

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

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III. **Project Summary:** Wyoming met our program management objectives during this reporting year through many discrete and ongoing individual and collaborative activities, including: 1) participating in the deliberations and actions of the Implementation, Management, Biology, Water Acquisition, Information & Education and Ad-hoc Legislative 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, statewide and federal government officials' understanding, acceptance and support for the Recovery Program (and for the San Juan River Basin Recovery Implementation Program as well in certain venues and situations) and its (and their) 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) monitoring the expenditure of Wyoming's capital construction funds through the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.

IV. **Study Schedule:** Fiscal year 2009 was the sixteenth year that Wyoming received in-kind services credit for our program management activities. Pursuant to the Recovery Program's Cooperative Agreement (which currently continues the Recovery Program through September 30, 2023), 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, in the main, RIPRAP Item VII ("provide program planning and support [program management]") and its components and subparts under the "General Recovery Program Support Action Plan," as well as other individual, specific and discrete RIPRAP elements that need not, but could be, individually noted in this annual report.

VI. **Accomplishment of FY 2009 Tasks and Deliverables, Discussion of Initial Findings and Shortcomings:** Pete Cavalli ably represented Wyoming on the Biology Committee

during fiscal year 2009. He actively participated in completing the considerable work load accomplished annually by the Biology Committee. The Biology Committee's efforts are certainly a large part of and significant factor in the success that our innovative recovery program has enjoyed over the past twenty years of operations.

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 2009. Shields again performed much of the arrangements and coordination legwork for the non-federal Management Committee members' visits during the annual trip to Washington, DC to solicit funding support for the Upper Colorado Recovery Program and San Juan Recovery Program. The non-federal participants to the two recovery programs have actively sought the support of all 14 House Members and all 8 Senators who represent the four involved states. The trip requires briefing meetings with each of the Congressional delegation staff, authorizing and appropriations committee staff (for USBR and USFWS) and numerous briefings with Administration officials and several relevant non-governmental organizations.

This year's legislative and intergovernmental coordination efforts involved:

- a) Working with the four states' Congressional delegations as we sought co-sponsorship, consideration and enactment of H.R. 2288, (introduced May 6, 2009) that was the subject of a House Natural Resources Water and Power Subcommittee hearing on September 22, 2009. H.R. 2288 was introduced to amend Public Law 106-392 to maintain annual base funding for the Bureau of Reclamation for the Upper Colorado River and San Juan fish recovery programs through fiscal year 2023. Wyoming State Engineer Pat Tyrrell served as the non-federal witness representing the participating states and testifying in support of this requisite amendment to the Programs' authorities. Commissioner Michael Connor of the Bureau of Reclamation testified in support of our bill. The bill – through our efforts – has 13 of the 14 House Members who represent CO, NM, UT and WY on board as sponsors.

- b) Working with the four states' Congressional delegations as we sought co-sponsorship, consideration and enactment of S. 1453, (introduced July 14, 2009) that was the subject of a Senate Energy and Natural Resources Water and Power Subcommittee hearing on July 23, 2009. S.1453 was introduced to amend Public Law 106-392 to maintain annual base funding for the Bureau of Reclamation for the Upper Colorado River and San Juan fish recovery programs through fiscal year 2023. Six of the eight Senators who represent the four participating states are sponsors of this legislation (unfortunately we were unable to convince the Wyoming Senatorial Delegation to sign on as sponsors of this legislation). Commissioner Michael Connor of the Bureau of Reclamation testified in support of our bill. He was asked one question about S. 1453, which was whether these recovery programs have been recognized as national models for working to recover endangered species and of course he was able to affirmatively answer. Letters in support of the legislation were submitted by all four of the participating States' Governors. Numerous entities sent in letters supporting the enactment of this bill.

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, Governor Freudenthal's Endangered Species Policy Coordinator, the Wyoming Congressional Delegation and their staff, affected state agencies, members of the Wyoming Water Association and the public.
- 2) The State of Wyoming was ably represented during meetings, conference calls and other 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) 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.
- 6) 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 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 recovery program committee 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 – we continue to tell ourselves we are getting closer – and believe that eventually we will get the support of Senator Barrasso, a member of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources

Committee, to be a signatory on our 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 the Implementation Committee's express and inferred delegation (for both investigation and resolution by reaching mutual agreement on the course of action or policy that should be pursued) to the Management Committee. Work and time requirements for report and document review, meeting (whether in person, via conference call or more recently for the Web Ex conferencing meetings) preparation and participation commitments for accomplishing the Biology Committee's tasks and functions continue to be significant, particularly with respect to the Program's numerous nonnative fish management and control activities.
- IX. **FY 2009 Budget:**
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| A. | Funds Provided: | \$17,075 |
| B. | Funds Expended: | <u>\$17,075</u> |
| C. | Difference: | \$ 0 |
| D. | Percent of the FY2009 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 16, 2009
Management Committee Member
and Principal Investigator for
Wyoming Program Management
(Recovery Program Project No. 5)