

<< Final 10/08/2020 >>

The BAHG expresses support for a Project O that evaluates the effects of the proposed FLAHG hydrograph. The BAHG recommends to the TWG the following elements outlined in Project O (July 2020 draft) be prioritized in the following rank order for funding a first year of work effort:

Tier 1 Projects (Weighted mean rankings from BAHG rating exercise: 9.3 and 8.6). The BAHG identified that these project elements are the most important for understanding the effects of the proposed FLAHG hydrograph.

- Project Element O.1. Does Disturbance Timing Affect Food Base Response?
- Project Element O.5. Mapping Aquatic Vegetation Response to a Spring Pulse Flow

Tier 2 Projects (Weighted mean rankings from BAHG rating exercise: 6.8, 5.7, and 3.9). The BAHG identified that these project elements are very important for understanding the effects of the proposed FLAHG hydrograph.

- Project Element O.6. Brown Trout Early Life Stage Response to a Spring Pulse Flow
- Project Element O.2. Bank Erosion, Bed Sedimentation, and Channel Change in Western Grand Canyon
- Project Element O.7. Native Fish Movement in Response to a Spring Pulse Flow

Tier 3 Projects (Weighted mean rankings from BAHG rating exercise: ≤ 0). The BAHG identified that these project elements are important for understanding effects of the proposed FLAHG hydrograph.

- Project Element O.11. Decision Analysis
- Project Element O.4. Riparian Vegetation Physiological Response
- Project Element O.8. Do Disturbance Flows Significantly Impact Recreational Experience?
- Project Element O.3. Aeolian Response to a Spring Pulse Flow

The BAHG acknowledges that the following projects are already funded in the TWP as Projects N.1 and B.1, thus a recommendation on rank priority is unnecessary:

- Project Element O.9. Are There Opportunities to Meet Hydropower and Energy Goals with Spring Disturbance Flows? (funded in N.1).
- Project Element O.10. Sandbar and Campsite Response to Spring Disturbance Flow (funded in B.1).

In our deliberations of Project O, the BAHG recommends that the Experimental Fund (Reclamation C.5) should not be used to support the following items and, to the extent that a proposed project element includes an item, that item should be removed from the project element:

- Multi-year commitments because the decision to use the Experimental Fund is made on a year-by-year basis;
- Monitoring for experiments or activities that occur with a level of regularity or certainty that would lend themselves to be planned for and funded through the TWP because this is counter to the intent of the Experimental Fund; and
- Salaries for positions lasting more than one year (i.e. anything more than a one-year term position or contract) because this may lead to unreasonable expectations of work security.

The BAHG also recommends that prioritizing elements in Project O for funding through the Experimental Fund should be made in context with other requests from the Experimental Fund and vice versa.

Stakeholder task for BAHG call #2: Rank priority of Project O elements.

		Project O (overall)	Element 1 Timing	Element 2 WGC	Element 3 Aeolian	Element 4 Riparian	Element 5 Macrophytes	Element 6 Brown Trout	Element 7 Fish Mvmnt	Element 8 Rec Survey	Element 9 Hydro	Element 10 Sandbar	Element 11 Decsn Analysis
		10	5	4	3		1	3	1				
	1	6	1			1	1						
	1	1	1		1	7	3	1				1	
			1				1	1					1
								1				2	
5	2		3	1				5	3		2	2	1
									1	1			
						1			1		1	1	
					1						2	1	
0	1		1	2	1				3	4	5	1	2
			1		1								1
					1								
	1			1									1
					1								
-5			1	3	2					4	1	1	1
					1								1
				2	1					2		1	2
					1								
-10					1								
	Weighted Mean		9.3	5.7	-3.3	-0.9	8.6	6.8	3.9	-2.7	0.9	2.2	-0.6
	Rank		1	4	11	9	2	3	5	10	7	6	8

- 1 The numbers in the cells indicate the number of BAHG members ranking individual project elements at that level.
- Lightly shaded cells represent the range of BAHG members' rankings.
- Darker shaded cells represent the weighted average of BAHG members' rankings.