

**RECREATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT
REVIEW
for
RED FLEET RESERVOIR**

Provo Area Office
Bureau of Reclamation

September 2001



RECREATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT REVIEW
for
RED FLEET RESERVOIR
Conducted April 2001

INTRODUCTION

A Recreation and Land Management Review was held at Red Fleet Reservoir on April 24, 2001, to identify and resolve management issues and concerns. See Appendix A for a map and review schedule. Management entities attending the field review included, Uintah Water Conservancy District, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, Utah State Parks and Recreation, and Bureau of Reclamation. The representatives are listed as follows:

FIELD REVIEW PARTICIPANTS

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|
| ● John B. Hunting | Uintah Water Conservancy District |
| ● Scott Ruppe | Uintah Water Conservancy District |
| ● Chad Crosby | Utah Division of Wildlife Resources |
| ● Ed Johnson | Utah Division of Wildlife Resources |
| ● Curtis Sinclear | Utah State Parks and Recreation |
| ● Dennis Weaver | Utah State Parks and Recreation |
| ● Willie Brown | USBR- Provo Area Office |
| ● Alan Christensen | USBR- Provo Area Office |
| ● Peter Crookston | USBR- Provo Area Office |
| ● Russ Findlay | USBR- Provo Area Office |
| ● Jim Jensen | USBR- Provo Area Office |
| ● David Krueger | USBR- Provo Area Office |

Management review discussion items are organized into the following five categories:

- Partnerships,
- Water Resources,
- Recreational Resources,
- Natural and Cultural Resources, and
- Land Management Resources

PARTNERSHIPS

Partnership efforts at Red Fleet Reservoir are working well.

Signage for Red Fleet State Parks is adequate. Informational signs show recreation opportunities at Red Fleet reservoir and offer a visitor etiquette message.

State Parks has initiated a Junior Ranger Program. They have developed a booklet with questions, and award a badge upon completion of the program.

To effectively coordinate resource management activities with Reclamation, the following contacts are appropriate.

- Environmental - Archaeology, T & E, Wetlands - Kerry Schwartz
- Lands - Licenses, Leases, Permits, - David Krueger
- Recreation , RMP's - Jim Jensen

Scenic Byway partners include DWR, State Parks, Uintah County, Forest Service, BLM and others.

WATER RESOURCES

The year 2000 was a dry water year at Red Fleet Reservoir. Unsubscribed M & I water remains in Red Fleet Reservoir. Use of this water will result in some additional future draw down. New deliveries to Stewart Lake are expected as quickly the Burns Bench pipeline construction is completed.

State Parks management associated with reducing electricity and man power costs are resulting in water conservation. The conversion from a grinder pump fish cleaning station to a composting station is expected to reduce water consumption from 50,000 gallon to 3,000 gallon over a 3 month period. Planting natural plants in parking islands is eliminating the need to water the parking islands. State Parks has converted to waterless urinals and low flow toilets in the restrooms.

Concerns about potential water pollution from 2-stroke boat/PWC motors was discussed with no resolution. Other water quality discussions centered around the fact that Red Fleet beneficial use designations, which are set by the State of Utah Water Resources Division, are being met.

RECREATIONAL RESOURCES

Recreation facilities reach capacity only during major holidays. The practical maximum boat limit for the reservoir is limited by parking which allows approximately 70 vessels at one time.

Cliff jumping is prohibited at Red Fleet by recent State Parks Board action.

A new 20 year recreation master agreement has been developed by Reclamation and is currently being reviewed in SLC by State Parks.

In early spring, continuing through Memorial Day, 50% of the park visitors originate from Colorado. Proceeds from fee collections cover current State Park expenses, but not salary related needs.

Recent ADA improvements include: 2 upper campsites, 1 upper restroom, dinosaur track interpretative signs, 2 lower campsites adjacent to the signs, and concrete walks around the lower restroom. An barrier free vault restroom is being installed at the boat ramp.

