

Reclamation Names Engineer of the Year

Geomorphology expert worked on several Rio Grande river restoration projects



Bureau of Reclamation, Commissioner's Office, Senior Advisor, Robert Quint and Jonathan Aubuchon

WASHINGTON – Jonathan Aubuchon, a hydraulic engineer in the Albuquerque (N.M.) Area Office, is the Bureau of Reclamation's Engineer of the Year for 2013.

"Reclamation engineers ensure water is delivered and hydropower is generated to support the many demands in the western United States," Commissioner Michael L. Connor said. "Jonathan's work on restoration projects on the Rio Grande, especially working with tribal governments, has led to successful river maintenance projects and a better understanding of the river that are helping meet the many demands of New Mexico and Texas."



Aubuchon led the team that produced the Endangered Species Biological Assessment for river maintenance on the Middle Rio Grande. He was the project engineering lead and designed numerous stream bank protection projects along the Rio Grande, many within tribal lands. The Rio Grande is a valuable river for New Mexico and the entire southwest, providing agricultural and municipal water for farmers, communities and tribes from its headwaters in Colorado to Texas and Mexico.

He has published numerous articles and papers in recent years and is a subject matter expert in the field of geomorphology, a scientific discipline focusing on the origin, evolution and distribution of landforms across the physical landscape. Geomorphology is a central principle in understanding the field of physical geography. Examples of his work include "Scour Analysis Upstream of the San Acacia Diversion Dam," and "Channel Changes on the Middle Rio Grande." Aubuchon is coordinating contract research work with Colorado State University, which is investigating various geomorphic and hydraulic assessments of the Rio Grande. He also is coordinating with the University of Mississippi Acoustics Department to evaluate and refine a prototype acoustic probe it has developed to collect data on Rio Grande sediment concentration.

Aubuchon will represent Reclamation at the Federal Engineer of the Year Awards luncheon at the National Press Club in Washington today.

He is the Upper Colorado Regional Engineer of the Year and a registered Professional Engineer in Arizona. He has a Bachelor of Science degree and a Master of Science degree in engineering from the University of Michigan.

Regional representatives for engineer of the year are:

Pacific Northwest Region: Jennifer M. Johnson

Mid-Pacific Region: Elizabeth G. Partridge

Lower Colorado Region: Nathaniel Gee

Great Plains Region: John F. Freetly

Technical Service Center: Donald L. Read

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Annual Power Office Meeting with the Regional Office



Flaming Gorge Outlet Works

By Lauri Brown
Secretary
Power Office

Each year in accordance with Reclamation's Directives and Standards the Regional Office is given summary reports on the state of "Reclamation's Upper Colorado Hydroelectric Powerplants". Over the course of the meeting presentations are made outlining each powerplant's accomplishments and specific issues of concern.

This year's excitement was about the ongoing Glen Canyon turbine runner replacement project. Currently Main Unit #4 turbine runner is in the process of replacing the old turbine runner with a new stainless steel turbine runner. This will complete six out of the total eight turbine runners installations. Main Units #2 and #3 turbine runners are scheduled to be replaced over the next 2 years. This will complete the turbine runner replacement project at Glen Canyon. In addition, this past year the operational issues of Glen Canyon's Main Unit #5 new turbine runner replacement and its associated wicket gates was identified and addressed.





Glen Canyon Main Unit #4 new stainless steel turbine runner

Other areas of accomplishments discussed included the new exciters at Elephant Butte, generator rewinds at Upper and Lower Molina, new vibration monitoring at Fontenelle, the re-wedging of Unit 1 generator at Flaming Gorge, along with many other accomplishments. General topics of discussion resulted in a collaborative understanding of options available to for future and present projects. Such as:

The Upper Colorado Regional Safety Director presented several topics of general interest.

The Power Resources Office from Denver presented additional information on NERC/WECC compliance, power O&M review program, safety issues, fire protection, and hydropower development.

This year's annual meeting was held on Tuesday, January 29, 2013. Representatives for each powerplant and Area Office, the Denver Power Resource Office, and the Regional Director's Office were present.

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Thoughts from the Front Office

Howdy everyone.

Phil Kyburz called several Friday's ago. It is very possible that many of you don't know who Phil is. That happens when time marches on. Phil called from his home in Coeur d' Alene, Idaho. He had been reading a recent edition of UC Today and he had some questions.

Several stories caught his attention, especially the one about start of construction on the Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project. You see, Phil first studied this project in 1959 when he worked in Reclamation's Albuquerque Office. He continued to work on later studies of the Project after he moved to the Regional Office in Amarillo, Texas. Yes, there used to be a Regional Office there for the Southwest Region. It was there in Amarillo that I met Phil and his wife Polly. Phil was the Chief of the Engineering Branch of the Planning Division. He worked on designs for Brantley Dam, had a role in developing plans for what became San Juan-Chama Project – and, many other projects that are now part of the UC Region.

As it turned out, Phil and Polly attended the same parish in Amarillo that my family and I did. My sons were young and my wife and I were attempting to teach them manners as, "yes, Mr. Kyburz" or "thank you Mrs. Kyburz." All you parents know about these lessons and how well they are followed. Phil was absolutely no help at all as he told my sons that he preferred to be called "The Big Taco." From that moment on, there was no hope at all of ever getting them to address him as "Mr. Kyburz."

