

Earth Connections Camp



The Upper Colorado Region with federal and state partners hosted two successful Earth Connections Camps at Red Butte Garden on June 17 and Moab Youth Garden on August 22. Earth Connections goal is to reconnect urban American Indian youth with their natural world and cultural heritage.

Each camp had roughly 30 Native American students (K-12) from across the state to spend the day

learning about American Indian traditions, constructing dams, painting rock art, learning about hydrology and engineering, language, history, traditional music, song, and dances. American Indian educators and specialists from the various partners led each of the learning stations.

The camp is a partnership with the Utah State Office of Education Title VII Program and organizers hope to continue the collaboration and expand the day-camp to have more students attend.



Deputy Regional Director Daniel Picard, BOR Deputy Regional Director an Oglala Sioux and Nez Perce descendant, was the keynote speaker. His speech reiterated the importance of maintaining cultural identity in today's society and encouraged students to pursue higher level education.



Stacey Smith presented the dam construction exercise and building solar kits with Reclamation staff assistance to explain Reclamation's projects and activities to the youth.

One by one the students and their instructors shared their thoughts of the day's activities during circle time. Here is some of the take back from the camp:

"I like learning about my culture and being outside in nature," said Calora Norton, an 11th grader at Lehi High School. "I liked learning about what people here do for their jobs."

Dominic Goodman, a senior at West Jordan High School liked that his generation heard from elders about the importance of education and why they need to learn about traditions and culture. "It is all entangled with who we are," he said.

Photos Below





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Developing Visionary Leaders to Transform Government

The Upper Colorado Region had four graduates of the 2015 Utah Leadership Development Program (ULDP) this year, Scott Winterton, Jonathan Jones, Shara Hillier, and Chad Douglas...



(L-R) Provo Area Office employees Scott Winterton and Jonathan Jones, alongside fellow Utah Leadership Development Program graduates Shara Hillier and Chad Douglas from the Upper Colorado Region Office



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Designed to provide exemplary, contemporary and professional leadership training to emerging leaders in government organizations, the premier leadership development program is dedicated to developing strong, forward thinking leaders to meet the challenges of today and tomorrow by embracing the critical and volatile leadership challenges facing Federal agencies.

The course focuses primarily on development of the Office of Personnel Management's executive core competencies: (1) Leading Change, (2) Leading People, (3) Results Driven, (4) Business Acumen and (5) Building Coalitions. Other supporting activities include personal and organizational assessments, results-oriented projects and learning activities. Each participant is supported by a professional coach who provides one-on-one feedback and assistance during the 12-month training program. Supervisors are routinely briefed on the program sessions and the participant's accomplishments, many of which indicate significant financial savings, performance improvements, and innovative solutions to enhance the success of the organization and agency.

Mid-to-senior level participants in the ULDP have experienced the high-energy, innovative sessions, which are created by using well-known established speakers, in-depth learning experiences, and inter-related work and classroom activities.

Here is some insight from our ULDP class of 2015:

"From peer review to introspection, each ULDP and coaching session answered so many questions about what makes me, uniquely me. The clarity and new found self-awareness I feel, as a result, are vital to my future success as a leader. Having that understanding and personal growth has helped me embrace the differences in others to better harness strengths and minimize conflict. Honestly, I've never been more excited or felt more confident to face the obstacles that lie ahead." - Chad Douglas, Public Affairs Specialist

"ULDP is an excellent program that has helped me grow as a leader. It has given me new perspective on how to be a more dynamic and creative leader. I've enjoyed the connections and network that I've gained through the year." - Shara Hillier, Finance Officer

"The ULDP provided me with important tools that have enabled me to become a better leader. These tools improved my understanding of myself, and allowed me to more fully utilize my strengths and minimize traits and tendencies that are less effective. This course addressed a full spectrum of topics I consider critical to leadership success and is well designed to develop great leaders!" - Jonathan Jones, Supervisory Water Resource Group

"The ULDP program helped increase my leadership skills immensely. The wide variety of topics covered provided insights into some areas in which I had less experience and strengthened other areas in which I felt were already strong. The classes really helped me get out of my comfort zone through the interactions with the other attendees and stretched me both personally and professionally with various role playing opportunities and team-oriented activities." - Scott Winterton, Supervisory Civil Engineer

The 2015 graduating class highly recommends this course to future government leaders that are seeking the opportunity for innovation, bold moves, and new visions.

