



BEAR RIVER COMMISSION

RECEIVED

JUN 22 2004

WATER RIGHTS
SALT LAKE

106 West 500 South, Suite 101
Bountiful, UT 84010-6232
(801) 292-4662
(801) 524-6320 (fax)

JS

MEMORANDUM BR04-44

TO: Commission Members
FROM: Jack A. Barnett, Engineer-Manager
SUBJECT: RIVER CONDITIONS/Water Supply
DATE: June 18, 2004

COMMISSION MEMBERS

Chair

Dee C. Hansen

Idaho Members

Karl J. Dreher
Rodney Wallentine
Dean M. Mathews

Utah Members

D. Larry Anderson
Blair Francis
Charles W. Holmgren

Wyoming Members

Patrick T. Tyrrell
Sam Lowham
Gordon Thornock

ENGINEER-MANAGER

Jack A. Barnett
Suite 101
106 West 500 South
Bountiful, UT 84010

It is time that I give the Commission an update on the river. The storage season is over in the Upper Division and all reservoirs filled to the levels allowed by the Compact. There have been releases of storage from Woodruff Narrows Reservoir. This week Wyoming asked that the Upper Division be placed under Compact regulation. On June 15, we determined the divertable flow to be 823 cfs compared to the 1250 cfs trigger in the Compact. We placed the Upper Division under regulation on the 15th and called out the allowed diversion to the watermasters involved.

The Central Division was first placed in regulation on April 23 when the divertable flow was at 424 cfs compared to the Compact trigger point of 870 cfs. Over the weeks the divertable flow has not changed much. When we regulated on the 15th it was at its highest, 576 cfs. That is not much water. However, cool temperatures and some storms are helping throughout the Basin.

This is the case in the Lower Division. A storm came through that caused lower tributaries to rise and Cutler to spill. For the most part, these spills were not stored water. Lower Division users called for Bear Lake storage water during a short hot spell in May at a date much earlier than it was hoped would occur. However, the favorable weather terminated these calls for stored water and the PacifiCorp report I have for the first 15 days of June shows that there were no releases from Bear lake in the first half of June. Also good news is the fact that Bear Lake stayed at a constant elevation through the first half of June. On June 1 it was at 5905.68 and on June 15 it was at 5905.67. The staff here at the Commission has had no formal request to get involved in any regulation issues in the Lower Division.

np

cc: TAC Members
All Interested Parties