In the late 1980s, the office in Amarillo was closed as part of budgetary and organizational changes that Reclamation was experiencing at that time. Phil moved to Denver and worked there until he retired after a long and productive career.

Phil was a boss, mentor, co-worker and friend to many Reclamation employees down through the years. He called because he still keeps up with what Reclamation is doing. I could hear the sincere pride in his voice as he talked about the work he did decades ago that our current Reclamation employees are now designing and constructing. I told him that he'd built the foundation with studies, alternatives, designs and options that have led to the projects becoming a reality.

Phil cared then, he cares now.



That caring, that dedication is still alive and well in Reclamation. When I visit with you, I hear and feel that same pride and sense of accomplishment. Unless I miss my guess, many of you will mimic Phil after your Reclamation career is over.

Just as Phil Kyburz, I am so proud of all that has been accomplished. And, just as Phil would say if he were writing this article, we have an exciting and challenging future. Thanks again for all your dedication and great work. Thanks also to the “Big Taco” for all that he did!

Cheers, Larry W.

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Spotlights of Members of the ASC



Josh Larson

Office: Provo Area Office, Administrative Division **Position:** Mail/File Clerk
Supervisor: Susan Corson **Years with Reclamation:** 1

Something Unique: I grew up in Layton, Utah. I graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from Weber State University, and received a MBA from the University of Phoenix. Before coming to Reclamation I worked for the United States Postal Service for 7 years and prior to that spent 5 years with the United States Air Force. I have a Real Estate License with Equity Real Estate and am currently working on my Personal Training Certification. Something really unique about me—I have been to the Arctic Circle and not just the one with burgers and fries. 😊



Jerri Quistberg

Office: Regional Office **Position:** Mail and File Clerk **Supervisor:** DeAnn Brown
Years with Reclamation: 1

Something Unique: I grew up in Salt Lake City, Utah. I graduated from Horace Mann High School and also attended Salt Lake Community College. Before coming to Reclamation, I worked at Cummins Rocky Mountain as a Service Writer for 10 years; which included scheduling, field service calls, and in-shop appointments. I also spent 6 years with the State of Utah Labor Commission as a receptionist. Something unique about me—I've seen The Beatles' movie "Help!" 127 times!

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RECLAMATION

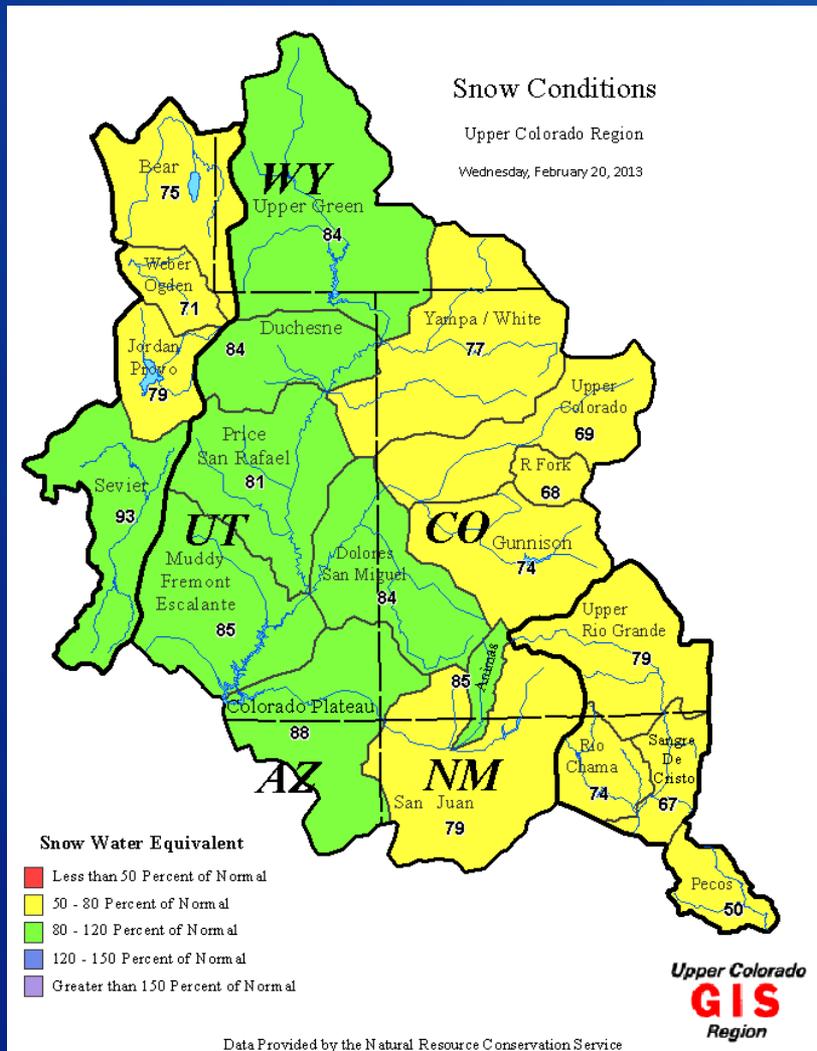
Managing Water in the West

Hydrologic Conditions of the Major Basins of the West



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Upper Colorado Region Snowpack Averages

