capacity on (or after) March 1 when Lake McConaughy maximum operating levels are reduced.
4. If needed, update the AOP based on the latest water supply conditions and distribute.

February

1. Final version of AOP due to FERC.
2. Revisit Long-term Scale Assessment
 - a. Remain informed about current and forecast water supply conditions.
 - b. Assess likelihood of reaching effective capacity on (or after) March 1 when Lake McConaughy maximum operating levels are reduced.
3. Monitor February-March Pulse Release.
 - a. Monitor stage at the North Platte River at North Platte to ensure flood stage is not exceeded (usually only an issue when Keystone canal offline due to maintenance).
 - b. Monitor South Platte River flows as they have been known to drop rapidly at the beginning of March.
 - c. Monitor for new river ice formation.
 - d. Monitor Elwood Reservoir as diversions for storage can start in March and continue through June.
4. If needed, update the AOP based on the latest water supply conditions and distribute.

March

1. EAC/RCC meeting activities.
 - a. Water project sponsors report updates to the EA Manager on projected water supply conditions and operating plans.
 - b. Re-assess need for carryover to the subsequent water year.
 - c. Evaluate need for additional releases.
 - d. EA Manager reviews information from the EAC/RCC to revise and update AOP.
2. Assess need to maintain minimum EA flows at Brady (March-April).
3. Monitor February-March Pulse Release (see above).
4. Plan for Spring whooping crane release (March 23 to May 10)
 - a. Determine quantity of EA available for a release.
 - b. Coordinate with PRRIP, NPPD, and CNPPID.
 - c. Communicate with EAC/RCC.
5. Plan for SDHF (or short duration flow of lesser magnitude).
 - a. Determine quantity of EA available for a release.
 - b. Coordinate with PRRIP, NPPD, and CNPPID.
 - c. Communicate with EAC/RCC.
 - d. Determine if EA Bypass of CNPPID Diversion is needed. Coordinate with the PRRIP GC to approve funding for bypassed water.

- e. Assess if bypassed water could compromise sand dams below CNPPID's diversion (@ 5,000 cfs).
 - f. Determine if re-regulation of water at Johnson Reservoir is needed. Coordinate with CNPPID to detail operations that would safely convey re-regulated water.
 - g. Authorize a variance for CNPPID's mandatory operations established through the hydrocycling biological opinion.
6. Monitor Spring Whooping Crane Release
- a. Monitor stage at the North Platte River at North Platte (usually only an issue when Keystone canal offline due to maintenance).
 - b. Assess quantity of EA used and consider termination of release once predetermined limits have been reached.
 - c. Monitor whooping crane observations and consider termination of release if majority of whooping cranes have migrated past the Platte River basin.

April

- 1. Monitor Spring Whooping Crane Release (see above).
- 2. Monitor SDHF Release.
 - a. Monitor stage at the North Platte River at North Platte.
 - b. Monitor Elwood Reservoir as storage can start in March and can continue through June.
- 3. If needed, update the AOP based on the latest water supply conditions and distribute.

May

- 1. Wyoming Water Development Office (WWDO) will notify PRRIP and EA Manager about water available from Pathfinder Reservoir.
- 2. Plan for May-June Pulse or Release (May 11 – June 30).
 - a. Determine quantity of EA available for a release.
 - b. Coordinate with PRRIP, NPPD and CNPPID.
 - c. Communicate with EAC/RCC.
 - d. Assess if South Platte River flows provide an adequate base for a pulse release.
 - e. Assess available capacity for EA releases in Keystone Canal and North Platte River.
 - f. Assess if tern and/or plover nests or chicks are present in the central Platte River.
- 3. Monitor SDHF Release (see above).
- 4. If approached about the need for a Pulse Flow Shaping Plan, evaluate alternatives for implementation.
 - a. Assess storage in Lake McConaughy.

- b. Review predicted Lake McConaughy inflows and outflows.
 - c. Determine available capacity within the Keystone Canal and North Platte River.
 - d. Identify alternatives in Lake McConaughy outflows.
- 5. Monitor Spring Whooping Crane Release (see above).
- 6. Monitor May-June Pulse or Release.
 - a. Monitor stage at the North Platte River at North Platte (usually only an issue when Keystone canal offline due to maintenance).
 - b. Assess quantity of EA used and consider termination of release if predetermined limits have been reached.
- 7. Flow Attenuation Plan.
 - a. Assess the extent of on-river nesting by terns and/or plovers.
 - b. Work with CNPPID to set benchmark on June 1. Evaluate if benchmark may be deferred to a later date after peak flow passes.
- 8. If needed, update the AOP based on the latest water supply conditions and distribute.

June

- 1. Plan for Early Summer Target Flow Release.
 - a. Available capacity at chokepoint.
 - b. Coordinate with PRRIP and CNPPID.
 - c. Communicate with EAC/RCC.
 - d. Consider conveyance losses in Platte.
 - e. Identify if on-channel tern/plover nesting is present in the central Platte River.
- 2. Decide on Delivery of Pathfinder Environmental and Wyoming Account Water to Lake McConaughy in coordination with the PRRIP Executive Director.
 - a. Assess storage in Lake McConaughy.
 - b. Review predicted Lake McConaughy inflows and outflows prior to and after October 1.
 - c. Assess likelihood of reaching effective capacity after October 1 when Lake McConaughy maximum operating levels are reduced.
 - d. Coordinate with PRRIP and WWDO.
- 3. Monitor Flow Attenuation Plan.
 - a. CNPPID will contact EA Manager if any anticipated peak flows may exceed the benchmark. EA Manager would respond regarding whether CNPPID should attempt to attenuate peak flow or not.
 - b. Assess if tern and/or plover nests or chicks are present in the central Platte River.
- 4. Monitor May-June Pulse or Release (see above).
- 5. If needed, update the AOP based on the latest water supply conditions and distribute.

July

1. Monitor Summer Release.
 - a. Assess quantity of EA used and consider termination of releases if predetermined limits have been reached.
 - b. Assess flow conditions in the central Platte River.
2. If needed, update the AOP based on the latest water supply conditions and distribute.

August

1. Monitor Summer Release (see above).
2. If needed, update the AOP based on the latest water supply conditions and distribute.

References

Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District (CNPPID). 1999. Administrative Plan For Managing Water Commitments. Prepared Pursuant to Article 408 of the FERC License, May 14.

Platte River Recovery Implementation Plan (PRRIP). 2006. Governance Committee Cooperative Agreement. October 26.