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Wyoming Water Development Commission

1980 ANNUAL REPORT

By

Wyoming Water Development Commission

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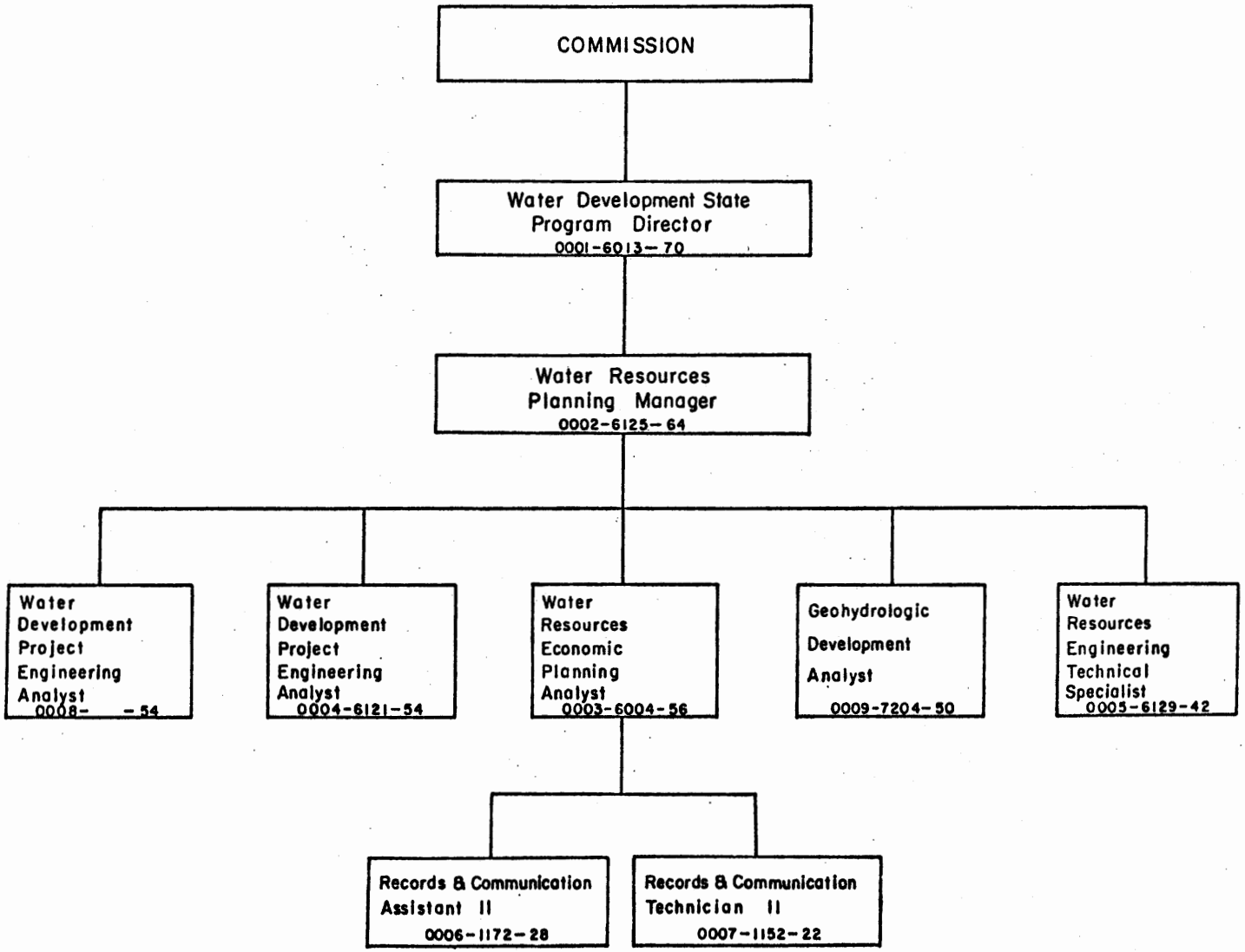
WYOMING WATER DEVELOPMENT