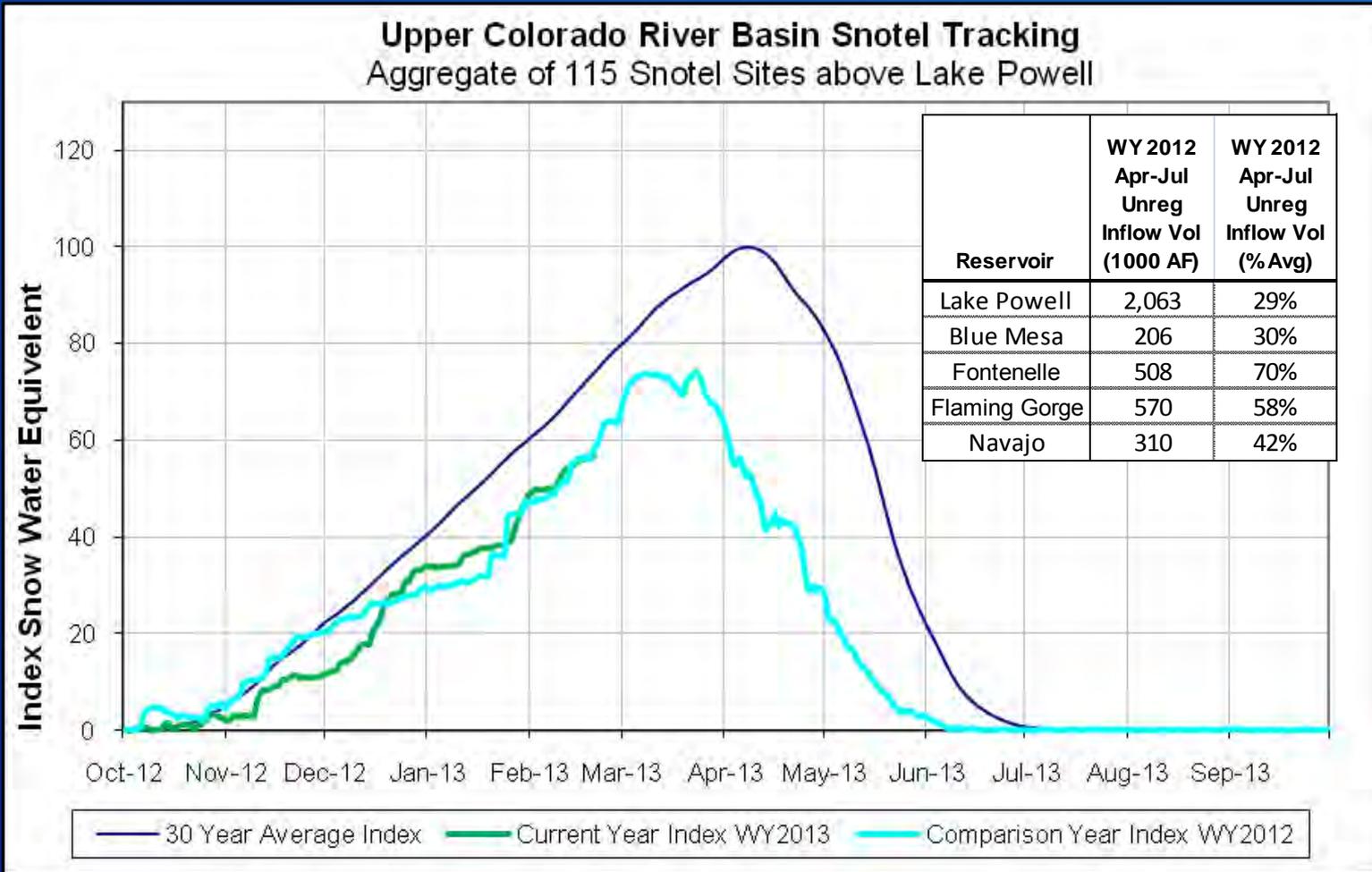


- Upper Colorado Basin (Lake Powell)
- As of February 20, 2013
 - Snowpack (79%)
 - Water Year Precip. (75%)
 - Spring Runoff (52%)
 - Reservoir Storage (49%)