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Strawberry Highline Canal Breach Contained



On August 25, 2015, the Reclamation staff in the Provo Area Office and Regional Office responded to reports of a partial breach of the Strawberry Highline Canal in Salem, Utah, at 11:15 a.m. Salem, Payson, Spanish Fork, and Utah County supplied manpower and equipment to help plug the breach and divert water from reached homes and other structures. Salem City contacted the local High School and church organizations and hundreds of volunteers responded and filled a great deal of sandbags and placed them to channel any potential flows away from homes. Strawberry High Line Canal Company (SHLCC) and Strawberry Water Users Association (SWUA) personnel worked together to help obtain material and coordinate the effort.

The breach was successfully plugged at 1:30 p.m. and flows in the canal had subsided by 7:00 p.m. that evening. The next morning on Wednesday, personnel from Reclamation, SHLCC, SWUA, Payson City, Salem City, and a representative from Congressman Chafetz's office met to discuss the incident and steps moving forward including a design to fix the canal. Crews began excavation of the breach area that morning. Reclamation personnel expedited materials testing/selection and material for the fix was delivered Wednesday afternoon. The embankment was substantially reconstructed on Friday morning and a plan was developed to put the canal back into service at a limited flow rate at a third of the canal's capacity. Water was diverted into the canal on Saturday morning with 24-hour surveillance. Flows were maintained at a third of the canal's capacity through Monday morning when the flow rate was increased to about half capacity where it will remain for the remainder of the season. The reconstructed embankment has performed well thus far with no seepage or unusual conditions. The water is crucial to local orchards



and farms to not only maintain this year's crop, but to ensure the orchard trees survive the end of the hot season.

“We’re grateful for the close coordination with all those who responded to the incident,” said Kent Kofford, Provo Area Office Deputy Area Manager. “The response from the cities of Payson and Salem was remarkable.”

Reclamation will continue to work with the canal operator to assess the aging canal system and permanently repair the damaged area.

Photos Below



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Responding to the Gold King Mine Spill



At the river crossing north of the intersection of W. Murray Drive and S. Miller Avenue in Farmington

By Justyn Liff (WCAO) and Chico Quintana (FCCO)

In response to the Gold King mine spill that occurred on August 5 near Silverton, Colorado, the Western Colorado Area Office increased its water releases from Navajo Dam, from 650 to 1,300 cubic feet per second (cfs) on August 7. The spill released approximately 3 million gallons of contaminated water into Cement Creek; which flows into the Animas River; then the San Juan River; and eventually the Colorado River, upstream from Lake Powell. The increased releases were made to help dilute mine contaminants in the San Juan River and alleviate concerns for endangered species and wildlife, while helping with other river issues.

Releases from the dam remained at 1,300 cfs through the weekend and were decreased back to 650 cfs on Monday, August 10. The decision to increase releases was made in collaboration with the San Juan Recovery Implementation Program to help decrease the effects of the Gold King mine spill on local rivers and wildlife.

The Western Colorado Area Office (WCAO) employees helped field phone calls from the public and media about releases from Navajo Reservoir and acted as the point of contact for Reclamation on this incident. Marc Miller, Water Management Team Lead for the Durango office was appointed, by Regional



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Director Brent Rhees, the UC Region Contact for the Environmental Protection Agency's Command Center in Durango, Colo. Marc spent considerable time in meetings, providing tours, and coordinating Reclamation's response to the spill.

The Four Corners Construction Office (FCCO) states that what followed was a national media blitz with videos and images on every news channel showing a day-glow orange plume making its way down the Animas River. Recognizing that the wastewater from the spill would eventually hit the San Juan River and flow past the future site of the Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project's San Juan Lateral intake structure, the FCCO quickly put together an "emergency monitoring plan" to gather water quality

