

**2.2 Participant Groups.** The following lists the qualifications for Participant Groups outside of the initial members listed in Section 2.1 (FMA 7.3.2)

- A. Members within the Federal Participant Group must be agencies of the Federal government or entities created pursuant to Federal law.
- B. Members within the Arizona Participant Group must be Permittees that undertake or implement Covered Activities within the state of Arizona.
- C. Members within the California Participant Group must be Permittees that undertake or implement Covered Activities within the state of California or the California Department of Fish and Game.
- D. Members within the Nevada Participant Group must be Permittees that undertake or implement Covered Activities within the state of Nevada.
- E. Members within the Native American Participant Group must be Native American tribes whose lands are located adjacent to, or who divert water from, the LCR.
- F. Members within the Conservation Participant Group must be conservation or environmental organizations having an interest in the LCR.
- G. Members within the Other Interested Parties Participant Group must be public or private organizations not described in these FMA sections 7.3.2 (A) through (F) inclusive, that have an interest in the LCR, and wish to participate in the implementation of the LCR MSCP.

**2.3 Application for Membership (FMA 7.3.3).** Any interested public or private entity may apply for membership on the Steering Committee within the appropriate Participant Group, set forth in section 7.3.2 of the FMA, by submitting a letter of interest to the Chair. The letter must:

- A. Describe the nature of the organization, and its interest in the affairs of the LCR MSCP.
- B. Identify the Participant Group within which it wishes to participate.
- C. Identify a contact for the organization or entity.
- D. State that it will abide by the terms of the FMA and the by-laws of the Steering Committee and regularly attend Steering Committee meetings.

At its next meeting, the Steering Committee shall review the application. If the application complies with section 7.3.3 of the FMA and the by-laws, the Steering Committee shall notify the entity and the Program Manager in writing that the entity may participate in the LCR MSCP as a Member of the Steering Committee within the Participant Group specified in the Steering Committee's notice. Members shall not be required to be Permittees. Acceptance of a new Member to the Steering Committee shall not constitute that entity's designation as a Permittee. The Chair shall also add such Member to the list of Members and distribute a new contact list. If the application does not fulfill the requirement hereof, the Chair of the Steering Committee shall promptly notify the applicant and the Program

Manager in writing that the applicant may not participate in the Program as a Member of the Steering Committee. The Chair shall include in the written notification the specific reason(s) for rejection and provide an opportunity for the applicant to rectify any deficiencies. Determining whether an applicant meets the criteria of Section 7.3.3 of the FMA will be in accordance with the provisions of Section 4.2.

## **2.4 Suspension, Termination, and Reinstatement of Membership (FMA 7.3.4 & 7.3.5).**

2.4.1 The Steering Committee may suspend or terminate the membership of any Member if the Steering Committee determines that the Member no longer meets the conditions of eligibility for its' Participant Group, or has dissolved, or has violated any provision of the FMA or the by-laws of the Steering Committee.

2.4.2 The Steering Committee may reinstate a suspended or terminated membership upon the application of the suspended or terminated Member and satisfaction of the provisions of section 7.3.3 of the FMA. The vote to suspend, terminate, or reinstate any Member of the Steering Committee will follow the process specified in Section 4.2 of these by-laws. The vote to suspend, terminate or reinstate a Member shall be final.

## **ARTICLE III ROLES AND AUTHORITY**

**3.1 Steering Committee.** The role of the Steering Committee and its Voting Representatives shall be as set forth in Sections 7.3.11 and 7.3.12 of the FMA. The Steering Committee shall continue to be designated by the Director of the Service as the Ecosystem Conservation Recovery Implementation Team (ECRIT) for the Lower Colorado River as indicated in the Record of Decision dated April 2, 2005

**3.2 Role of Steering Committee (FMA 7.3.11).** In addition to those powers and authorities conferred or described elsewhere in the FMA and these by-laws:

- A. The Steering Committee shall work with the Program Manager to coordinate implementation of the LCR MSCP.
- B. The Steering Committee may create standing or ad hoc subcommittees or work groups as it deems necessary to carry out its responsibilities under the Program Documents.