PLATTE RIVER RECOVERY IMPLEMENATION PROGRAM

ATTACHMENT 1

FINANCE DOCUMENT
CREDITING AND EXIT PRINCIPLES
AND
PROGRAM BUDGET

PLATTE RIVER RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM
Attachment 1

Finance Document
Crediting and Exit Principles
And
Program Budget

December 7, 2005

Table of Contents

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Purposes

The purposes of this document are (1) to establish credits for certain cash, cash equivalent, water, and land contributions made by or on behalf of the parties to the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program Cooperative Agreement (the Program); (2) to provide guidance for use in determining other credits earned by or on behalf of the parties during the First Increment of the Program; (3) to establish principles for disposition, should the Program terminate, of assets acquired or contributed to accomplish the objectives of the Program; (4) to provide guidance on the ESA credits that might be available for use in consultation with the Fish and Wildlife Service should the Program terminate; and (5) detail the Program budget and the cash flow requirements for the First Increment of the Program.

B. Definitions of Terms

1. Cash Contributions - The respective amount of money that each signatory will contribute to the Program Budget during the First Increment. The records of the Financial Management Entity (FME) will be used to determine the amount and date of each signatory's actual cash contributions.

2. In-kind Contributions - During the First Increment of the Program, signatories may elect to be "Water Project Sponsors" or "Sponsors of Program Lands," as defined in Sections VIII.C and VIII.D of Attachment 6, respectively, in lieu of making their required Cash Contributions. In addition, a signatory may propose and the Governance Committee may approve agreements whereby signatories elect to provide technical or other services as in-kind contributions in lieu of making its Cash Contribution. The agreements between the signatory and the Governance Committee documenting these transactions will include the credit the signatory will receive toward its respective Cash Contribution. In addition, the agreements will address the disposition of the Program Assets provided by the in-kind contribution in the event of Program dissolution. (In-kind contributions do not include the costs associated with providing representatives on the Governance Committee, Oversight Committee or other committees established by the Governance Committee.)

3. Cash Equivalents - The states of Colorado, Nebraska, and Wyoming (the states) will be contributing water from the three initial Program water projects and the use of lands for Program purposes, herein defined as Cash Equivalents, in order to match, in part, the Cash Contributions of the Department of the Interior (DOI). During the Program, additional Cash Equivalent Contributions to the Program may be proposed. Such contributions will need to be approved by the Governance Committee before any crediting is authorized. The review and ultimate approval will have two elements: (1) whether the activity merits Cash Equivalent credit, and (2) if so, in what amount (potentially measured by value to the Program in meeting its First Increment objectives rather than by the level of expenditure).

4. Program Assets - Subject to the provisions in Section III, those assets acquired through the Cash Contributions of the signatories are considered Program Assets for purposes of this Attachment 1. Program Assets include, but are not limited to, land interests acquired through fee title, easements, or leases to the extent such easements and leases survive Program termination. Program Assets also include water interests and projects acquired through project construction or leases to the extent such leases survive Program termination. While the water from the three initial Program water projects and the use of Cottonwood Ranch and Deer Creek lands are considered Cash Equivalents for purposes noted in Section I.B.3 above, the projects and lands are not Cash Equivalents or Program Assets for purposes of determining a Signatory's Share of Program Assets as provided in Section I.B.5 below and those projects and lands are not subject to disposition by the Governance Committee. Neither Program dissolution nor withdrawal of a signatory party will have any impact on the ownership of any such projects or lands nor will it have any effect on the rights of the state where the project or land is located, or of entities within that state, to administer the project or land in accordance with applicable law.

5. Signatory's Share of Program Assets - Each signatory's respective share of the Program Assets will be equal to that signatory's total cash contributions at the time of Program dissolution compared against the total Cash Contributions made by all of the signatories at the time of Program dissolution For example, if Signatory A has made Cash Contributions totaling $3M to the Program and all of the signatories, including Signatory A, have made cash contributions totaling $100M to the Program at the time of dissolution, Signatory A would have an interest in 3% of the Program Assets.

II. CREDITING UNDER THE PROGRAM

The following table depicts the Cash Contributions and Cash Equivalent Contributions that will be provided by the DOI and the states during the First Increment of the Program:

Program Contributions
(values in millions of dollars)

Contributions	Total	DOI	States	Description
Cash	187.14	157.14	30.0	Colorado – 24.0; Wyoming 6.0
Cash Equivalents				
Land	10.0		10.0	Cottonwood Ranch/Deer Creek Lands
Water	120.19		120.19	Water from three initial projects
Total	**317.33**	**157.14**	**160.19**	

III. DISTRIBUTION OF PROGRAM ASSETS AND ESA CREDITS FOLLOWING PROGRAM TERMINATION OR SIGNATORY WITHDRAWAL

A. Principles Governing Dissolution of the Program

Consistent with section II.E. of the Program Agreement, if the Secretary of the Interior and the Governors of Colorado, Nebraska and Wyoming decide to dissolve the Program before the end of the First Increment or to not pursue a second increment of the Program, or if the Program is dissolved as the result of a signatory's withdrawal, the Program Governance Committee is dissolved and the signatories agree to form a signatory committee to satisfy the signatories' existing legal obligations under contracts and arrange for disposition of Program Assets. Other members of the Program Governance Committee may be invited to advise signatories in that regard. In the event that any signatory is unable or unwilling, following a decision to dissolve the Program, to continue to participate on such signatory committee, the remaining signatories shall be fully empowered to make such decisions and take such actions as are necessary to meet the signatories' legal obligations under the contracts with the Financial Management Entity (FME) and the Land Holding Entity (LHE) and properly dispose of Program Assets.