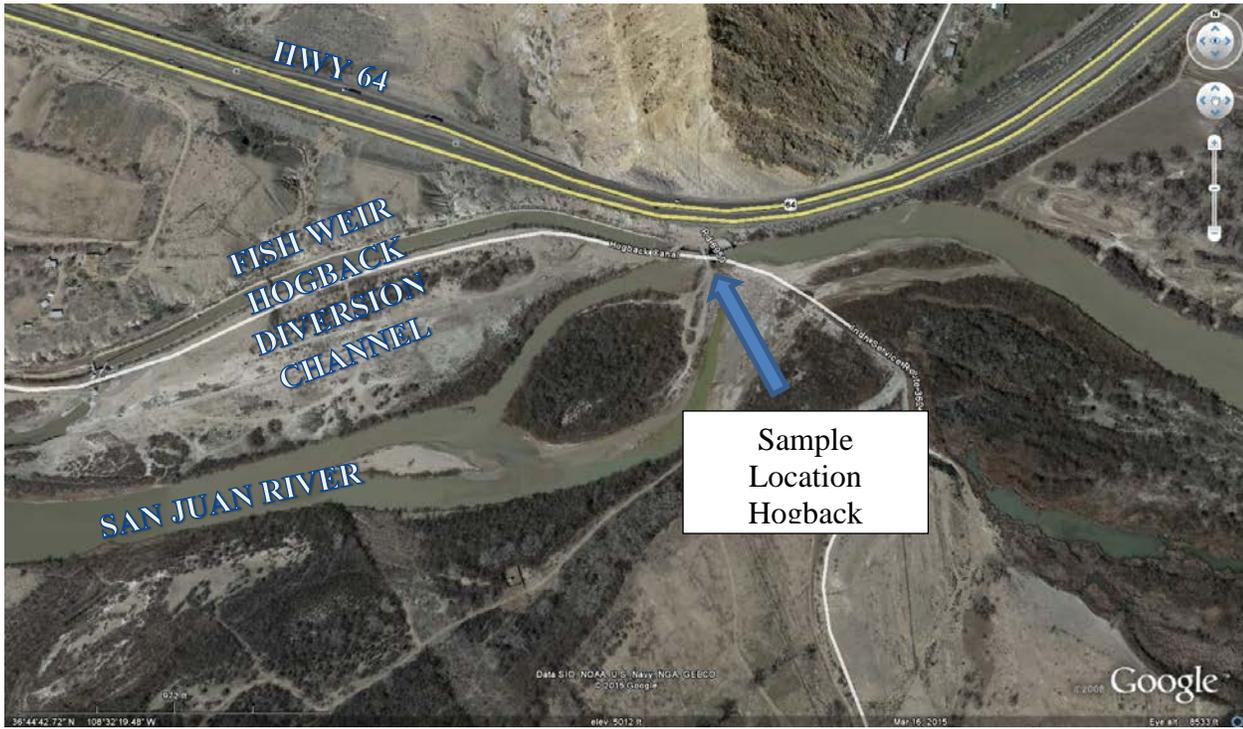


data. In close coordination with staff from the WCAO who was monitoring the movement of the plume, FCCO began monitoring efforts on Friday, August 7. WCAO estimated that the plume would arrive at the intake structure site over the weekend of August 8 and 9. The sampling of the San Juan River was conducted to gather design data to support the plans for a future Water Treatment Plant to be located in the Hogback area of the river. This pollution event created a real life mock situation that could also happen once the proposed Water Treatment Plant is in full operation. The data collected would let us know the behavior of the river and how it would go about naturally passing the pollution through the system, and let us know what to possibly expect in a similar situation in the future.

To mitigate the impacts of the mine wastewater plume on the San Juan River, Reclamation began increased releases from Navajo Dam on the morning of August, doubling the flow from 650 cfs to 1,300 cfs. The increased flow reached the Animas River confluence nearly 24-hours in advance of the plume and as shown below had a major impact in diluting the contaminated wastewater once it reached the San Juan River on August 8.

The water samples were tested for Cyanide, PH, TOC/DOC, Metals, TSS, Turbidity, Gross Alpha-Beta, Radium, Uranium, and Radon. All of the water samples were collected at the Hogback Diversion Structure, trash rack site shown below, located between the San Juan River mile markers 158 and 159.





The first sample was collected the afternoon of Friday August 7 at the Hogback Diversion Trash rack site to obtain base line data of the pre-pollution condition of the river. As expected the plume arrived in Farmington Saturday August 8.

Reclamation's staff will continue to monitor impacts from the spill and will take action as needed.

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Operations for Lake Powell and Lake Mead Set for Next Year



By Katrina Grantz
Hydraulic Engineer
Glen Canyon Dam Operations

Reclamation's Upper and Lower Colorado Regions recently published the August 2015 24-Month Study Report, confirming the operations of Lake Powell and Lake Mead for 2016. Lake Powell will be in the Upper Elevation Balancing Tier with releases projected to be between 8.23 million acre-feet (maf) and 11.4 maf or greater, depending on this season's hydrology. Lake Mead will operate under Normal conditions and the Lower Basin will not be in Shortage Conditions in 2016.

