



1 **PLATTE RIVER RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM (PRRIP or Program)**
2 **Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Conference Call Minutes**
3 **October 26, 2015**

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5 **Meeting Attendees**

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7 **Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)**

8 **State of Wyoming**

9 Jeff Geyer – Alternate

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11 **State of Colorado**

12 Suzanne Sellers – Member (Chair)

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14 **State of Nebraska**

15 Mike Fritz – Member

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17 **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service)**

18 Matt Rabbe – Member

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20 **Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation)**

21 Brock Merrill – Member

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23 **Environmental Entities**

24 Rich Walters – Member

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26 **Upper Platte Water Users**

27 None

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29 **Colorado Water Users**

30 Kevin Urie – Member

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32 **Downstream Water Users**

33 Mark Czaplewski – Member

34 Mark Peyton – Member

Executive Director’s Office (EDO) Staff

Dave Baasch

Jason Farnsworth

Chad Smith



35 **PRRIP Draft FY16 Budget and Work Plan**

36 Smith discussed the Adaptive Management Plan (AMP) items in the draft FY16 budget and work plan
37 and also associated FY15 current and projected expenditures. Specific items of discussion included:

- 38 • Urie asked how much of the AMP budget will have been spent by the end of the year. Smith said he
39 would address that line-by-line as he walks through the budget.
- 40 • Czaplewski asked about the per gallon cost of gas in the estimate for AMP-related equipment. Smith
41 said that would be adjusted to reflect current gas prices.
- 42 • Rabbe asked if there was any active sediment augmentation conducted in 2015. Farnsworth said no.
- 43 • Czaplewski asked about expenditures for FY15 and how “green” LiDAR factors in. Farnsworth said
44 the Program is having Kucera do a test of green LiDAR this fall to see how it works (the EDO will
45 assess the data over the winter). \$200,000 would be full implementation of green LiDAR and aerial
46 photography in 2016. Czaplewski said that makes sense.
- 47 • Rabbe asked about the geomorphology Special Advisor and what product we will get out of that.
48 Farnsworth said Chester Watson does not necessarily produce annual products but he is on-call to
49 provide input and advice on products when we need it. The EDO is also working with a
50 sedimentologist at Colorado State University to help provide advice as we ramp up sediment
51 augmentation in FY16.
- 52 • Merrill asked why there was such a jump in USGS costs for tern/plover monitoring. Baasch said the
53 new RFP issued in 2015 assumed a cost decrease going from a 10-person crew to a 6-person crew.
54 That did not happen and costs went up when the new contract with the USGS was negotiated in 2015.
55 Czaplewski said over \$90,000 of the USGS budget is for overhead which seems very high. Baasch
56 agreed but said that high overhead has been an issue in every contract with the USGS. Baasch said
57 there will be banding in 2016 and 2017 but just re-sighting in 2018 and 2019 which will lower the
58 budget in those two years.

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60 **Future Meetings & Closing Business**

61 No future TAC meeting was scheduled. Smith said TAC work during the first half of 2016 would focus
62 on the Structured Decision Making process and he will be working with Compass to develop a proposed
63 TAC meeting schedule for January-May 2016 and will get that to the TAC soon.

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65 **Meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m. Central Time.**