

**RECOVERY PROGRAM
FY 2016-2017 SCOPE OF WORK for:
Water Rights Acquisition Consultant**

Recovery Program Project Number: 9

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

Expected Funding Source:

- Annual funds
 Capital funds
 Other (Section 7 funds)

I. Title of Proposal:
Water Rights Acquisition Consultant Umbrella (Section 7 Funds)

II. Relation to RIPRAP:

General Recovery Program Support Action Plan

I. Provide and protect instream flows

III. Study Background/Rationale and Hypotheses:

Through this Scope of Work the services of a consultant are made available to the Water Acquisition Committee on an "as-needed" basis to perform work on individual water rights as they are offered to the Program. Cost and performance deadlines will be negotiated on a case-by-case basis. Work orders will be negotiated between the Water Acquisition Committee, the consultant, and the Fish and Wildlife Foundation when proposals for water right acquisitions are approved

by the Water Acquisition Committee. This proposal will provide funding for a water rights consultant.

IV. Study Goals, Objectives, End Products:

The goal of this proposal is to retain services of a consultant who would provide water rights engineer and/or water rights appraiser services to the Program through the Water Acquisition Committee. The consultant should have expert knowledge of water law, as well as extensive experience in water rights appraisal and water rights yield analysis.

V. Study Area:

The study area will include the entire Upper Colorado River Basin, with concentration on high priority areas such as the 15-Mile Reach, the Yampa River below Craig, lower reaches of the Little Snake River, and in the White River below Kenney Reservoir.

VI. Study Method/Approach:

This Scope of work provides funds for the Water Acquisition Committee to retain services of a consultant who would provide water rights engineer and/or water rights appraiser services. The consultant should have expert knowledge of water law, as well as extensive experience in water rights appraisal and water rights yield analysis. On some occasions funds provided for this scope of work may be made available to support the efforts of the Geomorphology Peer Review Panel.

VII. Task Description:

- 1) Project by project scopes of work will be prepared for the analysis of water rights or related work.
- 2) A letter agreement will be developed between the Recovery Program, the consultant and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation describing the work and funding arrangements.
- 3) Work accomplished by the Consultant will be reviewed and approved by the Water Acquisition Committee.
- 4) In 2015 a list will be compiled for possible efforts for further flow protection.

VIII. FY 2014 - 2015 Work:

Deliverables: Reports will be prepared on water rights and return flows, which have been evaluated by the consultant from Section 7 funds.

IX. Budget FY 2016 - 2020:
General Consultant Services
Not to exceed \$10,000 per year

X. Budget Summary:	
FY 2016	Up To \$10,000
FY 2017	Up To \$10,000
FY 2018	Up To \$10,000
FY 2019	Up To \$10,000
FY 2020	<u>Up To \$10,000</u>
Total	Up To \$50,000