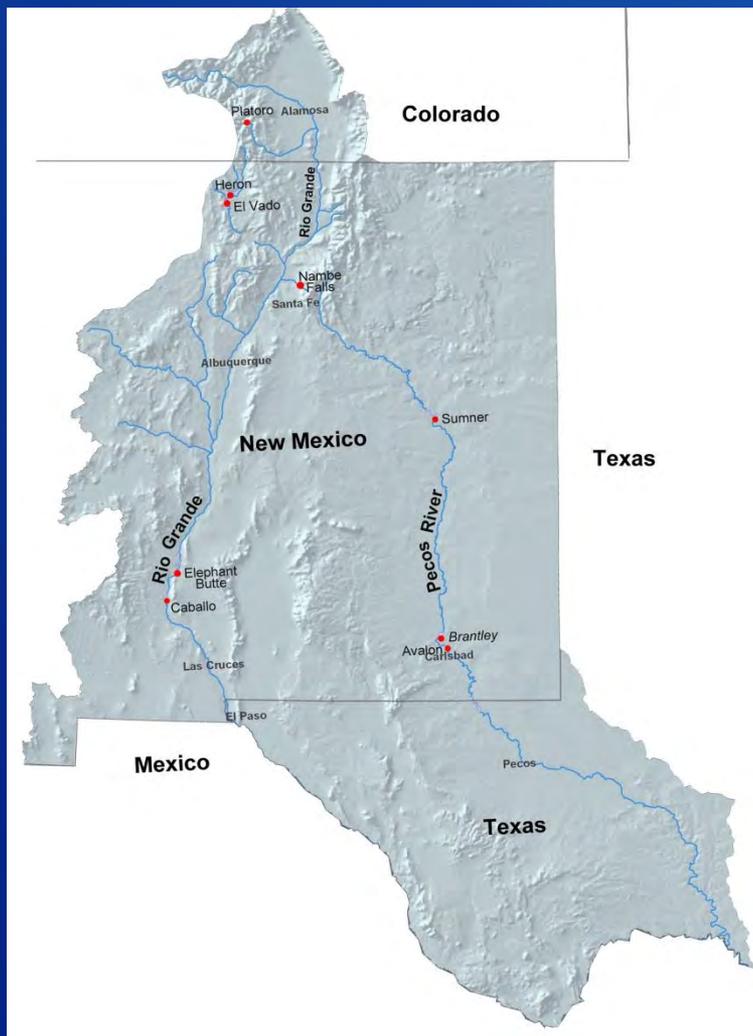
Reservoir	February Midmonth Forecast of Apr-Jul Unreg Inflow Vol (1000 AF)	February Midmonth Forecast of Apr-Jul Unreg Inflow Vol (% Avg)
Lake Powell	3,750	52%
Blue Mesa	370	55%
Fontenelle	470	65%
Flaming Gorge	600	61%
Navajo	490	66%

RECLAMATION

Upper Colorado Basin (Lake Powell) Snow Water Equivalent



Rio Grande



- As of February 20, 2013
 - Snowpack (78%)
 - Water Year Precip. (73%)
 - Spring Runoff (39%)
 - Reservoir Storage (20%)

RECLAMATION



What is Workload Management System?

Workload Management System (WMS) is an interactive workload tracking system designed to assist with implementing Reclamation's Project Management Framework by incorporating many of the requirements of that framework. It facilitates implementation and continuation of a more structured and consistent approach to project management planning, development, and execution. WMS is being developed in a phased approach and requirements for each phase are being defined by the applicable user. WMS has been in use in the Mid-Pacific Region for about a year and a half and has now been expanded to accommodate use by the UC Region.

Before we go further let's identify what Workload Management System is not.

- WMS is not an acquisition system.
- WMS is not a finance and budget system.
- WMS is not a replacement for the application of other typical project management tools, e.g. MS Project, Primavera, etc.

The acquisition and budget functions of the Region play essential roles in facilitating the accomplishment of our programmatic plans by providing critical services to program and project managers. But ultimately, the program and project managers are the drivers in bringing our authorized projects to completion.

So, for now what Workload Management System is and can/will do for the UC Region.

- WMS is an interactive workload tracking system, with a user interface that walks a project manager through a comprehensive planning process, considering and addressing, as necessary, a wide array of project elements.
- It provides a single location to capture project specific information; such as, key players, project scope, authorization and purposes, general schedule information in all project phases, budget information, risk and risk mitigation analysis.
- It captures information by direct entry and by uploading project related documents.
- When a project activity gets to a point of requiring a contract or agreement, including service agreements from a work group within the using organizations, WMS allows the project manager to link the associated purchase request to the project. By linking the PR



to the project, PMs are then able to track the PR through the approval process, and the resulting acquisition or agreement through award and execution. At critical points in the project development and execution, WMS allows or requires, and documents review and approval at a level above the PM.

- It provides automatic e-mail notices of certain actions to those identified on the project management or acquisition team ensuring all team members are aware of project status.
- WMS allows team members to add comments, which are retained in the system.
- WMS allows users to monitor the status and documentation of projects or activities and provides ad-hoc search and reporting functions wherein the user can filter information down to just what they desire.
- WMS will serve as the resource for completing Reclamation-wide project management reporting requirements to the Coordination Oversight Group (COG) in the Region, including:
 - identification and categorization of all projects;
 - identification of project sponsors and project managers;
 - ensuring projects are established with appropriate statements of work and project management plans scaled to the scope, size, risk, cost, duration, and, and complexity of a project;
 - ensuring all resources necessary to complete a project have been identified; and
 - to house data that will be used to report the percentage of major milestones and project phases; and to assess whether projects are completed within the targeted ± 10 percent of original project baseline budgets and schedules.

WMS will be the tool used by the Upper Colorado Region for monitoring and controlling, and reporting project performance. The Regional policy for implementation of WMS is that all intended actions that require a purchase or agreement in excess of the micro-purchase thresholds will be entered into, maintained, and tracked through Workload Management System. Effective use of WMS will:

- Provide project managers with a single point to capture critical planning and execution information about their projects.
- Will allow PMs and Acquisition staff to track purchase requests, the progress of acquisitions or agreements, and workload.
- Provide management at all levels in the organization with important information for making local and region-wide decisions to maximize project performance both obligations and expenditures.

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2012 Employee Viewpoint Survey

By William Phillips
Human Resources Specialist
Upper Colorado Region

This past year, OPM sent out an Employee Viewpoint Survey to “every employee” in the Federal Government. The goal of this exercise was to gather employee perspective on more than just a sample basis, for the first time in the history of surveys that have been done within the government.