COMMISSION MEMBERS

		Term
Robert H. Johnson Chairman	Water Division IV	May 24, 1981
Nelson E. Wren, Jr. Vice Chairman	Water Division I	May 24, 1983
Lewis Freudenthal Secretary	Water Division III	May 24, 1981
J. Kenneth Kennedy	Water Division I	May 24, 1981
William J. Kirven, Jr.	Water Division II	May 24, 1981
Walter J. Pilch	Water Division II	May 24, 1983
Willard C. Rhoads	Water Division III	May 24, 1983
James Noble	Water Division IV	May 24, 1983
Elmer N. Johnston	At-Large Member	May 24, 1981


COMMISSION
Water Development State Program Director
0001-6013-70
Water Resources Planning Manager
0002-6125-64
Water Development Project Engineering Analyst
0008- -54
Water Development Project Engineering Analyst
0004-6121-54
Water Resources Economic Planning Analyst
0003-6004-56
Geohydrologic Development Analyst
0009-7204-50
Water Resources Engineering Technical Specialist
0005-6129-42
Records & Communication Assistant II
0006-1172-28
Records & Communication Technician II
0007-1152-22

INTRODUCTION

The Wyoming Water Development Commission (WWDC) was created in 1979 by that session of the Wyoming legislature with the dual purpose of accomplishing "water and related land resources planning" and identifying and selecting projects "to be studied for their feasibility and the desirability of their inclusion in the Wyoming water development program." W. S. 41-1-106 and 41-2-114(a).

The WWDC was established effective May 25, 1979, however, the Commission did not function as an agency until the beginning of the fiscal year, July 1, 1979, when the initial budget was started.

Since the establishment of the Wyoming Water Development Commission as an agency it has been primarily involved with the study of the Little Snake River Water Management Project, including Stages II and III and in-basin needs of the Little Snake River drainage area.

The Wyoming Water Development Commission resulted from the legislative reorganization of the State Water and Related Land Resources Planning, the Wyoming Water Development Program, and the Governor's Interdepartmental Water Conference. The 1979 session of the legislature removed the water and related land resources planning authorities and responsibilities from the State Engineer's Office and placed those authorities and responsibilities with the Wyoming Water Development Commission. The 1979 session of the legislature also removed the water planning and development authorities and responsibilities from the Governor's Interdepartmental Water Conference and placed those authorities and responsibilities with the Wyoming Water Development Commission.

The Wyoming Water Development Commission is a nine-member commission whose members are appointed by the Governor, after consultation with the State's four water division superintendents, and are approved by the Senate. The Commission members serve staggered four-year terms and can be reappointed. The Commission is legislatively authorized a staff of nine full-time employees.

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

WYOMING WATER DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Objectives

The objectives of the Wyoming Water Development Commission are specifically outlined in W.S. 41-1-106 thru 41-1-108 and W.S. 41-2-107 thru 41-2-116. See Appendix A for selected references from the statutes.

The functions of the Wyoming Water Development Commission are divided into two areas: water and related land resources planning and the Wyoming water development program. The accomplishments of the agency will be presented for these two categories.

Accomplishments

Water and Related Land Resources Planning

Accomplishments under water and related land resources planning have been slight since the formation of the agency for reasons that are explained in more detail under the section on the Wyoming water development program. Major water and related land resources planning functions accomplished by the Commission were to disseminate water related information to agencies, public organizations and individuals. This dissemination of information was through distribution of the Wyoming Framework Water Plan and other reports and studies conducted by the Wyoming Water Planning Program of the State Engineer's Office. No major water and related land resources planning activities have been undertaken by the Water Development Commission during the reporting period.

