

I. Project Title: Basin Wide Stream Gage Operation & Maintenance

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III. Project Summary:

In 1990, the Recovery Program first identified a need for a permanent USGS gage in the 15-Mile Reach of the Colorado River. The gage was installed during the summer of 1991 and became operational on October 1, 1991. The gage was needed to ensure that water secured under the Recovery Program is delivered to the 15-Mile Reach. In 1996, the Recovery Program again identified a need for gages on the Yampa River, and the USGS installed gages above and below the confluence with the Little Snake River. The gage below the confluence at Deerlodge Park is a permanent gage. The gage above the confluence is a study gage and is to be operated for 3 to 4 years. Annual gage operation and maintenance are provided by the USGS under contract with the CDOW. The gage on the Colorado River was very helpful in 2000 in the management of releases from Colorado River mainstem reservoirs such as Ruedi, Green Mountain, Williams Fork, and Wolford to augment flows in the 15-Mile Reach. The gages on the Yampa River were used for monitoring river conditions and releases from Steamboat Lake and Stagecoach Reservoir.

IV. Study Schedule: Initial Year - 1990, Final Year - Ongoing

V. Relationship to RIPRAP:

Colorado River Action Plan: Mainstem; I.A.5; Provide and legally protect instream flows pursuant to Colorado River PBO

Green River Action Plan:

Duchesne River; I.A; ID Year-round flow needs for recovery

Yampa River; I.A.1; ID fish habitat and flow needs

VI. Accomplishments of 2000 Tasks and Deliverables, Discussion of Initial Findings and Shortcomings:

The USGS operates and maintains the gages as specified in their Cooperative Agreement with the Colorado Division of Wildlife. USGS produces daily flow and temperature records, which will be published in the annual Water Resource paper for Colorado. Interim data are available by FAX from the Grand Junction USGS office, 303/245-5257. Near real-time data from the gages can also be found on the Internet @ <http://nwis->

colo.cr.usgs.gov.

VII. Recommendations: The gage above Deerlodge Park should be discontinued in 2002 because the record now includes wet, dry, and average years.

VIII. Project Status: On track and ongoing. The gages are operational and information is available from the Internet, Watertalk, and the USGS Water Resource paper for Colorado.

	Total	UCRIP	CUWCD
Station Name	Cost	Cost	Cost
Colorado River Near Palisade	\$4,750	\$4,750	\$0
Yampa River Above Little Snake	\$4,750	\$4,750	\$0
Yampa River Below Little Snake	\$4,750	\$4,750	\$0
Green River near Jensen (pcp & tem)	\$3,200	\$3,200	\$0
Duchesne River near Randlett	\$4,725	\$0	\$4,725
Duchesne River above Randlett	\$5,600	\$5,600	\$0
Uinta River at Randlett	\$5,600	\$5,600	\$0
Duchesne River near Randlett (temp)	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$0
TOTAL	\$39,375	\$34,650	\$4,725

IX. FY
2000
Budget
Status:

A. Funds provided: \$34,650
 B. Funds expended: \$34,650
 C. Difference: \$ 0

X. Status of Data Submissions: Not applicable.

XI. Signed: George Smith
 Principle Investigator

December 8, 2000
 Date