

Div. 46
Steamboat Springs, Colorado
December 8, 1969

Mr. C.J. Kuiper
Colorado State Engineer
101 Columbine Building
Denver, Colorado 80203

Dear Mr. Kuiper:

I herewith submit my Annual Report for Division Number Six for the year of 1969.

Attached to this report are the tabulations of the Water Commissioner's Ditch and Reservoir Reports for the White River Basin, the Yampa River Basin, the North Platte River Basin and the Green River Basin within the State of Colorado.

The Green River Basin Report only shows the 1968 report from Pot Creek. This area is administrated by Mr. Dave Rasmussen, Water Commissioner from Utah and is always one year behind due to the difference in reporting dates.

A verbal conversation with Mr. Robert Guy, Area Engineer, from Vernal, Utah, indicated a peaceful season on Pot Creek in administering the Colorado-Utah agreement. The water supply, while not as much as first forecast, was adequate to supply most everyones needs. Mr. Guy reported that Mr. Zelph Calder has just completed another Reservoir on the head waters of Pot Creek. This might well lead to difficulties in water year 1970 if history repeats itself. The annual water meeting in Vernal for purpose of setting yearly policy on Pot Creek was not attended by any Colorado personnel. This is the first year since being Division Engineer that I've missed this meeting. This office was never notified as to the date of the meeting. Mr. Guy promised that in the future he

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would notify this office directly as to the time and place of the meeting.

I hope that a part time commissioner can be found for the Green River Basin and extreme lower Yampa Basin for the coming year. While there are not too many rights in this area, I feel it is important to establish records on them.

The White River Basin or former Water District 43 reported a good water year with the three hundred and fifty-seven ditches being reported. Some 299,505 acre feet of water was delivered through these ditches to 32,429 acres of crop land. The White River was predicted as 96 per cent of average at Meeker, Colorado. While the final report is not available this would appear to be a little optimistic. The runoff was not as large as predicted due to dry weather conditions in May. By the middle of June what appeared to be a good water year was headed for disaster due to unseasonably dry weather. Rains starting in the latter part of June and continued throughout the rest of the growing season. The crops were in general above normal with water problems at a minimum. Late summer and fall rains made harvest next to impossible, with a great deal of wasted hay and grain. Some of the hay was never completely harvested due to the storms particularly in the Piceance Creek Basin.

The Yellow Jacket Project is at a stalemate due to the controversy with the Bureau of Fisheries and Wildlife and the Colorado Game and Fish requiring purchase of a large tract of deadened land to replace game habitat supposedly to be destroyed by the project. This has the effect

of lowering the feasibility of the project. The Rangely project has not progressed any during the past year. It is generally agreed that it would be better advanced as a sub-district of the Colorado River Water Conservation District than forming a Conservancy District of its own.

The Snake River branch of the Yampa River Basin enjoyed a good water year following the dry spring with harvest conditions being some better than in the White River. The Division is disappointed in losing Commissioner Beryl Kelly due to retirement at the end of this year. Mr. Kelly has done an outstanding job over the years and will be hard to replace. We certainly commend Mr. Kelly for his past work and wish him luck and happiness in his retirement. The Savory Pot Hook project is in the last stages of advanced planning by the Bureau of Reclamation and it is hoped by everyone that the project can be financed for construction sometime in the near future.

The Yampa River Basin enjoyed a good water supply with more than average rainfall during the growing season and a longer than average growing season between spring and fall frosts. As in the White River Basin, considerable trouble was encountered in harvesting due to fall storms. Generally speaking, most of the crops were financially harvested, however, with only a small amount of crops left in the fields.

Mr. Fred Paddock inspected several dams in the Yampa Basin during the week of June 16th including the Cove Lake Reservoirs. Considerable controversy has risen due to the condemnation of these reservoirs. Mr. Paddock felt that both reservoirs should be drained until such time that they are repaired.

Mr. Kuiper and Mr. Tom Ten Eyck visited the Upper Yampa proposed water projects as guests of the Upper Yampa Conservancy District on the 7th of October. The district furnished a Trailways Bus to tour these projects and it seemed to be enjoyed by everyone.

Work to correct the air movement in the gate house at the Colorado Game and Fish's Steamboat Lake resulted in failure of the stem that raise and lowers the gate. Considerable water was lost from the Lake before divers were brought in to install a temporary gate on the front of the outlet pipe.

