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INTRODUCTION

This is the guidance for development of the Recovery Program's FY 99 Work Plan. The Program Director's office, technical committees, Management Committee, and Implementation Committee developed this guidance on the basis of the Recovery Program's Recovery Action Plan (RIPRAP) and input from Program participants. The RIPRAP identifies all the activities currently believed necessary and feasible to recover the endangered fish in the Upper Basin. Thus, annual Program guidance is closely tied to the RIPRAP.

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To allow time for outside peer review, scopes of work for new projects are due to Program coordinators in WordPerfect 5 or 6 format by electronic mail or on disk by March 10. New projects are:

- Refinement of the Colorado CRDSS model to better reflect the depletions and flows of the Little Snake River.
- Operation and maintenance of Duchesne River gages.
- Evaluation of Price-Stubbs Fish Passage.
- Floodplain Protection Issue Paper - Implementation of recommendations.
- Selenium effects on razorback suckers vs. other native fishes.
- Experimental spawning/rearing of razorbacks in a selenium-contaminated environment.
- Nonnative fish control on the Yampa River.
- Review of hatchery production facilities.
- Evaluation of razorback sucker and Colorado squawfish stocking/translocation in the Palisade to Rifle reach of the Colorado River.
- Determination of survival of early life stages of Colorado squawfish.
- Determination of the survival of early life stages of razorback sucker.
- Assessment of ISMP objectives and methodology.
- Contribution of tributaries to recovery, including San Rafael River assessment.
- Maintain IMO model.

Most of these projects were included in the preliminary Program Guidance issued October 31, 1997.

For your information, the evaluation form that will be used by the Recovery Program in evaluating new scopes of work is shown in Appendix C. Also included for your information are: Appendix D - the evaluation form used by the Recovery Program in reviewing and commenting

on final draft project reports; Appendix E - the proper format for final draft reports that are submitted to the Biology Committee for review and approval; and Appendix F - the Biology Committee review process for final draft reports.

Scopes of work for ongoing and ongoing-revised biological and water acquisition projects (under recovery elements I-V) are due NO LATER THAN April 24, 1998 (this includes scopes of work for capital-funded projects). Submit new, ongoing-revised, and ongoing scopes of work for these projects to the appropriate Program coordinator (see list at end) in WordPerfect 5 or 6 format by electronic mail or on disk. IN ADDITION, submit a courtesy hard copy of new and ongoing-revised biological scopes of work to each member of the Biology Committee (list attached) and water acquisition scopes of work to each member of the Water Acquisition Committee. (These committees do not need to see ongoing scopes of work until later in the work plan review process, and these will be sent to them by the Program Director's office.)

Scopes of work for information & education projects (under recovery element VI) also are due April 24, 1998, and should be submitted in WordPerfect 5 or 6 format to Connie Young (connie_young@mail.fws.gov).

Program management scopes of work (under recovery element VII) are due by July 1, 1998 (in WordPerfect 5 or 6 format by electronic mail to angela_kantola@mail.fws.gov or on disk).

Upon receipt of the proposed scopes of work, the Program Director's office will begin working (with technical advisory panels and principal investigators) to review and refine the scopes of work and develop a recommended technical annual work plan. This recommended work plan and refined scopes of work will be submitted by the Program Director to the technical committees for review on June 19. Technical committee comments are then due to the Program Director and the Management Committee by July 20. The recommended Program management work plan also is due from the Program Director to the Management Committee at this time. The Management Committee will meet in early August to discuss the recommended work plans and approve projects for the Draft FY 99 Work Plan. The Draft Work Plan will be submitted to the Implementation Committee for review by August 25. The Implementation Committee will meet in early September, and the final FY 99 Work Plan and final scopes of work will be distributed in the first quarter of FY 99.

If you have any questions about this guidance or the FY 99 work plan development process, please contact Angela Kantola at 303/236-2985, ext 221, or the appropriate coordinator:

Instream flow protection and nonnative fish control - Henry Maddux 303/236-2985 ext. 223,
henry_maddux@mail.fws.gov
Habitat restoration - Pat Nelson 303/236-2985 ext. 226, pat_nelson@mail.fws.gov
Genetics and propagation, monitoring/research/life history - Tom Czapla 303/236-2985 ext. 228,
tom_czapla@mail.fws.gov
Information, education, and public involvement - Connie Young 303/236-2985 ext. 227,
connie_young@mail.fws.gov
Program management - Angela Kantola 303/236-2985 ext. 221, angela_kantola@mail.fws.gov

I. INSTREAM FLOW IDENTIFICATION AND PROTECTION:

Numerous instream flow activities continue in FY 99. Instream flow activities in FY 99 will be directed towards: 1) coordinated reservoir operations to enhance flows; 2) examination of the role of smaller tributaries to the endangered fishes; and 3) providing and legally protecting flows in important river reaches.

