HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE MONTH

DAKOTAS AREA OFFICE

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

Inflows to Deerfield Reservoir in the month of March were the lowest in the past 55 years of record.

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

EASTERN COLORADO AREA OFFICE

The Lake Granby storage of 279,900 acre-feet (AF) on March 31, 2008, was 53,000 AF below average and 10,500 AF lower than 1 year ago. Colorado-Big Thompson Project storage water in Lake Granby, Carter Lake, and Horsetooth Reservoir was 447,600 AF on March 31, 2008, 115,200 AF below average and 56 percent of the total available storage capacity.

Total water storage in the Fryingpan-Arkansas Project at the end of March 2008, was 473,800 AF, and 31,200 AF higher than 1 year ago.

MONTANA AREA OFFICE

For the month of March, inflow to Clark Canyon Reservoir was the third lowest on record; inflow to Bighorn Lake was the fourth lowest of record; inflow to both Canyon Ferry Reservoir and Lake Sherburne was the fifth lowest on record; inflow to both Gibson and Fresno Reservoirs were the seventh lowest on record; and inflow to Lake Elwell was the eighth lowest on record.

End of March storage in Gibson Reservoir was the ninth lowest on record; storage in Clark Canyon Reservoir was the twelfth lowest on record; and end of March storage was the eleventh highest on record at Bighorn Lake.

NEBRASKA-KANSAS AREA OFFICE

March computed inflows to Hugh Butler and Enders Reservoirs were the lowest ever recorded for the month.

The end of year storage at Bonny and Box Butte Reservoirs was the lowest end of March storage on record. Reservoir storage was the second lowest ever recorded for the end of March at Waconda Lake.

WYOMING AREA OFFICE

Bighorn River Basin

Nothing significant to report this month.

North Platte River Basin

The Kendrick storage ownership was the lowest March ownership in the last 30 years. The Glendo ownership was the third lowest March ownership in the last 30 years.

OKLAHOMA-TEXAS AREA OFFICE

Nothing significant to report this month.

CORPS OF ENGINEERS REPORT

The snowpack in the Rocky Mountains is above normal, providing continued hope for better times for the system of reservoirs which have been hit hard by 8 years of drought. The snowpack above Fort Peck is 102 percent of normal, and 105 percent 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 March 1, 2008, 1.2 MAF higher than last year at this time. It is unlikely there will be a pulse from Gavins Point in May, because storage is 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, 2008. Because of low system storage, only minimum service flow was provided for navigation and other downstream uses. Forecasts show the navigation season will be shortened by 30 to 61 days in 2008.

The six main stem power plants generated 326 million kilowatt hours (kWh) of electricity in March, only 49 percent of normal, because of lower pool levels and reduced releases from the dams. Total energy production for 2008 is forecasted to be 6 billion kWh, compared to the average annual generation of 10 billion kWh.