After this was done, a new stem was installed with additional anchors being placed on the stem. A large air vent was placed in the gate house below the floor. The Dam is now back in working order and much improved due to the new air vent.

Preliminary work has been started on the Juniper project by the Bureau of Reclamation which will hopefully soon result in a feasibility report on this project. This project is badly needed on the Yampa as storage to allow further development of water up the Yampa as well as to develop land in the lower Yampa Basin. It would act much the same to the Yampa as the Colorado River Storage Project does to Colorado River.

The North Platte River Basin in Colorado was added to Division Number Six by Senate Bill No. 81 early in the irrigation season. Mr. Owen Geer resigned as water commissioner at the beginning of the irrigation season and Mr. Neil Black was appointed Commissioner. It was new to both Mr. Black and myself, however, we were fortunate in having a good water supply and a minimum of problems. I believe that it would facilitate matters if Mr. Black had a deputy for next season. There are a great many ditches on this drainage and also many reservoirs.

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I spent several days the week of September 15th with the Colorado State Forest Service going over the ditches and water facilities in the Colorado State Forest.

Mr. Paddock and I inspected the Big Creek Lake Reservoir in June with the Forest Service. Quite extensive repair work was recommended by Mr. Paddock.

Mr. William Mattern was in attendance at the Annual Water Commissioners Meeting April 10. He went over the new water legislation in detail as well as answering all questions by the Commissioners.

All of the Colorado Game and Fish Reservoirs were inspected in Division Six the week of September 8th with Colorado Game and Fish and Forest Service personnel. Two were being repaired, the Vaughn Lake Reservoir and the Upper Yampa Reservoir and are now in good condition.

The Division was fortunate in obtaining the services of Miss Linda Fox October 1st as a full time secretary. This has been an immense help in bringing records up-to-date. This is probably one of the biggest steps in bringing the Division Offices into their own since I have worked for the Water Resources.

The October storms deposited a good early snow pack in the higher mountains in Division Six which would indicate a fair water supply for 1970 if the rest of the winter is near normal.

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I would like to thank the Water Commissioners for doing a good job during the past irrigation season. Also, I wish to thank the State Engineers office for their cooperation and help during the past year.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Wesley E. Signs", written over a horizontal line.

Wesley E. Signs
Division Engineer
Division No. 6

TABULATION OF WATER COMMISSIONER'S ANNUAL
DITCH REPORTS FOR IRRIGATION SEASON OF 1969

District No.	No. of Ditches Reported	Amount of Appropriation Cubic Feet Per Second	Capacity of Ditches Cubic Feet Per Second	First Day Water Was Used	Last Day Water Was Used
43	357	2,081.4	2,522.4	3-28-69	10-31-69
44	208	800.0	1,131.0	4-3-69	9-15-69
47	54	1495.4	1,600.0	5-1-69	8-25-69
54	71	161.5	586.6	4-22-69	10-30-69
55 & 56		No Commissioner Report			
57	70	580.0	894.6	4-23-69	10-31-69
58	261	1,397.0	1,472.0	4-24-69	10-14-69
TOTALS	1021	6,515.3	8,206.6	3-28-69	10-31-69

District No.	Average No. Days Water Carried	Average Daily Amount Carried Cubic Feet Per Second	No. of Acre Feet Used	Total No. Of Acres Irrigated	Water Use Acre Feet Per Acre
43	76	1,280.7	299,505	32,429	9.2
44	35	629.5	82,056	28,874	2.8
47	65	1237.9	151,893	44,601	3.4
54	113	246.1	74,786	9,810	7.6
55 & 56		No Commissioner Report			
57	68	636.8	71,003	14,834	4.8
58	63	912.3	120,188	44,437	2.7
TOTALS	70	4,943.3	799,431	174,985	4.6

