



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**  
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7                   **Attendance**

8 Frank Kwapnioski – WAC Chair, NPPD  
9 Jerry Kenny – Executive Director, Headwaters Corp  
10 Beorn Courtney – Headwaters Corp  
11 Blaine Dwyer – Boyle/AECOM  
12 Brock Merrill – Bureau of Reclamation  
13 Cory Steinke – CNPPID  
14 Dennis Strauch – Upper Platte Water Users/PID  
15 Don Anderson – US Fish & Wildlife Service  
16 Doug Hallum – Nebraska DNR  
17 Duane Woodward – Downstream Water Users/Central Platte NRD  
18 Greg Wingfield – USFWS  
19 Jennifer Schellpeper – Nebraska DNR  
20 Joe Frank – Colorado Water Users/Lower South Platte WCD  
21 Jon Altenhofen – Colorado Water Users/Northern Colorado WCD  
22 June DeWeese – USFWS  
23 Kent Miller – Downstream Water Users/Twin Platte NRD  
24 Mahonri Willimas – Bureau of Reclamation  
25 Matt Hoobler – Wyoming SEO  
26 Mike Drain – CNPPID  
27 Nate Nielsen – CNPPID  
28 Randy Tullis – Wyoming SEO  
29 Rich Halloway – Tri-Bain NRD  
30 Ted Kowalski – State of Colorado/CWCB  
31

32                   **Welcome and Administrative**

33 Introductions; no agenda modifications. The July and September 2008 meeting minutes were  
34 approved.  
35

36                   **WAC Committee List Update**

37 The ED Office will update and recirculate the WAC Committee list.  
38

39                   **May 2008 High Flow Event**

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



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

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

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

61

62 **Conjunctive Management Model**

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

71

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

73

74

**November 13, 2008**

75

76 **Attendance**

77 Frank Kwapnioski – WAC Chair, NPPD  
78 Jerry Kenny – Executive Director, Headwaters Corp  
79 Beorn Courtney – Headwaters Corp  
80 Blaine Dwyer – Boyle/AECOM  
81 Brock Merrill – Bureau of Reclamation  
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95

96 **Water Evaluation Process**

97 The GC requested the WAC to develop a process to assess how to evaluate water supply  
98 opportunities and to determine whether to pursue/acquire. Beorn Courtney presented 2 draft  
99 flow charts developed by Program staff as examples of how this process might work; these were  
100 a discussion tool to potentially broaden the scope of the assignment to consider similar efforts  
101 that will be ongoing for implementing the Water Action Plan. The WAC determined that a sub-  
102 committee would work directly with Program staff to advance evaluation of Water Action Plan  
103 projects and to work with Boyle/AECOM in using hydrologic tools developed for WMS Phase I  
104 and II to evaluate integration of projects and use of both Environmental Account water and  
105 excesses to target flows. Recognizing the scope has expanded, Frank Kwapnioski encouraged  
106 any additional WAC members interested in this subject to contact the ED Office ASAP to join  
107 the sub-committee. The sub-committee will convene in Ogallala in December.  
108

109 **FY09 Water Plan Budget Update**

110 Jerry provided an updated preliminary budget for 2009 water-related activities. No changes were  
111 recommended by the WAC other than clarification of the Water Action Plan scoping.  
112

113 **Choke Point Update**

114 Jerry provided an update on the choke point work and issues with phragmites downstream of the  
115 current choke point but upstream of CNPPID’s diversion. The WAC supports cost-sharing with  
116 other organizations to remove additional phragmites above the CNPPID diversion.  
117

118 **Public Comment**

119 None.  
120

121 **Additional Business**

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