

Coosa River Projects

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Issue Statement

CR1 Recreation Management (Access, Facilities, and Use) – Ability of project lands and waters (including existing recreation facilities and access) to accommodate current and future recreation demand while protecting public safety and the environment.

CR 3 Lake Levels Fluctuations - Effects of project operations and lake level fluctuations on lake oriented and tailwater recreation access and use.

CR4 Downstream Flows – Impact of downstream releases on tailwater and lake oriented recreation opportunities.

CR5 Flood Control – Impact of potential operational changes for recreation or other resource protection on downstream flood protection and the potential impact of flood control measures on recreation.

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IAG Tasks and Responsibilities

This IAG is charged with:

- Utilizing and, if necessary, modifying the process developed by the Mitchell CR1, 3, 4, & 5 IAG for evaluating and addressing recreation management and access issues specific to the Lay development, including developing a vision statement for Lay.
- Identifying specific areas where lake level fluctuations may be adversely affecting recreation at the lake, including the nature and timing of the affect (e.g., access to sections of water, access to facilities, and aesthetics).
- Working with the Operations Group to identify “reasonable” (based on hydrologic, structural, and other limitations identified) changes and alternatives for modifying project operations, including flood control constraints and operations that would benefit recreation.
- Identifying any studies, if applicable, that need to be performed for identifying and/or evaluating changes to Project operations
- Presenting a range of reasonable alternatives or recommendations to the RecRAT regarding modifications to current Project operations and provide recommendations for recreation access, facilities, and use.

Work Scope & Product

- Task 1 - Utilize the stepwise process diagram and solution principles to guide the planning process for addressing recreation management issues at the Lay development.
- Task 2 - Develop a Vision Statement for the Lay development.
- Task 3 – Review the operational constraints and current operations of the Lay development (see Initial Information Packages - IIPs).
- Task 4 - Answer the list of standard questions for CR1, CR3, CR4 & CR5 in order to characterize the existing and potential future condition, lake level fluctuations, and downstream flows – from a recreation setting perspective.
- Task 5 – Review stakeholder requests (e.g., agency letters) for particular studies and/or enhancement measures to ensure that these are incorporated into study planning, if applicable.
- Task 6 - Develop and recommend operation scenarios to the Operations Group for analysis. These scenarios should reflect initial thinking on potential solutions and be designed to narrow the focus of Task 10 below. Analysis by the Operations Group will focus on an assessment of potential impacts associated with any suggested changes to operations.
- Task 7 - Discuss results of the Operations Group analyses.
- Task 8 - Report back and make recommendations to the RecRAT regarding Tasks 1 through Task 7.
- Task 9 - Meet with the E8 and E10 group to discuss potential studies.
- Task 10 – Develop study designs/methods/plans and review agreed upon studies, literature reviews, etc.
- Task 11 – Check the solution principles to ensure proposed study plans are consistent.
- Task 12 – Provide recommendations for Project operations (lake, downstream and flood) and recreation access, facilities, and use that address the Lay development to the RecRAT to be considered in conjunction with all ecological and recreational issues.

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Schedule

The CR1, 3, 4 & 5 – IAG is anticipated to begin work with a kick-off meeting on January 30, 2002. The Group will meet via conference call and face-to-face as necessary. The work products listed above should be completed