

Glen Canyon Adaptive Management Working Group  
Charter Ad Hoc Committee  
Kickoff Conference Call  
October 17, 2014, 1 p.m.

Attendees:

Beverley Heffernan	Chris Harris	Shane Capron	Evelyn Erlandsen
Leslie James	Ted Rampton	Jason Thiriot	Jayne Harkins
Steve Wolff	Mike Yeatts	Barry Longwell <sup>1</sup>	

This kickoff conference call was conducted to initiate the Committee's task of reviewing and updating the AMWG charter, in order to recommend a charter to the AMWG in February to ensure that an appropriately updated charter can be approved, filed with GSA, and in place before the existing charter expires on August 23, 2015.

The group reviewed suggested items for revision. The following were identified prior to the meeting and included on the agenda:

- o A paragraph stating that TWG is our most significant subcommittee, paragraph should clarify TWG's responsibilities to make technical recommendations to AMWG
- o Clarification of the ability to furnish compensation consistent with FACA if, for example, the TWG chair is not with a Federal or state agency, and therefore reasonable compensation is appropriate
- o Review of the ex-officio, non-voting status of DOI agencies and recommendation on whether to continue this current arrangement

Other documents were reviewed as follows:

- o Review last Charter Ad Hoc Group findings to see if other items should be revisited (see file on website: [http://www.usbr.gov/uc/rm/amp/amwg/mtgs/11feb09/Attach\\_03.pdf](http://www.usbr.gov/uc/rm/amp/amwg/mtgs/11feb09/Attach_03.pdf))
- o Review current charter (and other documents as need be, to post via webinar)

Based on this review, additional items were identified for consideration:

- Revisit whether an AMWG Executive Director or some corresponding position within Reclamation is needed ► Shane Collins agreed to research this further and provide information to the group
- Revisit TWG nominating process
- Consider whether and where (4g suggested) to codify the report to the Secretary
- Consider whether any recommendations for the DFO are warranted, such as potential for the ASWS to delegate that responsibility

In discussions of the above, it was noted that related to DOI agencies' voting status, one element of concern is that there is less discussion at AMWG meetings and less opportunity to hear from

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<sup>1</sup> Acting Deputy Regional Director, Bureau of Reclamation, Upper Colorado Region

the respective DOI agencies on particular issues (LTEMP was cited as an example). It was noted that at present, only 1 Federal agency (Western) votes. Examples from other agencies were discussed, Chris Harris noted that in MSCC, Reclamation does not vote (they are not a FACA group). ► Beverley will canvas DOI agency reps for their thought on voting versus non-voting status, and the concern about hearing DOI agencies' comments and perceptions on issues.

The need to be able to compensate the TWG chair, should that individual not be employed by a Federal or state agency, was discussed, it was noted that compensation has been successfully given in the past, Beverley advised that the recent problem was that the AMWG charter says that members serve without compensation. However, FACA does provide for compensation.

► Beverley will follow up with DOI solicitor's office to get proposed language to include in the charter.

In reviewing the current charter, Leslie James suggested reviewing the authorities cited in item 2, and upon discussion it was agreed that it would be good to be informed by solicitor review of this and possibly other items. Leslie also located and emailed to the group the 'Loveless guidance document' (which originally defined sideboards for AMWG) for reference purposes.

Jason Thiriot noted that if the group so desires, he could build a web page for the Charter Ad Hoc Group, in discussion it was noted that this would need to be password protected, or perhaps something like a sharepoint site. The group will revisit this issue if we think that a page would be helpful.

Evelyn Erlandsen asked for a description of the 5 FTEs referenced in the charter; Beverley noted that these are in some cases 'parts of' positions, and though the charter itself need not be specific, that background information can be furnished. ► Beverley will double check FTE and budget numbers to ensure they are still accurate and furnish more of a description of the staff needs to implement Reclamation's administration of GCDAMP.

There was discussion of the need to better define the future of the adaptive management program and implementation processes; it was agreed that the LTEMP EIS is the appropriate venue for much of this (and whether or not a RIP should be established). The group should consider whether the charter is a vehicle to provide a bridge for the program moving forward.

Timeline for completing the group's efforts and developing recommendations was discussed. The new charter must be executed and filed by August 23, 2015, and so we need to be prepared to make our report and recommendations to the February 25-26, 2015 AMWG meeting. That will be upon us quickly. The next call is scheduled for Monday, November 10 at 1 p.m. Action items identified above will be completed asap, and additionally, each committee member will review and 'brainstorm' proposed changes to the charter. To that end, ► Beverley will furnish a Word copy of the charter so we can work in track changes. Beverley will also furnish for reference purposes (if she hasn't already) GSA's guidelines for preparing FACA charters. Other items that may be helpful to the effort are the Roles and Responsibilities report (link on agenda) and the AMWG and TWG operating procedures.