RES-3.10

K A N S A S

TRACY STREETER, DIRECTOR

KANSAS WATER OFFICE

KATHLEEN SEBELIUS, GOVERNOR

NAME	INITIAL	ACTION	DATE
Steve	[illegible]		9/13
Alice	[illegible]		9/19
Mike K.	[illegible]		9-13
Jack	[illegible]		9/19
McCook	[illegible]	rec'd copy	9-13

REMARKS:

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310 fog
310 311

September 11, 2006

Alice Johns
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
P.O. Box 1607
Grand Island, NE 68802-1607

Dear Ms. ~~Johns~~ Alice:

We submit to you the proposed lake level management plans for water year 2007. The Kansas Water Office corresponded via electronic mail, phone, and in person in early February with the Kansas City and Tulsa Districts of the Corps, Bureau of Reclamation, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, and Kansas Department of Agriculture Division of Water Resources to establish guidelines for the upcoming water year.

The proposed plans were developed by the respective lake managers after meeting with interested parties and considering previous years' plans and guidelines provided by the above group.

Proposed lake level management plans have not been included for Milford, Perry, or Tuttle Creek Lakes at this time. Due to the success of the use of flood storage for navigation releases in recent years, additional discussions will be held this fall regarding the continuance of this cooperative plan of operation for 2007 and beyond.

I ask that these proposed plans be viewed as guidance and not hard deadlines. The beginning and end dates of drawdowns and rises should remain flexible in order to accommodate conditions at each reservoir and maximize the lake manager's ability to meet the goals of the proposed plan.

Thank you for your consideration and review. Please feel free to contact Earl Lewis or Susan Metzger of my staff if you have any questions about these proposed plans.

Sincerely,

Tracy

Tracy Streeter
Director

Enclosures

EXHIBIT
PENGAD 800-631-6989
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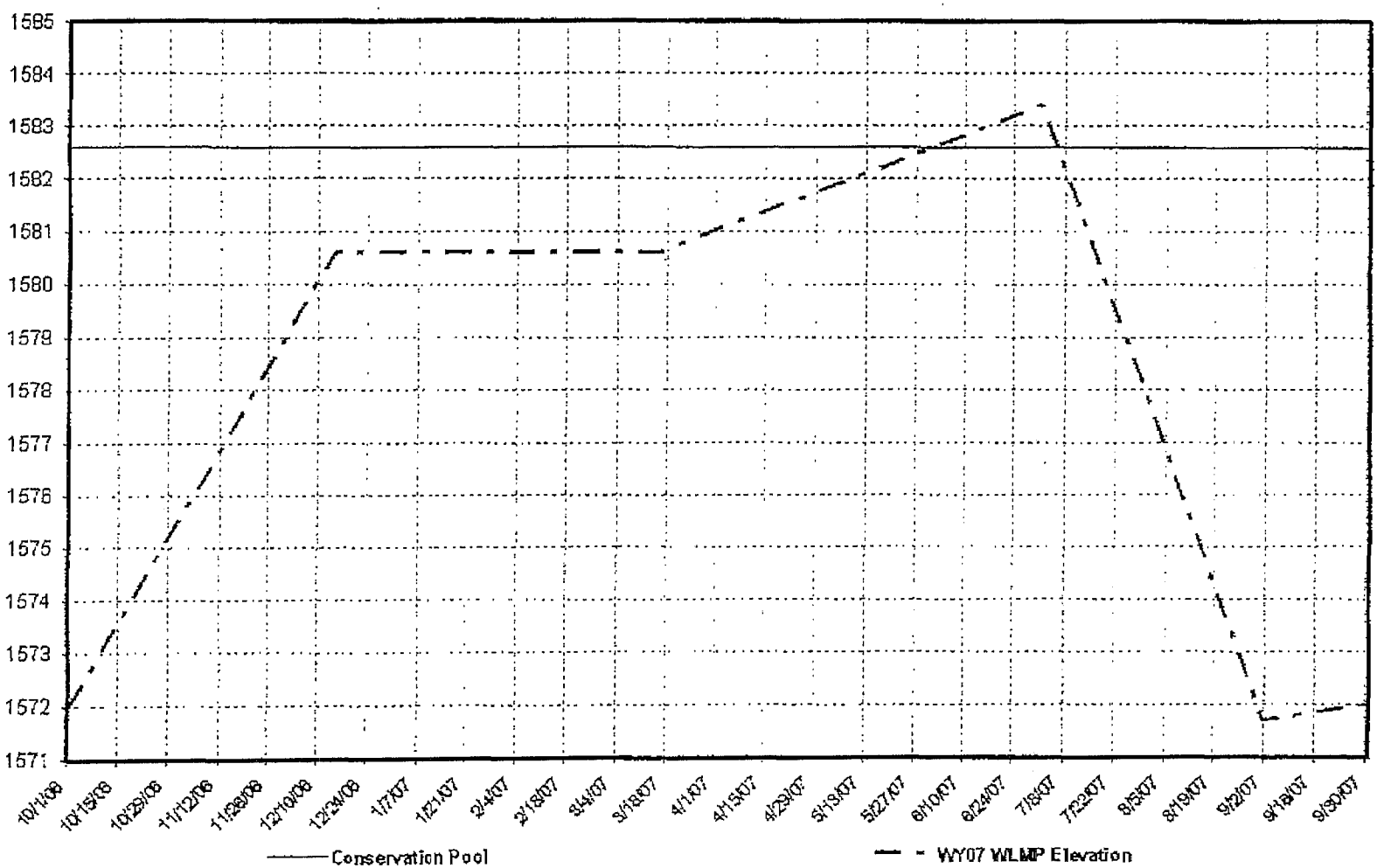
Lovewell Reservoir
WY2007 Water Level Management Plan