Wyoming Water Development Program

The great majority of the functions and accomplishments of WWDC have been in connection with studying projects for inclusion in the Wyoming water development program. The foremost function in this area has been to respond to legislated directives on feasibility studies of specific projects.

Specific projects that the Commission has dealt with during FY-80 are: Cheyenne Stage II Project, the Little Snake River Water Management Project, Fremont Lake Dam Rehabilitation Project, and Park Reservoir Project. The accomplishments of the Commission will be described for each of the projects listed above.

Cheyenne Stage II Project

The Stage II Project is an expansion of the existing Stage I transbasin diversion project. The project can be divided into the west slope and associated facilities and Rob Roy Reservoir enlargement and facilities east.

The west slope facilities start with diversion structures on Little Snake tributaries northwest and south of the Stage I collection area. The

diversion structures will be small concrete dams with an inlet into the expanded pipeline system. The collection system is designed to capture only the high spring runoff. The new pipeline system will transport the water to the west end of the tunnel under the Continental Divide.

The tunnel was constructed sufficiently large during the initial construction to allow Stage II diversion water as well as Stage I water to pass through without enlargement.

After passing through the tunnel the water will be returned to a pipeline that will carry it down the mountainside into an enlarged Hog Park Reservoir. This pipeline is to eliminate the erosion that would be caused by an uncontrolled release into Hog Park Reservoir.

Hog Park Reservoir will be enlarged from its present capacity of 2,970 acre-feet to about 28,000 acre-feet. This enlargement will entail raising the dam about 60 feet and constructing two dikes across saddles to the south of the present reservoir. Hog Park Reservoir will be used to manage the imported Little Snake River water and to store the excess water for use in future years by Cheyenne or for use by other North Platte drainage users.

In addition to the system discussed so far there is an optional pipeline from Hog Park Reservoir to the Encampment River. This pipeline will deliver the water into the Encampment River and bypass Hog Park Creek to eliminate channel erosion.

The increased water supply to be replaced by the Little Snake water and subsequently delivered to Cheyenne will be developed through the enlargement of Rob Roy Reservoir and construction of a new pipeline delivery system.

Rob Roy Reservoir will be enlarged from its present capacity of 8,895 acre-feet to about 35,000 acre-feet. This will be accomplished by raising the existing dam by about 50 feet. The enlarged reservoir will provide an increased annual water yield and carry over storage for future periods.

The present pipeline from the Douglas Creek diversion to Lake Owen does not have sufficient capacity to carry the increased volume of water. Therefore, a parallel pipeline will be built to Lake Owen. This pipeline will include interceptors on some small streams that are crossed. These interceptors will divert additional water into the pipeline and increase the yield from the Douglas Creek drainage.

Lake Owen, a small reservoir, will not be changed. Its purpose is to smooth out flows and to reduce pressure in the pipeline system.

The pipeline from Lake Owen to Middle Crow Creek does not have sufficient capacity to carry the increased flows that will be generated so a parallel pipeline will be built.

The enlarged portion of the system could yield an additional 19,000 to 20,000 acre-feet of water annually.

Chapter 126 of the 1979 Session Laws of Wyoming authorized the Cheyenne

Stage II Project and instructed WWDC to conduct a feasibility study in accordance with W.S. 41-2-112 through 41-2-115 and submit the findings of that study to the 1980 Session of the Legislature. During the month of July, 1979, the project was initiated by WWDC. The staff of WWDC, consisting of only three full-time employees and one half-time employee, initiated, upon direction of the Commission, the work required by Chapter 126 of the Session Laws of 1979. Due to the small staff, and the size of the project, the Commission contracted a large portion of the study out to the Water Resources Research Institute of the University of Wyoming (WRRI).

WRRI conducted studies on the hydrology of the Little Snake River drainage with major emphasis on the Stage II collection area of the Douglas Creek drainage, analysis of Cheyenne's municipal water demand, analysis of the population in the eight-county area of Southeastern Wyoming specified in Chapter 126 of the Session Laws of Wyoming 1978 and projecting of future population in this area. WRRI was also asked to conduct an analysis of Banner Associates' published cost of construction of Stage II and also anallysis of the cost of alternative sources of water. WRRI subcontracted this portion of the study out to Wright Water Engineers of Cheyenne. The analysis that WRRI contracted to perform was initiated in August, 1979 and completed in early November, 1979. Subsequent to receiving the report from WRRI entitled "Cheyenne Water Project Feasibility Study" public hearings were called for December 11 in Saratoga and for December 12 in Baggs, Wyoming. Copies of this report were put on deposit in public offices for review by individuals prior to the hearings. Citizen input received at the hearings held in Saratoga and Baggs were used to formulate the final recommended plan of the Water Development Commission. This plan was made available to the public in draft form and a second round of hearings required by W.S. 41-2-115 was held January 29, 1980, in Cheyenne and January 30, 1980, in Rawlins. After consideration of the testimony received at these hearings the Commission drafted its final recommendations. These recommendations were printed and presented to the Legislature February 12, 1980, along with draft legislation. Conducting the study of the Cheyenne Stage II project and preparing reports for that project totally employed the staff of the Wyoming Water Development Commission from May 25, 1979 through January, 1980. The contracted cost of the study done by WRRI was $51,651.51.

The proposed Stage II Project was partially authorized by the 1980 Wyoming legislative session. The 1980 legislature authorized the Little Snake River expanded collection system, Hog Park Reservoir enlargement, Hog Park Reservoir tc Encampment River pipeline and Rob Roy Reservoir enlargement. The delivery system to Cheyenne is yet to be authorized.

The Cheyenne water project is a very large and complex system requiring most facets of water development. The size and complexity result in numerous water right related problems plus others.

Little Snake River Water Management Project

Chapter 126 of the Session Laws of 1979 directed the Wyoming Water Development Commission to study Stage III of the Cheyenne Water Project and the in-basin needs of the Little Snake River drainage. This study was much larger in scope than the study of the Cheyenne Stage II project, there-

fore, requests for proposals were sent out to consulting engineering firms by DAFC Purchasing for the Water Development Commission. These proposals were opened March 6, 1980, however, during the 1980 Session of the Legislature, legislation was passed authorizing funding for the Cheyenne Stage II project. Associated with this funding authorization was the authorization and funding of a study of Stage III of the Cheyenne project and the Little Snake River in-basin needs. Due to slight legislative changes in the emphasis of the Stage III and in-basin needs feasibility study authorized and funded during the 1980 Legislative Session from the original study authorized by the 1979 Session, modified proposals were requested from each of the firms proposing tc do the study.

After receiving the revised proposals, four firms were interviewed by the Water Development Commission and Banner Associates of Laramie was ultimately selected and contracted with to do the Little Snake River Water Management Study. The 1980 Session of the Legislature directed the Water Development Commission to report its findings on Stage III of the Cheyenne Water Project and in-basin needs for the Little Snake River Basin to the 1981 Session of the Legislature. To accomplish this a completion date for Banner Associates analysis was set at 1 November, 1980. During the last quarter of FY 1980 Banner Associates initiated analysis on the hydrology of the Little Snake River drainage. The contract cost of this study will be about $223,900.00 The final findings and recommendations of the Water Development Commission will be presented to the 1981 Session of the Legislature.

Fremont Lake Dam Modification

The Fremont Lake Dam Modification project was accepted for feasibility analysis by the Interdepartmental Water Conference and was transferred to the Water Development Commission as provided in Section 3 of Chapter 59, Session Laws of Wyoming 1979.

Fremont Lake Dam is a four foot high structure on Fremont Lake. This dam was constructed in the early 1900's and is the water supply for the City of Pinedale as well as numerous irrigators in the Pinedale area. In 1978 the City of Pinedale and the Highland Irrigation District applied to the State Engineer's Office for a permit to enlarge the Fremont Lake Dam and also applied tc the Interdepartmental Water Conference for analysis of the project as a State project under the Wyoming water development program. The Interdepartmental Water Conference accepted the project for feasibility analysis and according to the legislation passed by the 1979 Session of the Legislature, this project was taken over by the Wyoming Water Development Commission. The project as now visualized would be to reconstruct a dam on Fremont Lake that is 5 feet high and would have operating steel gates, thereby allowing passage of the high spring runoff flows through the dam rather than over it as is the case with the present dam.

The Wyoming Water Development Commission contracted with Rio Verde Engineering of Pinedale to do an analysis of the feasibility of reconstructing the Fremont Lake Dam. Their findings will be presented to the Commission in FY 1981. The Wyoming Water Development Commission plans to take this project to the 1981 Session of the Legislature. The contracted cost of

the study of the Fremont Lake Dam modification is $25,480.00

Park Reservoir Project

During FY 1980 the Wyoming Water Development Commission developed a project application procedure for all project consideration. The procedure was adopted at the January, 1980 meeting of the Commission. The procedure is presented in Appendix B.

Park Reservoir was the first project accepted by the Commission using the new application procedure. Park Reservoir is a storage facility on East Goose Creek located on the Sheridan-Johnson County line in the Bighorn Mountains.

The existing storage facility is owned by Park Reservoir Company. The dam on Park Reservoir was declared unsafe by the State Engineer's Office and no storage was allowed during the water year of 1980 and the gates were required to be left open. The reservoir has also been declared unsafe by the Army Corps of Engineers in their dam safety evaluation program.

After the project was accepted for feasibility analysis by the Wyoming Water Development Commission, the Commission requested proposals from consulting engineers to conduct the feasibility analysis of rebuilding Park Reservoir and adding 5 additional feet of storage on the existing reservoir. Woodward-Clyde was hired to conduct the feasibility analysis. Required feasibility analysis will be conducted during FY 1981. The contracted cost of the study of the reconstruction of Park Reservoir is approximately $120,00.00.

Problem Areas

1. Staffing - The Water Development Commission operated through the first half of 1980 with only a very small staff, however, during the last half of FY 1980, an Administrator for the Commission, a Water Resources Engineer, and a Water Resources Economist were hired. Michael H. Reese was hired as Administrator for the Commission on March 7, 1980. At the close of FY 1980 two positions still remained vacant, a position for a Water Resources Engineer and for a Geohydrologist. (These positions were filled during the first quarter of FY 1981).

2. General Adjudication Suit, Water Division III - The general adjudicated suit in Division III has resulted in personnel commitments that the Water Development Commission was not staffed to handle.

In conducting the Wyoming Framework Water Plan aerial photography was used to map actual irrigation. These irrigated lands mapping efforts were conducted by the Water Planning Program of the State Engineer's Office. This function, along with the only remaining expertise was transferred to the Wyoming Water Development Commission, therefore, requests for information regarding actual irrigated acres from both sides of the suit have had to be filled through the Water Development Commission Office. The Water Development staff has also been called upon to testify in some of the hearings regarding this adjudication. The major problem has been committing portions

of the very meager staff to an adjudication proceeding that is not a primary responsibility of the Wyoming Water Development Commission.

3. Legislatively Directed Feasibility Studies - The past two sessions of the Wyoming Legislature have authorized projects and assigned feasibility studies to the Wyoming Water Development Commission. These studies were assigned with very short completion time frames. In most cases, the completion of the feasibility study was due by the next session of the legislature. This completion schedule is unrealistic if consulting firms are to be utilized and with the present staff authorization there is no recourse. Requests for proposals to do the studies cannot be sent out until after the session is over, usually in the first part of March. The Department of Administration and Fiscal Control requires that the request for proposals be advertised for three weeks prior to opening of the proposals. This results in approximately a one month delay after the end of the session before proposals can be received. Actual selection and interviewing of the prospective consultants would require another two to three weeks, therefore, the actual study effort on a feasibility study cannot start until the last portion of April or the first of May. If the study is due to the next session of the legislature, the study will have to be completed by the consultant no later than the first to the middle of November to allow time to prepare the final summary reports, recommendations, and legislation to go to the legislature and to conduct the hearings that are required by W.S. 41-2-115.

