

# MISSOURI RIVER FISHERIES TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (MoTAC)

## MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING FOR 2021 CALENDAR YEAR

Virtual meeting by GoToMeeting

17 November 2020

AND

End of Year Budget Report – December 18, 2020

### Attendees

Grant Grisak (Chair, NWE – Gt Falls); Don Skaar (FWP-Helena); Alli Russell (USFS-Helena); Jim Boyd (USFWS – White Sulphur Springs); Alden Shallcross (BLM-Billings); David Trimpe (BRO-Billings); Jon Hanson (NWE – Missoula); Mary Gail Sullivan (NWE – Butte); Andy Welch (NWE – Helena); Jordan Tollefson (NWE-Helena); Jason Rhoten (FWP-Great Falls); Jason Mullen (FWP-Gt Falls); Adam Strainer (FWP – Helena); Alex Poole (FWP-Great Falls); Luke Holmquist (FWP-Lewistown); Jake Williams (FWP-Lewistown); Nate Beckman (FWP-Lewistown); Mike Schilz (FWP – Lewistown); Eric Archer (USFS-Great Falls); Cody Nagel (FWP-Havre).

### MoTAC Business Items

Grant read from section IV C of the Agency MOU that describes TAC Operations. By virtue of having a representative from NWE and FWP and FWS or FS or BLM, a quorum was present for making TAC decisions this day.

**Environmental Webpage.** Grant provided an overview of NWE Environmental Webpage that warehouses all of the documents normally given out at the annual meetings in TAC booklets. The webpage has information relating the current 5-year plan, Agency MOU, 10- year agreement between NWE and FWP, project reports, meeting minutes, proposals, annual meeting information, etc. Grant provided a brief tour of the site while presenting to the group. All of the information for the 2021 meeting is posted on the site and can be accessed at any time, even from a mobile device.

**Update on Ryan Dam License Amendment and Holter Dam Flow Gate Upgrades.** Grant provided an update on the Ryan Reservoir license amendment. Language in the present license states Ryan Reservoir can be used for power peaking and load follow in concert with Cochrane and Morony Dams, but the pond elevation range for Ryan is not defined in the license. NWE filed the proposed amendment about 1 year ago to define the reservoir operating elevation and responded to comments in early 2020. MG followed up with FERC about 1 month ago and they reported the review was ongoing.

Upgrade of Holter Dam flow gates was prompted by two flow restoration (FR) violations within the past year and the difficulty in managing Canyon Ferry releases at Holter Dam. Grant reported one FR violation was caused by a battery bank low voltage fault that did not initiate the FR sequence and restore flows within 30 minutes. The second was caused by a full plant trip stemming from contracted maintenance on the Helena valley line that resulted in a full plant trip. The computer system initiated the FR sequence, but failed and restarted several times before ultimately restoring flow; beyond the 30 minute window. The usual practice is for NWE to self report FR violations and then follow-up with evaluations and remedies or recommendation to reduce future events. The company initiated an upgrade of 10 gates to screw jack operated vertical slide gates. Gates # 8, 9, 10 are dedicated to FR and gates 1-7 will be used for spill operations. Recent tests of the FR gates showed they operated successfully. There may be a desire to shorten the 7 minute warning siren window at Holter. HLC staff are working with Holter operators on a procedure for managing spill. Given the new vertical slide gates open downward, surface water is spilled, which can help reduce fish entrainment. Grant has been maintaining contact with FWP and the FS throughout the upgrade and will continue with a mid-winter on-site test.

**Status of Project Completion Reports.** Grant reviewed the list of project completion reports from 2014-2020. The list shows numerous missing reports for this period. We continue to use the guideline that reports are due within 6-9 months of project completion and we've maintained good success over the years. Reports for habitat improvement and other 'on-the-ground' projects that do not involve data analysis and interpretation do not need to be lengthy (2-4 pages often sufficient) can often be completed more quickly. TAC that reports should contain, at a minimum, location map, budget,

photographs. Ideally these should also include timeframe, summary of accomplishment. Grant will contact applicants in 2021 to keep progress reports on track.

