



State of Utah

GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

SPENCER J. COX
Lieutenant Governor

Department of
Environmental Quality

Alan Matheson
Executive Director

DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY
Walter L. Baker, P.E.
Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: Potential Investigators

THROUGH: Erica Brown Gaddis, Ph.D. *EB*

FROM: Christopher Bittner

DATE: July 6, 2016

SUBJECT: Solicitation for proposals to establish when early life stages of fish are absent from Utah waters

Dear Potential Investigator,

The Utah Division of Water Quality (DWQ) is soliciting proposals for a contract to establish when fish early life stages are absent from Utah waters. Only State agencies such as Utah's public college and universities and other entities that may directly contract with other State agencies are eligible. The attached Work Plan provides more details regarding the project.

Proposals must be received by 5:00 P.M. on August 20, 2016 and should include the following:

1. Qualifications of the investigator(s)
2. A one page summary of the proposed approach
3. Schedule
4. Cost

Proposals may be mailed to the Utah Division of Water Quality, Attn: Chris Bittner, P.O. Box 144870, Salt Lake City, UT 84114-4870 or emailed to cbittner@utah.gov. DWQ will select the investigator that provides the most value to the State within 30-days of the closing date. Questions should be directed to Chris Bittner at cbittner@utah.gov or 801-536-4371.

Scope of Work

Utah Division of Water Quality

Project Title: Early Life Stages of Fish in Utah Waters

A. Introduction and Objective.

Utah's current dissolved oxygen criteria, ammonia water quality criteria and the 2013 U.S. EPA ammonia water quality criteria are all dependent on the presence or absence of early life stages of fish (ELS). The ELS provisions are discussed in FR Volume 64, Number 245, Wednesday, December 22, 1999, pp. 71974-71980. Currently, the Utah Division of Water Quality (DWQ) assumes that ELS are always potentially present, unless site-specific information is available to demonstrate otherwise.

DWQ is seeking an investigator to develop more-refined default assumptions of when ELS are not present in Utah waters based on the readily available data. No field work is anticipated to support this work. The default assumptions that are developed must remain protective of ELS but should not overestimate the occurrence of ELS to the extent supported by the readily available data. This project is anticipated to be completed within one year.

B. Tasks:

1. Sample the existing implementation procedures for early life stages in other States with particular emphasis on the U.S. EPA Region 8 States (North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming, Montana, and Colorado).
2. Survey the readily available records for ELS in Utah. The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources is anticipated to have the majority of the readily available records.
3. Prepare and submit to DWQ a draft Work Plan that:
 - documents the records that will be searched, compiled and reviewed
 - describes the methods that will be used to establish when ELS are not present and,
 - includes a schedule.

The investigator will present the Work Plan approach to the Utah Water Quality Standards Workgroup Meeting at the DWQ offices. The draft Work Plan will be subject to a public 30-day comment and review period. DWQ will conduct the comment period.

4. Prepare and submit to DWQ a response to comments received on the draft Work Plan.
5. After approval of the comment responses by DWQ, prepare and submit a final Work Plan.
6. After DWQ approval, implement the approach in the Work Plan for Utah waters.
7. Prepare and submit a draft Report. The draft Report will be subject to a 30-day public comment and review period. DWQ will conduct the comment period.
8. Prepare and submit a response to comments for the comments received on the draft Report.
9. After approval of the comment responses by DWQ, prepare and submit a final Report.

C. Deliverables:

1. Draft Work Plan
2. Presentation to Water Quality Standards Workgroup
3. Response to Comments on Draft Work Plan
4. Draft Report
5. Response to Comments on Draft Report
6. Final Report