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>PROJECTED FY 99 BUDGET</u>
<i><u>ONGOING PROJECTS</u></i>		
8 HMG/90--	15-MILE REACH GAGE OP. & MAINT	4.3
	No major changes to project scope or budget expected.	
9 HMG/91--	WATER RIGHT ACQ. CONSULTANT	20.0
	No major changes to project scope or budget expected, however the 15-mile reach return flow gage is not needed at this time.	
19H HMG/85--	WATER ACQ. HYDROLOGY SUPPORT	47.5
	No major changes to project scope or budget expected.	
19B HMG/85--	BIOLOGY HYDROLOGY SUPPORT	43.0
	No major changes to project scope or budget expected.	
67 CAP/92--	STEAMBOAT LAKE WATER LEASE	32.0
	No major changes; lease agreement is in place.	
70 HMG/95--	CO. INSTREAM FLOW PROTECTION	TBD
	Colorado needs to update the scope of work to reflect 1998 accomplishments, 1999 and outyear activities and costs.	
71 HMG/95--	COLO. RIVER DECISION SUPP. SYSTEM	TBD
	Colorado needs to update the scope of work to reflect 1998 accomplishments, 1999 and outyear activities and costs.	
86 HMG/9899	PEER REVIEW OF GEOMORPHOLOGICAL STUDIES	10.0
	No major changes in budget or scope expected.	
CAP 14	COORDINATED RESERVOIR OP.	78.0
	No major changes in budget or scope expected.	
CAP 24	DUCHESNE RIVER COORDINATED RESERVOIR AND FACILITY OPERATIONS	100.0
	This activity is being initiated in FY 98 with contingency funds. The goal is to coordinate the operation of various reservoirs and facilities located in the Duchesne River Basin upstream from the confluence of the Duchesne and Green Rivers in order to deliver water to improve endangered fish species habitat.	

ONGOING PROJECTS NEEDING REVISION

17 HMG/91--	BASIN WIDE CHANNEL MONITORING	29.0
	Each year a revised scope of work is submitted to reflect Recovery Program priorities and basin hydrology conditions. A monitoring program is then designed to achieve these goals. The channel monitoring program for FY 1999 will be designed to pull all of the	

Green River channel monitoring work accomplished since 1991 into a comprehensive report. The report will identify and describe the previous work, all cross sections surveyed by the channel monitoring and bottomlands programs and others will be mapped, survey data will be reduced to table form and geomorphic data will be summarized. The report also will summarize important findings and develop recommendations for establishing a standard channel monitoring program. No field work will be conducted in FY-1999 while the report is being developed.

84 HMG/9702 DUCHESNE RIVER BIOLOGICAL STUDIES 150.0

This scope of work undergoes extensive updating each year.

85 HMG/9801 15-MILE REACH CHANNEL MONITORING 26.4

Modify to address data gaps identified as part of FY 98 study (matrix table of flow needs and habitat response) . Scope of work should be re-written with input from coordinated reservoir operations work group. This scope of work will require both Biology and Water Acquisition committee review.

CAP-4C GAGE BELOW REDLANDS DIVERSION 15.0

Long-term funding of this and other gages is being addressed through the long-term funding legislation. Operation and maintenance of all Colorado River gages should be combined into a single scope of work. Revision should include adding temperature monitoring at the Jensen and Rulison gages.

CAP-9 YAMPA RECOVERY & WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN 500.0

Should be revised to reflect current project status (some portions on schedule, others behind.)

CAP-11 GRAND VALLEY WATER MANAGEMENT 1,770.0

This project has experienced significant delays. Time lines and cost estimates in this scope of work need to be revised.

NEW PROJECTS

Title: REFINEMENT OF THE COLORADO CRDSS MODEL TO BETTER REFLECT THE DEPLETIONS AND FLOWS OF THE LITTLE SNAKE RIVER

RIPRAP Item Number: Green River Action Plan: Yampa and Little Snake Rivers
1.C.3.a.

Background, Rationale and Hypotheses:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has developed flow recommendations for an 82-mile segment of the Yampa River and the Little Snake River below Dixon, Wyoming. The recommendations were provided to the Recovery Program for the benefit of the endangered fishes of the Upper Colorado River Basin. In accordance with Program Guidelines, the recommendations will be submitted to the Colorado Water Conservation Board for review and implementation as appropriate.