Conversion to propane at the ranger residence has reduced the electricity bill by one-half. The \$535.00 UP & L end of line fee remains a concern.

State Parks has developed a trail with markers, signs and a brochure interpreting dinosaur tracks, rock formations and natural features. The trail is located on the north eastern side of the reservoir neck across from the boat ramp. The track way is 1½ miles from the road and it drop 350 feet in elevation. Travel in is easy, getting out is a climb.

At some point in the future a complete renovation of the campground is anticipated. Renovation should provide for camping and day use and should consider a new layout.

See Appendix C for recreation facilities with theoretical capacity.

NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

Fish species existing prior to reservoir construction included, flannel mouth, mountain and brown trout. If the reservoir were ever treated, only rainbow trout would be restocked. In the future, if the reservoir should warm, then a warm water fishery could result. Red Fleet Reservoir is managed as a 2 story bass/blue gill and trout fishery. Only rainbow trout are stocked. Stalking success has proven best in the fall with 65,000 larger trout. The predatory bass and blue gill were planted illegally by fisherman. Occasionally a brown trout is caught. Two River Otters lived in the reservoir last year.

Whirling disease is not present in the Vernal region (which includes Red Fleet Reservoir). Schistosomiasis seems to be a problem in warm shallow waters. Last summer it was a problem in July and August when vegetation was exposed as the water receded.

An intensive paleontologic survey has recently been completed by Reclamation. An in-depth archaeological survey should be completed as funds are made available. An archaeological survey for the dam was conducted prior to its construction.

The dinosaur track way is deteriorating each year as water is raised and lowered to meet down stream needs. The rate of deterioration and stabilization of the tracks needs to be addressed.

An IPM plan needs to be developed. IPM problems, include Salt Cedar and Canadian Thistle. In

May 2001, the district will be aerial spraying 2-4D on the back of the dam to control rabbit brush.

As land lines are located, the wetland upstream from the reservoir could be evaluated for its suitability as a natural area. Part of the area appears to be owned by UDOT.

LANDS RESOURCES

Protection and safety of the Primary Jurisdiction Zone is adequate.

There is a problem with cattle getting through the fence/gate at the south beach and is difficult getting a quick response from the owner to get them out after they have gotten in.

When cows get inside the fence at the north beach (not in the Primary Jurisdiction Zone) from sand build up etc, response time to get the cattle out occurs within hours or at least within the same day.

Ownership associated with the potential natural area mentioned under Natural/Cultural resources above should be clarified.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Land Resources

- Determine property boundaries associated with the potential natural area discussed below.

Natural and Cultural Resources

- Locate land lines and evaluate the wetland upstream from the reservoir to determine suitability as a natural area.
- Address the rate of deterioration of the dinosaur track way as water is raised and lowered to meet down stream needs. Determine methods to stabilize.

See Appendix B Discussion, for a list of action items. The status of actions is divided into three types:

- Action Completed
- Action Continuing
- Action Needed

See Appendix C for Management Agreements and Contracts.

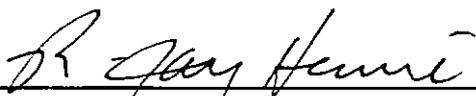
Prepared By: Jim Jensen and Willie Brown

Recommended By:



**Brent Rhee, Manager, Resource Management Division
Provo Area Office**

Approved By:



**B-C
Bruce C. Barrett, Area Manager
Provo Area Office**

March 13, 2001

PRO-463
LND-8.00

Ms. Rosalind Barr
Planner
1594 West North Temple, Suite 116
P.O. Box 146001
Salt Lake City UT 84114-6001

Subject: Reservoir Recreation and Land Management Review Schedule for year 2001

Dear Ms Barr:

The Provo Area Office has finalized the Reservoir Management Reviews schedules for this upcoming year. We request that you or your representative attend the field meeting (s) of interest. The following is the schedule for the field meetings, all of which be held at the main boat ramp:

1. Red Fleet Reservoir- Central Utah Project - Tuesday - April 24, 2001, 9:00 a.m.
2. Steinaker Reservoir- Central Utah Project - Tuesday - April 24, 2001, 1:00 p.m.
3. Starvation Reservoir - Central Utah Project - Wednesday- April 25, 2001, 9:00 a.m.
4. Jordanelle Reservoir - Central Utah project - Wednesday - June 6, 2001, 10:00 a.m.

A contact list is enclosed. We look forward to meeting with you and discussing issues. Your participation is important to make the reviews successful.

If you have suggestion or questions please contact Jim Jensen at (801) 379-1071, or Willie Brown at (801) 379-1214 of the Provo Area Office.

Sincerely,

EDWARD A. VIDMAR

Edward A. Vidmar
Chief, Facilities Group

Enclosure

WBR: WBrown:kp:03/12/01:x1214:463\rmr4-2001.wpd
Identical letters sent to: See attached list

IDENTICAL LETTER LIST

Ms. Rosalind Barr
Planner
1594 West North Temple, Suite 116
PO Box 146001
Salt Lake City UT 84114-6001

Mr. Walt Donaldson
Northeast Regional Supervisor
152 East 100 North
Vernal UT 84078

Mr. Lyle Gingery
Park Manager
PO Box 309
Heber UT 84032-0309

Mr. Dave Hintze
Central Regional Supervisor
152 East 100 North
Vernal UT 84078

Mr. Fred Liljegren
Upper Colorado Regional Office
Bureau of Reclamation
125 South State Street, Room 6107
Salt Lake City UT 84138-1147

Mr. Rick Redmon
Park Manager
Starvation State Park
PO Box 584
Duchesne UT 84021-0584

Mr. Scott Ruppe
General Manager
Uintah Water Conservancy District
78 West 3325 North
Vernal UT 84078

Mr. Curtis Sinclear
Park Manager
Red Fleet State Park
4335 North Highway 191
Vernal UT 84078-7800

Mr. Rich Tullis
O&M Manager
Central Utah Water Conservancy
District
355 West University Parkway
Orem UT 84058

Mr. Dennis Weaver
Northeast Regional Manager
State Road 319 777 West
Heber City UT 84032

RED FLEET RESERVOIR MANAGEMENT REVIEW			
Objective	Discussion	Status	Responsibility
<i>PARTNERSHIPS</i>			
Coordinate resource management activities and project undertakings with private, local, state, and federal entities.	<p>It would be helpful to specify designated Reclamation sign off authorities related to various activities so that State Parks and others know the contracts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Environmental - Archaeology, T & E, Wetlands - Kerry Schwartz ● Lands - Licenses, Leases, Permits - David Krueger ● Recreation, RMP's - Jim Jensen 	<i>Action Complete</i>	USBR
<i>WATER RESOURCES</i>			
Support and participate in management efforts to maintain water quality	Red Fleet beneficial use designations for water quality are being met.	<i>Action Continuing</i>	State of Utah, CUWCD USBR, and others
<i>RECREATIONAL RESOURCES</i>			
Provide appropriate recreational opportunities and facilities without compromising the quality of the recreation experience.	At some point in the future a complete renovation of the campground is anticipated. Renovation should provide for camping and use and should consider a new layout.	<i>Action Continuing</i>	State Parks and USBR
Encourage public bodies and the private sector to provide recreation oriented operation/maintenance, administration, and/or vendor services, where appropriate.	A new 20 year recreation master agreement has been developed by Reclamation and is currently being reviewed in SLC by State Parks.	<i>Action Continuing</i>	USBR
Provide adequate services and recreation facilities to protect public health and safety.	Cliff jumping is not allowed at Red Fleet by recent State Parks Board action.	<i>Action Complete</i>	State parks

Restrict recreational uses as necessary to protect water quality, appropriate recreation opportunities, and sensitive resources.	Recreation facilities reach capacity only during major holidays. The practical maximum boat limit for the reservoir is 70 vessels at one time. Parking seems to be appropriate for the 70 vessel limit.	<i>Action Complete</i>	State Parks and USBR
Objective	Discussion	Status	Responsibility
NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES			
Restore and maintain health and diverse plant communities.	Whirling disease is not present in the Vernal region (which includes Red Fleet Reservoir). Schistosomiasis seems to be more of a problem in warm shallow waters. Last summer it was a problem in July and August when vegetation was exposed at the water receded. Two River Otters lived in the reservoir last year.	<i>Action Continuing</i>	UDWR State Parks
Implement integrated pest management strategies.	Develop an IPM Plan. IPM problem, include Salt Cedar and Canadian Thistle infestations. In May 2001, the district will be aerial spraying rabbit brush on the back of the dam with 2-4D.	<i>Action Complete</i>	CUWCD, State Parks, USBR
Protect cultural and historical resources.	The dinosaur track way is deteriorating each year as water is raised and lowered to meet down stream needs. The rate of deterioration and stabilization of the tracks needs to be addressed.	<i>Action Needed</i>	USBR
Evaluate sensitive resources and the natural environment.	After land lines are located, the wetland upstream from the reservoir could be evaluated for its suitability as a natural area. Part of the area appears to be owned by UDOT.	<i>Action Needed</i>	USBR

Protect sensitive resources and the natural environment.	An intensive paleontologic survey has recently been completed by USBR in SLC. An in-depth archaeologic survey should be completed as funds are made available. An archaeological survey for the dam was conducted prior to its construction.	<i>Action Complete</i>	USBR
Objective	Discussion	Status	Responsibility
LANDS RESOURCES			
Consistent with the reservoir's operating criteria, manage appropriate and compatible land uses that benefit the project.	<p>There is a problem with cattle getting through the fence/gate at the south beach. It is difficult getting a quick response from the owner to get them out after they have gotten in.</p> <p>When cows get inside the fences at the north beach (outside the Primary Jurisdiction Zone) from sand build up etc, response time to get the cattle out occurs within hours or at least within the same day.</p>	<i>Action Continuing</i>	Adjacent Land Owners
Clarify and resolve ownership and property boundaries.	Determine property boundaries associated with the potential natural area mentioned under Natural/Cultural resources above.	<i>Action Needed</i>	USBR

RED FLEET MANAGEMENT AGREEMENTS & CONTRACTS

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT, Contract Number 0-LM-40-00020, Between the Bureau of Reclamation and Utah State Parks and Recreation for Management of Recreation Facilities at Red Fleet Reservoir.

REPAYMENT CONTRACT between the United States and the Uintah Water Conservancy District. Dated June 3, 1976. Contract Number 6-05-01-00143

AMENDATORY CONTRACT between Uintah Water Conservancy District and the United States to include RRA. Dated November 1, 1985. Contract Number 6-05-01-00143

AMENDATORY CONTRACT between the United States and Uintah Water Conservancy District to modify M&l obligation. Dated December 30, 1992. Contract Number 6-05-01-00143.

CONCESSION AGREEMENTS

None

LICENSES, LEASES, and PERMITS

LICENSE AGREEMENT to Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Company (Mountain Bell) Contract Number 4-07-41-L0420. Dated 9/17/84.

RELOCATION CONTRACT, Contract Number 6-07-01-00122, Relocation of a County Road, Bureau of Reclamation and Uintah County, Utah

RED FLEET RECREATION FACILITIES WITH THEORETICAL CAPACITY

AREA	SITES	RESTROOM	PARKING	PAOT
Campground	37 w/shelters 2 ADA w/ shelters	2 flush w/ 1 ADA	37 RV or tent	296
Day Use Area	17 w/ shelters	2 flush w/elec 1 ADA	20 single vehicle	136
Boat Ramp and Dock	30' wide concrete	1 flush w/elec	35 trailers	280
Trailer Dump Station	1	N/A	N/A	N/A
1 Residence	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
1 Workshop	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A