

I. Project Title: Reclamation Program Management

II. Principal Investigator(s):

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III. Project Summary: In FY 2016, Reclamation provided representation to the Recovery Program Biology and Management committees and managed financial assistance agreements and contracts (including interagency agreements) with program cooperators to implement the annual work plan.

III. Study Schedule: Ongoing

IV. Relationship to RIPRAP: General Recovery Program Support Action Plan, Provide Program Planning and Support (Program Management), Task No. VII

V. Accomplishments during FY 2016: 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: In FY16, Reclamation participated in Biology and Management committee-related functions related to review and approval of work plans. Reclamation also participated in RIPRAP revisions, review and completion of final reports, and other issue papers pursuant to Task 1. We provided technical reviews of most Recovery Program technical documents and projects pursuant to federal requirements for cooperative agreement monitoring.

We participated in implementation of the Larval Trigger Study Plan, which experimentally modifies operations of Flaming Gorge Dam to increase benefits to razorback sucker. We participated in the GREAT (Green River Evaluation and Assessment Team) to evaluate efficacy of the Green River Flow Recommendations under the 2006 ROD. 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 and presented materials to cover this information at Flaming Gorge Working Group meetings held in Vernal, UT during August 2016 and attended supplemental working group meetings at Green River, UT (March 2016) and Vernal, UT (April and June 2016). We coordinated with Recovery Program participants to collect, organize and interpret temperature data from the 2015 peak- and base-flow period in the Green and Yampa rivers for compliance with the 2005 biological opinion on Flaming Gorge Dam operations.

We worked with Colorado Natural Heritage Program (CNHP) on continued development of a functional web-based database (Species Tagging, Research and Monitoring System, STReaMS; streamsystem.org) which will serve both the Upper Colorado and San Juan recovery programs. We organized an end-user workshop for program participants in March 2016 (Fort Collins, CO). The STReaMS database is mostly functional and nearing completion at this time. We coordinated procurement and distribution of PIT tags and PIT antennas for use by program personnel in all field offices.

We assisted USFWS – CRFP field crews with their Colorado pikeminnow sampling activities on the Green River in Desolation/Gray canyons (May 2016) and conducted a site visit to Stewart Lake as it was being managed by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources during the Green River spring runoff period. We identified and obligated non-program funds to continue the Lake Powell razorback sucker investigations in 2017, continued funding for PIA O/M and continued analysis on the utility of automated PIT data in recovery monitoring through Utah State University.

We participated in development of the humpback chub Species Status Assessment (SSA) and provided survey input and comments on the razorback sucker SSA. We provided peer review comments on several scientific reports, including the Colorado State University's (CSU) final report on Colorado pikeminnow abundance in the Green River during 2000-2013. We attended the 13th Biennial Conference of Science and Management on the Colorado Plateau and Southwest Region (October 2015), and presented an overview of PIT technology usage and data acquisition in the Upper Colorado Basin. We coordinated with UDWR to provide technical review expertise from Reclamation's Provo Area Office on proposals to restore the Matheson Wetland Preserve near Moab, UT, for the purposes of endangered fish recovery.

Task 2: Administer funding for Recovery Program projects.

Task 2 Accomplishments, Discussion, and Shortcomings: The Recovery Program FY16 work plan required us to create or modify several 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, preparation of determination and findings documents, 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 project monitoring reports, filing recipient performance reports, answering agreement inquiries from auditors, and other related tasks. Most funding agreement modifications for FY16 were completed during the first half of the fiscal year, a marked improvement over the previous three years. This was due largely to a reorganization of the Acquisitions Management Division and continued support from Reclamation's Environmental Resources Division budget analyst.

- VI. Recommendations: Continue this project at staffing levels proposed in the FY16-17 Scope of Work.
- VII. Project Status: Ongoing
- VIII. FY 2016 Budget Status
 - A. Funds Provided: \$ 229,684
 - B. Funds Expended as of September 30, 2016: \$ 229,684
 - C. Difference: \$0
 - D. Percent of the FY 2016 work completed, and projected costs to complete: 100%.
 - E. Recovery Program funds spent for publication charges: \$0
- IX. Status of Data Submission (where applicable): Not Applicable

Signed: /s/ Dave Speas
Principal Investigator

Dec 5, 2016