

**COLORADO RIVER RECOVERY PROGRAM
FY 2004 ANNUAL PROJECT REPORT**

Project No.: PIP-12B

I. Title of Proposal: *Public Involvement Accomplishments for the Recovery Program in the Mainstem of the Colorado River*

Lead Agency: Bureau of Reclamation, Western Colorado Area Office

II. Principal Investigator: Justyn Hock
2764 Compass Drive, Suite 106
Grand Junction, Colorado 81506
970-248-0625
970-248-0601 (Fax)
jhock@uc.usbr.gov

III. Project Summary: The mainstem of the Colorado River from Rifle, Colorado, to Lake Powell, Utah, supports populations of Colorado pikeminnow, humpback chub, razorback sucker, and bonytail. One focal point of recovery efforts of these endangered fish is the 15-Mile Reach of the Colorado River immediately upstream of the confluence with the Gunnison River, near Grand Junction, Colorado. Capital Improvement projects concerning this 15-Mile Reach include:

A. Grand Valley Water Management: Development of a water supply alternative for the 15-Mile Reach of the Colorado River. Included in this project are efficiency improvements to the Government Highline Canal, part of Reclamation's Grand Valley Project, and delivering surplus water from Green Mountain Reservoir to the Grand Valley Power Plant near Palisade, Colorado. These improvements are expected to conserve a significant amount of project water to benefit the habitat of the four endangered fish species in the 15-Mile Reach.

B. Grand Valley Irrigation Company Fish Screen: Modifications were made to improve performance of a fish screen in the privately-owned Grand Valley Mainline Canal. Fish screen modifications were completed on March 5, 2004.

C. Price-Stubb Diversion Dam (abandoned): A biological opinion was received from the Fish and Wildlife Service for restoring fish passage to the 15-Mile Reach at the Price-Stubb Diversion Dam. A final EA will be completed this fall.

D. Grand Valley Project Diversion Dam: Construction of a fish passage at the Grand Valley Project Diversion Dam was completed.

- E. Redlands Canal Fish Screen:** A contract was awarded in August 2004 for the Redlands Canal fish screen; construction will begin in the fall of 2004.
- F. Government Highline Canal Fish Screen:** A contract was awarded in August 2004 to build the Government Highline Canal fish screen; construction will begin in the fall of 2004.
- IV. Study Schedule:** Ongoing public involvement support for capital improvement projects.
- V. Relationship to RIPRAP:** General Recovery Program Support Action Plan
- VI. Accomplishments of FY 2004 Tasks and Deliverables, Discussion of Findings and Shortcomings:**

 - A. Tasks:**

 - 1. Develop public awareness and support and/or informed consent for Recovery Program activities/projects.
 - 2. Provide support for the Information and Education Coordinator
 - B. Strategies:**

 - 1. Media:**

 - a. Produced and distributed new releases regarding construction of fish recovery structures. (Ongoing)
 - b. News articles appeared in local newspapers about the Recovery Program projects/proposals. (Ongoing)
 - 2. Meetings:**

 - a. Coordinated news releases with water users. (Ongoing)
 - b. Arranged meetings with local congressional staff to keep them up-to-date and aware of Recovery Program activities that Reclamation is involved with in the area. (Quarterly)
 - c. Participate in Information and Education Committee meetings. (Ongoing)
 - 3. Tours:**

 - a. Arranged tours of the Grand Valley Recovery Program's completed facilities and proposed fish passages, grow-out ponds, fish screens, and habitat restoration areas (as needed).
 - 4. Other:**

 - a. Assisted the Information and Education Coordinator with various Recovery Program activities as needed.

VII. Recommendations: None

VIII. Project Status: On track and ongoing

IX. FY 2004 Budget Status:

A. Funds Provided: \$30,000

B. Funds Expended: \$9,147

C. Difference: \$20,853 (used for other capital funds)

D. Percent of the FY 2004 work completed, and projected costs to complete: N/A

E. Recovery Program funds spent for publication charges:

(Printing was charged to the applicable project)

X. Signed:

Justyn M. Hock
Submitted by

11/2/04
Date