

COLORADO RIVER RECOVERY PROGRAM
FY 2011 ANNUAL PROJECT REPORT

RECOVERY PROGRAM
PROJECT NUMBER: 5



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

II. **Principal Investigators:**

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III. **Project Summary:** Wyoming's program management efforts assure that our Program representatives are fully engaged in timely and effective planning, implementation and Recovery Program coordination activities. Our participation will continue throughout the life of the Program. Progress was made during the reporting period in that we fully participated in planning, deliberations and actions of the Implementation, Management, Biology, Water Acquisition, and Information and Education Committees; including participating in all meetings and/or teleconferences, reviewing materials and actively making recommendations and decision-making. We met all reporting commitments. We provided leadership and actively sought to secure understanding, acceptance and support of the Program by Wyoming governmental agencies, the Congress and the Administration for capital construction and annual program funding from the State of Wyoming, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.

IV. **Study Schedule:** 1989-ongoing. Fiscal year 2011 was the eighteenth (18th) year that Wyoming received in-kind services credit for our program management activities. Pursuant to the Recovery Program's 2009 Extension of the Cooperative Agreement (which 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:** General Recovery Program Support Action Plan:
VII.A.3 – Update, refine and prioritize recovery actions (RIPRAP) annually.
VII.A.7 – Monitor and assess Recovery Program accomplishments annually.
VII.A.8 – Develop biennial work plan to address priority needs.
VII.B – Actively participate in Recovery Program committees and secure funding for annual work plan and larger projects.

VI. **Accomplishment of FY 2011 Tasks and Deliverables, Discussion of Initial Findings and Shortcomings:** Wyoming is well represented on the Biology Committee by Pete Cavalli, who actively pitches in with the considerable work load undertaken and accomplished annually by this Committee. Its efforts are a significant factor in our innovative recovery program's successes over the past twenty-two years of operations.

John Shields served as a member of the Water Acquisition and Information and Education Committees and again was the Chairman of the Management Committee during Fiscal Year 2011. He led logistical efforts for the recovery programs' annual Congressional briefings and funding support trip to Washington, DC on March 16-22, 2011. This year's legislative and intergovernmental coordination efforts included working with the four

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states' Congressional delegations and the House Natural Resources Water and Power Subcommittee's staff to get a bill introduced in the 112th Congress to extend the recovery programs' annual base funding authorization (for annual base funding purposes that are not either operation & maintenance or monitoring expenditures) pursuant to Public Law 106-392 to use Upper Colorado River Basin Fund power revenues.

Accomplishments: Due to the efforts of involved Wyoming personnel, the four objectives for Wyoming's program management involvement set forth in the "Project Summary" section hereinabove were accomplished. Wyoming's policy and technical positions on Recovery Program activities were well coordinated; Wyoming was ably represented at each of the program's committee levels; and the guidance document, biennial budget, recovery action plan and work plan documents were developed, approved and implemented.

Discussion of Initial Findings, Highlights, Shortcomings and Noteworthy Activities: It is vitally important to keep pushing to accomplish legislative initiatives as it will take much longer and more effort than was anticipated when we began the effort. The fact that we are on track to achieve downlisting of two of the four species of endangered fish on the schedule set forth in the August 2002 recovery goals is a reason to be pleased with the progress that the programs are making.

- VII. **Recommendations:** The non-federal Recovery Program participants' active participation in efforts to secure Congressional funding for the Recovery Program and our sister program, the San Juan River Basin Recovery Implementation Program, through the annual Washington DC briefing trip and corresponding with the Congressional Appropriations subcommittees, is vitally important to the success of the Recovery Programs.
- VIII. **Project Status:** Wyoming's Program Management is considered to be ongoing and on-track. Work and time requirements for report and document review, meetings' preparation and participation (whether in person attending meetings, workshops or the annual researchers' meeting, via conference calls or Web-Ex webinars) commitments for accomplishing the Biology Committee's tasks and functions are significant, in particular for the Program's numerous nonnative fish management and control activities.
- IX. **FY 2011 Budget:**
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| A. | Funds Provided: | \$44,100 - \$26,210 = \$17,890 |
| B. | Funds Expended: | <u>\$17,890</u> |
| C. | Difference: | \$ 0 |
| D. | Percent of the FY2010 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; no data was submitted.
- XI. **Signed:** John W. Shields Dated: November 23, 2011
Management Committee Member and Principal Investigator for Wyoming
Program Management (Recovery Program Project No. 5)