

Tom Menzel – Senior EIS/Technical Editor

Menzel-Higgins Communications

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Education

B.A., Journalism, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 1972

Summary

Mr. Menzel has more than 30 years of experience as a writer, editor and communications professional. As sole proprietor of Menzel-Higgins Communications since 1986, he has provided writing, editing and graphics consulting for a wide range of public documents, including NEPA-compliant environmental impact statements and environmental assessments, planning documents, operations manuals and white papers. A former award-winning newspaper editor, he is comfortable with rapid turnaround of projects. Mr. Menzel is respected for his efficiency and thoroughness, his ability to make documents readable for all audiences, and his emphasis on teamwork. His clients include federal, state and municipal agencies, engineering firms and Fortune 500 companies. He also has developed and executed public involvement and media strategies for high-profile issues and public works projects for state agencies, local governments and private corporations.

Project Experience

EIS Project Editor, Wasatch County Water Efficiency Project and Daniel Replacement Project, Central Utah Water Conservancy District/U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. Mr. Menzel was project editor for this EIS as part of the Central Utah Project. The projects involve elimination of a trans-basin irrigation diversion from National Forest System land and replacement of the irrigation water through water conservation and using the additional water to supplement in-stream flows of tributary streams. Key issues included wetlands, groundwater, surface water, water quality, aquatic resources, threatened and endangered species, agriculture, recreation, socioeconomics, land use and cultural resources. He worked directly with the project manager and a team of 15 specialists. He developed writing and graphics style guides to ensure consistency throughout the EIS. He attended regular team meetings, conducted writing workshops, edited the entire EIS to ensure a “one-voice” style, provided quality control, reviewed all maps, tables and figures and assisted with layout and production.

EIS Project Editor, Thompson Creek Molybdenum Mine Supplemental EIS, Custer County, ID. Mr. Menzel was project editor for the Thompson Creek Mine third-party Supplemental EIS, which involved evaluating impacts and of changing mine ore processing and waste rock management to prevent potential acid rock drainage conditions. Several alternatives were evaluated and the proposed action was approval of a supplemental plan of operations. Key issues in the SEIS included geochemistry of ore and waste rock, protection of surface and

groundwater quality, fish and aquatic resources, and threatened and endangered species. Mr. Menzel worked directly with the project manager. He developed writing and graphics style guides to ensure consistency throughout the EIS. He edited the entire EIS to ensure a “one-voice” style, provided quality control, and reviewed all maps, tables and figures.

EA Project Editor, Olmsted Flowline Rehabilitation and Replacement Project, Central Utah Water Conservancy District/U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Provo Canyon, UT. Mr. Menzel was project editor for this EA, which involves replacement of the 4.5-mile Olmsted Flowline, a 450-cfs aqueduct that supplies water for municipal and industrial use, irrigation and hydroelectric generation in central Utah. Key issues included groundwater and protection of spring boxes, aquatic resources, wildlife habitat, visual resources, wetlands and riparian areas, recreation and cultural resources. He worked directly with the project manager and a team of seven specialists. He developed writing and graphics style guides to ensure consistency throughout the EA. He attended regular team meetings, edited the EA to ensure a “one-voice” style, provided quality control and reviewed all maps, tables and figures.

EIS Project Editor, Final Supplement to the Final EIS on the Diamond Fork System-Central Utah Project, Central Utah Water Conservancy District / U.S. Department of the Interior / Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission. Mr. Menzel was project editor for this EIS, which involves completion of the Diamond Fork System that includes high-capacity tunnels, shafts, pipelines and flow-control facilities to convey water for irrigation and for exchange of municipal and industrial water. Key issues included water resources, water quality, wetland and riparian resources, aquatic resources, wildlife, special status species, recreation, visual resources and transportation. Mr. Menzel worked directly with the project manager and a team of 10 specialists. He developed writing and graphics style guides to ensure consistency throughout the EIS. He attended regular team meetings, edited the EIS to ensure a “one-voice” style, provided quality control and reviewed all maps, tables and figures.

