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May 13, 2005

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Governor

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Director

Memorandum

To: LCR MSCP Steering Committee

From: Technical Review Committee - FY04 Credit

Subject: Review and Recommendation on Reclamation FY04 Credit Request

- The Planning Steering Committee, in a resolution dated January 22, 2004, provided for entities to seek financial and/or habitat credit for conservation actions accomplished prior to implementation of the LCR MSCP. The resolution laid out a process whereby a Technical Review Committee would be formed, consisting of representatives from each state and Reclamation, to review the request and make a recommendation to the Steering Committee (Attachment 1).

- Reclamation, at the April 5, 2005 Steering Committee meeting, submitted a request for credit for work performed through Fiscal Year 2004 for LCR MSCP implementation. The Steering Committee established a technical review committee consisting of Chris Harris and Michael Remington from California, Phil Lehr and Bill Davis from Nevada, Bill Werner and Chuck Paradzick from Arizona, Lesley Fitzpatrick from the FWS (as technical advisor), and Terry Murphy, Glen Gould and Laura Vecerina from Reclamation.

- The Technical Review Group met in Phoenix on April 28, 2005 to review the "Work Tasks and Obligations Fiscal Year 2004" report submitted by Reclamation. General comments on the report included the need to more clearly tie the workplans to the goals of the HCP and specific conservation measures, the need to identify more specifically the focus of research, and the need to clarify whether credit is being sought for restoration research or as habitat creation credit. Specific information was also requested on a number of individual workplans.

- Reclamation revised the Work Tasks and Obligations Fiscal Year 2004 Report based on comments from the Technical Review Group (Attachment 2).

- Based on Reclamation's revisions and additional clarifications, the Technical Review Group is recommending to the Steering Committee that the request for financial credit by Reclamation of $3,381,440 be approved. The group is also recommending that the revised "Work Tasks and Obligations Fiscal Year 2004" report be submitted to the Fish and Wildlife Service for their review for consistency with the LCR MSCP.

Bill Werner
Spokesperson