**Recent Staff Changes/Transition.** Adam Strainer reported Ashton Clinger was hired to conduct the Hauser/Holter tailrace creels and various field monitoring projects. She will be stationed from Helena. Alex Poole was hired by FWP in a new position to conserve westslope cutthroat trout, and other native fishes in central Montana.

**Teton River Water Leases.** Grant provided a brief update on the status of the two water leases on the Teton River (# 2019-18). The project was initially proposed and approved in 2017, and then continued in 2018 and 2019. The project has been in the Reserve account for the past 3 years due to an extended review of the water right change by DNRC and subsequent three objections by upstream water users. Andy Brummond (FWP) has been in contact with Grant and reported the objections were settled. FWP will be negotiating a few details of the leases with the landowners within a week or so. Grant stated he would provide more information on this project at the budget allocation portion of this meeting.

### **Review of Selected 2020 Projects**

**2019-2. Fisheries Monitoring.** Adam Strainer reported a new 10-year fisheries management plan was implemented on Canyon Ferry, Hauser and Holter reservoirs and the river segments downstream. They added proportional stock density (PSD) as a metric to evaluate walleye status. In Hauser Reservoir, walleye numbers are at 5 per net, rainbow trout numbers are at 4.5 per net and perch are at 1.0 per net. Walleye and trout are within management goals while perch are below the goal. FWP stocked 100,000 kokanee in June 2020. A number of 10-inch long kokanee were sampled in gill nets this fall, which indicates some of the fish survived. This development is hopeful in providing an intermittent kokanee fishery. In Holter Reservoir, walleye numbers were 4.0 per net, rainbow trout were 3.3 per net and perch were 4.0 per net. All three species abundance are below management goals. In 2020, 5 northern pike were sampled in gill nets. This is consistent with the increase in pike abundance both upstream and downstream. FWP changed its Arlee egg take methodology from trapping in the lower reservoir to electrofishing in the upper reservoir. Adam stated the new method allows more fish to be captured on a single night rather than many days of trapping. The new Gates of the Mountains marina owner has been very cooperative at allowing this operation to occur at their site. The Holter tailrace trout population estimate occurs on even years, opposite of the Hauser tailrace population estimate. In 2020, the rainbow trout estimate was 2,021 per mile and the brown trout estimate was 151 per mile. These numbers are lower than in recent years, but within the historic range. In 2020 FWP technicians conducted 2,129 interviews of anglers using the Hauser tailrace. The number of boats was down from recent years to 223. Rainbow trout had the highest catch rate of 1,445 fish followed by brown trout and walleye, respectively. Angler pressure, as measured by the statewide mail-in survey, showed the Missouri reservoirs system (CFR, Ha, Ho) and Hauser tailrace had an estimated 200,000 combined angler days in 2019. This number is down from the previous 10 year period. FWP is planning to recommend walleye harvest regulation changes at Hauser and Canyon Ferry reservoirs and continue with planting kokanee in Hauser Reservoir.

Jason Mullen (FWP) reported rainbow trout numbers (3,247 per mile) in the Craig section downstream from Holter Dam increased from last year and are slightly under the long term average of 3,387 per mile. Brown trout numbers were also lower (422). Rainbow trout in the Cascade section were estimated at 1,698 and brown trout were 291 per mile. Low recaps and an imbalance in M and C numbers in both sections were the result of bright moon conditions during the mark run and very low flows. Relative weight of rainbow trout was 111 in the Craig section and 103 in the Cascade section. Jason reported an unusually high number of 4-8 inch rainbow trout in the Craig section and an abundance of high quality fish over 18 inches long. Maximum flows below Holter Dam were 11,400 cfs which is below the long term average of 14,061 cfs. The 2019 angler data shows 154,628 angler days in section 9. Resident anglers were slightly greater than non-residents. Estimated revenue generated from this fishery in 2019 was \$59 million.