EA Project Editor, Diamond Fork System Proposed Action Modifications-Central Utah Project, Central Utah Water Conservancy District / U.S. Department of the Interior / Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission. Mr. Menzel was project editor for this EA. Key issues included aquatic, wetlands, recreation, visual resources. He worked directly with the project manager and a team of specialists. He developed writing and graphics style guides to ensure consistency throughout the EA. He attended regular team meetings, edited the EA to ensure a “one-voice” style, provided quality control and reviewed all maps, tables and figures.

EIS Project Editor, Provo River Restoration Project EIS-Central Utah Project, Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission. Mr. Menzel was project editor for this EIS, which involves restoring 10 miles of the Provo River between Jordanelle Reservoir and Deer Creek Reservoir. Key issues included water quality, wetlands, aquatic resources, threatened and endangered species, agriculture, socioeconomics, recreation and land use. He worked directly with the project manager and a team of 16 specialists. He developed writing and graphics style guides to ensure consistency throughout the EIS. He attended regular team meetings, edited the EIS to ensure a “one-voice” style, provided quality control and reviewed all maps, tables and figures.

Editor/Public Involvement Consultant, Nutrient Management Study, Henry's Lake, ID.

Mr. Menzel was project editor for this four-year nutrient management study of Henry's Lake, Idaho, situated just across the Continental Divide from Yellowstone National Park. Henry's Lake is operated as a reservoir and supports a world-class trout fishery that was threatened by excess nutrients and severe dissolved oxygen depletion during the winter. The study involved monitoring water quality for three years and determining nutrient loads from within the 94-square-mile watershed to identify potential nutrient control measures. A final report made recommendations for short-term and long-term management of nutrients within the watershed and lake.

EIS Project Editor, Utah Lake Drainage Basin Water Delivery System Project EIS, Central Utah Project Central Utah Water Conservancy District/Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission.

Mr. Menzel was project editor for this EIS, which involves delivering water to meet some of the municipal and industrial demand in the Wasatch Front Area. Key issues included surface and groundwater hydrology, aquatic and wetland resources, wildlife and habitat, threatened and endangered species, agriculture and soil, socioeconomics, cultural resources, visual resources, recreation, noise, public health and safety, paleontology, transportation, air quality, mineral and energy, land use, environmental justice and Indian trust assets. Mr. Menzel worked directly with the project manager and a team of 16 specialists. He developed writing and graphics style guides to ensure consistency throughout the EIS. He attended regular team meetings, edited the EIS to ensure a “one-voice” style, provided quality control and reviewed all maps, tables and figures.

EIS Graphic Design Consultant, Spanish Fork Canyon-Nephi Irrigation System Draft EIS-Central Utah Project, Central Utah Water Conservancy District.

Mr. Menzel provided graphic design guidance for a multi-disciplinary team led by Resource Management International, Inc. The client insisted that all reports and documents be written for the layman to maximize public trust and understanding. Mr. Menzel developed a graphics style guide to ensure consistency throughout the EIS, introduced the graphics process to the team, provided quality control, and reviewed maps, tables and figures.

EIS Project Editor, Moffat Collection System Project EIS-Phase II, Denver Water Board of Commissioners.

Mr. Menzel provided editing and general technical writing support for the Purpose and Need Statement and Preliminary Screening Report for the Moffat Collection System Project EIS Phase II tasks. Mr. Menzel worked directly with the project manager.

Editor, Various Manuals, Reports and Planning Documents. Mr. Menzel was project editor for the following documents:

- Southern Nevada Water Authority Residuals Operations Manual
- 2020 Transportation Plan and Ridge-To-Rivers Pathway Plan, Ada County, Idaho (Boise)
- City of Boise Draft Comprehensive Plan
- Boise Veterans Park Master Plan