The 24-Month Study Model is run each month to project future reservoir releases and elevations using the most recent inflow forecasts. The August model run is important because it sets the operational tiers for Lake Powell and Lake Mead for the upcoming year.

Based on the August model results, Lake Powell's operations in water year 2016 will be governed by the Upper Elevation Balancing Tier, with an initial water year release volume of 8.23 maf and the potential for an April adjustment to equalization or balancing releases in April 2016. Based on the current forecast, an April adjustment to balancing releases is projected to occur and Lake Powell is currently projected to release 9.0 maf in water year 2016. This projection will be updated each month throughout the water year.

Based on the August model results, Lake Mead's operations will be governed by the Normal Intentionally Created Surplus (ICS) Surplus Condition in calendar year 2016.



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Inflow Forecasts and Model Projections

The forecast for water year 2016 unregulated inflow to Lake Powell is 9.54 maf (88% of average). However, there is significant uncertainty regarding next season's snow pack development and the resulting runoff into Lake Powell. The forecast ranges from a minimum probable of 6.4 maf (59%) to a maximum probable of 16.9 maf (156%) and there is a 10% chance that inflows could be higher and a 10% chance that inflows could be lower.

Based on the current forecast, the August 24-Month study projects Lake Powell elevation will end water year 2015 near 3,608 feet with approximately 12.51 maf in storage (51% capacity) and water year 2016 near 3,610 feet with approximately 12.71 maf in storage (52% capacity). Projections of elevation and storage using the minimum and maximum probable inflow forecast are 3,585 feet (10.4 maf, 43% capacity) and 3,648 feet (17.0 maf, 70% capacity), respectively. The annual release volume from Lake Powell during water year 2016 is projected to be 9.0 maf under the minimum and most probable inflow scenarios and 11.4 maf under the maximum probable inflow scenario. There is a chance that inflows could be higher or lower, potentially resulting in releases greater than 11.4 maf or as low as 8.23 maf in water year 2016.

Upper Colorado River Basin Hydrology

The Upper Colorado River Basin regularly experiences significant year to year hydrologic variability. During the 15-year period 2000 to 2014, however, the unregulated inflow to Lake Powell, which is a good measure of hydrologic conditions in the Colorado River Basin, was above average in only 3 out of the past 15 years. The period 2000-2014 is the lowest 15-year period since the closure of Glen Canyon Dam in 1963, with an average unregulated inflow of 8.39 maf, or 78% of the 30-year average (1981-2010). (For comparison, the 1981-2010 total water year average is 10.83 maf.) The unregulated inflow during the 2000-2014 period has ranged from a low of 2.64 maf (24% of average) in water year 2002 to a high of 15.97 maf (147% of average) in water year 2011. The water year 2014 unregulated inflow volume to Lake Powell was 10.381 maf (96% of average), which, though still below average, was significantly higher than inflows observed in 2012 and 2013 (45% and 47% of average, respectively). Under the current most probable forecast, total water year 2015 unregulated inflows to Lake Powell is projected to be 10.33 maf (95% of average).

At the beginning of water year 2015, total system storage in the Colorado River Basin was 30.0 maf (50% of 59.6 maf total system capacity). This is nearly the same as the total storage at the beginning of water year 2014 which began at 29.9 maf (50% of capacity). Since the beginning of water year 2000, total Colorado Basin storage has experienced year to year increases and decreases in response to wet and dry hydrology, ranging from a high of 94% of capacity at the beginning of 2000 to a low of 50% of capacity at the beginning of water year 2005. One wet year can significantly increase total system reservoir storage, just as persistent dry years can draw down the system storage. Based on current inflow forecasts, the current projected end of water year total Colorado Basin reservoir storage for water year 2015 is approximately 30.55 maf (51% of total system capacity) and for water year 2016 is approximately 30.24 maf (51% of total system capacity). The actual end of water year 2016 system storage may vary from this projection, primarily due to uncertainty regarding next season's snowpack and resulting runoff and reservoir inflow. Based on the August minimum and maximum probable inflow forecasts and modeling, the range of end of water year 2016 total system capacity is approximately 27.2 maf (46%) to 37.3 maf (63%), respectively.