Luke Holmquist (FWP) reported on Missouri River fisheries monitoring from Morony Dam to the headwaters of Fort Peck Reservoir. Under Article 417 monitoring, all projects were completed, except for long lining, and for the second year in a row. Flows peaked at 18,000 cfs at Landusky. Brokered flows from the Marias River during May and June were as high as 3,000 cfs to promote sturgeon spawning. The Teton River contributed nearly 1,000 cfs for several days in June. Electrofishing for blue suckers found 33 fish. Two recaptured PIT tagged fish showed growth of 3-4 mm per year. Electrofishing sampled 4,336 fish; SHRH was the most abundant species (38%). Fish per hour catch rates were stable within the Coal Banks, Judith Landing and Robinson Bridge sections. Both the Morony and Fort Benton sections showed

a continued decreasing trend. Seining sampled 23 species. Trawling was changed in 2019 to a slightly earlier period than in recent history. There was 1,758 fish from 17 species sampled, which is down from last year. Channel catfish YOY was the most abundant fish sampled. There was 189 sturgeon chub, 122 sicklefin chub, 130 YOY macrhybopsis spp and 88 YOY sturgeon sampled in the trawl. This year 140 trammel nets sets were conducted for annual sampling by section. Robinson Bridge section has the highest catch. Set lining (90) captured 374 pallid sturgeon. Luke summarized the finding in 2020 as; 1) High Blue Sucker catch in the spring, 2) Continued declining EFISH CPUE, 3) Shifting length distributions for long lived spp., 4) Pallid Sturgeon CPUE remains high, and 5) Pallid Sturgeon are showing slow growth compared to the 1997 year class.

Mike Schilz (FWP) reported they made 2,733 mobile relocations of radio tagged fish in 2020. Land based stations (15) counted 1,782 detections, of which 1,782 were from pallid sturgeon. Mature pallid sturgeon appear to spend more time above Judith Landing. As more fish are transmitted and monitored, and more 1997 fish mature, they are seeing more fish in the upper river than ever before. One PS-97 spent most of the year upstream Fort Benton. Flow modification from the Marias River attracted 8 radioed smallmouth buffalo and 9 radioed shovelnose sturgeon. Thirteen percent and 56% of those were detected at the RM3 station, respectively. Eleven percent of the radioed shovelnose sturgeon entered the Teton River. Six new radios were purchased by NWE for monitoring bigmouth buffalo. In 2021, objectives will be to 1) Continue to monitor existing radio-tagged fish, 2) Recapture sturgeon to assess spawning condition, 3) Identify shovelnose and pallid sturgeon spawning areas, 4) implant radios and monitor 1997 pallid sturgeon/ Wild pallid sturgeon, 5) recapture PS-97's with early radio tag battery failure and implant new tags.

Jake Williams reported on the status of Marias River fish monitoring. Since 2016, 2,050 shovelnose sturgeon (SNS) and 112 blue suckers have been tagged with 23mm 135 kHz HDX tags. In 2020 679 SNS and 39 blue suckers were detected at the Marias PIT station. The lower Teton station at RM 0.4 detected 109 SNS and 27 blue suckers. The upper Teton station at RM 11 detected 53 SNS and 2 blue suckers. Peak SNS entry into the Marias occurred on May 21 and was correlated to rising flows and water temperature of 64.5 F. Blue suckers peak entry into the Marias occurred about a month earlier (April 23) when water temperature was 57.2 F. Fifty recaptures of dual-tagged SNS showed PIT tag retention was 100%. In 2020, the USFWS approved at PIT tag marking variance request to use 135 kHz HDX tags on pallid sturgeon in the Missouri River upstream of Fort Peck Reservoir. Plan to install two additional PIT stations in the Marias river at RM 20 and RM 60. Sturgeon/paddlefish larvae were captured above the Teton River confluence between June 15 and July 7. Two peak catches occurred on June 21, after the June 11 discharge increase to 2,800 cfs and again on July 7, after the July 3 discharge increase to 2,500 cfs. Larvae are screened for phenotypic characteristics of shovelnose sturgeon and paddlefish. Suspect pallid sturgeon larvae/eggs were sent to Southern Illinois University of positive ID.