1. The signatory committee will remain functional until such time as the signatories' legal obligations under existing contracts and agreements are met and the disposition of Program Assets is resolved, including any outstanding payments due and payable to a "Water Project Sponsor" or "Sponsors of Program Lands." Until an asset is no longer the responsibility of the signatories, the signatories agree to ensure that FME will continue to pay property taxes and retain liability insurance. The signatories agree to manage the property in compliance with the "good neighbor" policy.

2. A signatory or a partnership of signatories may wish to purchase the shares in the Program Assets of any signatory or signatories wishing to sell, under the condition that the Program Assets will continue to be managed to provide habitat for the target species. If this occurs, the signatory committee will have the FME acquire the services of an independent appraiser to complete an appraisal of the Program Assets. The appraisal will be based on the continued use of the Program Asset to provide habitat to the target species. If the Program Governance Committee had previously established the appraised value or a method for determining the appraised value of a particular Program Asset in the event of Program dissolution, that value or method shall be used. The signatory or partnership of signatories may purchase the shares of the selling signatories at a price equal to the respective selling signatories' share of the Program Assets times the appraised value of the Program Assets. If the purchased Program Assets are land, those lands will be held by the Land Holding Entity or a successor selected by the purchaser and approved by the signatory committee as a condition of the sale. (A signatory state may offer to donate its interest in a Program Asset to another signatory or partnership of signatories and seek ESA credit from FWS in future reinitiated consultations in that state for the continuing benefits provided to the target species as a result of the donation.)

3. If none of the signatories are interested in acquiring Program Assets as described in Section III.A.2 above, the signatory committee will entertain offers from water user

and environmental entities to purchase the Program Assets under the condition that the Program Assets will continue to be managed to provide habitat for the target species. If the purchased Program Asset is land, that land will be held by the Land Holding Entity or a successor selected by the purchaser and approved by the signatory committee as a condition of the sale. The proceeds of the sale, after expenses, will be distributed to the signatories in accordance with their respective Signatory's Share of the Program Assets.

4. If the Program Assets are not purchased in accordance with Sections III.A.2 or 3 above, the signatory committee shall oversee the sale of such assets. Such sale may be made without the condition that the Program Asset must be managed to provide habitat for the target species. The proceeds of the sale, after expenses, will be distributed to the signatories in accordance with their respective Signatory's Share of the Program Assets.

B. ESA Credits

In the event of Program dissolution, if a state agrees to and continues to carry out the responsibilities it had under the Program, there is a presumption that such actions are sufficient to provide ESA compliance with respect to all water related activities in that state until any reinitiated consultations have been completed. When a state agrees to and continues to carry out the responsibilities it had under the Program, that state and any water related activities covered also retain the right to argue that the responsibilities undertaken are sufficient to constitute long term ESA compliance for the reinitiated consultations. FWS agrees to consider these undertakings in any reinitiated Section 7 consultations, including in the development of new reasonable and prudent alternatives or other measures.

In addition, to the extent the states respective contributions of cash, water (through the initial Program water projects), and land (Cottonwood Ranch and Deer Creek lands) will continue to benefit the target species beyond the dissolution of the Program, the states retain the right to argue that such future benefits resulting from their contributions should be considered in any reinitiated consultations. The FWS will give due consideration to these contributions and their resulting subsequent benefits to the target species and habitat in any reinitiated consultations.

IV. PROGRAM BUDGET AND CASH FLOW REQUIREMENTS

Activity	Estimated Cash Needs in 2005 Dollars (Millions)	Cash Equivalent Credit (Millions)
Water (130-150KAF)		
Three State Water Projects (80KAF)[1,] *		$120.19
Water Conservation/Supply (60KAF)[2]	$90.14	
Project Permitting[3]	$1.35	
Bypass	$3.08	
Channel Capacity Issues	$1.00	
Subtotal Water	$95.57	$120.19
Land (10K Acres)		
Cottonwood Ranch Acquisition (2,650 A, cash equivalent)[4,] *		$8.50
Wyoming's Deer Creek Property		$1.50
Acquisition (7,350A)[4]	$22.90	
0&M (Includes clearing)	$10.00	
Investigation/Leveling Act.[5]	$3.35	
Taxes	$1.53	
Project Perm. & LAC[3]	$1.35	
Subtotal Land	$39.13	$10.00
Program & Project Monitoring and Research[6]	$30.00	
Program & Project Administration (@ 1.49M/Yr)[7]	$19.37	
Third Party Direct Impact Mitigation Contingency and Liability	$0.67	
Peer Review and Independent Science Advice[8]	$2.35	
Program Legal Fees[9]	$0.05	
Totals	**$187.14**	**$130.19**
Estimated Total First Increment Cash and Cash Equivalent Costs		**$317.33**

* Indicates items for cash equivalent or in-kind contribution credit

[1]Three State Water Projects (80AF) from the Reconnaissance - Level Water Action Plan, Page 105, September 14, 2000 Reconnaissance - Level Water Action Plan, Page 108-109, September 14, 2000

[2]Estimate based on review of Reconnaissance-Level Water Action Plan.

[3]Project specific compliance with state and federal laws and regulations including NEPA requirement, and ESA requirements for protected species not covered by the Program.

[4]Cost for Cottonwood Ranch negotiated for in the Cooperative Agreement. Other purchase costs assume approximately $3,100/ac.

[5]Preliminary cost associated with moving 40 acres of land, 4 feet deep (per analysis in EIS) at cost of $1/yard.

[6]Monitoring and Research costs estimated by the Technical Committee, including Parsons/EIS Team estimate for Sediment/Vegetation and additional tasks identified by Governance Committee (e.g. water quality)

[7]Executive Director, staff, office space, travel, etc.

[8]Includes assistance for implementing the AMP and peer review of individual documents.

[9]Estimate includes assistance in developing Program, land, water entities, contracts, taxes, etc.