

COLORADO WATER CONSERVATION BOARD
 102 Columbine Building
 1845 Sherman Street
 Denver, Colorado 80203

March, 1976

SAVERY-POT HOOK PROJECT

The Savery-Pot Hook project is located in the Little Snake River basin in northwestern Colorado and southwestern Wyoming. The project was authorized by the Congress in 1964 as a participating project of the Colorado River Storage Project Act. The Pot Hook Water Conservancy District was organized in 1960 to act as a sponsoring and contractual agency for that portion of the project located in the state of Colorado. The district includes a portion of Moffat County.

Plan of Development

Unused flows of Little Snake River and its tributaries, Savery Creek from the north and Slater and Willow Creeks from the south, will be developed for irrigation, recreation, and fish and wildlife. Flood control also will be provided. The project will generally be compatible with the environment of the area.

Storage regulation will be provided in Savery Reservoir on Savery Creek in Wyoming and in Pot Hook Reservoir on Slater Creek in Colorado. Releases from the reservoirs and usable natural and return flows will be diverted by new and existing canals and ditches. New canals will include the Dolan Mesa Canal heading on Savery Creek and the Pot Hook Canal heading at the Pot Hook Reservoir. Two major laterals will branch from the Pot Hook Canal. New lateral systems will be constructed for full irrigation service lands. Drains will be constructed as needed. Willow Creek water will be made available through exchange to lands above Pot Hook Canal.

Dead and inactive storage will be available in both Savery and Pot Hook Reservoirs for fishing and recreation, and minimum flows for fish will be maintained in Savery Creek. Recreational facilities will be constructed at both Savery and Pot Hook Reservoirs. Range lands below the project will be improved as wildlife habitat to compensate for habitat lost through inundation of reservoir basins and irrigation of new lands. Some federal and state land will be acquired to permit enlargement of existing farms.

Water Supply (Colorado)

Irrigation supply (acre-feet)	22,500
Stream depletion (acre-feet)	12,100

Irrigation Service Area (acres)

	Wyo.	Colo.	
Full service land	6,590	8,080	14,670
Supplemental service land	<u>10,690</u>	<u>3,640</u>	<u>14,330</u>
Total	17,280	11,720	29,000

Project Features

Reservoirs	Pot Hook	Savery
Capacity (acre-feet)	60,000	19,000
Active	26,000	17,500
Inactive	34,000	1,500
Normal water surface (feet)	6,688	7,086.4
Surface area (acres)	1,035	646
Dams		
Height (feet)	147	110
Crest length (feet)	1,390	1,315
Crest width (feet)	30	30
Type	Rolled earthfill	Rolled earthfill
Canals		
Length (miles)	Pot Hook 39	Dolan Mesa 13
Initial capacity (sec-ft)	290	80

Estimated Costs

Construction costs (January 1975 prices)		
Pot Hook Dam and Reservoir		\$13,900,000
Savery Dam and Reservoir		11,400,000
Dolan Mesa Canal, Diversion Dam, and Laterals		7,710,000
Pot Hook Canal and laterals		25,250,000
Project drains		2,200,000
Permanent operating facilities		529,000
Temporary camp		580,000
Enlargement units land purchase and resale		667,000
Future year capacity ^{1/}		222,000
Wildlife range improvement		352,000
Recreation facilities		400,000
Less service facilities, depreciation, and salvage		<u>-610,000</u>
	Total cost	\$62,600,000
Annual operation, maintenance, and replacement costs (1972-74 prices)		133,500

Economic Analysis (100-year period)

Benefits	Direct benefits	Indirect benefits	Total benefits
<u>Project purposes</u>			
Irrigation	\$2,379,100	\$930,400	\$3,309,500

<u>Project purposes, con't.</u>	<u>Direct benefits</u>	<u>Indirect benefits</u>	<u>Total benefits</u>
Fish and wildlife	\$ 77,000	\$	\$ 77,000
Recreation	59,200		59,200
Flood control	31,000		31,000
Total	\$2,546,300	\$930,400	\$3,476,700
Annual equivalent costs			\$2,368,900
Benefit-cost ratio			1.47:1

1/ Payment of a portion of the annual operation, maintenance, and replacement costs during development period.

Current Status

The Savery-Pot Hook project has completed advance planning stages which culminated in a definite plan report released in June 1971. The project was authorized September 2, 1964, (Public Law 88-568) as a participating project under the Colorado River Storage Project Act of April 11, 1956, (Public Law 84-458). The FY 1976 Public Works Appropriation Act included \$1,430,000 for FY 1976 and \$350,000 for the transition quarter to begin construction of the project.

