



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Upper Colorado Region

Provo Projects Office

P.O. Box 51338

Provo, Utah 84605-1338

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WATER RIGHTS
SALT LAKE

IN REPLY
REFER TO:

PRO-410

NOV 30 1993

Robert L. Morgan, P.E.
State Engineer
Division of Water Rights
Attention: Investigations Section
1636 West North Temple, Room 200
Salt Lake City, UT 84116

Subject: Comments on the Utah Lake Management Plan Refinements for 1994
(Water Rights)

Dear Mr. Morgan:

The following comments are made in response to the proposed refinements to the Utah Lake Management Plan for 1994.

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) agrees with the requirements presented relative to the reporting of transbasin imports, reservoir releases, and return flow credits. We also agree with the concept of modifying the system storage conversion curve to account for water that remains in the lake.

Regarding the evaporation losses on import water held in Utah Lake, we believe that this should be calculated based on the increased surface area and not on the proportional volume.

We are concerned about the proposed 4 percent transportation charge against waters stored above Heber City. We believe that additional study of the situation is needed before establishing such a criteria.

Another area of concern to Reclamation is the policy related to the calls on system storage. This was not discussed in the most recent meeting, but it is something that we believe should be addressed. As we understand it, the present policy requires that calls on system storage be delivered at full stored value. In other words, if 100 acre-feet of water is stored upstream of Utah Lake as system storage, then 100 acre-feet of water would have to be released on call. We believe that this should be changed so as to reduce this amount by the evaporation losses. If water is not stored, but released to the lake, evaporation losses are greater than if this water is stored upstream. It seems much more appropriate to figure the called releases by taking the amount stored minus the evaporation losses. We request that you consider amending this aspect of the management plan.

We appreciate your consideration of our comments and look forward to future involvement in the process of developing and implementing this plan. Should there be questions regarding our concerns or comments, please contact Jonathan Jones at 379-1195.

Sincerely,



Bruce C. Barrett
Projects Manager

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