

- I. Project Title: Reclamation Program Management
- II. Principal Investigator(s):

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- III. Project Summary: The purpose of this project is to provide Reclamation participation in Recovery Program biology and management committees and to manage cooperative agreements with program cooperators to implement the annual work plan. In FY 2013, Reclamation was able to meet both of these objectives, but funding was severely delayed due to fallout from an internal audit in FY 2012.
- IV. Study Schedule: Ongoing
- V. Relationship to RIPRAP: General Recovery Program Support Action Plan, Provide Program Planning and Support (Program Management), Task No. VII
- VI. Accomplishment of FY 2013: Tasks and Deliverables, Discussion of Initial Findings and Shortcomings: Program management funds are used to provide Reclamation participation in general Recovery Program activities not covered by specific scopes of work. Examples of these types of activities include administration of “base” or annual project funding agreements (i.e., not inclusive of capital projects), work planning, monitoring project progress and performance, and other general program management and administration.

Task 1: Work with Recovery Program participants to coordinate work plans.

Task 1 Accomplishments, Discussion, and Shortcomings: Reclamation was able to participate in Biology and Management committee-related functions related to review and approval of work plans, RIPRAP revisions, final reports, and other issue papers pursuant to Task 1. We organized several conference calls with principle investigators to identify database requirements which will hopefully be used to issue and RFP in FY 2014. We coordinated with Recovery Program biologists to collect, organize and interpret temperature data from the 2013 peak- and base-flow period in the Green and Yampa rivers for compliance with the 2005 biological opinion on Flaming Gorge Dam operations. We participated in implementation of the Larval Trigger Study Plan, which experimentally modifies operations of Flaming Gorge

Dam to increase benefits to razorback sucker. We participated in the Flaming Gorge Technical Working Group and functioned as a liaison between the Recovery Program and Reclamation managers in implementing the 2006 ROD, which involved close coordination with researchers from UDWR and USFWS to implement the Larval Trigger Study Plan. We prepared and presented materials to cover this information at the Flaming Gorge Working Group meetings held in Vernal, UT during April and August. We provided technical guidance on development of an electric fish barrier at the Tusher Wash diversion dam and installed a PIT antenna in the Green River Canal.

We assisted USFWS field crews with their Colorado pikeminnow sampling in Desolation/Gray canyons in April and also Colorado State University with their Lodore/Whirlpool sampling activities in September. We completed a draft report on results of the Maybell Ditch PIT antenna study and submitted it to the Program Director's office in September. We procured PIT tags and PIT-related equipment for the Recovery Program for use in FY 2013-2015. In November 2012 we presented a professional paper on results from the Larval Trigger Study Plan in 2011 and 2012 at the Desert Fishes Council in Death Valley, CA. Finally, we provided technical reviews of most Recovery Program technical documents and projects pursuant to federal requirements for cooperative agreement monitoring and as representatives on the Recovery Program Biology Committee.

Task 2: Administer funding for Recovery Program projects.

Task 2 Accomplishments, Discussion, and Shortcomings: The Recovery Program FY13 work plan required us to create or modify several dozen funding agreements between cooperators and Reclamation pursuant to Task 2. Each agreement required multi-faceted administrative maintenance, including requests for Federal assistance for Recovery Program-approved projects, communication with Recovery Program Director's office on funding issues, preparation of determination and findings documents, review and approval of project budgets, requests for obligations to cover funding agreements, agreement or contract awards, maintenance of agreement and contract filing systems (including agreement instruments, invoices, and accruals), tracking of budgets, review and approval of invoices, performance of periodic site visits to monitor project performance, filing of advanced procurement reports, tracking project performance and status of deliverables, filing recipient performance reports, answering agreement inquiries from auditors, and other related tasks.

Working with our financial management division, we were able to identify and obligate additional (i.e., above annual work plan funding levels) funds towards the purchase of 300,000 PIT tags and miscellaneous PIT-related equipment for the Upper Colorado and San Juan River recovery programs, which should be sufficient to meet program needs for about two years if not more. We also obligated additional funds to help support USFWS program management and for use in sampling Lake Powell for endangered fish.

As was the case in 2012, funding for a significant number of agreements was severely delayed due to fallout from an internal audit of our Acquisitions Management

Division. We are working diligently to avoid such delays in future years.

VII. Recommendations: Continue this project at current staffing levels.

VIII. Project Status: Ongoing

IX. FY 2013 Budget Status

A. Funds Provided: \$187,037

B. Funds Expended as of September 30, 2013: \$187,037

C. Difference: \$0

D. Percent of the FY 2013 work completed, and projected costs to complete: 100%.

E. Recovery Program funds spent for publication charges: \$0

X. Status of Data Submission (where applicable): Not Applicable

Signed: /s/ Dave Speas  
Principal Investigator

October 7, 2013