

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

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III. **Project Summary:** Wyoming met our program management objectives during this reporting year by: 1) participating in the deliberations and actions of the Implementation, Management, Biology, Water Acquisition and Information & Education Committees; 2) coordinating with all of the other Program participants to accomplish Program work assignments; 3) working to secure public, water user and local, county and statewide government officials' understanding, acceptance and support of the Recovery Program and its myriad activities; 4) working to secure and provide Wyoming agency, Wyoming Legislature, 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; and 5) coordinating with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to put Wyoming's capital construction funding contributions into the Recovery Program funding "pipeline" and monitoring the expenditure of those funds.

IV. **Study Schedule:** Fiscal year 2007 was the fourteenth year that Wyoming received in-kind services credit for our program management activities. Pursuant to the Recovery Program's Cooperative Agreement (which will 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 2007 Tasks and Deliverables, Discussion of Initial Findings and Shortcomings:** Kevin Gelwicks of the Wyoming Game and Fish Department represented Wyoming during fiscal year 2007 in completing the considerable work load accomplished annually by the Biology Committee. John Shields performed necessary duties associated with being the Management Committee's Chairperson and as a member of

the Water Acquisition and Information and Education Committees during Fiscal Year 2007. 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. This year's efforts involved seeking Congressional delegation signatures on House and Senate Delegation letters sent to the Secretary of the Interior in late Summer 2007 urging the Department to include sufficient funding in the Bureau of Reclamation's fiscal year 2009 budget to meet Recovery Program financial commitments – and specifically, the Program's share of the construction costs associated with the recent enlargement of Elkhead Reservoir.

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 implemented; and the Recovery Implementation Program Recovery Action Plan (RIPRAP) was appropriately updated and approved by the Program's participants.
- 5) 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.
- 6) 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.
- 7) 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.

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. Highlights and noteworthy activities have been described above.

Shortcomings: As stated in prior reports, Wyoming's Program participants have been unable to deliver the express support of Wyoming's two United States Senators and their signatures on the joint-delegation funding support letters.

VII. **Recommendations:** The non-federal Recovery Program participants need to continue to actively participate in the efforts to secure Congressional funding for the Recovery Program and our sister program, the San Juan River Basin Recovery Implementation Program through participation in the Washington DC briefing trip and in sending timely letters to the Congressional Appropriations subcommittees supporting appropriations for the Program. These efforts are vitally important to the continuation and success of the Recovery Program.

VIII. **Project Status:** Wyoming's Program Management is considered to be both ongoing and on-track. Management Committee efforts remain important given the degree of delegation (for both investigation and resolution by reaching mutual agreement on the course of action or policy that should be pursued) given to the Management Committee by the Implementation Committee. Work and time requirements for meeting commitments to the Biology Committee's tasks and functions continue to be significant, particularly with respect to nonnative fish management activities, even though Kevin Gelwicks is no longer the Chairman of the Biology Committee.

IX. **FY 2007 Budget:**

A.	Funds Provided:	\$15,300
B.	Funds Expended:	<u>\$15,300</u>
C.	Difference:	\$ 0
D.	Percent of the FY2007 Work Completed and Projected Costs to Complete:	<i>Not applicable.</i>
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: November 7, 2007  
Management Committee Member and Principal Investigator for Wyoming Program Management (Recovery Program Project No. 5)