

Basin Study Program Semi-Annual Basin Study Status Report

Name of Study: Upper Deschutes River Basin Study

Study Manager: Mike Relf

Date: July 17, 2015

1) What is the general status of the study?

The Deschutes Basin Board of Control (DBBC) is the non-Federal cost-share partner for the Upper Deschutes Basin Study and is acting on behalf of, and as the fiscal agent for, the Basin Study Work Group (BSWG). Reclamation and BSWG have collaborated to develop the Plan of Study (POS). The POS is incorporated in the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between Reclamation and DBBC, which was executed on May 5, 2015. BSWG is currently completing contracting processes to assemble the non-Federal study team. A detailed Project Management Plan (PMP) is being developed as a management tool to plan and track task-specific scope, schedule, and budget information.

2) What stakeholder participation has taken place since last status report?

For the period from January through June 2015, BSWG has held six monthly Steering Committee meetings, each of which involved representatives participating on behalf of a wide range of interests including fisheries and environmental groups, irrigated agriculture, municipalities, recreation, government agencies, and others. Steering Committee meetings are open to the public and include a standing agenda item to receive public input or comments. In addition, BSWG representatives have made presentations about the Basin Study for a variety of interested organizations and agencies. With the MOA and POS now finalized, Reclamation and BSWG are implementing further stakeholder involvement efforts in accordance with the Communication and Outreach Plan that is incorporated in the POS.

3) What tasks listed in the Plan of Study have been completed since last status report?

Specific tasks completed during the January-June 2015 time frame (both prior to and following execution of the MOA/POS) are summarized below:

- BSWG held Steering Committee meetings on January 6, February 3, March 3, April 7, May 15, and June 8; multiple subgroup meetings were also held to address subbasin-specific issues.
- The Basin Study website was established on the PN Region's internet site at: <http://www.usbr.gov/pn/studies/deschutes/index.html>. Notes, documents, and links have been added to keep the website up to date.
- The BSWG Steering Committee and three associated subgroups (Upper Deschutes, Crooked River, and Whychus Creek) worked with Reclamation to develop task tables establishing desired tasks to be included in the Basin Study and framing associated budget commitments.

- Reclamation and BSWG developed and finalized the POS to address the content of the task tables. The POS includes a Communications and Outreach Plan and a Technical Sufficiency Review plan.
- Reclamation and BSWG/DBBC developed and finalized the MOA to define and document understandings about cost-shared work and collaborative approaches. The POS is incorporated as an attachment to the MOA.
- BSWG/DBBC executed a contract with Watershed Professionals Network to engage Niklas Christensen as project manager for initial study tasks and to help assemble the non-Federal study team.
- Reclamation's Study Manager provided the Reclamation study team with status updates and projected task assignments.
- Reclamation study team members reviewed scoping documents developed to define tasks for which BSWG anticipates hiring contractors to participate on the non-Federal study team. BSWG/DBBC initiated related contracting processes.
- Reclamation's technical study team identified key decision points for climate change and hydrologic analyses to be conducted during the study. BSWG and Reclamation considered and confirmed decisions to define the planned analytical approaches.
- Reclamation's Study Manager and the non-Federal Study Leads collaborated to develop an initial draft PMP. The PMP includes sections addressing risk management and change management processes.
- Reclamation and the BSWG Steering Committee jointly assembled a Communications Subgroup to guide implementation of the Communications and Outreach Plan

4) What are the planned tasks listed in the Plan of Study for the next reporting period?

Tasks to be initiated during the next reporting period involve:

- Finalizing contracting and related arrangements for the non-Federal study team.
- Completing climate projections and initiating work on hydrologic and groundwater modeling.
- Initiating work on engineering assessments of water conservation opportunities.
- Initiating work on ecological assessments of streamflow and related opportunities for the Upper Deschutes, Middle Deschutes, Crooked River, and Whychus Creek areas (BSWG).
- Initiating work on economic, social, and legal aspects affecting water management opportunities.
- Establish contracting or other agreements as needed to support work by contractors and/or other Federal agencies in support of Reclamation tasks.
- Collaborate on PMP implementation, including cost tracking/reporting, scope control, risk management, and scheduling.
- Collaborate on implementation of the Communication and Outreach Plan.

5) Is the study on schedule to be completed within two years of the signing of the Memorandum of Agreement? Have all of the tasks listed in the Plan of Study that were

scheduled to be initiated by this point in time been initiated? Have all of the tasks listed in the Plan of Study that were scheduled to be completed by this point in time been completed?

Work has been initiated in accordance with the schedule identified in the POS and is currently on track for tasks scheduled for the next reporting period. The overall study schedule anticipates completion of the Basin Study within three years following the May 2015 effective date of the MOA, per guidance in the current Directive and Standard.

6) Are there any issues, concerns, or problems regarding this study?

The study continues to benefit from prior collaborative efforts and water planning studies in the Deschutes River basin, which provide a solid foundation for the work defined in the POS. As study activities get underway, it is important that Reclamation and DBBC/BSWG track and control task scopes/budgets to assure that stakeholder interests are representatively addressed in accordance with understandings developed through collaborative efforts on the POS.

Financial Status Report

BSWG/DBBC has provided the following information documenting all components of the non-Federal cost-share, including non-Federal cash disbursements or outlays specifically identifiable to the basin study and payments to sub-recipients and contractors:

CY 2014 DBBC - OWRD Grant SB839 Grant Expenses	
Harland Clarke Checks	20.17
Law Office of Eileen Eakins	1,000.00
Les Perkins - Mileage Reimb	161.02
Swalley Irrigation - Postage Reimb	19.29
Jordan Ramis PC	1,057.00
GSI Water Solutions	6,650.35
Total 2014 Expenses	8,907.83
CY 2015 DBBC - OWRD Grant SB839 Grant Expenses	
SDAO Membership Dues	125.00
SDIS Liab Ins.	924.00
GSI Water Solutions	57,208.16
Law Office of Eileen Eakins	320.00
Jordan Ramis PC	1,425.00
Total 2015 Expenses YTD	60,002.16
Total non-Federal Expenses = \$68,909.99	

Reclamation began incurring expenses against its \$750,000 cost-share budget following execution of the MOA on May 5, 2015. Reclamation expenditures will be summarized in the next semi-annual status report.