It is proper for the legislature to send projects to the Water Development Commission for feasibility analysis, however, the short time frames that have been set on these studies have caused problems. The Water Development Commission has approved an application procedure for individuals or groups to apply for a feasibility study of a project. If the Water Development Commission has accepted a project from a community or a local interest group for feasibility analysis, and the Legislature assigns a project to the Water Development Commission with an extremely short due date, the people who have applied through the established procedure are pushed to the back so that the agency may respond to the wishes of the Legislature. This causes hard feelings on the part of project proponents and puts the Wyoming Water Development Commission in a difficult position. The reasonable solution to this situation is that the Legislature should assign projects to the Wyoming Water Development Commission with sufficient time to conduct the studies. Sufficient time in most cases is no less than 18 months.

4. Water and Related Land Resources Planning - To date, the Wyoming Water Development Commission has had insufficient staff and time to conduct the type of water and related land resources planning that is contemplated in the statutes. With the Wyoming Water Development Commission at full staff and with most of the feasibility analysis contracted out to consulting firms and supervised by the staff, the Water Development Commission will only be able to conduct a bare bones water planning program. Any special studies or in-depth studies of specific areas will require additional funding as well as additional personnel to be adequately handled.

APPENDIX A
Wyoming Statutes - WWDC

41-1-106. Water and related land resources planning; commission's responsibility.

(a) The commission is responsible for the coordination of Wyoming's water and related land resources planning and with the approval of the governor is authorized to enter into contracts and agreements with the United States of America or its duly authorized representative agency for planning pertaining to the utilization of Wyoming's water and related land resources.

41-2-107. Water resources plan; review, submission to commission. The commission shall formulate and from time to time review and revise water and related land resources plans for the state of Wyoming and for appropriate regions and river basins. The plans shall implement the policies stated in the Wyoming constitution and in statutes pertaining to the state's water and related land resources.

41-2-108. Consultation; hearings, studies and plan coordination.

(a) In the formulation of these plans the commission may:

(ii) Consult with and receive the views of persons, local groups and organizations representing water users, special interests, industries and the public interest, and acquire data and information relating to water, water use, water conservation, and water quality from government agencies, departments, and other sources;

(iii) Coordinate the water resources plans with other government agencies and departments;

(iv) Undertake studies, investigations, surveys and research relevant to the formulation of the water resources plans and enter into contracts and arrangements for the same with any government agency, department, or any person, firm, university, institution, or state or national organization;

(v) Adopt, in whole or in part, studies and reports made by other governmental agencies, state or federal; and

(vi) Perform other related activities or functions as are relevant and appropriate to the formulation of water resources plans.

41-2-109. Content of plans; identification; evaluation.

(a) The water resources plans shall, to the extent deemed practical:

(i) Identify, describe and inventory the occurrence, amounts, availability and quality of water resources, current uses of water, activities that affect the quality of water, and activities that are dependent on, affected by, or relate to water and uses of water;

(ii) Identify and describe prospective needs and demands for water and opportunities for water development, control, withdrawal, storage, conservation, supply, distribution, drainage and disposal;

(iii) Identify and specify for each plan appropriate state, regional and local goals and objectives for management of water resources, including the obtaining of economic efficiency and a desirable distribution of income, the protection of the health, safety and welfare of the people, the protection and encouragement of particular industries and activities, the protection and enhancement of the environment and recreation; and

(iv) Evaluate and compare prospective and anticipated uses and projects, including combinations and coordinations thereof, uses of alternative sources of water and alternative uses of water, in terms of goals identified pursuant to paragraph (iii) of this subsection.

