

A meeting of the Bear River Compact Commission was held in the Governor's Board Room, August 6, 1952. The following Commissioners were present:

E.O. Larson, Federal Representative

Fred Cooper, Idaho

Joseph Tracy, Utah

L. C. Bishop, Wyoming

The Assistant Compact Commissioners, advisors and others in attendance are enumerated on the attached list.

Mr. LARSON discussed briefly the questions which have arisen in Compact negotiations, including

- (1) The necessity of a supervising engineer for administration of the Compact;
- (2) The allocation of divertable flow in the central division between Idaho and Wyoming on a 57-43 basis;
- (3) Storage above Bear Lake.

He stated that the matter of storage above Bear Lake appeared to be the most important in the negotiations and that he would call the roll of the states and ask the Chairman of each state group to indicate the position of his state with respect to upstream storage.

IDAHO

Mr. COOPER said that Idaho would agree to 25,000 acre feet of additional storage above Bear Lake in addition to the present storage of approximately 14,000 acre feet.

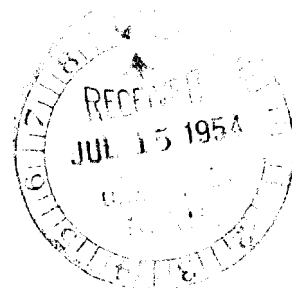
Mr. SMILEY suggested that the word "consumptive" appearing in Article V of the Compact be eliminated.

Mr. LAURIDSEN said that there should be 10,000 acre feet of storage at Thomas Fork.

Mr. MERRILL reserved the right to suggest the elimination of paragraph A of Article V.

UTAH

Mr. TRACY indicated that there is a difference of opinion among the Utah water users as to storage above Bear Lake but, nevertheless, he made a proposal of 36,000 acre feet of additional storage above Bear Lake which with the 14,000 acre feet of present storage would total 50,000 acre feet.



Mr. SMOOT said that he was inclined to go only as far as Idaho in permitting upstream storage.

Mr. WHELAN said that he would not like to go as far as Idaho, and that he thought the rights of the power users should be considered.

Mr. CAINE said that the whole economy of Northern Utah and Southeastern Idaho is based on the Bear River and that improvement of the river might save enough water to make up the quantity which is in dispute in the Compact negotiations.

WYOMING

Mr. PERSON said that there should be no restriction on upstream storage in years like 1952. He said that there ~~is~~ are approximately 63,000 acres in Wyoming which need one-half acre foot additional water, making a total of 31,000 acre feet of additional storage necessary for Wyoming.

Following the comments of the three states, the Chairman called on Mr. ALVORD of the Utah Power & Light Company to make a statement.

Mr. ALVORD said that the day before the meeting the officials of the Power Company had arrived at figures for upstream storage which they considered equitable, but that they could not proceed further without the acquiescence of the water users who have contracts with the Power Company. The answers from the water users were not satisfactory. He said that the water users proposed to stand on existing contracts and would not make any concession and that if the water users will not cooperate, the Power Company would not be able to make a concession as to upstream storage because it would not act alone and take the entire risk.

Mr. IORNS pointed out that upstream storage should not be based upon any arbitrary figure, but upon the requirements of the land and the availability of the water supply at the potential reservoir sites. His statement was followed with a general discussion of acreage needing additional irrigation and water supply.

The meeting was recessed until 1:30 P.M.

Following the noon recess, the roll of states was again called.

IDAHO

Mr. Cooper stated that there had been no change.

UTAH

Mr. Tracy moved that the figures, 36,000 acre feet of additional storage, be inserted in Article V, subject to agreement to be made between Utah and Wyoming as to the division of the upstream storage.

His motion was not seconded.

WYOMING

Mr. BISHOP said there was no change in the position of Wyoming.

Mr. IORNS stated that some of the present gaging stations used in Bear River investigations for Compact purposes should be discontinued, particularly the one on Smith Fork at Cokesville and on Thomas Fork near Raymond. Mr. BISHOP and Mr. KULP agreed. Mr. IORNS also stated that all but one station on Cub River and all of the stations on Mink Creek should be discontinued. After a general discussion of stream gaging, questions ^{and} ~~of~~ the necessity for future stream gaging work, it was moved, seconded and carried that the recommendations of Mr. IORNS as to the discontinuance of gaging stations as of September 30, 1952, be approved and adopted and that a decision on the program for further investigations and studies in the fiscal years 1954 and 1955 be deferred until the next meeting of the Commission.

The meeting adjourned with the understanding that a two day meeting would be held on October 15 and 16, 1952.