Technical Oversight Team Reviews Second Quarterly Report, 2013 – Cornell University, Ecological Flows Project

Reviewer #1 - I have no comments. This project appears to be managed quite well and timeline deliverables in good shape. We had a number of comments on the first phase reports, and it appears they are heeding those. I would like to see the database they have built, at some point soon.

Reviewer #2 - The project report looks quite good; on the right track for sure. Here are some minor comments:

- 1. Important Background Information: You talk about sourcing from Surface water or groundwater. Where does shallow groundwater come into the equation, because: 1) my impression is that fracking often uses shallow wells; 2) shallow groundwater is intimately connected with surface waters; and 3) people don't always understand this.
- 2. Next paragraph, I would replace the "example" of the flooding dynamic with one talking about maintaining baseflows through critical seasons-- this is what this effort will focus on I think.
- 3. Next paragraph. To "1)..." add "regionally comprehensive" just before "hydrologic foundation"
- 4. Page 5 First paragraph, first sentence. add "ungaged" just before "rivers and streams".
- 5. The table showing contacts is good. In the original review I was concerned that you contact Arlene Olivero and you did. You should definitely also contact Jim McKenna, USGS, Cortland NY, who has done the fish/river modeling for NY. And also Dana Infante and Peter Esselman at Michigan State who have developed a national fish survey database as part of the National Fish Habitat Assessment work.
- 6. And I realize that you are working closely with Dr. MacManamay on the stream classification but/and I would encourage you to also use the Olivero et al classification if possible. It covers most of the NE/midAtlantic/west to OH and is really well done; Olivero is also just now coming out with target fish community descriptions for the various stream/river types across this region and these could prove useful as well.