41-2-110. Use of plans; publication; recommendation and employment of plans.

(a) The commission shall:

(i) Publish the water resources plans as they are formulated and adopted and disseminate them to people, industries and government departments and agencies;

(ii) Give advice and assistance if requested to government departments and agencies, furnish to them the appropriate plans, and make available related subsidiary and additional data and information, or data and information related to plans in the process of preparation;

(iii) Recommend action or legislation needed to implement and carry out the plans.

41-2-112. Wyoming water development program. The Wyoming water development program is established to foster, promote and encourage the optimal development of the state's human, industrial, mineral, agricultural, water and recreational resources. The program shall provide through the commission, procedures and policies for the planning, selection, financing, construction, acquisition and operation of projects and facilities for the conservation, storage, distribution and use of water, necessary in the public interest to develop and preserve Wyoming's water and related land resources. The program shall encourage development of water facilities for irrigation, for reduction of flood damage, for abatement of pollution, for preservation and development of fish and wildlife resources, for protection and improvement of public lands and shall help make available the waters of this state for all beneficial uses, including but not limited to municipal, domestic, agricultural, industrial, hydroelectric power and recreational purposes, conservation of land resources and protection of the health, safety and general welfare of the people of the state of Wyoming.

41-2-114. Feasibility studies

(a) The commission shall, on the basis of the state water plan and

after consultation with and advice from state agencies and officials, other appropriate agencies and officials and members of the public, identify and select projects to be studied for their feasibility and the desirability of their inclusion in the Wyoming water development program.

(b) The commission shall provide a feasibility study of each project selected. State agencies are authorized and directed to cooperate fully with the commission in the preparation of the studies. In the execution of these feasibility studies, the commission shall:

(i) Receive and acquire data relating to water, water use and water quality from any source as it relates to the project;

(iii) Hold public hearings within the basin of origin water division where the proposed project will be wholly or partly constructed, consult with and receive the views of private persons, local groups, associations and organizations representing water users, industries and the public interest;

(iv) Coordinate the feasibility studies with the plans of other government agencies and departments;

(v) Undertake studies, investigations, surveys and research relevant to the completion of the study and enter into contracts and arrangements for its completion with any government agency, department or any person, firm, university, institution or state or national organization; and

(vi) Undertake studies, investigations, surveys and research relevant to outright purchase by the state of Wyoming of water interests from the federal government;

(vii) Perform any other related activities or functions relevant and appropriate to the completion of the feasibility study.

(c) The feasibility study shall:

(i) Identify, describe and inventory the occurrence, amounts, availability and quality of water resources, current uses of water, activities that affect the quality of water and activities that are dependent on, affected by or relate to water and uses of water;

(ii) Identify and describe prospective needs and demands for water and opportunities for water development, control, withdrawal, storage, supply, distribution, drainage, minimum flows, disposal and conservation;

(iii) Identify and specify appropriate state, regional and local goals and objectives for management of water resources, including the obtaining of economic efficiency, a desirable distribution of income, the protection of the health, safety and welfare of the people and the protection and encouragement of particular industries and activities including the protection and enhancement of the environment; and

(iv) Evaluate and compare prospective and anticipated uses and projects in terms of goals identified pursuant to paragraph (iii) of this subsection.

41-2-115. Report; authorization; assignment.

(a) The commission shall after giving public notice hold a public hearing within the affected water division. Any interested person, association or state, or federal agency may appear and participate as a party. Following the hearing the commission shall make public a report of their findings relative to whether the project is in the public interest, stipulating if the proposed project functions and services can be served by any person, association or corporation engaged in private enterprise, or if private enterprise has refused to provide the functions and services identified as being required by the proposed project. The commission shall then proceed as set forth in subsections (b) and (c) of this section. Nothing in this section shall be construed to interfere with the duties of the state engineer or the state board of control.

