

## 1997 Current Fiscal Year Report: Water Rights Task Force

Report Run Date: 08/06/2021 11:20:30 PM

### 1. Department or Agency

Department of Agriculture

### 2. Fiscal Year

1997

### 3. Committee or Subcommittee

Water Rights Task Force

### 3b. GSA Committee No.

5145

### 4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

### 5. Current Charter

07/23/1996

### 6. Expected Renewal Date

### 7. Expected Term Date

08/25/1997

### 8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

Yes

### 8b. Specific Termination Authority

P.L. 104-127

### 8c. Actual Term Date

08/25/1997

### 9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Terminate

### 10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

No

### 10b. Legislation Pending?

### 11. Establishment Authority Statutory (Congress Created)

### 12. Specific Establishment Authority

7 USC 7201

### 13. Effective Date

04/04/1996

### 14. Committee Type

Ad hoc

### 14c. Presidential?

No

### 15. Description of Committee National Policy Issue Advisory Board

### 16a. Total Number of Reports

1

### 16b. Report

Date

Report Title

08/25/1997 Report of the Water Rights Task Force created pursuant to Section 389(d)(3) fo P.L. 104-127

### Number of Committee Reports Listed: 1

17a. Open 11 17b. Closed 0 17c. Partially Closed 0 Other Activities 0 17d. Total 11

### Meetings and Dates

Purpose	Start	End
Not Stated	10/12/1996	- 10/12/1996
Not Stated	11/11/1996	- 11/12/1996
Not Stated	12/16/1996	- 12/16/1996
Not Stated	01/16/1997	- 01/17/1997
Not Stated	03/03/1997	- 03/03/1997
Not Stated	03/13/1997	- 03/14/1997
Not Stated	04/21/1997	- 04/22/1997
Not Stated	06/09/1997	- 06/10/1997
Not Stated	07/17/1997	- 07/18/1997
Not Stated	08/04/1997	- 08/05/1997
Not Stated	08/18/1997	- 08/18/1997

### Number of Committee Meetings Listed: 11

Current FY Next FY

<b>18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff</b>	\$40,400.00	\$5,000.00
<b>18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$38,476.00	\$6,427.00
<b>18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff</b>	\$13,445.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)</b>	\$1,200.00	\$0.00
<b>18d. Total</b>	\$93,521.00	\$11,427.00
<b>19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)</b>	0.50	0.10

**20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?**

The secretary of Agriculture and the Chief of the Forest Service will use the findings and recommendations of the Task Force where and when appropriate to Departmental and Agency policy issues so arise. At this time, there are no specific plans that would incorporate the majority or minority views expressed in the final report. Some problems identified during the course of the public meetings conducted by the Task Force have already been resolved by the Forest Service actions undertaken after the meetings were held.

**20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?**

Of the 7 members of this task force the Republican leadership of the House and Senate appointed 4 members, the Democratic leadership appointed 2 members and the Secretary of Agriculture appointed 1 member. All 7 reside in the West; 6 men and 1 woman, 2 are in academia and 2 are in private law practices, 1 is in a public interest group, and 2 serve as executive Directors of private water associations. Four members were pro-water development interests and opposed public acquisition of water rights to protect the environment. Three members were diametrically opposed to the four members just described in philosophy and conclusions reached at the end of their year long search for compromise. The task force struggled with many side issues, heard from over 60 witnesses from all points of view, appeared ready to find a compromise, but it all unraveled in the last 2 meetings. The report was written in part by all members, with chairman views representing the majority, and the Vice-Chairman's views included in the Chapter titled Separate Views in the back of the report.

**20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?**

The committee held 11 meetings during this fiscal year in various cities in the West. Most were 1 or 2 days long. One meeting was held in Washington, DC Meetings were used to

solicit ideas from the public and the congress on how to resolve the five questions assigned to the task force by the statute. A very thorough investigation was conducted, the issues were debated at great length by the task force members, and in the end no resolution was found for the major issue given to the task force to solve. Continuing it would serve no useful purpose and the members themselves are glad it is over and they can return to their normal professional lives.

**20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?**

The statute required this task force be appointed, assigned it five questions to address, set a deadline for the final report to the Congress and the Secretary.

**20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?**

N/A

**21. Remarks**

N/A

**Designated Federal Officer**

Steve Glasser DFO

<b>Committee Members</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Member Designation</b>
Barber, Michael	10/01/1996	09/30/1997	Prof., Dept., Of Biochemistry, & Molecular Biology, Univ. Of South Florida, Tampa, FL	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Chapman, Sherl	10/01/1996	09/30/1997		Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Estill, Elizabeth	10/01/1996	09/30/1997	Regional Forester, Usfs 9 alt for Getchei)	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Getches, David	10/01/1996	09/30/1997	Prof. Of Law, Uni. Of colorado	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Golb, Richard	10/01/1996	09/30/1997	Exec. Dir. No. California water Assoc.	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Lynch, Roberts	10/01/1996	09/30/1997		Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Mutz, Kathryn	10/01/1996	09/30/1997	Staff to E. Rieke, (alt for Riele)	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Raley, Bennett	10/01/1996	09/30/1997	Attorney, Trout & raley, Inc.	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Rieke, Elizabeth	10/01/1996	09/30/1997	Dir., Nat. Res. Ctr., Univ of Colorado	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Roos-Collins, Richard	10/01/1996	09/30/1997	Staff Atty., Natural Heritage Instit	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

**Number of Committee Members Listed: 10**

**Narrative Description**

**What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?**

Checked if Applies

- |   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| Improvements to health or safety                  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Trust in government                               | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Major policy changes                              | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Advance in scientific research                    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Effective grant making                            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Improved service delivery                         | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Increased customer satisfaction                   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other   | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**Outcome Comments**

**What are the cost savings associated with this committee?**

Checked if Applies

- |                            |                                     |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| None                       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Unable to Determine        | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Under \$100,000            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| \$100,000 - \$500,000      | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| \$500,001 - \$1,000,000    | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| \$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| \$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000 | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Over \$10,000,000          | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Cost Savings Other         | <input type="checkbox"/>            |

**Cost Savings Comments**

**What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?**

0

**Number of Recommendations Comments**

**What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?**

%

**% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments**

**What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?**

%

**% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments**

**Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?**

Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable ☒

**Agency Feedback Comments**

**What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?**

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Action Comments**

**Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?**

No

**Grant Review Comments**

**How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?**

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO

☐

Online Agency Web Site

☐

Online Committee Web Site

☐

Online GSA FACA Web Site

☐

Publications

☐

Other

☐

**Access Comments**