**2020-3. Habitat Project Consultant.** Allen McNeal worked primarily on Hardy Creek project this year, but had some charges to the Smith River Bank restoration project (2019-24) that was ultimately cancelled in August. Hardy Creek is currently in the construction phase. About half of this project's budget was spent at the time of the meeting.

**2020-5. Westslope Cutthroat Trout Field Assistance.** Alex Poole reported on monitoring of several westslope cutthroat trout restoration projects funded by the TAC in past years. The goals in 2020 included 1) Nonnative Suppression and Monitoring, 2) WCT population monitoring, 3) WCT restoration and, 4) Future project investigations. Fourteen streams were sampled and 5 others identified for future investigations.

**2020-6. Beaver Creek Riparian Restoration.** Alli Russell reported the project started on October 25 and about 3,200 feet of stream channel has been constructed with 1,200 remaining. Weather caused a slight delay. The contractor is working long hours to finish the project. Phase I should be completed by the second week of December. Alli has submitted applications to several programs to help fund Phase II which is expected to occur next year. Her application to DNRC's RRG grant preliminarily ranked high.

**2020-7. Missouri River Bank Restoration – Engman.** Jason reported the project did not happen in 2020 due to delays by the contractor in obtaining pollution insurance and getting a contract in place with NWE. A CRM inventory was conducted in early 2020 and did not find any significant cultural, historical or archaeological resources at the site and SHPO concurred the project would not impact these resources. Jason said he would follow-up immediately after the TAC meeting. UPDATE – on November 18, Jason reported much of the bank restoration project was completed without the assistance of NWE funds. The owner said the contractor could not procure an affordable pollution insurance policy so

they proceeded without NWE funds. The owner asked if TAC funds could be re-directed to cover some additional materials for hydro seeding and revegetation. Jason will put together a modification request for the TAC to consider.

**2020-10. Missouri River Chub Genetics.** Luke reported 50 fin clips from SFC and 71 clips from STC were collected and sent to Dr. Ed Heist at Southern Illinois University for genetics analysis. A number of the STC were collected from the Marias River and the Missouri at Coal Banks, while the SFC genetics were collected in the lower portion of the study area. Samples are being evaluated and should be available in time for the FWS to include in their status assessment. Jim Boyd added the status review is due in 2023. Plaintiffs have appealed the due date and asked to shorten the review period. The FWS denied the appeal and is on schedule to complete the review in 2023.

**2020-13. Sevenmile Cr Restoration – SM4.** Adam Strainer reported the SM4 section restoration is under construction. A wildfire in September burned most of the project area southern half, including the SM3 section completed in 2018. Aerial photos of the site show some of the fire damage, but the riparian area seemed either unscathed or in quick recovery. Aerial photos of the site showed the newly constructed channel and overburden material in place to be repurposed as fill in the old channel. A fish salvage was scheduled for November 18, but postponed due to a conflict with the construction crew. After the fish salvage occurs, water will be moved in to the new channel. This is expected to occur in early December. The project is expected to be completed by mid-December.

### Review of Projects Carried Over from Previous Years

**2016-11. Carpenter Cr Fish Barrier.** Jason Mullen reported EPA continues to work with the neighboring landowner and County to determine the right of way for the proposed fish barrier/bridge location. He said there is a lot of funding procured for implementation from Future fisheries, so the TAC funds dedicated to design remain important to the success of the project.

**2018-10. Hardy Creek.** Jason reported the project is in construction. A series of splash pools were installed at the outlet of the Frontage Road culvert to decrease the gradient differential between the culvert and the stream bed. Now, fish can pass the culvert through a progressively stepped pool system. Baffles were installed in the culvert to collect medium sized rock for eddys that should allow fish to traverse the 100 foot distance without exhausting themselves. Numerous fish were observed in the stream near the culvert outlet and in the culvert during construction. High water in the pond system requires pumping. A floodplain has been created on which the new channel will be constructed which will eliminate connection to the pond, except during bankfull conditions. Material for the floodplain is coming from the pond floor (old gravel pit) and from an MDT storage yard about 0.25 mile to the south. One landowner has not responded to numerous calls to give permission to rebuild the lower portion of Hardy Creek. Jason believes the project will still be a success if the gradient can be corrected through the pond site, under the railroad bridge, past the old culvert/new bridge site and onto the Missouri River. The project is expected to be completed in mid December.

