HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE MONTH

DAKOTAS AREA OFFICE

End-of-month elevation at Angostura Reservoir for the month of April was the fourth lowest in 56 years on record. April end-of-month elevation at Shadehill Reservoir was the second lowest in 56 years on record.

Inflows to Lake Tschida were the third lowest on record for the month of April. End-of-month storage content at Lake Tschida was the sixth lowest for the month of April. Inflows to E.A. Patterson Reservoir were the fourth lowest on record for the month of April. End-of-month storage content at E. A. Patterson was the fifth lowest for the month of April.

EASTERN COLORADO AREA OFFICE

The Lake Granby storage of 267,000 acre-feet (AF) on April 30, 2008, was 61,700 AF below average and 21,300 AF lower than 1 year ago. Colorado-Big Thompson Project storage water in Lake Granby, Carter Lake, and Horsetooth Reservoir was 452,300 AF on April 30, 2008, 112,200 AF below average and 56 percent of the total available storage capacity.

Total water storage in the Fryingpan-Arkansas Project at the end of April 2008, was 438,300 AF, and 2,900 AF lower than 1 year ago.

MONTANA AREA OFFICE

For the month of April, inflow to Lake Elwell was the third lowest on record and inflow to Bighorn Lake was the fourth lowest on record.

End of April storage in Gibson Reservoir was the fifth lowest on record and storage in Fresno Reservoir was the seventh lowest on record.

NEBRASKA-KANSAS AREA OFFICE

April computed inflows to Bonny and Box Butte Reservoirs were the second lowest ever recorded for the month and the fifth lowest on record at Swanson Lake and Enders Reservoir.

The end of April storage was the lowest ever recorded for the month at Bonny and Box Butte Reservoirs. End of April storage at Waconda Lake was the second lowest on record. The conservation pools filled at Lovewell and Calamus Reservoirs and Harry Strunk Lake during the month.

WYOMING AREA OFFICE

Bighorn River Basin

Nothing significant to report this month.

North Platte River Basin

The Kendrick storage ownership was the lowest April ownership in the last 30 years. The Glendo ownership was the fourth lowest April ownership in the last 30 years.

OKLAHOMA-TEXAS AREA OFFICE

Nothing significant to report this month.

CORPS OF ENGINEERS REPORT

April saw significant rain in the lower Missouri River Basin, but the plains in Montana, North and South Dakota remain very dry. Inflow into the three large upper reservoirs averaged only 33 percent of normal.

The snow pack in the Rocky Mountains peaked in late-April slightly above-normal. Above Fort Peck, it topped at 111 percent of normal, and 110 percent of normal in the reach between Fort Peck and Garrison, essentially the Yellowstone River Basin.

System storage in the six main stem reservoirs was 37.1 million acre-feet (MAF) on May 1, 0.5 MAF higher than last year at this time. It is unlikely there will be a pulse from Gavins Point in May because storage in expected to be below the preclude level of 40 MAF. Runoff for 2008 is forecasted to be 20 MAF.

The navigation season opened at St Louis, Missouri on April 1. Because of low system storage, only minimum service flow will be provided for navigation and other downstream uses. Forecasts show the navigation season will be shortened by 30 to 58 days in 2008.

The six main stem power plants generated 424 million kilowatt hours (kWh) of electricity in April, only 60 percent of normal because of lower pool levels and reduced releases from the dams. Total energy production for 2008 is forecasted to be 5.6 billion kWh, compared to the average annual generation of 10 billion kWh.