

TRACY SERIES REPORTS

Investigator

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Summary

Research results from the Tracy Fish Facility Improvement Program (TFFIP) are published in peer-reviewed reports distributed as Tracy Series Volumes and Technical Bulletins. This study funds the activities of an editor, science editor(s), peer reviewers, and document preparation specialist to improve the quality and timeliness of reports for the Tracy Fish Facility Improvement Program. Forty Tracy Series Volumes and 9 Technical Bulletins, along with 12 Red Bluff Series Reports, 3 Hydraulic Lab Technical Reports, a special report, scientific journal articles, and a doctoral dissertation have been published to date. While all of these reports were peer reviewed and are representative of good scientific standards, new reports published after May 2009 benefit from a more consistent editorial process and document style. This project is essential to TFFIP's overall objectives to disseminate timely, high quality technical reports. These efforts will help enhance and solidify support and recognition of TFFIP.

Hard copy Tracy Series Reports are distributed by the Tracy Series Editor to Tracy collaborators, stakeholders, and the general public. Abstracts and PDF versions of reports are available for downloading on the Tracy Research Web site (http://www.usbr.gov/pmts/tech_services/tracy_research/tracyreports/index.html). Abstracts are submitted to the National Technical Information Service for computer abstracting.

Problem Statement

Early TFFIP reports received informal peer review and revisions. Research proposals and publication of Tracy Series Reports now follow more formal procedures outlined in Tracy Series Volume 13 Revised and Expanded, *Guidelines for Research and Authorship* (Portz *et al.* 2009). As TFFIP research has expanded and outside interest increased, the need for defining quality assurance procedures and good scientific standards, along with a consistent

editorial process and scientific peer review have been implemented. This project is fundamental to the overall program objectives for TFFIP and is the primary product of the program.

Goals and Hypotheses

Goals:

1. Provide better control and quality of technical reports by formalizing peer review and editorial activities.
2. Provide more organized and effective public distribution of Tracy Series Reports.
3. Maintain schedule for Tracy Series publications under newly revised publication process. We anticipate publication of possibly five Tracy Series Reports and at least three Technical Bulletin in FY 2013–2014.
4. Peer-review TFFIP research proposals to add scientific rigor and standards.

Materials and Methods

This activity will follow standard editorial practices for peer-reviewed technical publications, as outlined in the Volume 13 Revised and Expanded, *Guidelines for Research and Authorship* (Portz *et al.* 2009). Style follows standards published in the *Government Printing Office Style Manual* (U.S. Government Printing Office 2000), and *The Chicago Manual of Style* (University of Chicago 1993) for grammar and style issues not covered by the Government Printing Office. Other applicable standards include application of SI (*Système Internationale d'Unités*) metric units (Bureau of Reclamation 1978), biological terminology and usage following American Fisheries Society (AFS) recommendations (Hunter 1990), chemical and water quality terms following American Chemical Society (ACS) guidelines (Dodd 1986) and hydraulic and civil engineering terminology following American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) guidelines (ASCE 2007). Statistical nomenclature should conform to American Statistical Association (2007) standards.

Coordination and Collaboration

The Tracy Series Editor coordinates with TFFIP Manager and the Research Coordinator on policy and scheduling, and with principal investigators and

authors in conjunction with TTAT members and others involved with peer review. Preparation of each report layout is coordinated with the document preparation specialist, printers, and contractors.

Endangered Species Concerns

None.

Dissemination of Results (Deliverables and Outcomes)

We anticipate publishing at least five Tracy Series Volumes and three Technical Bulletins in FY 2013-2014, depending on the number submitted to the editor. Technical updates at Tracy Technical Advisory Team Meetings may be given upon request.

Literature Cited

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