Before the CWCB can file applications in Colorado Water Court, the CWCB needs to quantify the right to be filed and evaluate the effects of the right on the River and water users. The CWCB would most likely file for two instream flow water rights in the Little Snake River to protect and recover endangered fish. The first is referred to as the “base flow” water right and the second a “recovery instream flow water right.” The latter, “recovery flow” water right, includes all remaining flows in excess of the existing uses, the Carve Out for future water development in both Colorado and Wyoming, and the base flow. An updated CRDSS Model will provide a tool that can be used by the CWCB to examine:

1. The impacts on the Little Snake River instream flow from different levels and patterns of future water development;
 2. The amounts, pattern, and priority of the base flow water right filing as well as the implications of enforcement of the base flow water right and administration of other water rights; and
 3. The size and actual distribution of the Carve Out and of the upper bounds on the potential increase of that Carve Out, which will be reviewed an`\$NESTFORM()0Ltr Gothic 12pt (12cpi)X3X3NlarX3X3NlarX3X3NX3X3NlarX3X3NUPPORT I-1
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70 HMG/95--	CO. INSTREAM FLOW PROTECTION	TBD
	Colorado needs to update the scope of work to reflect 1998 accomplishments, 1999 and outyear activities and costs.	
71 HMG/95--	COLO. RIVER DECISION SUPP. SYSTEM	TBD
	Colorado needs to update the scope of work to reflect 1998 accomplishments, 1999 and outyear activities and costs.	
86 HMG/9899	PEER REVIEW OF GEOMORPHOLOGICAL STUDIES	10.0
	No major changes in budget or scope expected.	
CAP 14	COORDINATED RESERVOIR OP.	78.0
	No major changes in budget or scope expected.	
CAP 24	DUCHESNE RIVER COORDINATED RESERVOIR AND FACILITY OPERATIONS	100.0
	This activity is being initiated in FY 98 with contingency funds. The goal is to coordinate the operation of various reservoirs and facilities located in the Duchesne River Basin upstream from the confluence of the Duchesne and Green Rivers in order to deliver water to improve endangered fish species habitat.	

ONGOING PROJECTS NEEDING REVISION

17 HMG/91--	BASIN WIDE CHANNEL MONITORING	29.0
	Each year a revised scope of work is submitted to reflect Recovery Program priorities and basin hydrology conditions. A monitoring program is then designed to achieve these goals. The channel monitoring program for FY 1999 will be designed to pull all of the	

Green River channel monitoring work accomplished since 1991 into a comprehensive report. The report will identify and describe the previous work, all cross sections surveyed by the channel monitoring and bottomlands programs and others will be mapped, survey data will be reduced to table form and geomorphic data will be summarized. The report also will summarize important findings and develop recommendations for establishing a standard channel monitoring program. No field work will be conducted in FY-1999 while the report is being developed.

84 HMG/9702 DUCHESNE RIVER BIOLOGICAL STUDIES 150.0

This scope of work undergoes extensive updating each year.

85 HMG/9801 15-MILE REACH CHANNEL MONITORING 26.4

Modify to address data gaps identified as part of FY 98 study (matrix table of flow needs and habitat response) . Scope of work should be re-written with input from coordinated reservoir operations work group. This scope of work will require both Biology and Water Acquisition committee review.

CAP-4C GAGE BELOW REDLANDS DIVERSION 15.0

Long-term funding of this and other gages is being addressed through the long-term funding legislation. Operation and maintenance of all Colorado River gages should be combined into a single scope of work. Revision should include adding temperature monitoring at the Jensen and Rulison gages.

CAP-9 YAMPA RECOVERY & WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN 500.0

Should be revised to reflect current project status (some portions on schedule, others behind.)

CAP-11 GRAND VALLEY WATER MANAGEMENT 1,770.0

This project has experienced significant delays. Time lines and cost estimates in this scope of work need to be revised.

NEW PROJECTS

Title: REFINEMENT OF THE COLORADO CRDSS MODEL TO BETTER REFLECT THE DEPLETIONS AND FLOWS OF THE LITTLE SNAKE RIVER

RIPRAP Item Number: Green River Action Plan: Yampa and Little Snake Rivers
1.C.3.a.

Background, Rationale and Hypotheses:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has developed flow recommendations for an 82-mile segment of the Yampa River and the Little Snake River below Dixon, Wyoming. The recommendations were provided to the Recovery Program for the benefit of the endangered fishes of the Upper Colorado River Basin. In accordance with Program Guidelines, the recommendations will be submitted to the Colorado Water Conservation Board for review and implementation as appropriate.

Before the CWCB can file applications in Colorado Water Court, the CWCB needs to quantify the right to be filed and evaluate the effects of the right on the River and water users. The CWCB would most likely file for two instream flow water rights in the Little Snake River to protect and recover endangered fish. The first is referred to as the “base flow” water right and the second a “recovery instream flow water right.” The latter, “recovery flow” water right, includes all remaining flows in excess of the existing uses, the Carve Out for future water development in both Colorado and Wyoming, and the base flow. An updated CRDSS Model will provide a tool that can be used by the CWCB to examine:

4. The impacts on the Little Snake River instream flow from different levels and patterns of future water development;
5. The amounts, pattern, and priority of the base flow water right filing as well as the implications of enforcement of the base flow water right and administration of other water rights; and
6. The size and actual distribution of the Carve Out and of the upper bounds on the potential increase of that Carve Out, which will be reviewed an