

**Semi-Annual Program Performance Report Agreement 03FC601826
Improved Hydrologic Data Collection Systems for Drought Monitoring
March 22, 2005**

A) A Comparison of Actual Accomplishments with the Goals and Objectives Reported for the Reporting Period

Goals for this project were established for the term of the project rather than for the reporting period. Nonetheless, progress appeared satisfactory for the period. A summary of project progress and remaining activity in each work area of the grant follows:

Assistance for Republican Irrigation Districts

This work was completed and reported in a prior progress report and has already been paid (\$151,500)

Lake McConaughy Water Set Aside

This work was completed and reported in a prior progress report and has already been paid (\$47,310.59). The original grant amount for this sub-item was \$50,000.

Improved Distribution of Streamflow Information Via the Internet

Total Grant Amount: 113,500 Total Grant Expenditures to Date:

Subitems

Upgrade to DCPs for Big Blue, Platte, Ord Office and Norfolk Office Gaging Stations

A total of \$86,500 was budgeted for these items and requests for reimbursement of _____ of that amount are included in the request accompanying this report. However the remaining equipment has almost all been ordered and we expect to have the equipment and bills on that material within the next month.

Purchase DCS Processing Toolkit.

This item is discussed in the forwarding letter to this report. It was budgeted at \$6,500 and \$4,000 was spent on it in June of 2004. However, the grant that included this purchase had not been approved at the time we made the purchase. For timing reasons we believed we needed to go ahead, even if that meant funding the item out of state funds instead. Although that \$4,000 is included in this progress report and in the related reimbursement request, it may not be eligible because of the timing of the purchase.

Hydrological Data Manager Administrative Package

This item was completed and mentioned in the last semi-annual report and billed at that time at a cost of \$5,202 out of the originally anticipated \$6,000.

Server to House Hydro Manager Software and Data

This Item has been purchased and a bill for \$5,339.50 out of the originally budgeted \$6,000 is included with this report.

Consulting Contract on Webpage Upgrade and Data Collection

This item is budgeted at \$8,000 and is an item on which we may have some difficulty acting as quickly as we had initially hoped. With the the new WISKI stream gaging software adopted as part of the program and the beginnings of installing DCPs there have been challenges in how we process our stream gaging data. In meeting those challenges the web upgrade has been postponed until those other items can be addressed. Nonetheless, we are still likely to seek some outside assistance in webpage upgrade and this funding may well need to be used, albeit as one of the last items completed and billed.

Equip DNR with Flow Measurement Equipment

DNR has completed purchase of three Aqua-Calcs at a cost of \$5,110 out of an originally budgeted \$6,350. The billings for those are included in the accompanying request for reimbursement. We are in the process of acquiring two ultrasonic open channel flow meters (budgeted cost \$9,000) and a dopler meter (budgeted cost \$1,150) neither of those have been ordered yet and they are not included in this billing. We expect those purchases to be made in the near term future.

Upgrade Gaging Equipment in Republican Basin

Five satellite links have been purchased at a cost of \$13,310 out of an originally budgeted cost of \$13,500. A request for reimbursement is included with this order. To date \$198 out of a budgeted \$2,500 has been spent on a walking bridge at the Cambridge gage out of a budgeted \$2,500. Expenditures on that project are not yet complete, but a request for reimbursement of the \$198 is included in this mailing. No expenditures have yet been made out of a budgeted \$1,000 on a ladder at Medicine Creek. In each case we expect the expenditures to be made over the next several months.

Meter Cost Share for South Platte NRD

Conservations with the South Platte NRD in early March indicated that about \$72,000 of the budgeted \$100,000 had been committed. However, we have not yet received the billings for that yet and no request for reimbursement is included at this time. We anticipate receiving billings on this and having a request for reimbursement in the near term future. It is expected that the budgeted funding will be fully expended in a timely manner.

On-Site Computer Capabilities for Surface Water Distribution

Most, but not all of these purchases have been made and billings totaling \$19,096.84 out of the \$37,000 budgeted are included with this mailing along with a request for reimbursement. It is expected that the remaining purchases will be made in the fairly near term.

Place a New Gage on the South Platte River Near Paxton

Some of the material to construct this gage has been ordered, but no material or bills have yet been received. Therefore, no request for reimbursement is included at this time.

Update Drought Mitigation Plan

The final signature on a memorandum of agreement with the University of Nebraska Board of Regents and National Drought Mitigation Center was made on February 15, 2005 and University work on the project can now occur. As we receive billings from the University, we will in turn request reimbursement from the Bureau of Reclamation. The University is required to complete all analyses by January 1, 2006 and provide a copy of suggested updates to the Plan by January 31, 2006. This portion of the project is likely to be the final item completed from among work items authorized in September 2004.