

Report for 2001WY1961B: Product Accessibility and Dissemination for the Water Reserach Program at the University of Wyoming

There are no reported publications resulting from this project.

Report Follows:

Problem and Research Objectives:

In the west, water is critical to survival. Data and information concerning this resource are very valuable. However, unless information developed from research is easily obtained, all of the effort and expense of collecting, analyzing, and reporting the information is of little use. Therefore, the objective of this project is to establish an efficient and effective way to disseminate the data and information developed by the Water Resources Program.

Methodology:

This is an ongoing project. To continue to meet our objective, the following tasks were successfully completed:

- **Development of the Water Resources Program Web Site**

We developed and maintain a web site for the Water Resources Program. You can view this web site at the following URL:

<http://www.wrds.uwyo.edu/wwrp/>

We use this site to disseminate information about the Water Resources Program, and eventually to host the reports and products developed by the Program's researchers. To date, we have used the site to post the Program's Request for Proposals, contact information, useful links, and announcements, such as the Announcement/Request for Proposals for the Fiscal Year 2001 National Competitive Grant Program authorized by section 104(g) of the Water Resources Research Act of 1984, as amended.

- **Report given to Program's Priority and Selection Committee**

All proposals for the Water Resources Program are reviewed by a Priority and Selection Committee. This is a group of federal and state representatives that give initial approval as to which proposals qualify for funding. Earlier this year, we made a presentation to the Priority and Selection Committee emphasizing the importance of proper data dissemination to the overall Water Resources Program. The Committee agreed and funded our project for another year.

- **Distribution of Information through Water Library**

The Water Resources Data System's Water Library collects and maintains publications on water, particularly Wyoming water issues. The Library provides physical and bibliographic access to various publications that have been produced by federal and state government agencies, student research and other sources. The Water Library exists to provide current and historical information on regional water issues, maintain and expand the Wyoming Water Bibliography on the Internet (a search-based catalog of the locations and holdings of regional water publications) and provide access to these publications. Our patrons include students, faculty members, government employees and the public.

The Water Library began as a small collection of materials that was used by the Wyoming Water Resources Center. Today, thanks in large part to funding by the US Geological Survey, this comprehensive collection of more than 18,000 documents is an exceptional resource for individuals desiring more in-depth information on the state's water resources. The Water Library web page is now online. We have added a link to the new web page from the WRDS homepage:

<http://www.wrds.uwyo.edu>

Click on the first link under Online Data Products and Services. We are working at making more and more of the collection available online.

We will house in the Library all of the data and information developed under the Water Resources Program which will further increase the viability of the collection. Researchers with the Water Resources Program use the Water Library for their secondary data collection. Additionally, the Water Library continues to employ one University of Wyoming student who works approximately 10 to 15 hours per week during the fall and spring semesters, and approximately 25 hours per week during the summer.

The Water Resources Data System (which includes the Water Library) is the single largest repository of water and climate data and information in the State of Wyoming. Our database and library collection will continue to grow thanks again in large part to the US Geological Survey's Water Resources Program.