The slides that are included show the results of the survey for 2012. They also show a comparison against the sample surveys that were done in 2011 and 2010. Although the goal of 100% participation was not attained, the 56% participation in the UC Region is still more than double that of what we have previously had. This gives us a better idea of what the perception in our region may actually be at this time.

This same information was presented to the UCLT at their quarterly meeting on January 31st and a thirty minute discussion ensued, in which the management staff took the time at the end of their long day, to discuss the need to address team morale, better training, infusing our culture into every employee and ongoing/improved communication.

This [PowerPoint presentation](#) will give each of you the chance to see what the survey feedback said about our region and to have a little chuckle at the included video.

If you have recommendations of things that you feel may help to remedy some of the concerns that were brought up in the Employee Viewpoint Survey, feel free to bring them up to your immediate supervisor. Only through addressing the problems that are occurring in our work environment, can things begin to get better.

[Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey Powerpoint](#)

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Daggett County Launches New Hovercraft



By Randi Bevan
Human Resources Assistant
Upper Colorado Region

A vehicle loaded with “cool factor” is expected to be a valuable winter tool for the Daggett County Sheriff’s Office. On Saturday, the department’s newest vehicle, an eight-passenger turbo diesel powered hovercraft, glided more than 16 inches above cracked ice, patches of open water and Flaming Gorge shoreline in demonstrations and rides for the public.

The vehicle, manufactured by Amphibious Marine Inc. of Shelton, Wash., actually arrived in Manila on Friday, Feb. 1. Coming along with the machine was Bryan Phillips, whose small company manufactures four or five such vehicles a year.

He spent Friday afternoon with members of the Sheriff Department’s Search and Rescue Team, providing instruction on the finer points of operating a hovercraft. “It’s somewhat like a hockey puck on ice,” Phillips quipped.



Despite the joke, this newest generation of air-cushioned vehicle, as they are more technically known, features improved safety characteristics and better braking, allowing for smooth slowing, stopping and turning.

The price tag for the hovercraft was slightly over \$100,000. Money for the craft came from a federal Department of Homeland Security grant, with the intention for the craft to be used for additional security at the Flaming Gorge Dam. The hovercraft affords the possibility of patrolling the lake and allowing access to the dam during winter months when normal boats would be dry-docked or when the ice prevents accessibility.

Also, with the increase of ice fishing on the lake, this vehicle can provide Search and Rescue Services in a unique way. “We have had incidents in the past where we have had to go out and rescue people, and getting across the ice was the biggest challenge,” said Travis Dupaix, Daggett Sheriff’s deputy and liaison for Search and Rescue.

“It has an application for going from open water to ice to open water, and so it is the only kind of vehicle we could use to do that,” said Jerry Jorgensen, Daggett County Sheriff.

About a dozen Manila residents turned out to the Lucerne Valley Marina Complex located outside of Manila to see the craft. It was decided to move to State Line Beach for the launch, and people were invited inside to take a ride on the spotty ice in the vehicle.

The boat has a 1,600 pound payload, and reaches a maximum speed of 40 mph on calm water, with a 32 mph cruising speed. After reaching a long distance from shore, Phillips invited anyone who wanted to an opportunity to step out on the questionable ice. No one took him up on that offer.

The lift fan is a 34-inch 12-bladed adjustable pitch nylon fan. It creates a cushion of air on which the vehicle, well, floats. This hovering is a boon whether traveling over land or water, with a 16.5 inch clearance over chunks of ice, or, such as in Phillip’s home waters, logs or other obstacles in rivers or oceans.

Phillips began building hovercrafts with a friend in the eighth grade. They spent 2.5 years building the first one, and Phillips continued his interest in the vehicles while attending Western Washington University, where he studied manufacturing engineering. He built a 14-foot model, which allowed him to take journeys of up to 500 miles throughout the San Juan Islands. As a new college graduate, he built a 20-foot version and he and his friend John Carter, who came out to Saturday’s launch, traveled 1,400 miles from Seattle, Wash., to Juneau, Alaska.

“People often ask, ‘Why a hovercraft?’ Bryan said. “It is not only about where you can go, you can land on any beach or go through any shallow area, but it is also a very efficient, affordable boat to operate,” he explained. The inside passage trip to Alaska took 140 gallons of fuel.

“Fuel economy and the places you can go, those are some of the compelling things. Of course, being able to go out on the ice in some places is a critical thing,” he said.



The ice factor, not the cool factor, made the vehicle an ideal choice for Flaming Gorge. The boat arrived just in time for the annual Burbot Bash, which drew more than 1,200 anglers trying to catch ugly fish.

Last year there was an incident when someone needed rescuing. This year things went smoothly, but that sort of application is ideal for the hovercraft, although everyone hopes the need for that never arises.

The model delivered to Daggett County is the Explorer-22. And, it really is, well, cool.

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At the precise second...

The second just as the bow of a boat encounters a huge wave...



In his second try in the long jump, the athlete falls into the sand and makes this strange figure...



**the second when a gun fires and the deflector expels two clouds
of smoke...**



the second when two dogs in a race have all four feet in the air...



The exact second that a water balloon explodes. The balloon disappears and leaves this extraordinary view...



**The precise moment
when a dog is working
to move on water...**



The second when a bird shakes off water...



The second when a whale just decided to surface for air, and in that moment a dolphin passed over it...



The precise second when a salmon swimming upstream jumped into the jaws of a predator...





The second just as a missile launched its load of explosives, leaving behind a flower of black smoke...

**The exact moment lightning struck, letting us see the power of
Mother Nature...**



The exact second when a jet of water "freezes" and the cascade arches with a matchless perfection...





More precise moments







































Many events will happen in one second...

**ENJOY the seconds that give you life;
with them you can do many things,
important or trivial,
eternal or perishable,
relevant or irrelevant,
it does not matter,
just ENJOY your seconds,
they are unique.**



2013 Chinese New Year Days and Festivals



Photo Credit Amy Dinh

Edited by
Amy Dinh Student Trainee and
Wanye Xia Manager, Technical Services & Dams Division
Upper Colorado Region

The Chinese New Year (春節, 春节, Chūnjié; or 農曆新年, 农历新年, Nónglì Xīnnián), also known as the Lunar New Year or the Spring Festival is the most important of the traditional Chinese holidays. It consists of a period of celebrations, starting on New Year's Day, celebrated on the first day of the first month of the Chinese calendar, i.e. the day of the second new moon after the day on which the winter solstice occurs, unless there is an intercalary eleventh or twelfth month in the lead-up to the New Year—in such a case, the New Year falls on the day of the third new moon after the solstice. (The



next time this occurs is in 2033.) The Chinese New Year period ends with the Lantern Festival, the fifteenth day of the month.

Since ancient times, the Chinese New Year was considered as the time to honor ancestors and heavenly deities. In addition, it was the time to organize family gatherings and grand feasts.

Legend has it that in ancient China, Nian ("Nyehn") was a man-devouring predator beast that could infiltrate houses silently. Nian harassed the villagers by eating their crops, cattle and taking away their kids. The villagers had no other option but to place food at the entrance to their homes so that the monster would eat it and go away without harming them. The Chinese soon learned that Nian was sensitive to loud noises and the color red, and they scared it away with explosions, fireworks and the liberal use of color red domestically. These customs led to the first New Year celebrations.

There are other stories which say that the Chinese have observed their New Year since the reign of the sage emperors, Sun and Yao. The Western Zhou Dynasty observed New Year as the time when they would begin their agricultural activities. This event was also celebrated with ceremonial gatherings and fireworks by the Han Dynasty. The Song Dynasty, too, observed this special occasion with bamboo poles and fireworks.

Chinese New Year is celebrated with fireworks, lion dancing, dragon dancing and cultural performances in the street. Families organize reunion dinners on New Year's Eve and make special preparations like spring rolls and Chinese dumplings. Offering gifts of money is also a popular tradition during this festival.

Celebrated internationally in areas with large populations of ethnic Chinese, Chinese New Year is considered to be a major holiday for the Chinese as well as ethnic groups such as the Mongolians, Koreans, the Miao (Chinese Hmong) and the Vietnamese, who were influenced by Chinese culture in terms of religious and philosophical worldview, language and culture in general. Chinese New Year is also the time when the largest human migration takes place when Chinese all around the world return home on Chinese New Year eve to have reunion dinner with their family.



For more [information about the Chinese New Year's Day](#)
More [images of Lunar New Years](#)
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Bison Connect Tip of the Week

By Sarah Casale
IT Specialist
Upper Colorado Region

Tip for the week of February 18, 2013:

Who's in this distribution list?! In Outlook, when you sent an email to a distribution list you could expand that group to see who was a member. This can be done in Bison Connect as well; it's just not immediately apparent. To view the members of a distribution list in Bison Connect:

1. Open your **Google Calendar** (yes, calendar).
2. In the top left corner of the screen, click **"Create."**
3. To the right, in the **"Add: Guests"** field, start typing the name of the distribution list that you are interested in.

Add: **Guests** | Rooms, etc.

bor ucr dl informa

"BOR UCR DL Information Technology Group" <bor-ucrditgroup@usbr.gov>
"BOR UCR DL Information Technology Web Team" <ibr4ucrditw@usbr.gov>
"BOR UCR DL Information Resources Division" <ibr4ucrdird@usbr.gov>
"BOR UCR DL Information Technology User Support Group" <ibr4ucrditus@usbr.gov>
"BOR UCR DL Information Technology Operators" <ibr4ucrdoper@usbr.gov>
"BOR UCR DL Information Technology Systems Group" <ibr4ucrdits@usbr.gov>



4. When you select the Distribution List, the members of that group will populate in a list below.

Add: **Guests** | [Rooms, etc.](#)

Click the  icons below to mark as optional.

Guests
Yes: 0, Maybe: 0, No: 0, Awaiting: 0, Optional: 0

	Sarah Casale	x
	dfugal@usbr.gov	x
	eecooper@usbr.gov	x
	emontano@usbr.gov	x
	gwest@usbr.gov	x
	gwheeler@usbr.gov	x
	Jeffery Huffman	x
	kreynolds@usbr.gov	x
	llovethompson@usbr.gov	x
	mmamales@usbr.gov	x
	mmolinaro@usbr.gov	x
	Tam Nguyen	x

5. Once you've viewed the members of the group, you can discard the "appointment."

If you need distribution list membership changed in any way, contact Jeff Huffman jhuffman@usbr.gov . Tell him what members need to be added/removed from each list.