**2019-7. Blue sucker publication.** This project was completed in 2020. The paper was published by Tornabene et. al 2020 in Copeia 108:151-162.

**2019-18. Water Leases – Teton River.** Grant provided an update at the beginning of the meeting and said he would follow-up at the end of the budget allocation part with a request to increase the TAC award to cover the water commissioner fees.

**2019-22. Sevenmile Creek Design & Permitting #2 (SM4).** Adam indicated the project was in the construction phase. A small amount of funds remained from this project due to uncertainty in the cost of the No Rise analysis and ACOE permitting requirements. The balance will be added to the implementation portion of the project.

**2019-24. Smith River Bank Restoration.** This project was withdrawn by Jason on August 28, 2020 because of difficulty in securing regulatory permits. At that time, Jason asked if the \$11,930 approved for this project could be diverted to the Hardy Creek project to cover \$13,369 in added costs for pumping water from the pond and for additional materials. He also requested \$1,439 from the Contingency fund (#2020-1). Grant routed this update and request to the TAC on August 28, 2020 and the TAC approved the request on September 1, 2020. All of the correspondence and approvals were emailed to the TAC members at the time, and are chronicled in the NWE MoTAC 2020 electronic file.

### **Review of 2020 Expenses and Reserve Account**

In 2020 the TAC approved 13 projects totaling \$672,980. The budget for 2020 was \$646,489 plus \$26,491 approved from the Reserve Account. The estimated Reserve Account in at the start of 2020 was \$142,208 of which 96,925 was spent.

At the end of 2020 the Reserve Account was \$46,893 which includes \$31,398 (2016-11, \$25,200 and 2019-18, \$6,198) for past projects, plus \$14,885 in uncommitted funds. The end-of-year 2020 budget is provided below;

**Projects & Budget for CY2020**

(Numbers in **PINK**)

As Of: December 28 , 2020

Project description	Proposed budget for 2020	Approved amount for 2020	Spent
CRM-Legacy Consulting Inc.		\$2,711	\$3,311
Contingency/Emergency Fund	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$4,206
Fisheries Monitoring - FWP	\$242,368	\$243,064	\$243,064
Habitat Projects Consultant	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,001
Field Operations - NWE	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$12,890
WCT Field Assistance	\$13,500	\$13,500	\$13,500
Beaver Creek Riparian Restoration - phase I	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$149,971
Missouri River Bank Restoration - Engman	\$25,375	\$22,664	\$9,975
Equip - Radio Tel Remote Monitoring	\$16,342	\$0	\$0
Middle Missouri Radio Telemetry	\$55,011	\$55,011	\$55,011
Missouri River Chub Genetics	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000
Equip - Trammel Nets	\$6,380	\$0	\$0
Equip - Hauser Holter Gill Nets	\$1,987	\$0	\$0
Sevenmile Ck Restoration - final phase	\$131,731	\$126,030	\$126,030
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$702,694</b>	<b>\$672,980</b>	\$657,959
Budget for CY2020	\$646,489	\$646,489	
Total approved by TAC for CY2020		<b>\$672,980</b>	
Difference	-\$56,205	<b>(\$26,491)</b>	

**RESERVE ACCOUNT\*\*\* (capped at \$250K in 2017)**

Approved in Prior Year(s) But Not Fully Completed Yet:

Project Description	Project Cmmt	Amount spent in 2020	Balance of commitment remaining
Carpenter Cr Fish Barrier	\$25,200	\$0	<b>\$25,200</b>
Hardy Creek Restoration	\$91,405	\$88,527	\$0
Blue Sucker Report Publication	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0
Water Lease Teton River (2017-22)	\$6,198	\$0	<b>\$6,198</b>
Sevenmile Creek Design and Permitting #2	\$6,399	\$6,399	\$0
Smith River Bank Restoration (\$11,930)			\$0
Total	\$131,202	\$96,926	\$31,398

