

- I. Project Title: Reclamation Program Management
- II. Principal Investigator(s):  
  
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- III. Project Summary: The purpose of this project is to provide Reclamation participation in Recovery Program management.
- IV. Study Schedule: Ongoing
- V. Relationship to RIPRAP: General Recovery Program Support Action Plan, Provide Program Planning and Support (Program Management), Task No. VII
- VI. Accomplishment of FY 2012: Tasks and Deliverables, Discussion of Initial Findings and Shortcomings: Program management funds are used to provide Reclamation participation in general Recovery Program activities not covered by specific scopes of work. Examples of these types of activities include administration of “base” or annual project funding agreements (i.e., not inclusive of capital projects), work planning, monitoring project progress and performance, and other general program management and administration.

Task 1: Work with Recovery Program participants to coordinate work plans.

Task 1 Accomplishments, Discussion, and Shortcomings: Reclamation was able to participate in Biology and Management committee-related functions related to review and approval of work plans, RIPRAP revisions, final reports, and other issue papers pursuant to Task 1. We provided assistance on the Non-native Fish Subcommittee (including input on a draft strategic plan) and implementation of the Green River flow and temperature recommendations. We coordinated with Recovery Program biologists to collect, organize and interpret temperature data from the 2011 and 2012 peak- and base-flow period in the Green and Yampa rivers. We participated in the development of the Larval Trigger Study Plan (finalized in March 2012), which experimentally modifies operations of Flaming Gorge Dam to increase benefits to razorback sucker. We participated in the Flaming Gorge Technical Working Group and functioned as a liaison between the Recovery Program and Reclamation managers in implementing the 2006 ROD, which involved close coordination with researchers from UDWR and USFWS to implement the Larval Trigger Study Plan.

We prepared materials to cover this information at the Flaming Gorge Working Group meeting held in Vernal, UT during April and August, 2012. We developed and advertised a request for proposals for a fish mortality study at Thayn Hydropower on the Green River near Green River, UT (no proposals received, however), and provided technical guidance on development of an electric fish barrier and installation of a PIT antenna in the Green River Canal. We worked with investigators from Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife to characterize threats to recovery posed by Dolores River smallmouth bass populations and helped coordinate otolith research to assist in potential flow planning to disadvantage those fish.

We worked with personnel from Utah State University and Colorado State University to operate a passive PIT detection system in the Maybell Canal near Maybell, CO as part of compliance with the 2005 Programmatic Biological Opinion on the Yampa River Management Plan. We assisted CSU field crews with smallmouth bass removal efforts in Yampa Canyon on the Yampa River, CO and monitoring on the Green River in Lodore/Whirlpool canyons. We assisted with the installation of the White River PIT antenna. We procured PIT tags and PIT-related equipment for the Recovery Program for use on several projects and provided technical guidance on in-stream antenna development. We presented a professional paper containing updates on all PIT-related activities at the January 2012 Researcher's Meeting in Moab, UT, and compiled and distributed information on wildfire impacts to endangered fish during the summer of 2012. Finally, we provided technical reviews of most Recovery Program technical documents and projects pursuant to federal requirements for cooperative agreement monitoring and as representatives on the Recovery Program Biology committee.

Task 2: Administer funding for Recovery Program projects.

Task 2 Accomplishments, Discussion, and Shortcomings: The Recovery Program FY12 work plan required us to create or modify approximately 60 funding agreements between cooperators and Reclamation pursuant to Task 2. Each agreement required multi-faceted administrative maintenance, including requests for Federal assistance for Recovery Program-approved projects, communication with Recovery Program Director's office on funding issues, review and approval of project budgets, requests for obligations to cover funding agreements, agreement or contract awards, maintenance of agreement and contract filing systems (including agreement instruments, invoices, and accruals), tracking of budgets, review and approval of invoices, performance of periodic site visits to monitor project performance, filing of advanced procurement reports, tracking project performance and status of deliverables, filing recipient performance reports, answering agreement inquiries from auditors, and other related tasks. Due to an internal audit of our Acquisitions Management Division, funding for a significant number of these funding agreements was severely delayed and we are working diligently to avoid such delays in future years.

VII. Recommendations: Continue this project at FY 2012 funding and staffing levels.

VIII. Project Status: Ongoing

IX. FY 2012 Budget Status

- A. Funds Provided: \$187,037
- B. Funds Expended as of September 30, 2012: \$187,037
- C. Difference: \$0
- D. Percent of the FY 2012 work completed, and projected costs to complete: 100%.
- E. Recovery Program funds spent for publication charges: \$0

X. Status of Data Submission (where applicable): Not Applicable

Signed: /s/ Dave Speas  
Principal Investigator

November 19, 2012