I. Project Title: **Wyoming Program Management**

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III. **Project Summary:** Wyoming's program management objectives and accomplishments during this reporting year included: 1) providing staff assistance and support to the Implementation, Management, Biology and Information and Education Committees and more generally to the USFWS and our other partners to the Recovery Program; 2) participating in the activities and deliberations of the Information and Education, Biology, Water Acquisition and Management Committees; 3) coordinating with all of the other Program participants to accomplish Program tasks and work assignments; 4) working to secure public and Wyoming Legislative, Congressional and Administration financial support for capital construction and annual program funding contributions by the State of Wyoming, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation; 5) coordinating with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to get Wyoming’s capital construction funding contributions into the Recovery Program funding “pipeline” and monitoring the expenditure of those funds; and 6) responding to requests and inquiries by proactively providing information and working to develop understanding and public support for the Recovery Implementation Program by Wyoming officials, water users and members of the public.

IV. **Study Schedule:** Fiscal year 2006 was the thirteenth year that Wyoming received in-kind services credit for our program management activities. Pursuant to the Recovery Program’s Cooperative Agreement (which currently has been extended to continue through September 30, 2013), Wyoming will continue to request in-kind credit for our personnel’s direct participation in program management and administration involvement and actions.

V. **Relationship to RIPRAP:** Wyoming’s Program Management activities address RIPRAP Item VII (“provide program planning and support [program management]”) and its components under the "General Recovery Program Support Action Plan."
VI. Accomplishment of FY 2006 Tasks and Deliverables, Discussion of Initial Findings and Shortcomings: During fiscal year 2006, Kevin Gelwicks of the Wyoming Game and Fish Department ably represented Wyoming in completing the considerable work load that is accomplished annually by the Biology Committee. This included committee conference calls and meetings, special workshops and working groups and much document and study review and other requisite preparation in advance of committee activities. Gelwicks assumed the duties of Chairman of the Biology Committee during 2006.

John Shields performed necessary duties associated with being the Management Committee’s Chairperson and served as a member of the Water Acquisition Committee and Information and Education Committee during Fiscal Year 2006. He again led the non-federal Management Committee members’ efforts in arranging members’ visits with Congressional delegation and committee staff and with Administration officials during the Committee’s annual trip to Washington, DC to solicit funding support for the Upper Colorado Recovery Program. During this reporting year, legislation to amend the existing authorization for the capital construction programs of the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program and the San Juan River Basin Recovery Implementation Program was enacted by the Congress and signed into law by the President on March 20, 2006 as Public Law 109-183. The House bill (H.R. 3153) was introduced on June 30, 2005 and the Senate companion bill (S. 1578) on July 29, 2005. The bill was favorably reported without amendment by the Senate ENR Committee on November 16th, passed the Senate by unanimous consent on December 8th and passed by the House of Representatives on their unanimous consent calendar on March 8th.

We feel very fortunate to have worked with the Congress and Administration to have accomplished the amendment of the existing statutory authorization (which increased the federal cost-share by $15 million, recognized an additional $11 million in non-federal cost-sharing and extended the time allowed for completion of the capital construction projects for both programs from FY 2008 to FY 2010) in such a short period of time, relative to the experience others find in seeking similar legislative actions. The Recovery Program’s success was in part due to the non-federal participants expending a significant amount of time and energy in working very closely with the Congressional delegations’ and committees’ staff to advance this legislation. The Chairman of the Management Committee was heavily involved in those efforts during this reporting period.

Accomplishments: Due to the efforts of involved Wyoming personnel, the following accomplishments and activities occurred:

1) The State of Wyoming's policy and technical positions on Recovery Program activities were well coordinated with those of other Program participants and with Wyoming's Implementation Committee member, the Governor’s Endangered Species Policy Coordinator, the Wyoming Congressional Delegation and their staff, affected state agencies, the Wyoming Water Association and the public about the Recovery Program.
2) The State of Wyoming was ably represented during meetings and conference calls and other special activities and events of the Biology Committee, Management Committee, Information and Education Committee and other technical and ad-hoc group meetings.

3) Proposals, scopes-of-work, annual reports, project reports, planning documents, draft correspondence and administrative records prepared by Recovery Program staff and participants were reviewed, edited and commented on as appropriate and necessary.

