

Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Work Group
Agenda Item Information
August 24-25, 2016

Agenda Item

Science Advisors Charter and Protocols Government to Government Consultations Update

Purpose of Agenda Item

To update the AMWG on the progress of the requests from Tribes for government to government consultation regarding the Science Advisors Program's Charter and Protocol.

Action Requested

Information item only; we will answer questions but no action is requested.

Presenter

Katrina Grantz, Chief, Adaptive Management Group, Upper Colorado Region, Bureau of Reclamation

Previous Action Taken

N/A

Relevant Science

N/A

Summary of Presentation and Background Information

At the May 2016 AMWG webinar several Tribal representatives expressed concern about the Science Advisors' charter and protocols, the consideration of Tribal perspectives in the program's independent review panels, and the planning process for a review of the cultural resources programs within the GCDAMP. During the webinar, several Tribal representatives asked for government to government consultation with Reclamation and indicated they would be sending a letter of request. Reclamation received letters requesting government to government consultation from the Navajo Nation and the Pueblo of Zuni regarding their expressed concerns on this topic. Reclamation consulted with the Navajo Nation on July 26, 2016 and the Pueblo of Zuni on July 27, 2016 in response to these requests. Other Tribal representatives have verbally expressed that they may be requesting government to government consultation on this matter as well, but that it would be at a later date.

The revisions to the Science Advisors charter and protocol remain in draft form; comments and suggestions on the draft are still being accepted. Until the updated charter and protocol has been approved, the Science Advisors Program will continue to operate under the existing protocol and charter. In particular, pending AMWG approval of the FY17 Science Advisors Program's Budget and Workplan, a review of cultural resources program within the GCDAMP is proposed for FY17.

Tribal involvement is critical to the success of this review from the initial planning stages, through the criteria and selection of panel members, to the implementation and final reporting. Reclamation is committed to the meaningful involvement of Tribal perspectives in this review.