TABULATION OF WATER COMMISSIONER'S ANNUAL RESERVOIR
REPORTS FOR IRRIGATION SEASON OF 1969

District No.	Use of Water	No. of Reservoirs Reported	Area of H.W.L. Acres	Capacity in Cubic Feet	Capacity in Acre Feet
44	Irrigation	20	336	93,127,610	2,137.9
	Stock Water	3	5	6,415,920	147.3
	Fish & Recreation	3	142	38,436,941	882.4
	Not Used	4	14	14,921,818	342.5
	TOTAL	30	497	152,902,289	3,510.1
54	Irrigation	1	30	17,345,000	398.2
	Stock Water	3	10	2,367,339	54.3
	Not Used	3	7	2,879,300	66.1
	TOTAL	7	47	22,591,639	518.6
57	Irrigation	9	229	121,988,796	2,800.4
	Domestic	1	33	30,975,295	711.1
	Not Used	2	18	12,723,004	292.1
	TOTAL	12	280	165,687,095	3,803.6
58	Irrigation	13	480	557,713,468	12,803.3
	Domestic	3	1220	1,073,104,000	24,635.1
	TOTAL	16	1700	1,630,817,468	37,438.4
47	Irrigation	22	5960	1,140,270,120	26,177.0
	TOTAL	22	5960	1,140,270,120	26,177.0
TOTAL ALL DISTRICTS REPORTED		87	8484	3,112,268,611	71,447.7

RESERVOIR TABULATION (CONTINUED)

District No.	Quantity of Water In Reservoir May 1, 1969		Quantity of Water In Reservoir November 1, 1969		First Day Water Used From Reservoir	Last Day Water Used From Reservoir
	Cubic Ft.	Acre Ft.	Cubic Ft.	Acre Ft.		
44 Irrig.	93,127,610	2,137.9	18,976,613	435.6	6-1	9-9
Stock	6,415,920	147.3	4,762,935	109.3		
Fish	38,436,941	882.4	38,436,941	882.4		
TOTAL	137,980,471	3,167.6	62,176,489	1,427.3	6-1	9-9
54 Irrig.	17,345,000	398.2	0.0	0.0	7-6	8-13
Stock	2,367,339	54.3	2,063,000	47.3		
Not Used	2,879,300	66.1	2,879,300	66.1		
TOTAL	22,591,639	518.6	4,942,300	113.4	7-6	8-13
57 Irrig.	101,475,369	2,329.6	39,222,032	900.4	5-12	10-31
Domestic	42,971,878	986.5	21,485,939	493.3		
Not Used	-----	-----	-----	-----		
TOTAL	144,447,247	3,316.1	60,707,971	1,393.7	5-12	10-31
58 Irrig.	480,185,321	11,023.5	316,647,629	7,269.2	4-24	10-14
Domestic	1,073,104,000	24,635.1	674,273,535	15,479.2		
TOTAL	1,553,289,321	35,658.6	990,921,164	22,748.4	4-24	10-14
47 Irrig.	1,140,270,120	26,177.0	75,330,486	1,729.3	6-9	7-31
TOTALS	2,998,578,798	68,837.9	1,194,078,410	27,412.1	4-24	10-31

RESERVOIR TABULATION (CONTINUED)

District No.	Average No. Days Water Carried	Average Daily Amount Carried c.f.s.	No. of Acre Feet Reservoir Water Carried	Total Acres Irrigated	Remarks
44	29	4.67	1,392	590	Portion of acreage reported under ditches
54	32	6.00	390	800	Supplemental water to this acreage
57	43	45.37	1,986.0	1,420	Some acreage reported under ditches
58	63	912.3	120,188	44,437	Most of acreage reported under ditches
47	15	151.5	5,896.9	2,778	
TOTALS	36	1,119.84	129,853	50,025	

SUMMARY OF 1968 POT CREEK DISTRIBUTION

Yield of water from drainage area above the Matt Warner Reservoir on Pot Creek came near the 1965, recent years record, with a total yield of 3,656 Acre feet compared to 3,857, A. F. in 1965.

Compared to 1967 yield of 1,683 A.F. 1968 was better than 200% in comparison.

At the U. S. G. S. station located near the Colorado State Line, a near record 2,797 A.F. was recorded, with much of this coming from drainage below the Matt Warner Reservoir.

Due to the abundance of supply and the relatively long period of run-off, all rights were satisfied and over with approximately 2,000 A.F. going on down Pot Creek and into Green River.

High Peak of Pot Creek flow above the Matt Warner Reservoir, was 62 cfs, reached on May 5, 1968 and Peak flow near the Colorado State Line was 37 cfs, reached on May 25th. According to flow records the indications are that Matt Warner Reservoir filled to capacity around May 12, 1968 and subsequently spilled the balance of the run-off to downstream storage and spill to Green River.

The Crouse Reservoir headgate was opened to relieve danger on the spillway structure.