**Reserve Account Bal end of 2020 (NWE data Nov 2020)**

**\$46,283**

**Reserve Acct commitments end of 2020**

**\$31,398**

**Estimated Uncommitted Reserve Funds end of 2020**

**\$14,885**

## Review and Comments on Selected 2021 Proposals

There were 14 projects proposed for 2020, totaling \$661,567. In most cases, there was little discussion following the brief presentations by project sponsors. There were questions or comments on a few of the proposals as follows:

**2021-0. CRM-Legacy Consulting Inc.** Grant indicated only one of the 2021 proposed projects included ground breaking activity. Beaver Creek Restoration phase II (2021-5) had CRM compliance completed by the USFS last year, so none of the projects in 2021 required CRM. As such, there was no need to dedicate funding for this proposal in 2021.

**2021-13. Shovelnose Sturgeon Data Analysis and Publication.** Although no specific questions were raised about the merit of this project, Grant stated the proposal requested routing TAC funds through FWP and then through MSU. The overhead to FWP and MSU for this project totaled \$6,108 which is 26% of the total project cost. Grant checked with NWE Risk Management staff and lawyer who determined the risk to NWE was low to contract directly with the person doing the data analysis and writing. As such, NWE would not require liability insurance and NWE could contract directly with the person; thus saving \$6,108 to the TAC. Jason Rhoten said he would discuss this with the researcher to determine if there were any unforeseen issues not considered with a direct contract. In general, the TAC was supportive of eliminating the overhead, if possible.

**2021-14. Prickly Pear Creek Rewatering.** Adam Strainer withdrew this project at the time of the meeting citing the partners in this project secured water lease funding from other sources. Adam thanked the TAC for its support in past years.

**2019-18. Water Leases Teton River.** Grant continued discussion about this project indicating it was ready to begin in 2021 following a lengthy change-of-right process with DNRC and settling 3 objections. Recent discussions between Grant and Andy Brummond indicated the original application stated water commissioner fees would be paid by the landowners out of their lease fees. Andy thought having the lessor pay those fees could risk creating a disincentive to lease water for instream flow. Grant offered to bring this up for discussion at the TAC meeting and ask the TAC to cover water commissioner fees in addition to the already approved water lease fees. The estimated annual lease fee is \$6,200 and the estimated annual water commissioner fee is \$3,200. The adjusted annual commitment for this project would be about \$10,000 per year for each of the 10 years it was approved. NWE Risk Management staff and lawyer were also consulted on this project and determined NWE could pay the lease and water commissioner fees directly to the landowners (who then would pay the water commissioner) in order to eliminate 12.5% overhead from FWP. This is one option if FWP or DNRC have no issues with this payment path.

## Summary of 2021 Funding Decisions and End of Year Budget Report

The budget for 2021 is \$661,567 and the total amount proposed was \$645,459, which means the 2021 budget would be underspent by \$13,960. There was no additional discussion on the status of the budget allocation.

After review, comments and questions for the 13 proposals, and the budget strategy noted above, the MoTAC voted unanimously to approve the 13 projects proposed for 2021. Grant called for another vote to increase the cost of project 2019-18 to \$10,000 annually to cover the cost of the water commissioner. The TAC voted unanimously in favor of this modification. Grant called for another vote to allocate \$10,000 per year for 10 years to project 2019-18. The TAC voted unanimously in favor of this modification.

The estimated Reserve Account balance at the beginning of 2021 was \$36,129 which included \$35,200 for uncompleted projects (2016-11, 2019-18), which leaves a balance of \$929 of uncommitted funds available. The 2021 budget is summarized below;