Negotiations with the Little Snake River Water Conservancy District and the Pot Hook Water Conservancy District on the project repayment contracts have been initiated. The draft environmental statement was released and filed with the Council on Environmental Quality in August 1972. A second draft statement is being prepared and will be distributed when completed. A salinity report for the project has been completed and sent to the Office of Management and Budget for their review.

Design of Moffat County Roads No. 1 and No. 2 to be relocated around Pot Hook Reservoir is near completion. This is being done under a preconstruction agreement with the Moffat County Highway Department. Aerial topography on the Savery-Pot Hook project is under way with a completion date set for May 1976. Aerial topography is completed for Pot Hook dam and reservoir.

Drilling on Pot Hook dam and reservoir is under way and should be completed this summer. Drilling on Savery dam and reservoir and on Dolan Mesa diversion dam will follow. An archaeological survey for the project area is under contract with a completion date of this summer. Design data collection for specifications on Pot Hook canal and laterals has been initiated and will continue into FY 1977.

Total federal project expenditures through June 30, 1975 amount to \$1,127,360.

The tentative work plan schedule through FY 1977 is as follows:

March 1976	Revised draft of the environmental impact statement sent to Region, Denver, and Commissioner for review.
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- April 1976 Field review of revised draft of environmental impact statement completed.
- Revised draft EIS is filed with the Council of Environmental Quality and distributed for review.
- May 1976 Review period ends.
- June 1976 Public meeting on revised draft of EIS is held.
- Design data collection on Pot Hook dam and reservoir and on the temporary camp is initiated.
- August 1976 Final EIS sent to Regional Director.
- Final EIS sent to Reclamation Commissioner.
- Final EIS sent to CEQ.
- September 1976 Specifications on Pot Hook dam and reservoir and on the temporary camp near Baggs, Wyoming are initiated.
- Design data collection begins on the access road to Savery Dam.
- November 1976 The repayment contract is executed.
- Initial purchase of right-of-way for Moffat County Roads relocation, the temporary camp and Pot Hook dam and reservoir is begun. Right-of-way purchases on other project features will follow as required.
- The relocation agreement for the construction of Moffat County Roads is entered into.
- Specifications are issued for the temporary camp.
- December 1976 The repayment contract is validated.
- January 1977 An award for the construction of the temporary camp is made.
- March 1977 Specifications are issued for Pot Hook dam and reservoir.
- April 1977 Design data collection on Dolan Mesa canal, diversion dam, and laterals is initiated.
- May 1977 The prime contract for Pot Hook dam and reservoir is awarded.
- June 1977 Specifications are issued for Pot Hook canal and laterals.

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Specifications are issued for the access road to Savery dam.

Local Interest

High enthusiasm for construction of the Savery-Pot Hook project has been expressed by state and local interests. The Savery-Little Snake Water Conservancy District was organized in September, 1959 to be the administrative and contracting agency for the reclamation features and obligations in Wyoming, and the Pot Hook Water Conservancy District was formed in June, 1960 for the same purposes in Colorado. The state of Colorado through the Colorado Water Conservation Board, the Colorado River Water Conservation District, and the Pot Hook Water Conservancy District have all contributed funds to the Bureau of Reclamation to expedite the investigations. The Colorado River Water Conservation District has also assisted the project districts in making project water right applications.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The greatest need for the area, in addition to a stabilized water supply for agriculture, is a dependable base for service industries and economic expansion of agricultural opportunities. With limited reservoir storage now available, the area averages about 28 percent of ideal diversion requirement. This limited water supply has prevented any agricultural expansion and has forced the area's young people to go elsewhere for work.

The states of Colorado and Wyoming both agree to the need for recreational facilities in this area and have encouraged the development of water based recreation and fish and wildlife enhancement. Other benefits are erosion control and sediment deposits into the Colorado River main stream that will be controlled by the proposed flood control regulation of spring flows into the Little Snake River from Savery and Slater Creeks.

The Savery-Pot Hook project area lies in a somewhat isolated section of Colorado and Wyoming. While there is great local interest and support for the project, the relatively small number of people involved have not been able to generate any great political support for their project. However, the project is sound and would contribute considerably to the economic base of the Little Snake River Valley.

The President has recommended that the sum of \$1,200,000 be appropriated for FY 1977 to continue construction of the project. This amount appears to be adequate. It is therefore recommended that the Governor and the members of Colorado's congressional delegation be requested to support this appropriation.

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