Feasibility Study Outline

When creating a feasibility study, several steps should occur in order to complete a successful project.

1. Outline an overall course of study at the beginning of the investigation
    a. Scheduling
    b. Estimate costs
    c. Identify funding sources and in-kind services.
    d. Select technical team
    e. Establish management process
        i. Conduct regular meetings with technical team
        ii. Provide over site
        iii. Respond to new information provided by technical team
2. Acquire primary data
    a. Historic and anticipated run timing
    b. Historic and anticipated hydrology
    c. Various site information
3. Familiarize staff with project site
4. Brainstorm possible alternatives
    a. Identify several top alternatives
        i. Identify and attempt to answer data gaps and research needs
5. Develop, discuss, and rank top alternatives
    a. Develop cost estimate for:
        i. Preliminary and final design
        ii. Permits
        iii. Bids
        iv. Construction
6. Proceed to preliminary design for top alternatives
7. Peer review project after critical decision steps

Potential pitfalls to avoid in order to complete a proper fish passage feasibility study are:

1. Lack of earnest desire to achieve goal
2. Exploring too narrow a scope of alternatives
3. Premature dismissal of possibly valid concepts
4. Dismissal of concept due to lack of existing precedent
5. Dismissal of concept solely because some testing is needed to close data gaps
6. Prematurely launching of experimental technology
7. Premature dismissal of alternative because public agency polices appear to conflict with alternative

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