

1 **PLATTE RIVER RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM**2 **Water Advisory Committee Meeting Action Item Minutes**3 **Nebraska Game and Parks Commission – Lake McConaughy Visitors Center, NE**4
5 **November 12, 2008**6 **Attendance**

7 Frank Kwapnioski – WAC Chair, NPPD

8 Jerry Kenny – Executive Director, Headwaters Corp

9 Beorn Courtney – Headwaters Corp

10 Blaine Dwyer – Boyle/AECOM

11 Brock Merrill – Bureau of Reclamation

12 Cory Steinke – CNPPID

13 Dennis Strauch – Upper Platte Water Users/PID

14 Don Anderson – US Fish & Wildlife Service

15 Doug Hallum – Nebraska DNR

16 Duane Woodward – Downstream Water Users/Central Platte NRD

17 Greg Wingfield – USFWS

18 Jennifer Schellpeper – Nebraska DNR

19 Joe Frank – Colorado Water Users/Lower South Platte WCD

20 Jon Altenhofen – Colorado Water Users/Northern Colorado WCD

21 June DeWeese – USFWS

22 Kent Miller – Downstream Water Users/Twin Platte NRD

23 Mahonri Willimas – Bureau of Reclamation

24 Matt Hoobler – Wyoming SEO

25 Mike Drain – CNPPID

26 Nate Nielsen – CNPPID

27 Randy Tullis – Wyoming SEO

28 Rich Halloway – Tri-Bain NRD

29 Ted Kowalski – State of Colorado/CWCB

30 **Welcome and Administrative**31 Introductions; no agenda modifications. The July and September 2008 meeting minutes were
32 approved.33 **WAC Committee List Update**

34 The ED Office will update and recirculate the WAC Committee list.

35 **May 2008 High Flow Event**36 The Executive Director's (ED) Office, Jerry Kenny and Beorn Courtney, provided updates on
37 analysis of the May 2008 high flow event. Program staff will work with Don Anderson and Jon
38 Altenhofen to investigate scenarios for quantifying amounts that could be stored during times of
39 excess to target flows. The May 2008 flow event is of interest because the large excesses at
40 Grand Island were due to local high rain events while flows at the upstream end of the critical
41



45 habitat were less than targets.
46

47 **Water Management Study (WMS) Phase II Review**

48 WMS Phase II comments are due to Beorn Courtney by November 17. Blaine Dwyer was in
49 attendance to address questions at this time; Boyle/AECOM will make a formal presentation to
50 the WAC in December.

51 **FY09 Reservoir Feasibility for Pulse Flow Implementation**

52 Jerry Kenny presented the need to move forward with reservoir feasibility studies resulting from
53 WMS Phase II, in addition to other alternatives. The Program document says water projects
54 should be able to implement the pulse flow by 2011 and that 25,000 AF reduction in shortages to
55 target flows should be achieved by 2014. Ted Kowalski clarified that this is not a Milestone; the
56 milestone is that the WAP will be implemented and “capable of providing at least an average of
57 50,000 acre-feet per year of shortage reduction to target flows, or for other Program purposes, by
58 no later than the end of the First Increment.” Frank Kwapnioski suggested discussing this at the
59 next WAC meeting where GC members will be present.

60 **Conjunctive Management Model**

61 PowerPoint presentation by Duane Woodward on the Conjunctive Management Tool being
62 sponsored and developed by CNPPID, NPPD, TPNRD, CPNRD, and NDNR. The WAC
63 discussed potential value in using this tool for scenario analyses, feasibility studies, and
64 developing information as input to OPSTUDY (OPSTUDY and the GC would continue to be the
65 yardstick for determining “does it count”). However, the committee needs to better understand
66 how the Program could get involved, what access it would have to the consultants (HDR) who
67 are developing the tools, etc. Jerry Kenny will draft a formal letter to the sponsors to engage in
68 discussions.

69 Meeting adjourned until 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, November 13, 2008.

70 **November 13, 2008**

71 **Attendance**

72 Frank Kwapnioski – WAC Chair, NPPD

73 Jerry Kenny – Executive Director, Headwaters Corp

74 Beorn Courtney – Headwaters Corp

75 Blaine Dwyer – Boyle/AECOM

76 Brock Merrill – Bureau of Reclamation

77 Cory Steinke – CNPPID

78 Dennis Strauch – Upper Platte Water Users/PID

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90 Jon Altenhofen – Colorado Water Users/Northern Colorado WCD
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92 Mike Drain – CNPPID
93 Rich Halloway – Tri-Bain NRD
94 Ted Kowalski – State of Colorado/CWCB
95

Water Evaluation Process

96 The GC requested the WAC to develop a process to assess how to evaluate water supply
97 opportunities and to determine whether to pursue/acquire. Beorn Courtney presented 2 draft
98 flow charts developed by Program staff as examples of how this process might work; these were
99 a discussion tool to potentially broaden the scope of the assignment to consider similar efforts
100 that will be ongoing for implementing the Water Action Plan. The WAC determined that a sub-
101 committee would work directly with Program staff to advance evaluation of Water Action Plan
102 projects and to work with Boyle/AECOM in using hydrologic tools developed for WMS Phase I
103 and II to evaluate integration of projects and use of both Environmental Account water and
104 excesses to target flows. Recognizing the scope has expanded, Frank Kwapnioski encouraged
105 any additional WAC members interested in this subject to contact the ED Office ASAP to join
106 the sub-committee. The sub-committee will convene in Ogallala in December.
107

FY09 Water Plan Budget Update

108 Jerry provided an updated preliminary budget for 2009 water-related activities. No changes were
109 recommended by the WAC other than clarification of the Water Action Plan scoping.
110

Choke Point Update

111 Jerry provided an update on the choke point work and issues with phragmites downstream of the
112 current choke point but upstream of CNPPID's diversion. The WAC supports cost-sharing with
113 other organizations to remove additional phragmites above the CNPPID diversion.
114

Public Comment

115 None.
116

117

Additional Business

118 Next meeting is the WMS Phase II Workshop prior to the GC meeting (9:30 am to noon) on
119 December 2 in Denver. The next full WAC meeting is scheduled for Jan 20, location TBD.
120 Beorn will circulate dates for a sub-committee meeting in December in Ogallala (will cc full
121 WAC).
122