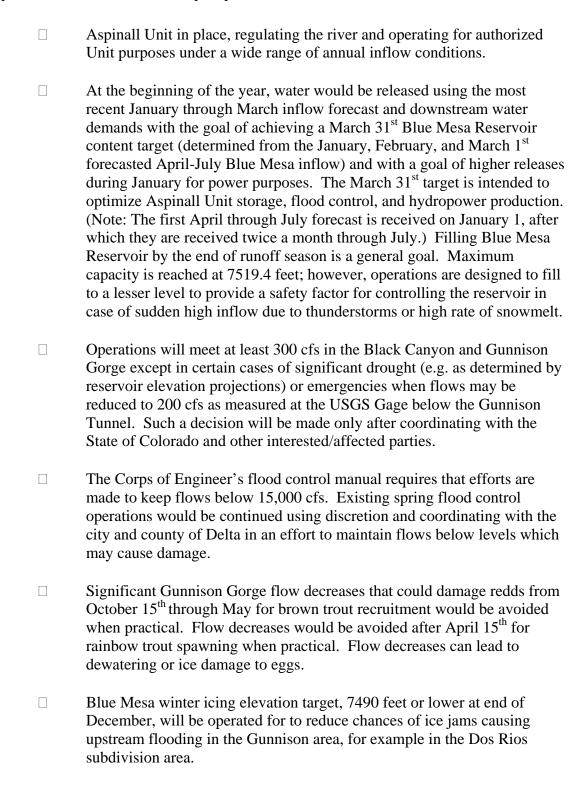
Attachment 11--Additional guidelines for Aspinall Unit operations included in proposed action



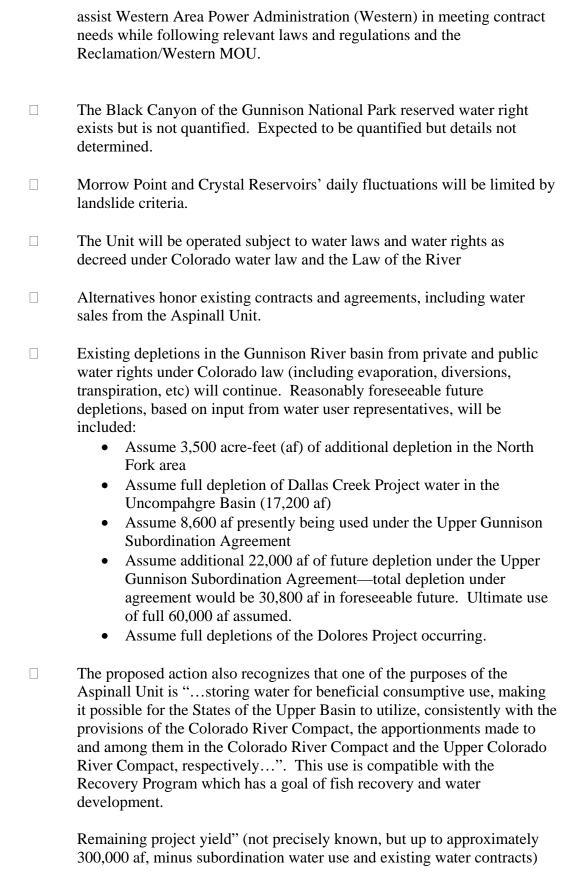
The potential exists for modifications to operations under the alternatives as a result of extreme hydrologic conditions, emergencies, or unforeseen conditions. Operational changes in severe or extended droughts could include temporary modifications to any given operation plan for the reservoir and potential short-term modifications to the target flows in the Flow Recommendations. In periods of extreme, multi-year droughts, releases from the Aspinall Unit may have to be reduced to match the inflow to the reservoir during part of the year.

Operations may be modified due to special maintenance or replacement needs at the Aspinall Unit which may limit outlet capacities or require special downstream flows for repairs and inspections. Special flows may also be needed at some time in the future for repairs or replacement of the Gunnison Tunnel Diversion Dam.

Emergencies may be associated with dam safety, safety of individuals and groups associated with recreation or other activities on the river, or power system conditions. Emergencies associated with dam safety could require unforeseen releases or operations to protect dam structures. Emergencies related to the safety of individuals may be associated with river rescue or recovery operations. Power emergencies could include insufficient short-term generation capacity, transmission maintenance, and other factors. Emergency power operations are typically of short durations as a result of emergencies occurring at the dam or within the transmission network.

In the case of emergencies, Reclamation will take appropriate actions immediately and then contact the Service in as timely manner as practical for advice on measures to minimize the effects; and formal consultation, if needed, will be conducted after the fact.

- Peaking power operations conducted at Morrow Point and Blue Mesa will continue with flows downstream from Crystal regulated through constant releases to offset impacts of peaking operations upstream. Blue Mesa power releases will range from 0 to 3,400 cfs and Morrow Point power releases from 0 to 5,000 cfs. During Crystal spills, Morrow Point peaking releases may be reduced to avoid large daily fluctuations downstream from Crystal.
- Alternatives will continue to meet power system requirements of the North American Electrical Reliability Council and the Western Electricity Coordinating Council such as generation control, voltage regulation, black start capability, and reserves. For example, Unit operations--such as Morrow Point peaking—are used in emergency situations to prevent major power problems in the West. Existing power contracts from the Unit would be included (note that CRSP power contracts are not "unit specific" but apply to integrated project facilities). Reclamation will continue to



will continue to be stored or go downstream and be modeled as such. It is recognized that this remaining water may be developed in the future pursuant to the Colorado River and Upper Colorado River Basin Compacts, and subject to and consistent with the Unit's authorized purposes and other applicable laws. The State of Colorado has consumptive use depletions remaining for use under the Colorado River Compact of 1922 and the Upper Colorado River Basin Compact and a portion of this would legally be available for development using sources in the Gunnison Basin. The unused portion of the Unit yield would not be reserved permanently for flow recommendations. In the EIS, the potential use of the remaining yield is not included in alternatives because specific foreseeable proposals are not available, so that the unused portion of the Unit's yield would be available for meeting the flow recommendations under the alternatives. Alternatives recognize that consumptive use up to a total of 300,000 af of yield may occur in the future under Colorado's compact entitlements. When future water sales or uses of portions of the "remaining project yield" from the Unit are proposed, the proposals will be evaluated under NEPA. If Reclamation determines the proposed sale or use may affect a listed species, formal ESA consultation will commence. If the Upper Colorado River Basin Recovery Implementation Program (UCRIP) has made sufficient progress implementing the Recovery Action Plan, then the UCRIP may serve as reasonable and prudent measures or reasonable and prudent alternatives, as appropriate. The Section 7 Consultation, Sufficient Progress, and Historic Projects Agreement for the UCRIP as revised in 2000 provides information on ESA compliance for future projects, such as use of Aspinall Unit yield.

- Alternatives will include Taylor Park 1975 and 1990 agreements and Taylor Park refill right in place. Aspinall Unit will be operated to protect Uncompanier Project water stored in Blue Mesa under the Taylor Park Exchange Agreement. The Uncompanier Project's Gunnison Tunnel and Dallas Creek Project's Ridgway Reservoir exchange will continue in place.
- Operation meetings will be held 3 times per year to discuss operation plans for the Unit.