

RECOVERY PROGRAM
FY 2016-2017 SCOPE OF WORK for:
Geomorphology Peer Review

Recovery Program Project Number: 86

Reclamation Agreement number ___
Reclamation Agreement term ___

Note: Recovery Program FY16-17 scopes of work are drafted in May 2015. They often are revised before final Program approval and may subsequently be revised again in response to changing Program needs. Program participants also recognize the need and allow for some flexibility in scopes of work to accommodate new information (especially in nonnative fish management projects) and changing hydrological conditions.

Lead agency: U.S Fish and Wildlife Service

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Category:

- Ongoing project
- Ongoing-revised project
- Requested new start
- Unsolicited proposal

Expected Funding Source:

- Annual funds
- Capital funds
- Other (Section 7)

I. Title of Proposal:

Peer Review of Scopes of Work and Draft Reports Containing a Geomorphologic Component for the Colorado, Gunnison and Green Rivers.

II. Relationship to RIPRAP:

RIPRAP Item Number:

Colorado River Action Plan: Mainstem

I. Provide and Protect Instream Flows

Green River Action Plan: Mainstem

I. Provide and Protect Instream Flows

Green River Action Plan: Yampa and Little Snake Rivers

I. Provide and Protect Instream Flows

III. Rationale/Problem Statement:

Geomorphology has become an important aspect of flow recommendations developed by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologists. High flows are often recommended based on the need to maintain channel morphology necessary for providing backwater and main channel habitats for endangered fishes. In addition, channel monitoring is becoming increasingly important as the Recovery Program moves from a research oriented program to implementation of projects such as coordinated reservoir operations, re-operation of dams, instream flow protection, and levee removal. The Recovery Program's channel monitoring efforts are expanding with new and ongoing projects to be reviewed each year. To ensure that future geomorphology and channel monitoring projects are designed properly, a peer review process is being proposed for these types of work.

IV. Project Goals and Objectives:

Implementation of a peer review panel that will:

- 1) Review and provide comment on all new scopes of work that contain a geomorphologic component. Determine if the proposed methodology will achieve the objectives of the scope, and if not, make recommendations on how to modify study design so the objectives can be accomplished efficiently and effectively.
- 2) Provide review of draft reports that contain a geomorphologic component as part of the Program's approved peer review process. Provide comment on the use and interpretation of data.
- 3) A peer review panel started in FY-2011 reviewed the Cory Williams USGS sediment Report 85F and is making plans for further monitoring.
- 4) In 2015 we will finalize a "Strategy to Evaluate Peak Flow Recommendations for Sediment Transport and Habitat Maintenance in the upper Colorado River Basin. It is a technical supplement to the Aspinall and Green River study plans. The Geomorphology subcommittee working on this is led by Kirk LaGory.

V. Study Area:

Colorado, Gunnison and Green Rivers.

VI. Study Methods/Approach:

The peer review panel, established in FY-98, will continue to review scopes of work and annual completion reports, and on an as-needed basis, to respond to the application of geomorphology components of projects. Panel comments will be

provided to the Water Acquisition Committee, the Program Director's office, and the principal investigator.

VII. Task Description and Schedule:

The panel from time to time will be requested to review Scopes of Work, and provide comments and suggestions to improve the methodologies or clarity of the scopes of work. The comments from the panel will be provided to the principal investigator or the appropriate Recovery Program coordinator. The Panel will be requested to review draft and final reports which are under consideration by the Recovery Program.

VIII. FY 2016 and 2017 Work:

Deliverables: A report or series of reports in letter form will provide comments, constructive criticism, and ideas on:

1) Adequacy of the proposed methodology for geomorphology aspects of the proposed Scopes of work (this includes prodding comments, criticism, and ideas on how channel monitoring can be accomplished effectively and efficiently); and

2) Adequacy of the draft completion reports, with comment on whether or not the data used are appropriate and support the recommendations.

IX. Budget FY 2016 - 2017: General Consultant Services
Not to exceed \$10,000 per year

X. Budget Summary:

FY 2016	Up To \$10,000
<u>FY 2017</u>	<u>Up To \$10,000</u>
Total	Up To \$20,000

XI. Reviewers: N/A