

**WWDC River Basin Planning:
Powder/Tongue Basin Advisory Group
Issues Identification Document**

October 2001

In cooperation with:

Wyoming Water Development Commission
Wyoming State Engineer's Office
Water Resources Data System

FUNDING

<i>Sub-Issues</i>	<i>Little Bighorn</i>	<i>Upper Tongue</i>	<i>Lower Tongue</i>	<i>Upper Powder</i>	<i>Lower Powder</i>	<i>Little Powder</i>
Trout Unlimited	1	1	3	1	3	3
Rehabilitation of Existing Conveyance systems (old ditches)	6	2	2	1	2	2
Cost/Benefit Analysis	5	4	2	2	3	3

PUBLIC EDUCATION

<i>Sub-Issues</i>	<i>Little Bighorn</i>	<i>Upper Tongue</i>	<i>Lower Tongue</i>	<i>Upper Powder</i>	<i>Lower Powder</i>	<i>Little Powder</i>
Walls of Water (CBM Discharge)	4	4	1	4	1	1
Value of Economic Cost of Water	1	1	1	1	1	1
Conservation	1	1	1	1	1	1
Understanding Clean Water Act/Plans to meet requirements (CWA)	2	2	1	2	1	1
Schools *	--	--	--	--	--	--
College *	--	--	--	--	--	--
Meeting *	--	--	--	--	--	--
COE Permitting (wetland concerns)	1	1	1	1	1	1
Economic benefits of CBM Water	4	4	2	4	2	2
Radio/TV *	--	--	--	--	--	--
Coal Seam Depressurization	4	4	2	4	2	2
Regulatory Agency Statute Development - Public regulatory contribution	3	3	3	3	3	3
CBM Fairs *	--	--	--	--	--	--
Permitting dam construction	3	3	2	3	2	2
Recreation	2	2	2	2	2	2
Funding	4	4	4	4	4	4
Forums *	--	--	--	--	--	--

* Methods & Education

REGULATORY

<i>Sub-Issues</i>	<i>Little Bighorn</i>	<i>Upper Tongue</i>	<i>Lower Tongue</i>	<i>Upper Powder</i>	<i>Lower Powder</i>	<i>Little Powder</i>
Wetlands	4	2	2	2	3	3
EPA trying to take over State's primacy	3	3	3	3	3	3
Issues for new dam permitting	1	1	2	1	4	3
Instream flow requirement	2	1	3	1	3	3
Source water protection	2	2	2	2	4	4
Emotional Paranoia	1	1	2	1	3	3
Wellhead protection	2	2	2	2	2	2
Clean water act	2	2	2	2	3	3
Permitted vs. Non-permitted flow diversion	1	1	1	1	1	1
EPA-DEQ State-County-Fed-Other	1	1	1	1	1	1
State & federal laws affecting use and development	2	2	2	2	2	2
Endangered Species Act	2	2	2	2	2	2
Plan, plan, plan	1	1	1	1	1	1
NEPA	2	2	2	2	2	2
Safety of dams	x	1	3	1	3	4
Corps - G&F, USF & Wildlife - BIA - Tribes	1	1	1	3	3	3

WATER DEVELOPMENT

<i>Sub-Issues</i>	<i>Little Bighorn</i>	<i>Upper Tongue</i>	<i>Lower Tongue</i>	<i>Upper Powder</i>	<i>Lower Powder</i>	<i>Little Powder</i>
Water Laws	1	1	1	1	1	1
Agriculture	3	1	1	1	4	2
Municipal	1	1	4	2	5	4
Highest and best use priorities	1	1	3	2	4	4
Fish loss due to diversion ditches	3	2	4	2	4	5
Minimum flows and flushing flows below dams (present ones and future development)	1	1	3	1	4	5
Improved irrigation effectiveness	5	2	2	1	4	2
Extreme difficulty in getting dams permitted	1	1	3	1	2	4
Rehab. of existing conveyance systems (old ditches)	5	2	3	1	3	2
Pipeline distribution stock water systems	5	4	2	4	1	1
Help for ditch organizations	5	2	3	2	4	2
NEPA process – Public input	1	1	1	1	1	4
New technologies - New uses	1	1	2	1	2	3
Plan, plan, plan	1	1	1	1	1	1
Aquifer Storage Retrieval Programs	3	3	1	1	1	1
Funding for water development opportunities	1	1	1	1	1	1
Pre-compact projects	6	2	2	1	2	2

