

Steamboat Springs, Colorado
November 30, 1959

Mr. J. E. Whitten
State Engineer
Denver, Colorado

Dear Mr. Whitten:

I herewith present my annual report for Irrigation Division No. 6 for 1959.

Attached hereto are tabulations of water commissioner's ditch and reservoir reports, from which it shows the first use of water for irrigation was April 1; the last day, October 27; the combined average of all districts, 82 days. Total average diversion 2571.56 cubic feet per second. The total acre feet used, 440,439 for the irrigation of 119,619 acres. These figures compare with a very slight variation from past averages.

The weather conditions over the past year were adverse for good crop results. Most all information received is to the effect that all hay and small grain are under average, both in production and quality. April through July, the precipitation was below normal with July quite dry. August showed an above normal but too late and not enough to help materially except in some grain areas. Runoff and the water supply for irrigation was about normal and held up very good for the irrigation of hay throughout most of the season, particularly on the White River, District 43; the Yampa River District 58; and Yampa River Ditches, District 57 and 44. However, most all side streams and creeks dried

Page 2
November 30, 1959

up earlier than usual, more particularly true at the lower elevations. The following comments received from water commissioners on crop and moisture conditions of their respective districts, as follows:

Water Commissioner Districts 57 and 44 states: "We did not have much runoff altho the creeks did hold up fairly good. Water did not get too short until most crops were made, then the streams did get real low. Several small reservoirs did not fill at all.

We also did not have much rain until about September 15, which interfered with the harvest of all small grain and the preparation of fields and seeding of winter wheat. At present, there is plenty of moisture in the ground for this time of year but not much snow up to present time.

Both irrigated and dry land crops showed only fair results."

Water Commissioner District 54, where practically all irrigation is hay or pasture, very small acreage of grain is irrigated, states as follows:

"Little Snake River held up very good through August, Slater Creek not so good, South Fork Slater, exceptionally good, Roaring Fork, practically dried up. Willow Creek went down fast the past summer. Four Mile Creek dropped down fast and earlier than usual. Hay crop about normal."

As per instructions, I attended the Pot Creek water users annual meeting with officials of the State Engineers office from Utah which was scheduled for March 4, 1959, in the Courthouse at Vernal, Utah. Mr. Burgess from your office was also present at this meeting. The purpose of this meeting was to set up assessment and distribution procedures for the 1959 season under extension agreement of the 1958 memorandum of understanding with reference to administration of the

Page 3
November 30, 1959

Pot Creek water.

Orders for the installation of necessary measuring devices to be placed in the Colorado ditches were forwarded to the owners thereof March 27. (A copy of one such order ^{and} is attached hereto.) The said devices were installed this spring as per these orders, prior to their requesting service.

As it has been previously stated, the Pot Creek area in both Utah and Colorado is practically inaccessible in the winter and early spring and almost entirely deserted. The past few years and more particularly since this agreement has been in operation, the runoff of the creek has been early and short.

A follow-up visit was made to the area May 10th this spring. The natural flow or supply of water in Pot Creek was at a very low stage with less than one cubic foot per second reaching the Colorado line. Did not find anything wrong with the operations on the creek.

The three reservoirs on the stream in Utah have an advantage by collecting some water during winter and early spring months that would otherwise go to waste. I learned the water commissioner was called about May 1st to make regulations and at which time, the entire flow of the creek which amounted to approximately 3.5 cubic feet per second, was turned through the Crouse and the Mat Werner Reservoirs for the benefit of the Colorado claims. Only about one-half the water passing the lower reservoir reached the Colorado users after traversing a distance of several miles. The above mentioned reservoirs were about one-half filled on the date water was passed through. The distribution and operation under the agreement otherwise, I believe, has been

successful in accomplishing the purpose of such agreement.

The cooperative operation carried on by the Wyoming Water Commissioner and Water Commissioner of District No. 54 in Colorado, along the Little Snake Compact area as per agreement adopted by the State Engineers of both states and put into operation in the 1957 season, is still operating successfully as no further complaints have reached this office.

