

A. Evaluation of TWDB-funded environmental flow studies

Each study (and components) will be assessed in terms of:

- Whether there was a clear statement of objectives and/or hypothesis
 - Whether adequate background information was provided within the context of the open peer reviewed or gray literature
 - A critical evaluation of the methodologies, including:
 - Study site(s) selection
 - Data collection methods
 - Analytical methods
 - Definitions of terms
 - Coherence between data analysis and results
 - Coherence between results and discussion with relevant linkage to previous work and open peer reviewed or gray literature
 - Coherence between results, discussion and summary of findings
 - Coherence of any recommendations given the specific study or other related studies
 - Whether the study provided an assessment of estimated attainment frequencies under existing or full water-right allocations
2. This process will also entail the identification of any specific recommendations for remedial data needs, reanalysis of data, or applied research to address data/information gaps. The project will also suggest a manageable list of short and long-term indicators, and data collection requirements, that can be used to assess ecological form and function of affected resources.

B. Evaluation of BBASC work plan status

The review, which encompasses the results from Tasks C and D, will specifically address proposed study components that may be obsolete, require revision necessary to address data or knowledge gaps, or identify studies, monitoring or applied research elements not currently identified in the BBASC workplans or priority framework on a system by system basis.

C. Synthesis of TWDB-funded environmental flow studies

This develops a framework (or matrix) to systematically compare study components across systems in terms of methods, data, analytical approaches and interpretation of results to meet study objectives. This comparison across systems for in-stream, bay/estuary and integrated assessments provides the basis within the context of the broader national and international literature and assessment frameworks identified in Task D to elucidate underlying strategies or in their absence, a methodological framework to achieve a coherent strategy.

D. Compilation of a bibliography of other studies

An initial coordination meeting will be held with TWDB and individual BBASC representatives at the outset of the project. We expect these will be in the form of a webinar and/or one day workshop to solicit their understanding of their existing studies, and their workplan study selection and prioritization process. These meetings will also be used to outline our philosophical and methodological approaches to the study. This will pragmatically entail additional Webinars in which we will be asking for clarification and responding to your questions.