LOVEWELL RESERVOIR

The Kansas Bostwick Irrigation District is the main user of the water resource at Lovewell. The goal of the Lovewell Reservoir Water Level Management Plan is for all users to benefit from water levels ranging from .8 foot above conservation pool to 10.9 feet below conservation pool, while addressing both positive and negative impacts of these water levels.

This reservoir level management plan proposed for Lovewell Reservoir is designed to coordinate with Kansas Bostwick Irrigation District's past operations, and will continue to request specific water levels below conservation pool. Spring elevations greater than 2 feet above conservation pool damage the reservoir shoreline, park and wildlife area recreation facilities and flood important wildlife habitat. Summer lake levels more than 10.9 feet below conservation pool reduce access to the reservoir by rendering the boat ramps, docks, and swimming beach inoperable. These levels also de-water the upper end of the reservoir and feeder creeks. When these areas have water in the fall, they provide excellent marshy areas, which are conducive to waterfowl retention and fisheries rearing areas. When these areas are too dry or too wet, fisheries, wildlife, recreation resources and reservoir capacity are reduced for all users.

Lovewell Reservoir was designed to provide flood control, irrigation, recreation and fish and wildlife habitat. In this way it is similar to the other five western Kansas BOR reservoirs. What makes Lovewell Reservoir unique from the other reservoirs is the ability to dependably refill the reservoir with water via the Bostwick Irrigation District's Courtland Canal. The 33 mile long canal and diversion dam begin at Guide Rock Nebraska, and bring Republican River water from Nebraska to Lovewell Reservoir. This system allows Lovewell to refill after irrigation season with the exception of an extreme drought year like 1991. This dependability allows Lovewell to have more detailed water level management then the other 5 reservoirs.

Lovewell Reservoir's past water levels have experienced record lows in 1991 and record high in 1993: fisheries were stressed in 1991, whereas facility damage and severe shoreline erosion occurred in 1993.

October 1- December 15:	Allow water level to rise to elevation 1580.6 NGVD. If waterfowl habitat conditions warrant, it may be requested to increase the lake level to conservation pool (1582.6 NGVD) by October 15.
December 15- March 15:	Maintain a stable water level at or near elevation 1580.6 NGVD.
March 15 - July 1:	Water level recharges slowly, from natural run-off or recharging by Irrigation District, to elevation 1583.4 NGVD, if necessary.
July 1- September 1:	Allow evaporation and irrigation releases to lower the lake level to elevation 1571.7 NGVD (10.9 feet below conservation pool).
September 1 – September 30:	Following the irrigation season begin refilling of reservoir

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