Additional Bison Connect resources are available through DOI.

For FAQs visit: <https://sites.google.com/a/doi.gov/bisonconnect-resource-site/training>

For How To's visit: <http://howto.doi.net/>

You may also contact the Help Desk at 801-524-3784 if you have any questions.

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Sharing Our Diversity by Sharing Your Recipes

From the kitchen of Marian Thornton – **Mushroom and Spinach Frittata**



By MARTHA ROSE SHULMAN

- 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- 1 10 ounce bag pre-sliced mushrooms
- Salt and freshly ground pepper
- 1 to 2 garlic cloves (to taste), minced
- 1 6-ounce bag baby spinach, rinsed
- 8 eggs
- 1/4 cup grated Parmesan (optional)
- 2 tablespoons low-fat milk



Use bagged, pre-sliced mushrooms and baby spinach for this and it will come together very quickly. The frittata is great for dinner, breakfast, brunch or lunch.

1. Heat 1 tablespoon of the olive oil over medium-high heat in a heavy 10 or 12-inch nonstick skillet and add the mushrooms. Cook, stirring or tossing often, until they begin to sweat and soften, 3 to 5 minutes. Add salt, pepper and the garlic, and stir together until the garlic is fragrant, 30 seconds to a minute. Add the spinach, a handful at a time and stir until wilted. Turn up the heat and let any excess liquid evaporate from the pan, and then remove from the heat. Taste and adjust seasoning.
2. Beat the eggs in a large bowl (you can do this while the mushrooms are cooking). Stir in salt and pepper to taste, the milk, and the mushroom and spinach mixture. Add the Parmesan if desired.
3. Heat the remaining olive oil over medium-high heat in the skillet until it feels hot when you hold your hand about 1 inch above it. Drop a bit of egg into the pan and if it sizzles and cooks at once, the pan is ready. Pour in the egg mixture, scraping all of it in with a rubber spatula. Swirl the pan to distribute the eggs and filling evenly over the surface. Shake the pan gently, tilting it slightly with one hand while lifting up the edges of the frittata with the spatula in your other hand, to let the eggs run underneath during the first few minutes of cooking. Once a few layers of egg have cooked turn the heat down to low, cover (use a pizza pan if you don't have a lid that will fit your skillet), and cook 10 minutes, shaking the pan gently every once in a while. From time to time remove the lid and loosen the bottom of the omelet with a spatula, tilting the pan, so that the bottom doesn't burn. It will however turn golden. The eggs should be just about set though there will be a layer on the top that is not.
4. Meanwhile, heat the broiler. Uncover the pan and place under the broiler, not too close to the heat, for 1 to 2 minutes, until the top sets, watching very carefully to make sure the top doesn't burn (at most, it should brown very slightly and puff under the broiler). Remove from the heat, shake the pan to make sure the frittata isn't sticking and allow it to cool for at least 5 minutes and for up to 15. It can be a little runny in the middle if you like it that way. Loosen the edges with a spatula. Carefully slide from the pan onto a large round platter. Cut into wedges. Serve hot, warm, room temperature, or cold.

Yield: Serves 6

Advance preparation: This will keep in the refrigerator for 3 days.

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In Transition

Former GP Region employee David Lee Soker dies



David Lee Soker August 28, 1947 – January 28, 2013 David Soker passed away early morning on January 28, with his two daughters and sister at his side. Dave was a world traveler, living throughout the United States, and residing in Palisade, Colorado for the last twelve plus years. He was an avid out-doors-man, enjoying camping, fishing, and hunting. He was an active member in the community. Some of his many activities included helping with the River Front Commission, Child and Migrant Services, and Catholic Outreach. Dave worked the majority of his life with the Fish and Wildlife Services. He also gained life experiences by working in the Navy, Army, logging, and even surveying roads outside of Yellowstone. Dave had an amazing artistic ability that he showed

through his photography, drawing, and stained glass. Per Dave's request, there will be no services. In lieu of flowers to the family, please make a donation to the Catholic Outreach in Dave's name. The family will be hosting a celebration of Dave's life this summer. For information, please send your name and address to davidsoker1@gmail.com.

LETTER: Tribute to the late Dave Soker

Dave Soker loved rivers.

In working for the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program, with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, he helped create fish habitat from abandoned gravel pits and riverbanks by constructing new wetlands and ponds to replace those that had been lost over the years. Conservation easements were obtained, wetlands were re-established. Openings to the river allowed spring flooding to reach low lying areas where fish could spawn and grow.

In serving on the Riverfront Commission, he was a strong advocate for more wildlife areas and interpretive signage, recognizing that the Riverfront Project is more than just a trail. It is a series



of parks, wildlife sanctuaries, wetlands, ponds and natural floodplains.

As a resident of Palisade, he promoted the installation of interpretive signs in Riverbend Park, describing the history of this area which had included a Civilian Conservation Corps camp during the Depression of the 1930s, a prisoner of war camp in World War II, and an ill-conceived subdivision.

In broadening the perception of the Riverfront Project, he opened our eyes to the economic, environmental, cultural and historic importance of the Colorado and Gunnison rivers to the lives of our people.

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RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

February 2013
Upper Colorado Region



What Is the Media Saying About Reclamation This Week?