<b>MOTAC Projects &amp; Budget for CY2021</b>			
<b>As Of: November 13, 2020</b>			
<b>Project #</b>	<b>Project description</b>	<b>Proposed budget for 2021</b>	<b>Approved budget for 2021</b>
2021-0	CRM-Legacy Consulting Inc.	\$0	\$0
2021-1	Contingency/Emergency Fund	\$10,000	\$10,000
2021-2	Fisheries Monitoring - FWP	\$243,206	\$243,206
2021-3	Habitat Projects Consultant	\$20,000	\$20,000
2021-4	Field Operations - NWE	\$10,000	\$10,000
2021-5	Beaver Creek Riparian Restoration - phase 2	\$220,000	\$220,000
2021-6	Middle Missouri Radio Telemerty	\$55,149	\$55,149
2021-7	Equipment - Trammel Nets	\$15,650	\$15,650
2021-8	Equipment - PIT Antennae	\$21,373	\$21,373
2021-9	Equipment - Radio Telemetry Network	\$9,895	\$9,895
2021-10	Equipment - Gill Nets & Hydrolab	\$3,254	\$3,254
2021-11	Holter Rainbow Trout Marking	\$3,144	\$3,144
2021-12	Westslope Cutthroat Trout Restoration	\$16,034	\$16,034
2021-13	Shovelnose Sturgeon Data Analysis & Pub	\$23,862	\$17,754
2021-14	Prickly Pear Creek Rewatering	\$10,000	\$0
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$661,567</b>	<b>\$645,459</b>
	Budget for CY2021	\$659,419	
	Total approved by TAC for CY2021		<b>\$645,459</b>
	Difference	-\$2,148	<b>\$13,960</b>

<b>***RESERVE ACCOUNT*** (capped at \$250K beginn</b>			
<b>Projects Approved in Prior Year(s) But Not Fully Completed Yet:</b>			
<b>Project #</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>Project Cost</b>	<b>Amount Spent</b>
2016-11	Carpenter Cr Fish Barrier	\$25,200	\$0
2019-18	Water Lease Teton River (2017-22)	\$10,000	\$0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$35,200</b>	<b>\$0</b>
	<i><b>Reserve Acct balance start of 2021</b></i>	<b>\$36,129</b>	
	<i><b>Reserve Account Commitments</b></i>	<b>\$35,200</b>	
	<i><b>Uncommitted Reserve Funds start of 2021</b></i>	<b>\$929</b>	

In addition to the Reserve Account corrections, all MoTAC account calculations were summarized from 2014 through the beginning of 2021 (see below). This should serve as an appropriate tracking mechanism for TAC account balances moving forward.



	RESERVE Cap	200,000	200,000	200,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
NWE Order #									
10007921-001	Reserve Start Bal	\$200,000.00	\$186,589.88	\$200,000.00	\$250,000.00	\$250,000.00	\$160,763.18	\$143,208.38	\$36,129.00
	Reserve Commitments	\$123,970.00	\$122,342.00	\$175,684.00	\$144,340.00	\$231,692.00	\$161,965.00	\$128,323.00	\$35,200.00
	Reserve Uncommitted	\$76,030.00	\$64,247.88	\$24,316.00	\$105,660.00	\$18,308.00	-\$1,201.82	\$14,885.00	\$929.00
	Reserve Expenses	\$135,878.55	\$34,763.00	\$26,048.43	\$46,142.30	\$183,373.82	\$52,107.50	\$96,925.10	
	Reserve End Bal	\$64,121.45	\$151,826.88	\$173,951.57	\$203,857.70	\$66,626.18	\$108,655.68	\$46,283.28	
10009601-751	Start MoTAC Balance	\$565,704.00	\$579,647.00	\$594,343.00	\$609,201.00	\$621,385.00	\$633,812.70	\$646,489.00	\$659,419.00
	MoTAC Expenses	\$501,582.55	\$507,603.00	\$486,560.00	\$532,258.00	\$527,248.00	\$599,260.00	\$457,959.00	
	End MoTAC Balance	\$64,121.45	\$72,044.00	\$107,783.00	\$76,943.00	\$94,137.00	\$34,552.70	-\$11,470.00	
	Reserve Begin Next Year	\$128,242.90	\$223,870.88	\$281,734.57	\$280,800.70	\$160,763.18	\$143,208.38	\$36,129.00	
	Refund Back to Company		\$23,870.88	\$31,734.57	\$30,800.70				