Peer Review Plan

Analysis of Existing and Potential New Storage on Scoggins Creek using RiverWare, Tualatin River Basin, Oregon

Date: February 26, 2020

Originating office: Bureau of Reclamation, Pacific Northwest Region, Regional Office, 1150 N Curtis Rd., Boise, ID, 83706

Reclamation roles:

Director or delegated manager: Lorri Gray, Regional Director, Pacific Northwest Region, Bureau of Reclamation

Peer Review Lead: Mike Poulos, Hydrologist, Pacific Northwest Region, Bureau of Reclamation

Subject and Purpose: Clean Water Services and Reclamation are conducting a joint project to analyze the potential for new storage on Scoggins Creek. The current Scoggins Reservoir needs to undergo construction for dam safety reasons and CWS would like to evaluate the potential for new storage on the reservoir. CWS uses its storage to mitigate for water temperature in the Tualatin River that is increased due to releases from its treatment plants. An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be prepared to evaluate at least three design options including no change to current storage, increased storage on the existing dam, and a new downstream dam. This Peer Review Plan is intended to review the model assumptions and output that were used to analyze potential to fill existing and new storage space and the effects of delivering the water that will be used to inform the EIS and economic analysis.

Impact of Dissemination: The modeling output describing the potential to fill the existing and new storage space and the effects of delivering the water are going to be used to determine the feasibility of the design options. Because of this, the modeling output is expected to meet the definition of influential scientific information requiring internal peer input, as defined by Office of Management and Budget Final Information Quality Bulletin for Peer Review (70 FR 2664-2677) and Reclamation Manual Peer Review of Scientific Information and Assessments Policy (CMP P14).

Peer Review Scope: The modeling assumptions related to the potential to fill the existing and new storage space and the effects of delivering the water is the scientific information that will be the basis for resource effects analysis in the EIS. This is the information that is the subject of this peer review. Peer reviewers will be asked to provide responses relative to the following questions:

1. Are the assumptions clearly explained in the documentation of the modeling analysis?
2. Does the documentation clearly show the effects of the assumptions on the river-reservoir system?
3. Does the document adequately characterize the limitations and uncertainty associated with the analysis?

The scope of this review does not include the selection of RiverWare as the appropriate tool for this analysis, the RiverWare software, or the Scoggins RiverWare model because these have all been previous reviewed.

Timing of Review: The review period is expected to be October 15-October 30, 2020. The final Peer Review Report is expected to be available on the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Peer Review public website (http://www.usbr.gov/main/qoi/peeragenda.html) by November 30, 2020.

Methodology of Review: Review will be conducted by individuals. The identities of the reviewers will be disclosed in the final Peer Review Summary. Review findings/comments will be attributed to the individual reviewer. The peer review process will not provide opportunities for public participation; however, the documentation of the modeling analysis will be available for review by the public when the Draft EIS is published.

Number of Peer Reviewers: It is anticipated that two peer reviewers will be utilized.

Reviewer Selection Process: Peer reviewers will have education and professional experience in hydrologic or river-reservoir modeling.

Peer reviewers will be selected from Reclamation staff inside of the Columbia-Pacific Northwest Region and will not have previous involvement in the Study.

Delivery of findings: The peer reviewers will provide an Excel comment tracker along with a summary paragraph highlighting any major concerns or verifying there were no major concerns.

Response to Peer Review: The summary paragraph will be published on the Reclamation's peer review website (http://www.usbr.gov/main/qoi/peeragenda.html) along with a response if there were any major concerns with the documentation.

Federal Register Notice: Federal Register notices will not be provided announcing the formation of a peer review team and completion of the final report.

Applicability of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA): This peer review is not subject to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) because reviewers are being asked to provide individual reviews on the subject matter. Reclamation is not seeking consensus advice from the reviewers as a group.

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