

I. Project Title: Peer Review of Geomorphology Related Work

II. Principal Investigator:
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III. Project Summary:

The refinement of flow recommendations and channel monitoring are becoming increasingly important as the Recovery Program moves from a research oriented program to implementation of flow enhancement projects such as coordinated reservoir operations, re-operation of dams, instream flow protection, and levee removal. The Recovery Program's Channel Monitoring Program is expanding, with additional projects expected in the future. To ensure that future geomorphology and channel monitoring projects are designed properly, a peer review process has been implemented by the Recovery Program. A three-person peer review panel was established in 1998 and continued to operate in 2003.

IV. Study Schedule: Initial Year - 1998, Final Year - Ongoing

V. Relationship to RIPRAP: General Recovery Program Support Action Plan
I. Provide and Protect Instream Flows
II. Restore Habitat

VI. Accomplishments of FY 2003 Tasks and Deliverables:

The three-person peer review panel continued to review reports and scopes of work in FY 2003. The peer review panel reviewed "Recommended Priorities for Geomorphology Research in Endangered Fish Habitats of the Upper Colorado River Basin" in 2003. Because of the complexity of the report the panel was expanded to include Jack Schmidt, Mussetter and Associates, John Pitlick and Rich Valdez. Comments were not received from Mussetter and Associates. Comments from other reviews were helpful and were incorporated into the report as appropriate.

VII. Recommendations: The problems with the panel in past years have been overcome by a decision by the WAC to add three additional reviewers to the panel. Reviews are recommended by the Principal Investigator or Program Director's Office and approved by the Program Director's Office on an as-needed basis. Criteria for selection as a reviewer is similar to the criteria used by the Biology Committee. The Principal Investigator is responsible for securing comments from individuals he/she suggested.

VIII. Project Status: Ongoing and not without problems, which have been addressed.

IX. FY 2003 Budget Status:

A. Funds Provided: up to \$10,000 Section 7 funds (on an as-needed basis)

B. Funds Expended: 0

X. Status of Submissions: Not Applicable

XI. Signed: George Smith November 16, 2003
Principal Investigator Date: