

- I. Project Title: Orchard Mesa Canal Automation Project
- II. Principal Investigator(s): Brent R. Uilenberg
Bureau of Reclamation
2764 Compass Drive, Suite 106
Grand Junction, CO 81506
970-248-0641
FAX 970-248-0601
builenberg@usbr.gov
- III. Project Summary: The project consists of constructing a canal automation system composed of canal check structures, 100 acre-foot regulating reservoir, administrative spill recirculation system (pumping plants and pipeline), canal interconnect and integrated SCADA system. The objective of the canal automation system is to reduce the volume of water diverted from the Colorado River for irrigation use by the Orchard Mesa Irrigation District and to redirect this water to generate more hydroelectric energy thereby indirectly improving flows in the Colorado River. Very conservative estimates indicate that 17,000 acre-feet of water can be redirected to improve instream flows in the 15-Mile Reach of the Colorado River. This water will more than offset the volume of water storage (10,825 acre-feet) that will no longer be available for instream flow enhancement from Ruedi Reservoir after 2011.
- IV. Study Schedule: Preliminary project planning was initiated in the early 1990's using Reclamation's General Investigation Program. Project preconstruction permitting, contracting and preparation of final designs continued in FY 2011. Project construction will be initiated in FY 2011 and will be complete in FY 2014 or 2015 depending upon Federal appropriations. The first action to be taken in the construction of this facility will be to acquire the re-regulating reservoir from the Colorado River Water Conservation District which was accomplished in FY 2011.
- V. Relationship to RIPRAP: Colorado River Action Plan: Mainstem I.A.5.m.(1) Orchard Mesa Irrigation District (OMID) Canal Automation
- VI. Accomplishment of FY 2010 Tasks and Deliverables, Discussion of Initial Findings and Shortcomings: The Orchard Mesa Irrigation District (OMID) Canal Automation Project was approved for construction funding and \$100,000 per year of O&M funds by the Upper Colorado Recovery Program. This approval was conditioned on developing an O&M funding agreement with non-Federal entities for the balance of the O&M costs (\$240,000 per year). Commitments for O&M funding from non-Federal sources were obtained. As a result of these efforts the Colorado River Water Conservation District

(CRWCD) will be providing a lump sum contribution of \$902,000, the Colorado Water Conservation Board will be providing \$1,500,000 one time grant and the OMID will be assuming responsibility for the balance of O&M funding. Contracts have been developed to reflect these agreements and are being reviewed by the respective parties. Design and permitting is proceeding. Property for the regulating reservoir (15 acres) was purchased from the CRWCD (\$902,000) A FY 2012 construction contract award is anticipated.

VII. Recommendations: Maintain schedule as outlined above to replace Ruedi Reservoir storage water that will be lost after 2011.

VIII. Project Status: On track and ongoing.

IX. FY 2011 Budget Status

A. Funds Provided: \$2,020,000

B. Funds Expended: \$912,102

C. Difference: \$1,107,898 (Construction contract was not awarded in FY 2011)

D. Percent of the FY 2010 work completed, and projected costs to complete: NA

E. Recovery Program funds spent for publication charges: None

X. Status of Data Submission (Where applicable): NA

XI. Signed: /s/ Brent Uilenberg November 1, 2011
Principal Investigator Date

APPENDIX: NA