

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

Agenda Item

Science Advisors Program—2016 Accomplishments and 2017 Plans

Purpose of Agenda Item

To provide an update to AMWG members regarding Science Advisors Program FY 2016 activities and plans for FY 2017

Action Requested

Feedback requested from AMWG members.

Presenter

David Braun, Executive Coordinator for the Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Program (GCDAMP) Science Advisors Program

Previous Action Taken

By Bureau of Reclamation: As a result of a competitive bid process, Reclamation chose Dr. David Braun of Sound Science LLC in 2015 as the Executive Coordinator for the GCDAMP Science Advisors Program. The Executive Coordinator acts as a contractor to Reclamation to manage the Science Advisors Program, and carries out these responsibilities under the terms of specific Task Orders authorized by Reclamation. Reclamation has so far authorized four Task Orders for specific work to be undertaken by the Executive Coordinator beginning in August 2015 and continuing through FY 2016.

Relevant Science

N/A

Summary of Presentation and Background Information

Science Advisors Program (SAP) Executive Coordinator Activities in FY 2016

- Completed review of all documents that establish the SAP mission and protocols, including the original (2000) Charter, subsequent AMWG-approved amendments, and Reclamation contract terms. Compiled a proposed revised Science Advisor Program Charter and Protocols and submitted it for TWG Steering Committee and then full TWG review, which was to be followed by AMWG review. However, during the TWG review and May 2016 AMWG webinar, GCDAMP participating Tribes expressed concerns about how Native American perspectives could be included in SAP external reviews. Action on the proposed revised charter and protocols has been suspended while Reclamation responds to requests from Tribes for government to government consultation.

- Collaborated with the GCMRC to develop and implement a Protocol Evaluation Panel (PEP) focused on the GCDAMP fisheries monitoring and research program. A report on the PEP from the GCMRC Chief is also on the agenda for this AMWG meeting.
- Made significant progress reconstituting the Science Advisor Program (SAP) archives, with assistance from the GCMRC. The archives had become scattered through changes in GCMRC administration and the departure of previous SAP Executive Coordinator.
- Developed SAP work plan and budget for FY 2017 for incorporation into the Reclamation FY2017 work plan and budget, after extensive and detailed consultation with TWG and AMWG members and with the GCMRC and Reclamation.

Science Advisors Program (SAP) Plans for FY 2017

The Executive Coordinator developed the SAP FY 2017 work plan through close consultation with the TWG, the GCMRC, and Reclamation, with additional advice from AMWG members and the office of the Secretary's Designee. Previously, SAP work plans and budgets were submitted as part of the GCMRC work plans and budgets after review by the GCMRC Chief. With the change in administration of the SAP from the USGS to Reclamation, SAP work plans and budgets are included within Reclamation work plans and budgets. The tasks proposed for the SAP for FY 2017 are:

- Coordinate and contribute to an assessment of the 'State of Knowledge' for all bodies of knowledge used by the AMWG and Secretary to guide their adaptive management decision making for the GCDAMP. The assessment will be carried out in conjunction with the Annual Reporting effort and TWG review of LTEMP Science Plan, to inform development of the next (FY18-20) Triennial Work Plan. Planning for this undertaking by the SAP Executive Coordinator, GCMRC, and TWG Steering Committee has already started.
- In close consultation with the Tribes and GCDAMP Tribal Liaison, plan and begin implementing a review of programs within the GCDAMP concerning cultural resources. The planning for this review was put on hold while Reclamation responds to requests from Tribes for government to government consultation on the Science Advisors Program integration of Native American perspectives. Reclamation will give the AMWG an update on the consultations.
- Complete reconstituting SAP archives and updating the GCDAMP Wiki site accordingly.
- Work with the AMWG, TWG, and GCMRC to develop the next (FY18-20) Triennial Work Plan, to ensure it incorporates a robust program of external SAP contributions to the GCDAMP.