4) The Recovery Program’s Guidance document and the biennial Recovery Program budget and work plan were developed and subsequently approved by the Implementation Committee (or by the Management Committee acting at the direction of the Implementation Committee).

5) The Recovery Implementation Program Recovery Action Plan (RIPRAP) was appropriately updated and approved by the Program’s participants.

6) Communication and correspondence with federal agency and National Fish and Wildlife Foundation personnel was carried out as necessary to transfer funds for Recovery Program-sanctioned work – thus materially assisting the conduct of Program activities and initiatives.

7) Requests for information about the Recovery Program and its activities were amply met and information was provided to the involved states’ Congressional delegation’s staff, members of the Wyoming Water Association, the public, other state agencies and other Program participants. Presentations were made on a periodic, ongoing basis to members of the Green River Basin Advisory Group.

8) Meetings, briefings and necessary follow-up took place with the affected States’ Congressional delegations, Congressional authorization and appropriations committee staff, Federal agency officials and staff in Washington, D.C. to develop support for Recovery Program funding line items included in the President’s budget. A lead role was taken in accomplishing the circulation of the annual Congressional delegation joint letter to the appropriation subcommittee chairmen expressing our Congressional delegations’ support for Recovery Program funding. Follow-up contacts were made thanking those with whom we met for their interest and support and providing additional information requested during those meetings. A summary report detailing the events and successes of the Washington briefing trip was prepared for the Implementation Committee and the administrative record.

9) As discussed above, Public Law 109-183 was enacted during this reporting period as a direct result of working with Congressional delegation and authorization committees’ staff members as well as with Federal agency officials and staff in Washington, D.C.
Discussion of Initial Findings, Highlights and Noteworthy Activities: The term “Initial findings” does not seem to be applicable in regards to Wyoming’s program management activities (e.g., specific to carrying out Wyoming’s ongoing obligations and responsibilities under the Recovery Program). Highlights and noteworthy activities have been described above.

Shortcomings: Despite our continuing efforts, we have been unable to obtain the express support of Wyoming’s two United States Senators and their signatures on the joint-delegation funding support letters. We continue to seek their support and work with their staff, including their field representatives, to obtain that support. An additional shortcoming was, due to other commitments, Shields, as Chairman of the Management Committee, was unable to attend the 2006 Annual Researchers Meeting. He is planning to attend the 2007 Annual Researchers Meeting.

In addition, this Program Management annual report is being submitted way past the deadline of November 9th and that is viewed as a significant shortcoming.

VII. Recommendations: The following recommendations and comments are provided after reflection on our Program participation during fiscal year 2006:

1. As noted in last year’s annual report, the recommendation is again repeated that it will continue to be very necessary for the Recovery Program to pay attention to and monitor the activities and plans of the Glen Canyon Adaptive Management Program so as to avoid the potential for the Upper Colorado Endangered Fish Recovery Program to be impacted, “surprised” or otherwise negatively affected by some action by the AMP.

2. The Management Committee should continue to meet, periodically, in locations where public support and acceptance of Recovery Program activities is/has been controversial. Holding the August 2006 Management Committee meeting and prior-evening social event at the Loudy Simpson State Park was definitely a good idea. It is recommended that the Management Committee repeat this event in Craig and elsewhere in 2007.

VIII. Project Status: Wyoming’s Program Management is considered to be both ongoing and on-track. Management Committee efforts remain important given the delegation of matters (for both investigation and resolution by reaching mutual agreement on the course of action or policy that should be pursued) to the Management Committee by the Implementation Committee. Work and time requirements for meeting commitments to the Biology Committee’s tasks and functions have continued to increase since the last reporting period.

IX. FY 2006 Budget:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A. Funds Provided:</th>
<th>$14,900</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B. Funds Expended:</td>
<td>$14,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Difference:</td>
<td>$ 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Percent of the FY2006 Work Completed and Projected Costs to Complete:</td>
<td>Not applicable.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
E. Program funds spent for publication charges: None

X. Status of Data Submission: Not applicable, as no data have been submitted, nor do we anticipate submitting data, to the database manager.

XI. Signed: John W. Shields Dated: December 26, 2006
Management Committee Member
and Principal Investigator for Wyoming’s Program Management