



FOLDER ID 1421  
United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION  
Washington, D.C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO

Honorable Mike Sullivan  
Governor of Wyoming  
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002

FEB 15 1994

704	AC	1.00	2/24/94
710	F	1.11	12/2
		1.05	2/23
		2.00	2/25
		4.00	2/28
477	JD	4.70	3/1
		1.50	3/3

Working Copy

Dear Governor Sullivan:

Thank you for your letter of December 20, 1993, concerning operation of Jackson Lake, Dam and opportunities to benefit the downstream fisheries. I assure you that I am firmly committed to the principles and values presented in my Blueprint for Reform, and believe that implementation of these principles will result in innovative water resource management that is beneficial to the wide range of public values.

aj:CSPO

In the past we have operated Jackson Lake Dam to provide a stable reservoir elevation during the winter while maintaining a minimum instream flow. This operation was established in order to enhance the lake fishery. We are aware of the recent public interest in increasing the flows below Jackson Dam. Because of this interest and the fishery benefits that would be realized, Reclamation has committed to providing a minimum release from Jackson Lake Dam of 280 cubic feet per second or the computed lake inflow, depending upon the October 1 reservoir elevation.

Your initiative to obtain storage for augmentation of natural flows exhibits the State's commitment to enhance winter instream flows for the river. I encourage you to utilize that storage to benefit the downstream fishery as your staff deems appropriate.

Previous correspondence on this subject has pointed out the spectrum of management issues that exist, and the diverse nature of public interest. Associated with the public interest are varying levels of understanding and interpretation of the technical and natural constraints. I appreciate the efforts of your office toward educating the public and working toward a consensus of public value.

I believe that continued cooperative initiatives developed by members of my staff, representatives of the State Engineer's Office, the Game and Fish Department, and local interest groups will result in the eventual understanding and resolution of this issue.

Thank you for your interest in the management of Jackson Lake Dam.

Sincerely,

/s/ Daniel Beard

Daniel P. Beard  
Commissioner

cc: Gordon W. Fassett  
Francis Petera

bc: AS-WS, CL  
Regional Director, Boise, Idaho  
W-1530, W-6610, W-6600, D-5000, D-1001  
(w/c of incoming to each)

WBR:KWirkus:pd:2/3/98:x6271:931478

RET:pd:2/14/94