

Kootenai County Commissioners

COURTHOUSE
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83814
Phone 664-8291

Eugene Ingalls
Chairman
Douglas Frymire
Elmer A. Currie

SEP 11 1976

MADE
BY

September 9, 1976

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10/13/76	9/16
4/20/76	9/23
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Mr. Rod J. Vissia, Regional Director
Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
Federal Building & U.S. Courthouse
Box 043
Boise, ID 83724

Dear Mr. Vissia:

The Kootenai County Board of Commissioners have no objection to inserting additional language in the operational plan setting out the facilities the County will operate and maintain which include the headworks and sump.

Water will continue to be released to Mr. Sylte until adjudication is completed and then conform to the adjudicated right.

The County will not assume operation of the facilities until the work on the outlet gates has been completed and the channel leading from the railroad tracks at Rathdrum to the sump is cleaned and the sump is modified by removing 300 feet of the concrete lining and dozing out the island between the existing concrete lining and the sump. This would make a sump area approximately 50 feet wide and 300 feet long.

Sincerely,

KOOTENAI COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Eugene W. Ingalls
Eugene W. Ingalls, Chairman

Elmer A. Currie
Elmer A. Currie, Commissioner

B. Douglas Frymire
B. Douglas Frymire, Commissioner

GENERAL OPERATION PLAN
AT
TWIN LAKES

East Greenacres Unit
Rathdrum Prairie Project, Idaho

Since a new water supply has been provided for the East Greenacres Unit and the Twin Lakes surface water will no longer be used to provide a water supply for the Unit, all releases from the reservoir will now be used to meet existing water rights. A ground-water sump has been constructed near the city of Rathdrum to absorb flows in excess of the maximum operating level of the reservoir. The facilities to be operated and maintained consist of Twin Lakes Dam, damsite, outlet works, sump, and all other facilities appurtenant thereto.

By agreement (1906) and by recent court decisions, the operational levels at Twin Lakes are restricted to a maximum of 10.4 feet and to a minimum of 6.4 feet. The 165-cfs maximum release downstream was chosen on the basis that it can be passed through the city of Rathdrum without flooding. (a "good" condition of the city)

The goals of the plan are to:

1. Fill the lakes to normal full level (10.4 feet) by June 1.
2. Hold the lakes as close as possible to the 10.4-foot level from June 1 to November 1.
3. Provide sufficient space in the lakes every year to control both winter and spring floods to a maximum downstream release of 165 cfs and to a maximum lake level of 10.4 feet.

The guides and rules of the plan were tested by applying them to the available inflow data for the past 55 years. The results, based on the assumption of no downstream minimum release requirements, are:

1. The lakes fill in virtually all the years except 1930 and 1973 when there was not enough inflow to fill under any plan of operation.
2. It is not possible to hold the 10.4-foot lake level through the summer in most years because seepage, evaporation, and pumping from Twin Lakes exceed the natural summer inflow to the lakes. The summer inflow, not the operation plan, determines how well the lake level holds up. In any event, the summer levels will be much better (higher and more stable) than in the past, when the East Greenacres Irrigation District drafted the lakes for irrigation purposes.
3. Neither the downstream release of 165 cfs or the lake level of 10.4 feet were exceeded in any of the years.

Rules and Guides for the Operation Plan

Based on current data, the following schedule of filling and operating Twin Lakes has been developed by the Bureau of Reclamation. Additional information regarding calculation of historical inflows, lake operation studies, and other pertinent data were incorporated into this plan and can be furnished to the County upon request. Technical assistance will also be provided if requested.

March 1 - June 1 (Filling Period) - Filling depends on the preceding winter precipitation and the snowpack accumulation on the watershed above the lakes. A decision as to when and how fast to fill can be made on March 1, using a simple precipitation index and a snowcover index. The precipitation index is the average of the November through February precipitation recorded at Spokane Airport Weather Station and that recorded at the Coeur d'Alene District Ranger Station. The snowcover index is the March 1 snow water content measured at the Soil Conservation Service's snow course "Lower Sands Creek," located about 12 miles east of Coeur d'Alene. The snow index is used only when the precipitation index is less than 10.50 inches.

The precipitation index (and the snow index in certain years) computed on March 1 indicates which Fill Curve to follow (refer to Exhibit A), based on the following:

<u>Precip. Index</u>	<u>Snow Index</u>	<u>Follow Fill Curve</u>
Exceeds 11.75"	Not used	No. 1
Between 10.50-11.75"	Not used	No. 2
Less than 10.50"	Greater than 17.5"	No. 3
Less than 10.50"	Less than 17.5"	Fill as soon as possible after March 1.

The Fill Curve procedures include the following:

<u>Fill Curve</u>	<u>Operation</u>
No. 1	Evacuate to 6.4 feet lake level, hold 6.4 feet until April 1 and then fill at a uniform rate between April 1 and June 1.
No. 2	Hold 8.0 feet during March, then fill at a uniform rate between April 1 and June 1.
No. 3	Fill at a uniform rate between March 1 and June 1.
Fill	Fill the lakes immediately. (See Notes 1 and 2 on Exhibit A for other special situations.)