[Fight for water rights to continue](#)

[Email letters, February 20, 2013](#)

[Help Change the Fate of the Dying Colorado River](#)

[Environment: Following the Colorado River](#)

[Drought forces a new era of agricultural water conservation](#)

[Another dry year on the Colorado?](#)

[Colorado: Snowpack creeping up, still trailing 2012](#)

[Federal Circuit Affirms Dismissal of Fifth Amendment Claim re: Colorado River Indian Tribes' Reservation Lease](#)

[Another bad year on the Colorado?](#)

[Santa Fe water officials prepare for third straight year of drought, hot temps](#)

[Navajo Nation agrees to coal-power plant extension](#)

[Navajo Nation, power plant owners strike tentative deal](#)

[Farmington City Council to discuss water rights settlement](#)

[Navajo Nation, NGS Reach Tentative Agreement to Extend Lease to 2044](#)

[The earthen dam was constructed in 1961 by the United States Bureau of Reclamation with a elevation of 134 footage \[Twitter\]\(#\)](#)

[Carlsbad desalination plant may be just a drop in the bucket](#)

[Releasing a flood of controversy on the colorado river](#)

[Industry News - Senator floats plan to pipe Gila River water to Las Cruces](#)

[Lake-Effect Snow Sometimes Needs Mountains](#)

[Black Canyon Reservoir Drained \[video\]\(#\)](#)

[2 Rio projects to help endangered species](#)

[Snowpack remains below average](#)

[Draining the budget to desalt the Colorado](#)

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[Water crisis hits the Rio Grande Valley](#)

[House passes bipartisan bill to bolster small projects](#)

[Utah Valley Toastmasters to hold speech competition](#)

[Egypt Looks to El Paso for Water Wisdom](#)

[Black Canyon Reservoir almost empty](#)

[WATER LINES: Colorado River supply & demand imbalances discussed at water meeting](#)

[Projects to help endangered species](#)

[Value of Water: The 'value' of Rio Grande restoration shared](#)

[Navajos protest Salt River Project and dirty coal energy](#)

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[Mr. Worms Takes A Look At Rim Country Water](#)

[Emery County Progress - Cottonwood Creek irrigation meeting - February 12, 2013](#)

[Protection issues rising for Green River trout](#)

[Water issues on tap for New Mexico legislators](#)

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[NM lawmakers: Water is critical issue this session](#)

[Water Inaction](#)

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[Can Pecos water fix work for Rio Grande?](#)

[Interior Prepares to Conduct Landsat 8 Scientific Programs After Successful Launch of Latest Earth-Observing Satellite](#)

[Last December, the Bureau of Reclamation released the final draft of a very detailed Colorado River Basin supply and demand study. This column, like most media coverage of the study, focused on the big picture it paints: We\'re... '\);" onmouseover="re](#)

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[Carbon appeals Narrows decision](#)

[Drought forces Reclamation to reduce San Juan-Chama water deliveries](#)

[REI Chief Jewell Picked to Lead Interior Dept.](#)

[Ten candidates running for four city council seats in Grand Junction](#)

[Nomination of REI President Jewell to Lead Interior Dept. Positive Step](#)

[February New Mexico runoff forecast: very little water](#)

[Navajo Nation uses 6 percent of New Mexico's surface water](#)

[Selenium management plan for Gunnison basin released](#)

[Lake Powell pipeline foes rejoice in delay](#)

[Reclaiming the Colorado River?](#)

[Guest Column: Impress upon EPA the impact of proposed Navajo plant emission plans](#)

[Colorado: No more money to study Flaming Gorge pipeline - Care2 News Network](#)

[Snow Pack Increases, While Colorado River Levels Remain Low](#)

[Gunnison Basin celebrates 'Year of Water'](#)

[Water tug of war goes on](#)

[High Country Speaker Series continues Tuesday in Avon](#)

[Snowpack remains below average](#)

[George Sibley will speak about the history of the Colorado River District, focusing on Eagle County, in the second installment of the High Country Speaker Series on Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. at Walking Mountains Science Center. '\);" onmouseover="return hid](#)

[Utah police unveil new hovercraft with \\$100K grant](#)

[Colorado: Dry January worsens drought woes - Care2 News Network](#)

[Obama's Choice to Lead Interior Dept. Has Oil Sector and Conservation Credentials](#)

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Reclamation Trivia

Here's this week's set of questions:

1. The _____ (春節, 春节, Chūnjié; or 農曆新年, 农历新年, Nónglì Xīnnián), also known as the _____ or the Spring Festival is the most important of the traditional Chinese holidays.
2. What is the name of the Water Measurement App Created by Reclamation's Provo Area Office?
3. Reclamation Names Engineer of the Year - _____.

Last week, We asked,

1. A magnitude 3.9 (USGS) earthquake occurred at 9:47 p.m. MST, on January 23, 2013, five miles northwest of the Bureau of Reclamation's **Paradox Valley Salinity Control Facility** located near Bedrock, Colorado.
2. What does the acronym (SEMS) represent? **Sustainability and Environmental Management System**
3. African American History - In 2013 the country will commemorate two events that changed the course of the nation – the **1863 Emancipation Proclamation** and the **1963 March on Washington**.

Last winner was – **N/A**

Please use this [link to send your answers](#). To be fair we will draw names from the winners and one person will receive a prize. We will reach into the prize bin for something suitable for the winner...as long as supplies last.

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