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Administrative Support Council Field Trip

By Beth Fox
Four Corners Construction Office

The Administrative Support Council (ASC) board members hosted a field trip to Farmington, New Mexico, and Durango, Colorado, for the ASC members. On August 3, 2015, a group of 15 members traveled from the Regional and Provo offices to Farmington, New Mexico, to visit the Four Corners Construction Office (FCCO). One member from the Socorro Office met up with the group in Farmington, New Mexico. On August 4, 2015, the FCCO employees, including Beth Fox, Secretary, and Tig Haley, Resident Engineer, escorted the members on a tour of the Tohlakai Pumping Plant located just north of Gallup, New Mexico. This is one of the key components in the Navajo Gallup Water Supply Project (NGWSP). This high priority project with an estimated cost at over \$1 billion will bring much needed water to the Navajo Nation, the City of Gallup, and the Jicarilla Apache Nation. The group was able to see how the pumping plant will operate and eventually tie in with the rest of the project. But more importantly, they were able to see firsthand the construction work in progress that they support daily while performing their administrative duties. After the tour, the members traveled back to the FCCO in order to participate in an interactive game, hosted by Dave Gates, Photographer, which was created in order to educate the public, primarily students from the Navajo Nation, about the intricacies involved in building a pipeline project of this magnitude. The game integrated various challenges from archeological sites, environmental permits, budget issues, as well as cultural differences and engineering considerations. The main objective was to find a way to get the water to the people despite the many obstacles that were faced along the way.



ASC group at Tohlakai Pumping Plant construction site - Navajo-Gallup Project, Gallup, NM



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From the FCCO, the members traveled to Durango, Colorado, to visit the Western Colorado Area Office (WCAO) in Durango, which was hosted by Cindy Hayes, Administrative Officer. During the morning of August 5, 2015, Levi Hutchinson, Executive Assistant, from the Regional Director's Office provided the members who attended the trip, employees from the WCAO, and employees via WebEx, with a two hour correspondence training. After a brief lunch, the members were escorted by Brett Griffin, Repayment Specialist, and Susan Behery, Civil Engineer, to tour the Animas-La Plata Project, including Lake Nighthorse. During the visit to Lake Nighthorse, Ed Warner, Area Manager from the WCAO in Grand Junction, gave the members a firsthand look at the complexities surrounding opening the reservoir to recreation.



ASC members in Durango, Colorado

The ASC members traveled back to Salt Lake/Provo on August 6, 2015. Many of the members commented on how the experience was eye opening and how great it was to be able to visit the projects in person. A big thank you to all those involved that made this trip possible.

What is ASC??

The Administrative Support Career Management Program was developed in 1991 as an agency-wide guide to promote peak performance and enhance career development. This program has benefited both participating administrative staff and offices throughout Reclamation over the past 20 years.

The local ASC meets at various times throughout the year to provide an avenue for employees interested in improving their skills and job performance (learning procedures/policies, discussing concerns, networking, and providing training).



Recently, the awards section was updated to ensure consistency throughout Reclamation. Each year the ASC presents two awards for outstanding job performance. The recipients of the ASC awards are considered for the Reclamation-wide awards. The Reclamation-wide award recipients are presented their awards by the Commissioner at the annual Reclamation Administrative Professionals Advisory Council (RAPAC) annual meeting. This year's RAPAC events will be hosted by the Upper Colorado Region.

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Safety, Front and Center Hearing Loss Article



As iPod or MP3 use continues to grow, hearing loss is a growing concern. These devices are capable of producing sound levels ranging anywhere from 60 to 120 decibels (dB). Turning the volume approximately one-quarter of the way up produces a volume of about 85 dB. Exposing yourself to any noise that is 85 dB or higher over time causes permanent hearing loss.

Please keep this in mind as many of us listen to music at work, during our commute, or at home. If you frequently, need to ask others to repeat what they say, you may be suffering from hearing loss. The signs of hearing loss are:

- Frequently asking for words or phrases to be repeated (often using "what" or "huh?")
- Not understanding someone unless the person is facing him/her
- Turning up the volume of the TV or radio, when it is loud enough for others
- Not responding to or requests repetition when listening on the telephone
- Not being startled by loud sounds
- Speaking loudly under otherwise normal listening conditions

Below are some suggestions to prevent hearing loss:

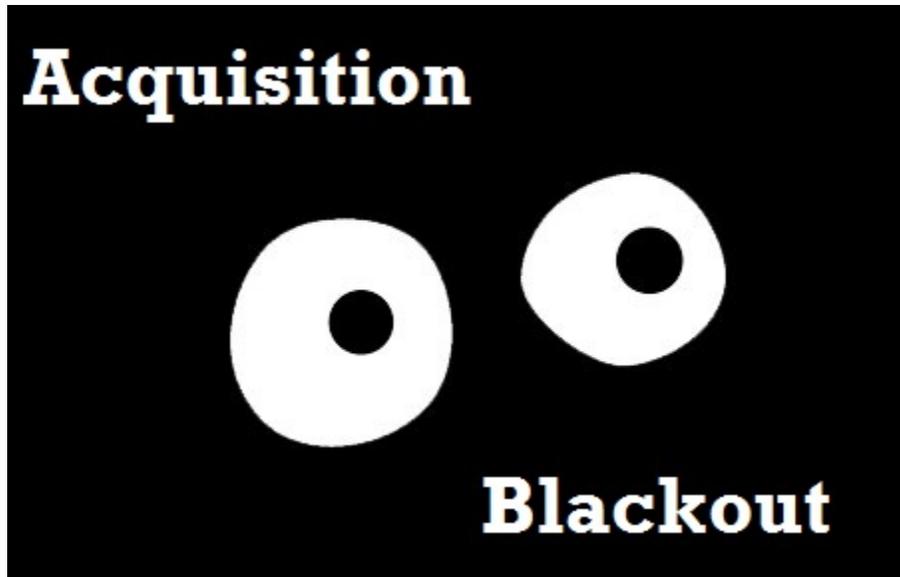
- Reducing the volume or dB level of your listening device
- Reducing the time exposed to loud noise regardless of source
- Wearing hearing protection
- Don't smoke
- Review medications for potential hear loss side effects
- Have your hearing tested if you are exposed to loud noises on a regular basis



Attached to nerve cells in the cochlea are thousands of tiny hairs that help translate sound vibrations into electrical signals that are transmitted to your brain. Hearing loss occurs when either these tiny hairs are torn or the nerve is damaged. Remember hearing loss is permanent. Always be vigilant in protecting your hearing. Please take a moment and view and learn from this recent KSL video and article, "[Are teens going deaf?](#)"

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Surviving Blackout



By Richard Pew

In the summer of 1995, I remember watching the movie Apollo 13. It chronicles the failed attempt to land on the moon following an oxygen tank explosion in space. Over the course of three days, National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the three astronauts, and the Apollo 13 contractors overcome unsurmountable odds to bring the astronauts safely back home.

Prior to reentry to earth's atmosphere, no one knew if Apollo 13's heat shield was intact or if the parachutes would deploy properly. Upon reentry, an Apollo spacecraft would normally experience radio "blackout" for about four minutes. Because of the unknown condition of the heat shield and parachutes, this was to be the most dramatic four minutes of the movie. It was not. Turns out, the additional two minutes of radio blackout would be the most dramatic part of the movie. I thought for sure, I would have to demand my money back. In the end, they landed safely in the South Pacific. Later, NASA determined a shallower entry caused the lengthened blackout period.

As fiscal year (FY) 2015 fades away, acquisition and financial assistance (FA) are nearing FBMS blackout. During blackout, acquisitions and FA are unable to release awards and modifications or obligate funds, and recipients are unable to draw down funds. Don't worry; Acquisitions Management Division (AMD) will still be hard at work. Even though AMD is unable to obligate funds, we will be able to create documents and work on the projects set aside during the year-end push.



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Unlike a movie, no one is interested in a drama filled blackout period. To survive FBMS blackout, I have four suggestions:

1. Had NASA known of the shallow reentry, the world could have avoided an additional two minutes of unbearable suspense. Know the following dates:

- **Friday, September 18, 2015**

Last day to obligate Acquisition & Financial Assistance Awards without Bureau Procurement Chief (BPC) approval.

→ Reference: [Fiscal-Year End \(FYE\) 2015 Key Dates Memo](#)

- **Saturday, September 19 - Wednesday, September 23 - 7:00 p.m. MDT**

Acquisition & Financial Assistance obligations only allowed with BPC approval.

→ Reference: [Fiscal-Year End \(FYE\) 2015 Key Dates Memo](#)

- **Wednesday, September 23 - 7:00 p.m. MDT**

PRISM to SAP Interface for *financial transactions* turned off at 7:00 p.m.