Distribution was carried out between Calder and Max Rasmussen, Karl Searle. Other Users released and used water as needed. Water spilled, or was released from Crouse Reservoir, through June 25th, making stockwater and some irrigation water available to all areas below the Crouse Reservoir and into Colorado. Releases began on August 14, and provided water almost continuously to September 30th, for this area.

The Fish and Game Commission entered into an agreement with Zelph Calder on September 26, 1968, to exchange 650 acre feet of 1968 Calder Water for 650 acre feet of 1969 run-off allotted to the Fish and Game Right out of the first 5 cfs of Pot Creek flow. (see agreement included in this report)

A total of eleven visits were made to the area during the season for the purpose of checking water supply and what distribution work was necessary.

Outlook at the present time for Pot Creek Water Supply indicates perhaps an all time record run-off, depending on future precipitation and spring warming trends. Best estimates are all rights full satisfaction in storage facilities with large amounts probable for irrigation use where practical.

Zelph Calder, started construction of a new reservoir, downstream from the Matt Warner Reservoir, during 1968, but was unable to complete it. He also constructed a higher spillway on the Matt Warner Reservoir increasing its storage capacity considerably.

1968 POT CREEK FLOWS AND DISTRIBUTION BREAKDOWN

PRIOR TO MAY 1, 3.07 CFS - 6.14 A.F. for FISH & GAME RIGHT

DATE	POT CREEK FLOW ABOVE MATT WARNER	FISH & GAME	CALDER RT.	COLO RT.
May 1	2.5	2.5		
May 2	7.0	5.0		2.0
May 3	20.0	5.0	9.0	6.0
May 4	58.0	5.0	47.0	6.0
May 5	62.0	5.0	51.0	6.0
May 6	55.0	5.0	44.0	6.0
May 7	44.0	5.0	33.0	6.0
May 8	42.0	5.0	31.0	6.0
May 9	52.0	5.0	41.0	6.0
May 10	57.0	5.0	46.0	6.0
May 11	60.0	5.0	49.0	6.0
May 12	60.0	5.0	49.0	6.0
May 13	55.0	5.0	44.0	6.0
May 14	48.0	5.0	37.0	6.0
May 15	38.0	5.0	27.0	6.0
May 16	34.0	5.0	23.0	6.0
May 17	32.0	5.0	21.0	6.0
May 18	29.0	5.0	18.0	6.0
May 19	28.0	5.0	17.0	6.0
May 20	30.0	5.0	19.0	6.0
May 21	35.0	5.0	24.0	6.0
May 22	40.0	5.0	29.0	6.0
May 23	49.0	5.0	38.0	6.0
May 24	45.0	5.0	34.0	6.0
May 25	38.0	5.0	27.0	6.0
May 26	35.0	5.0	24.0	6.0
May 27	30.0	5.0	19.0	6.0
May 28	29.0	5.0	18.0	6.0
May 29	31.0	5.0	20.0	6.0
May 30	36.0	5.0	25.0	6.0
May 31	37.0	5.0	26.0	6.0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL CFS	1218.5	152.5	890.0	176.0
TOTAL A.F.	2437.0	305.0	1780.0	352.0

DATE	P. C. FLOW	FISH & GAME RT.	CALDER RT.	COLO. RT.
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JUNE

1	36	5	25	6
2	34	5	23	6
3	34	5	23	6
4	35	5	24	6
5	49	5	38	6
6	55	5	44	6
7	46	5	35	6
8	43	5	32	6
9	42	5	31	6
10	38	5	27	6
11	28	5	17	6
12	22	5	11	6
13	18	5	7	6
14	15	5	4	6
15	12	5	1	6
16	12	5	1	6
17	9.3	5		4.3
18	7.8	5		2.8
19	7.4	5		2.4
20	6.1	5		1.1
21	5	5		1.
22	6	5		
23	4.1	4.1		
24	3.5	3.5		
25	2.8	2.8		
26	2.2	2.2		
27	1.7	1.7		
28	1.5	1.5		
29	1.1	1.1		
30	1.3	1.3		

TOTAL CFS	578.8	128.2	343.0	107.6
TOTAL A.F.	1157.6	256.4	686.0	215.2

<u>DATE</u>	<u>P.C. FLOW</u>	<u>FISH & GAME RT.</u>
JULY all month	9.19	9.19
AUGUST all month	14.42	14.42
SEPT. all month	2.49	2.49
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TOTAL CFS	26.10	26.10
TOTAL A.F.	52.20	52.20