At the request of the water commissioners, this office prepared and forwarded to the owners of water rights in the various district involving some 25 ditches, orders to install, repair or replace headgates, or measuring devices which will be satisfactory to the water commissioner. All these have complied except two: Alfred Mack on two Trout Creek Ditches in District No. 57, headgate repairs or replacements, and one on Four Mile Creek in District No. 54. Mike Pondella, for a headgate in the Davidson Dutton Ditch. The water commissioners report non-compliance in both instances to date which will require at this late date, a renewal of pressure for next season.

Reports have been previously forwarded for recommendation of acceptance of completed construction on the Poose Creek Reservoir in District No. 44 and the Hahns Peak Reservoir in District No. 58. Both belong to the Game and Fish Department.

Construction was completed on another small reservoir this fall in Water District No. 58. The Martin Creek Reservoir construction was carried on by the owners under supervision of the Soil Conservation Engineers. I was not in possession of the plans for said reservoir but note that plans and specifications were filed and approved. Inspected the finished construction in early November. It had finished appear-

Page 5
November 30, 1959

ance in all respects and I was informed by S. C. S. personnel that it was completed to conform with plans, and if same is necessary for any purpose, I recommend the said construction be accepted.

Respectfully submitted,

Irrigation Division Engineer
Division No. 6

TABULATION OF WATER COMMISSIONER'S ANNUAL
DITCH REPORTS FOR 1959 IRRIGATION SEASON

DISTRICT NO.	NO. OF DITCHES REPORTED	AMOUNT OF APPROPRIATION CUBIC FEET PER SECOND	CAPACITY OF DITCHES SEC. FEET	FIRST DAY WATER WAS USED	LAST DAY WATER WAS USED
43	62	760.67	1052.00	4-1	10-1
44	104	515.95	811.00	4-1	9-23
54	42	145.48	375.00	4-30	10-27
55 & 56	NO WATER COMMISSIONERS OR REPORT			- -	- -
57	60	326.02	451.00	4-6	9-3
58	305	1661.07	1772.00	4-2	10-1
TOTAL	573	3409.19	4461.00	4-1	10-27

DISTRICT NO.	AVERAGE NO. DAYS WATER CARRIED	AVERAGE DAILY AMOUNT CARRIED IN SEC. FEET	NO. OF ACRE FEET USED	TOTAL NO. ACRES IRRIGATED
43	66	455.95	111,231	20,859
44	89	468.01	83,347	23,618
54	94	213.47	34,689	8,075
57	97	228.47	44,384	13,453
58	63	1205.66	166,788	53,614
TOTAL	82	2571.56	440,439	119,619

TABULATION OF WATER COMMISSIONER'S ANNUAL RESERVOIR
REPORTS FOR 1959 IRRIGATION SEASON

DISTRICT NO.	NO. OF RESERVOIRS REPORTED	AREA OF H. W. L. ACRES	CAPACITY IN CUBIC FEET	QUANTITY OF WATER IN RESERVOIR MAY 1, CU. FT.	QUANTITY OF WATER IN RESERVOIR NOV. 1, CU. FT.
43	NO REPORT ON RESERVOIRS				
44	14	480	74,664,670	67,065,870	00
54	1	22	17,345,000	11,496,600	00
55 & 56	ONLY ONE RESERVOIR (IN DIST. 56 POT CR.) IT DID NOT FILL				
57	11	442	228,567,773	118,043,988	00
58	13	597	332,127,387	308,491,731	279,380,313
TOTAL	39	1541	652,704,820	505,098,189	279,380,313

DISTRICT NO.	FIRST DAY WATER USED FROM RESERVOIR	LAST DAY WATER USED FROM RESERVOIR	AVERAGE NO. DAYS WATER CARRIED	AVERAGE DAILY AMOUNT CARRIED CU. FT.	NO. OF ACRE FEET RESERVOIR WATER CARRIED	TOTAL ACRES IRRIGATED RES. WATER ONLY
44	5-14	9-13	68	17.33	2248	1,290
54	7-1	7-25	26	5.00	264	SUPPL. TO 1-DITCH
57	5-5	9-1	75	14.84	2187	1385
58	6-8	9-27	31	79.38	6446.6	SUPPL. TO 35-DITCHES
TOTAL	5-5	9-27	49	116.55	11,146	ALL SUPPL.