(b) The commission shall within ninety (90) days following the public hearings transmit its findings and recommendations to the legislature together with draft legislation authorizing the department of economic planning and development to proceed with the design and construction of the project. The draft shall provide for financing of the project by the issuance of revenue bonds payable out of income and revenues of any kind from the project, by appropriation of funds from the state treasury as matching funds or for costs or allocation of costs of features, facilities, functions or portions of a project for which reimbursement from water users is inappropriate or impossible, by use of revolving funds available for the purpose, by use of the Wyoming water development account or other specified method of payment.

(c) If the commission finds that a project is desirable and in the public interest, and that some other governmental agency, public district or private corporation or association is desirous and capable of constructing, operating and maintaining the project and accomplishing the public interest to be served thereby, the commission with the approval of the governor and the legislature, shall transfer or assign the project and any property or rights connected therewith to the agency, district, corporation or association upon agreed terms for reimbursement of the expense of the feasibility study, payment for property and assurances of construction, operation and maintenance.

APPENDIX B
Water Project Application Procedure
of
Wyoming Water Development Commission

It is the policy of the Water Development Commission to give consideration to all water development projects that are submitted to the Commission. To ensure uniform treatment of all new water projects, the Commission has adopted the following nine-step procedure. All new water development projects must follow this procedure.

Step No. 1 Sponsors of a particular project will write to the Administrator of Wyoming Water Development Commission, 4th Floor, Barrett Building, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002, stating:

(a) A description of the location and the nature of the project.
(b) A listing of the sponsors and owners of project.
(c) A listing of the probable supporters.
(d) Is there a legal entity sponsoring the project such as an irrigation district, conservancy district, non-profit corporation, city, etc.
(e) A listing of the probable opponents.(*)
(f) A listing of the benefits and need.
(g) A listing of the detriments, problems, and objections.(*)
(h) A listing of previous studies and attempts to develop the project.

(*) Willful failure to make full disclosure could prejudice the project.

Step No. 2 The Commission Administrator examines the letter, the Commission files and contacts the Commission Advisors for further information on the merits and demerits of the proposal and sends the information to Commission members representing the Water Division in which the proposal is located and also sends information to the other members.

Step No. 3 The two Commission members examine the material. If either of them finds a personal conflict of interest that member calls first the member-at-large as a replacement for the particular proposal and then to the Chairman of the Commission. The two Commission members will then call the Division Water Superintendent and the sponsors and arrange for an on-site inspection and a meeting to prepare a plan to overcome the obstacles. The two Commission members shall decide at that time, by lot or otherwise, which one of the two shall assume the primary responsibility to keep the project on track and on time. The member assuming primary responsibility shall contact probable opponents and arrange for agenda time with the full Commission. Both members will file reports with the Administrator of the Commission, with a recommendation that the proposal be placed in an inactive file or be vigorously pursued. Any member of the Commission may elect to participate in this step and also file a report.

Step No. 4 Agenda time will be provided for project sponsors. A decision by the full Commission to place the project in an inactive status or pursue further will be made. If placed in inactive status no further action will be taken. A project may be reconsidered at any time.

Step No. 5 If the Commission decides to pursue the project, Legislators of the Water Division, together with the public, will be invited to participate in an informal discussion of the project in an open public meeting in the affected water division to discuss the decision of the Commission.

Step No. 6 The Wyoming Water Development Commission authorizes the preparation of a feasibility report and the preparation of a financing plan as prescribed in W.S. 41-2-112 through 41-2-116.

Step No. 7 The Commission holds formal public hearings in the affected water division as prescribed in W.S. 41-2-114 and W.S. 41-2-115.

Step No. 8 The Commission makes a final determination on the project.

Step No. 9 The sponsors assume responsibility for gaining legislative enactment of the proposal with support from the Wyoming Water Development Commission.