PRISM functionality available *except for* releasing awards and modifications that obligate and/or de-obligate funds. All other PRISM functionality is still available. For example, users can (as long as they have the corresponding ACQ or FA role) create and release solicitations and amendments; create awards and modifications; release *non-obligating/non-de-obligating* awards and modifications; transmit to FedConnect and FBO.gov; assign PRs; upload attachments; and view and print documents.

→ Reference: [2015 BOR YE Calendar](#) Unique ID # 3373

- **Thursday, September 24 - 6:00 p.m. MDT**

Users with any Requisition role (creators and approvers) and/or the GR/SES (ACQ_COR) role lose access. This means new PRs cannot be entered and previously entered PRs cannot be viewed, edited, modified, rejected, or approved and GRs/SES' cannot be entered, edited, or revoked.

→ Reference: [2015 BOR YE Calendar](#) Unique ID # 3395

- **Thursday, October 1**

PRISM auto numbering masks set to generate 2016 numbers.

When a user creates a new solicitation or award, the numbering masks will start with R16.

→ Reference: [2015 BOR YE Calendar](#) Unique ID # 1238

- **Tuesday, October 13**

PRISM-SAP financial transaction interface restored. Releasing of Awards and modifications that obligate and/or de-obligate can resume.

→ Reference: [2015 BOR YE Calendar](#) Unique ID # 3512

- **Friday, October 16 (estimated)***

Users with any Requisition role (creators and approvers) and/or the GR/SES (ACQ_COR) role regain access. This means new PRs can be entered and previously entered PRs can be viewed, edited, modified, rejected, or approved and GRs/SES' can be entered, edited, or revoked.

→ Reference: [Fiscal-Year End \(FYE\) 2015 Key Dates Memo](#)



- When access will be restored and activity can resume is dependent on other year-end/start-up activities. In addition, the date access resumes for Requisition roles may differ from the GR/SES (ACQ_COR) role.
2. During the Apollo 13 Mission, the CO2 levels were reaching unsafe levels. To solve the problem NASA decided to connect the filters to a different section of the spacecraft. However, instead of the round connectors, that section of the spacecraft required square connectors. Therefore, NASA literally had to “fit a round peg in a square hole.” Had NASA planned ahead, the whole crisis could have been avoided. You, too, should plan ahead. For example, for me, September 18 is my drop dead date to obligate funds. Furthermore, I am telling my customers and recipients that September 16 is their drop dead date to have all materials turned in. This gives me the needed time to get everything done and overcome any last minute obstacles they may arise.
 3. Again, Had NASA known of the shallow reentry, the world could have avoided an additional two minutes of unbearable suspense. **REMEMBER**, October 16 is an estimated date. Do not panic and Be Prepared (Listen to Uncle Scar or for you scouters out there, well, you know.), if blackout lasts longer than anticipated.
 4. Finally, NASA had hundreds of people working behind the scenes to ensure the safe return of the Apollo 13 crew. With each new crisis, the crew was able to call mission control, and mission control would talk the crew through the crisis. AMD has dozens of acquisition and FA personnel waiting to assist you. I would encourage you to call us, and we can talk you through any obstacle, concern, or crisis you may have.

Like the safe return of the Apollo 13 astronauts, FBMS blackout should be a time of celebration. It marks the end of another successful year for the UC Region’s Programs, Acquisitions, and Financial Assistance. It is also a time to ramp up for the upcoming fiscal year. May it be so and Happy Fiscal New Year!

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Thoughts from the Front Office



Since becoming the Regional Director, I have had an opportunity to speak with several of you. One of the most enjoyable parts of my job is getting to spend time with our employees, share some of my thoughts, and respond to your questions. I would like to take just a minute to reiterate a couple of thoughts that I shared in the last all employees meeting in the regional office. These thoughts end in a request that I have for all of us. The first is that we all approach every day as an interview. Consider for a moment the day you interviewed for the job you currently hold. How did you act during the interview, and if you were a current employee, how did you act from the time you become aware of the vacancy leading up to the interview? If you are like me and many others that I have observed, you put your best foot forward in anticipation of being selected for the position you were interested in. You may have included a resume



with your application that highlighted your experience or educational background for the purpose of convincing the selecting official that you were the best qualified for the job. All of these; your experience, education, application, and most likely a face to face interview, resulted in you being selected because you put your best foot forward. The selecting official saw something in you that made them want to have you on their team. When I ask you to treat every day as an interview, I am simply asking you to put your best foot forward. This simple message applies to all 700 employees in the region, including myself.

