

BAHG FY27 Recommendation

GCDAMP

Adaptive Management Work Group Meeting

August 12, 2026

Workplan Process

- Currently working within the FY25-27 TWP approved by AMWG Aug 2024
- Recommendation this year will be an update for FY27
 - BAHG → TWG → **AMWG** → SOI
- 2027: Develop FY28-30 TWP

Funding & Budget Background

FY24 Colorado River Compliance Activities Budget

- GCDAMP: \$12.5 M
 - BOR \$2.5 M, USGS \$10 M

FY25-27 Workplan was based on a \$12.5 M budget

FY25 Colorado River Compliance Activities Budget

- Multiple Continuing Resolutions = FY24 budget
- GCDAMP: \$12.5 M
 - BOR \$2.5 M, USGS \$10

Funding & Budget Background

FY26 Colorado River Compliance Activities Budget

- GCDAMP: \$10.6 M
 - BOR \$2.1 M, USGS \$8.5 M
 - ~15% reduction from FY25 to FY26

FY27 Anticipated GCDAMP Budget

- For FY27, Reclamation directed the GCDAMP through the BAHG process to start with the FY26 \$10.6 M and develop 5% and 10% reduction scenarios.
 - 5% Reduction = \$10.07 M (BOR \$2.01 M; USGS \$8.06 M)
 - 10% Reduction = \$9.54 M (BOR \$1.91 M; USGS \$7.63 M)
- Congress determines annual appropriations through legislation; after FY27 budget has been determined, BOR and USGS will use FY27 recommendation as guidance and adjust as necessary

Survey for GCMRC Budget & Workplan Priorities

- TWG Members: Non-DOI & DOI
- Multiple types of questions to prioritize data and activities needed for
 - Assessing and meeting LTEMP resources and goals
 - Management decisions
- DOI & non-DOI survey results generated scores; those scores were used to generate target reduction amounts for GCMRC projects

Survey Results & Discussion

- Concerns:
 - Budgetary constraints and financial uncertainty
 - Understanding impacts of reductions
 - Preservation of long-term data and monitoring
 - Program alignment and process
 - Operational impacts
 - Importance of projects not included in 2027 Workplan
 - Annual adjustments vs. long-term priorities

GCMRC Budget and Workplan Strategies

1. Prioritize fieldwork, maintain data collection/monitoring for all projects
 2. Prioritize ESA compliance
 3. Prioritize maintaining staff expertise
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4. Combination with additional staff input

BAHG Recommendation: GCMRC

For GCMRC's FY27 Budget Scenarios:

- The BAHG recommends that GCMRC continue to modify the draft FY27 budget and workplan utilizing Strategies 2 and 3 and incorporating the comments below. The BAHG recommends additional discussion upon receipt of the revised draft.
- Given unprecedented low reservoir storage levels and elevated water temperatures in 2026, the BAHG recommends prioritizing capturing data related to the unique and rapidly changing resource conditions expected to be present for informed LTEMP management decision-making. Examples include water temperature, water quality, entrainment, invasive species, sediment, and food base.

BAHG Recommendation: Reclamation

For BOR's FY27 Budget Scenarios:

- The BAHG recommends that BOR consider its feedback and is available for further discussion of the draft FY27 BOR budget and workplan.
- The BAHG recommends prioritizing funds from the Experimental Management Fund (4.C) in FY27 for monitoring, analysis of impacts and analysis of risks to humpback chub and other native fishes from the entrainment and establishment of smallmouth bass and other nonnative fishes. The BAHG recommends this prioritization regardless of whether experimental flows are implemented in FY27.



Questions?

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