WATER QUALITY

<i>Sub-Issues</i>	<i>Little Bighorn</i>	<i>Upper Tongue</i>	<i>Lower Tongue</i>	<i>Upper Powder</i>	<i>Lower Powder</i>	<i>Little Powder</i>
Storm water discharge	3	3	1	2	1	1
Aquifer co-mingling/aquifer classification	2	2	1	2	1	1
CBM Discharge	3	3	1	3	1	1
Stream classification DEQ & G & F	1	1	2	2	2	3
Baseline data collection Ground water & surface water	1	1	1	1	1	1
AFO - CAFO	1	1	1	1	1	1
NPDES Permitting	3	2	1	3	1	1
Erosion/sediment deposition	3	1	2	1	1	1
Land Use Impacts	1	2	2	2	2	2
Irrigation return flows	3	1	1	2	2	3
Herbicide/Pesticide use & runoff	3	2	2	2	2	3
BMP's Best Management Practices	1	1	1	1	1	1
Water temperature	3	1	2	3	3	3
Well classification	--	--	-	--	-	-
Irrigation Practices/SAR	1	1	1	1	1	1
Leach Fields Impact/Subsurface discharge	3	2	3	3	3	3
TMDL	3	1	1	2	1	3

WATER QUANTITY

<i>Sub-Issues</i>	<i>Little Bighorn</i>	<i>Upper Tongue</i>	<i>Lower Tongue</i>	<i>Upper Powder</i>	<i>Lower Powder</i>	<i>Little Powder</i>
Fish need water too/conservation pools & flows	1	1	1	1	1	1
Conveyance Losses	3	1	1	1	3	3
Drip Irrigation	3	2	2	3	3	3
Precipitation measurement	1	1	1	1	1	1
Inter basin transfers and flows	1	1	1	1	2	3
Recharge areas/defined recharges	1	1	1	1	1	1
Recharge area protection	1	1	1	1	1	1
contract reservoir rights: how they fit in/what is their future/how dependable	1	1	1	1	1	1
baseline data collection/ground water & surface water	1	1	1	1	1	1
Planning for water quantity/decreases following peak development (Resting the Resource)	1	2	1	2	1	2
Reservoir Project	1	1	1	1	1	1
Promoting opportunity for innovative non-invasive water management Best Management Practices	1	1	1	1	1	1
Re-injection to aquifers/Reinjection programs	3	3	1	3	1	1

WATER RIGHTS

<i>Sub-Issues</i>	<i>Little Bighorn</i>	<i>Upper Tongue</i>	<i>Lower Tongue</i>	<i>Upper Powder</i>	<i>Lower Powder</i>	<i>Little Powder</i>
Unused water rights	5	1	1	1	4	3
Cumulative impacts from CBM water discharge	5	5	1	5	1	1
Low flows impacting fish & aquatic environment	1	1	1	1	5	5
Trans basin & Tributary diversions	2	1	3	2	5	5
Federal takeover threats	1 (tribe)	5	5	3	3	4
Permitting process	2	2	2	2	2	2
Change of use/change of point of diversion issues	2	2	2	2	5	5
Compact issues	4	2	2	2	2	2
Preservation of existing rights prior to compacts	1 (tribe)	2	2	2	2	2
Prior appropriation doctrine	2	2	2	2	2	2
State water law	2	2	2	2	2	2
Abandoned water rights	4	3	3	3	4	4
Trans basin diversion	5	2	3	2	5	5
Ditch rights vs. Water rights	3	3	3	3	3	3
Permitted uses	3	2	2	2	4	2
Minimum pools in reservoirs for recreation/fish	5	2	4	2	5	5
Instream flows: fisheries, esthetics, recreation	1	2	2	2	4	4
Water reserves for future uses	2	1	2	1	2	2