The second thought I would like to share comes from my own self-reflection. I have always been surrounded by individuals, supervisors, peers, and subordinates that wanted me to be successful. They provided me opportunities to grow and supported me when I needed their help. I don't mean to imply that they always agreed with me, in fact, some of the most helpful experiences came from hearing alternative perspectives and solutions. Every now and then (and probably more often than I realize) others saw that I needed a helping hand and stepped forward to offer it. As a result of them helping me when I needed it, my career has been most satisfying. I am in their debt for the help they have given me. Because I knew I could count on my colleagues, relationships have been strengthened, and the level of trust among my fellow Reclamation peers has increased. Through my experience I know that there are opportunities on a daily basis where we can help one another to be successful. We can be better together than we can alone, and one way this happens is to lend a helping hand. My second request, like the first, is pretty simple and again applies to all 700 of us. When you see an opportunity to help your peer, please step forward and lend a helping hand. It doesn't need to be complicated and can be as simple as answering the phone for someone that is otherwise engaged in other work.

If each one of us would take these two requests seriously, then I strongly believe we will get better at what we do on a daily basis, and our overall job satisfaction will improve. I want to personally thank each and every one of you for all you do to make the Upper Colorado Region a great place to work.

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Who's New

Jed Parker

Upper Colorado Regional Office – Program Management Division – Management Analyst



Jed Parker is now a Management Analyst in the Program Management Division in the Regional Office. He began his Reclamation career in 2010 as a Civil Engineer in the Albuquerque Area Office, transferring to the Provo Area Office a year ago and finally ending up in his current position at the Regional Office. Jed hopes to bring the perspective of an area office engineer and project manager to the Regional Office to help improve project management across the Region.

Jed grew up in Utah County but has always thought of Salt Lake as home since attending the University of Utah where he met his wife Cheryl, also an engineer. Since



undergraduate work, he and his wife have lived and worked in Washington, Minnesota, New Mexico and Nevada where Jed graduated with a M.S. in Environmental Engineering from the University of Nevada-Reno.

Among other things, Jed is a guitar player, biodiesel enthusiast, gardener, and when time and patience permits – home improver. His and his wife love to spend time together along with the pets they've gathered along the way. They hope to continue discovering the Southwestern U.S. and travelling the world whenever possible.

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What Is the Media Saying About Reclamation This Week?

[Bennet, Gardner tell EPA to set an example for Animas River cleanup](#)

[Bureau Of Reclamation Awards \\$1.49M For Nine Desalination And Water Purification Research Projects](#)

[Utahns would cut water use, live smaller to save farms, Envision Utah survey says](#)

[Media Advisory: C.A.S.T. for Kids event at Strawberry Reservoir tomorrow](#)

[Releases doubled from Navajo Reservoir](#)

[Lead, arsenic waste from Colorado mine expected to reach Utah](#)

[Animas mine disaster: Arsenic, cadmium, lead broke water limits \(Video\)](#)

[Letter: Vision of Lake Powell pipeline is flawed](#)

[New Mexico preps for contaminated mine water to hit San Juan River](#)

[National challenge of leaking mines dwarfs Colorado spill](#)

[Navajo Lake releases dilute wastewater](#)

[Last chance to comment on survey of Federal Recreational Land Pass holder](#)

[Wastewater plant](#)

[Program aims to reduce pressure on Lake Powell](#)

[Mystery flooding prompts examination of Ogden-Brigham Canal](#)

[Lake Powell - Glen Canyon](#)

[Wyoming Trying to Save Water](#)

[Utah, New Mexico clear San Juan River for drinking water](#)

[Animas dispatch: Hundreds celebrate the river's reopening](#)

[Every Kid in a Park – FREE Admission for 4th Graders & Family](#)

[Salem canal breach blamed on gophers](#)



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Canon Largo Morning by Robert Stumb

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Reclamation Trivia

Here's this week's set of questions:

1. The study tour focused on the Upper Colorado Region, with a site visits to _____, _____, _____, and _____.
2. What does PRDRP stand for?
3. Where did the Western Colorado Area Office Rope Access Team complete their training?

Last week, We asked,

1. Today, Reclamation is the Nation's largest wholesale water supplier, administering 337 reservoirs with a total storage capacity of 245 million acre-feet.



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation

2. The Records Group are reorganizing over 17,000 plus books into alphabetical order according their projects and then features.
3. The oath of office was conducted by the Chief Justice Herb Yazzie and spoken in the Navajo Language.

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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