<u>DATE</u>	<u>POT CREEK NEAR COLO. LINE ABOVE COLO. USERS</u>
FEBRUARY all month	1.40
MARCH all month	5.07
APRIL all month	69.64
MAY all month	603.18
JUNE all month	447.70
JULY all month	No Flow
AUGUST all month	125.00
SEPT. all month	146.63
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TOTAL C.F.S.	1,398.62
TOTAL A.F.	2,797.24

WATER EXCHANGE AGREEMENT

This agreement is entered into this _____ day of September, 1968 by and between Zelph S. Calder and Tessie P. Calder, his wife, hereinafter referred to as Calder, and the Utah Fish and Game Division, hereinafter referred to as the Division.

For and in consideration of Clader releasing all the water that they have remaining in the Matt Warner Reservoir, approximating 650 acre feet as measured by the Matt Warner capacity table, the Division agrees to allow Calder to retain in the Matt Warner Reservoir for the water runoff season of 1969, sufficient water from their primary right of five (5) second feet to satisfy the above 650 acre feet.

Zelph S. Calder

Tessie P. Calder

Utah Fish and Game Division

By _____
Albert W. Heggen

Minutes of 1969 Annual Meeting, Pot Creek Water User's Meeting

Uintah County Courthouse, March 12, 1969

4:00 p.m.

Mr. Donald C. Norseth opened the meeting and gave the call of the meeting. He presented the water picture for 1969. The general forecast shows that flows will be in excess of normal and that flooding may occur in many areas of the state. Mr. Norseth requested anyone having reservoirs should release as much water as they can to provide a storage cushion and to be able to knock down the peak flows.

It was noted by Mr. Norseth that the group was lacking a regular chairman, and so he asked the group their pleasure as to a chairman. It was motioned, seconded, and approved that Mr. Robert F. Guy would chairman the remainder of the meeting.

Mr. Robert Guy read the minutes of the 1968 meeting, and they were approved as read. Mr. Cliff McCoy wanted the 1969 minutes to show that Zelph Calder could only store in the Matt Warner Reservoir his own water. Mr. Bill Karren made a motion that the minutes be approved as read. Max Rasmussen seconded it. Motion carried.

Frank Reese gave the financial statement showing the balance of funds on hand. A motion was made by Al Heggen to approve the financial statement as read. Rulon Hacking seconded it. Motion carried.

David Rasmussen gave a report of his activities for 1968 and reviewed the commissioner's report. Mr. Max Rasmussen asked that the Calder Agreement with Rasmussen and Searle be included in the 1969 report. Motion was made by Carl Searle and seconded by Joe Calder that the report be approved as read by Dave Rasmussen.

The next item of business was a discussion of the budget. Mr. Norseth pointed out that the 1968 budget was probably sufficient. Mr. Dave Rasmussen reported the 1968 budget was o.k. Motion made by Al Heggen that the same budget be adopted for 1969 as was utilized in 1968. Seconded by Allen Bennion. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Bill Karren and seconded by Joe Calder to set the 1969 assessment at \$300.00. Motion carried. Cliff McCoy made a motion to adjust the minimum assessment to \$1.00. Seconded by Bill Karren. Motion carried. The record shows that Al Heggen opposed.

Motion was made by Joe Calder and seconded by Carl Searle that Dave Rasmussen be recommended to the State Engineer for Commissioner in 1969. Motion carried.

The remainder of the meeting was thrown open to questions and a final discussion of storage water rights was held until the meeting was adjourned. Motion made by Al Heggen that the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Joe Calder.

Those Present

<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>
Robert F. Guy	Area Engineer
John Bene	Deputy State Engineer
Don Norseth	Distribution Engineer
Frank Reese	Controller
Dave Rasmussen	Commissioner
Larry J. Wilson	Utah Fish and Game
Jay R. Udy	Utah Fish and Game
Bob Nielson	Utah Fish and Game
Albert W. Heggen	Utah Fish and Game
Joseph Calder	Water User
Max Rasmussen	Water User
Carl E. Searle	Water User
Clifton W. McCoy	Water User
Leo E. Hacking	Water User
Rulon S. Hacking	Water User
Lynn McCarrell	Water User
Allen Bennion	Water User
Wm. H. Karren	Colorado Water User