

District Manager's Report – June 1, 2023

A. Trinidad Reservoir and PRWCD Operations Report

- The total content of Trinidad Reservoir on May 30th was 21,963 acre-feet. A net decrease of 824 acre-feet from the end of the previous month. This net decrease is due to Irrigation Season storage releases, principally from the Model Account.
- The Project Account currently contains 3,878 acre-feet. A decrease during the preceding month of 366 acre-feet.
- The Model Account currently contains 1,572 acre-feet. An increase of during the preceding month of 1,068 acre-feet.
- The Joint Use Pool currently contains 3,350 acre-feet 2,833 acre-feet. A net increase of 517 acre-feet, which increase is principally due to City of Trinidad's storage of its change John Flood Ditch and Model Canal changed water rights.
- The Permanent Fishery Pool currently contains 13,164 acre-feet.
- May precipitation in Trinidad was 1.50 inches. Average April precipitation is 1.48 inches.
- Purgatoire River flows for the month of May averaged 143 cfs at the PURMADCO stream gage. The last 12 days flows have exceeded 200 cfs with the instantaneous peak being 262 cfs on May 22nd. River flows appear to be beginning a recessionary trend.
- The District remains in Project Administration. All District ditches have received at least some direct flow river waters this month.
- Approximately 25-30 cfs is currently being bypassed through the District to meet the downstream Highland Canal's first two water rights totaling 24 cfs.

- Hoehne Ditch diversions through May total 1,735 acre-feet. The District's remaining obligation to the Hoehne Ditch is 3,237 acre-feet. The Hoehne Ditch's storage account currently contains 3,470 acre feet.
- The 500 acre-feet of fully consumable water the District leased from the City of Trinidad was transferred into the individual District ditch accounts on April 27th and is shown in the provided leased water accounting.

B. City of Trinidad - Case No 21CW3083 Consideration

The District staff and attorney have continued discussions with the City of Trinidad regarding the city's proposed right of exchange from its existing WWTP back upstream to Trinidad Reservoir.

The board was provided with a copy of a draft of a proposed decree which is acceptable to District staff and legal counsel. The city has not yet confirmed its acceptance of this draft.

After discussion the board approved this proposed ruling with authority for staff and legal counsel to make minor changes as may be appropriate.

C. General Items

A Consultation Report was provided to the District from the Division Engineer's Office. This report questioned the ability of the District to perfect the remaining conditional portion of the Joint Use Pool water storage right. The court ordered a response by the District to the court to this consultation report by June 30th. District staff and legal counsel will provide a response.

The District forwarded is required Anticipated Acreage Report to the State of Kansas and the Bureau of Reclamation on May 29th. This report is required of the District under the Operating Principles and is due by June 1st of each year. An estimated 12,900 acres are anticipated to be irrigated (including dry up lands) this Irrigation Season.

The Division Engineer's Office has not provided approval of the District's proposed Irrigation Improvement Rules Plan for 2023 yet. This plan was submitted by the District on March 29th.

The District received a notice to proceed from the Colorado Water Conservation Board for its share of the funds to purchase and install new automatic headgates for the John Flood and Picketwire Ditches. The only remaining needed funds are from the Bureau of Reclamation. Approval of these needed funds is anticipated shortly.

Cathy Garcia of Representative Boebert's office informs us that the District proposed legislation regarding O&M costs is drafted and under legislative counsel review to be formally drafted for final text.