Added to Water Commissioners' reservoir reports.

REMARKS: Added to Water Commissioners' reservoir reports.

DISTRICT No. 44

Of the 14 reservoirs, reported 5 were used for irrigation, 1 for stock water, and 8 that did not fill on account of insufficient runoff in the area. The acreage shown is all in addition to the supplemental supply to other ditches.

DISTRICT No. 54

There were three reservoirs listed. One used for stock water, one unused, and one used for irrigation to supplement the supply to the Riley Livestock Company Ditch which irrigates 800 acres.

DISTRICT No. 57

Eleven reservoirs reported, six were used for stock water. Only five were used for irrigation and the acreage given is in addition to a supplemental supply to existing ditches recorded on ditch report.

DISTRICT No. 58

Eleven reservoirs reported, two of which were for domestic use, nine for irrigation. Approximately two-thirds of the stored water unused. All storage used for irrigation was used as a supplemental supply to 35 different ditches, acreages under which is included in ditch reports.

Steamboat Springs, Colorado
March 27, 1959

Order for installation of
measuring device in Miles
ditch, Pot Creek Water District
No. 56, Colorado

Mr. William H. Karren
Jensen
Utah

Dear Mr. Karren:

Since the Colorado Laws require the installation of a measuring device in all ditches diverting water from the public streams, and that such installation must be made before demand can be made upon the water commissioner to give any service to any such ditch not properly equipped to measure the water therein after the owners having had received the proper notice and as it is the obligation of the ditch owners or users to install such devices, it is of course the necessary procedure to issue orders for such installations to eliminate any misunderstanding.

You are therefore herein directed to place in your ditch diverting water from Pot Creek immediately below and as near as possible to the headgate or point of diversion from said creek a steel Parshall Measuring Flume, it should be not less than a 12 inch throat width and at least 18 inches depth equipped with gage.

The water commissioner assigned to the Pot Creek distribution will no doubt supply such technical information as needed and assist in the correct placement of such device.

Very truly yours,

Irrigation Division Engineer
Division No. 6

BTC:bt

cc: Ray E. Nash
Pot Creek Water Commissioner

EXTRA COPY

October 12, 1959

Mr. J. E. Whitten
State Engineer
Denver, Colorado

Re: Poose Creek Reservoir Dam
(Vaughn Lake)

Dear Mr. Whitten:

An inspection has been made of the re-located spillway construction of the Poose Creek Reservoir Dam and it is found that said construction has been completed in accordance with the First Amendment thereof as per Plans. (C-606A) approved by your office July 25, 1957.

I herewith recommend your acceptance of the same.

Very truly yours,

Irrigation Division Engineer
Division No. 6

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EXTRA COPY

October 12, 1959

Mr. J. E. Whitten
State Engineer
Denver, Colorado

Re: Hahns Peak Reservoir Dam
District No. 58

Dear Mr. Whitten:

An inspection was made for purpose of reporting on the completion of construction on the Hahns Peak Reservoir Dam on June 14, 1959, with a follow up inspection again made Sept. 30, and it was found that construction had been completed on said dam as per. plans approved by your office July 3, 1956, and Second Amendment thereto approved August 15, 1957, and herewith recommend your acceptance of same.

Recommendation of acceptance on said construction were withheld as there were found to be some uncompleted items, which have at this time have been taken care of.

The attention of the Game and Fish Department, I think should be called to a fairly heavy seepage flow appearing over a small area at the lower toe of dam. It is my opinion that said seepage does not impair the safety of the dam, as it is apparently finding its way through the formation on which the dam rests, said seepage has remained clear with constant flow through the summer.

The reservoir filled early in the spring and has remained full continually.

Very truly yours,

Irrigation Division Engineer
Division No. 6

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