

From: Timothy D Counihan
Sent: Tuesday, October 03, 2006 1:48 PM
To: Baugh, Zenobia
Subject: FY07-09

Project #: 200703200

Title: Potential effects of the invasive New Zealand mudsnail in tributaries of Bonneville Reservoir and the Deschutes River, (Potamopyrgus antipodarum)

Province: Columbia Gorge

Sponsor: USGS

To whom it may concern,

This comment pertains to project # 200703200 (Potential effects of the invasive New Zealand mudsnail in tributaries of Bonneville Reservoir and the Deschutes River, (Potamopyrgus antipodarum)) that the USGS sponsored and submitted for funding consideration in the Columbia Gorge province. After reviewing the materials associated with this call for proposals and the accompanying review process, I became aware that the original requested budget was incorrectly reported. After receiving a request for a response from the ISRP that suggested the proposal be expanded, we again entered the budget in the appropriate form as per the instructions. Unfortunately, the information in the NPCC spreadsheet that was forwarded to the region for making recommendations for the Columbia Gorge Province did not contain the updated budget figure. That is, the reported budget totals in the spreadsheet are as follows:

FY2007 \$27,500

FY2008 \$27,500

FY2009 \$25,000

The correct budget figures are shown at the link:

<http://www.cbfwa.org/solicitation/components/forms/Proposal.cfm?PropID=855>

and are as follows:

FY2007 \$247,196

FY2008 \$317,221

FY2009 \$184,925

With respect to in lieu concerns from BPA, since we most recently updated this budget I was able to secure cost share money from the USGS that could be applied to these projects if funded at the requested level.

The cost share amounts by fiscal year are:

FY2007 \$20,000

FY2008 \$20,000

FY2009 \$18,500

The budgets would be reduced by a greater amount than that shown because of the concomitant reduction in overhead costs. We are also looking into other sources to mitigate the costs for this project but will likely not receive confirmation from these potential funding sources before the deadline.

I understand that most projects have had their budgets reduced. However, unfortunately, the current budget recommendations are based on the reporting error. Thus the recommended budget cuts are so severe that it will be very difficult to perform even a subset of the objectives of the proposed work. We would like to encourage a dialogue regarding the budgets for this project because of the issues presented here. The topic has generated interest through the review process and is a concern locally. Lets work together to help start this work!

Thank you for your time,

Tim Counihan
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