

I. **Project Title:** Ruedi Reservoir Releases Public Involvement Plan

II. **Bureau of Reclamation Agreement Number(s):** N/A

III. **Principal Investigator(s):**

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IV. **Abstract:**

Since 1990, Reclamation has released water from Ruedi Reservoir to benefit endangered fish species and the 15-Mile Reach. Local businesses and residents of Basalt, Colorado, expressed concern regarding possible impacts to the Fryingpan River's gold-medal fishery from the release amounts and adjustment frequency. Basalt's economy is heavily based on the fishery reputation and resulting tourism. In managing Ruedi to meet multi-purpose needs of the Fryingpan-Arkansas Project (of which Ruedi is a part), Reclamation's Eastern Colorado Area Office developed a public outreach program to improve overall communication with the downstream community and create an ongoing, open dialogue. That dialogue has continued to expand over the years and now includes other topics of mutual interest.

V. **Study Schedule:** 1995-present

VI. **Relationship to RIPRAP:** Action Plan item 1.A.4c(1)(b)

VII. **Accomplishment of FY 2012 Tasks and Deliverables, Discussion of Initial Findings and Shortcomings:**

- 1) In May, we presented our basic data for the coming run-off season at the Colorado River District's State of the River meeting in El Jebel.
- 2) In July, we held our annual operations meeting where we provided the forecast for what we anticipated in August. August is the primary fishing and tourism month for the Town of Basalt and the request to hold a late-summer meeting looking at August and early fall was requested by the Town in 2010. We continue to honor that request.
- 3) Released the Final Environmental Assessment for the 10824 Water User's Commitment to Provide Water.
- 4) Continued e-mail notifications to communicate frequent operational changes and continued to expand e-mail notification list.
- 5) Worked closely with local media, including Aspen Public Radio.
- 6) Maintained a Webpage dedicated to Ruedi Reservoir operations at

<http://www.usbr.gov/gp/eca/ruedi.html>.

- 7) Maintained a social media presence for Ruedi operations via Twitter and Facebook.
  - 8) Continued internet notifications on Ruedi Reservoir via public Web message boards including fishing sites, whitewater sites, and the Eagle County Internet Alert System.
  - 9) Continued work with the Roaring Fork Conservancy District as a cooperating partner in the areas of public outreach, education, and natural resource studies based on the concerns of Basalt and surrounding areas. Participated again in the annual tour of Ruedi Dam in May during which we presented the Fryingpan-Arkansas Project and Ruedi operations, in brief.
- VIII. **Recommendations:** To continue building outreach and public communications programs in support of our operations and the Recovery Program.
- IX. **Project Status:** On-track but not eligible for Program funding.
- X. **FY 2012 Budget Status:** n/a
- XI. **Status of Data Submission (Where applicable):** n/a
- XII. **Signed:** Kara Lamb  
Public Involvement Specialist                      Date: November 15, 2012

*For projects where more than one agency/entity receives funds from the Bureau of Reclamation, append one PPR from each agency/entity. Otherwise, delete.*

**ANNUAL PERFORMANCE PROGRESS REPORT (PPR)**

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION AGREEMENT NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

UPPER COLORADO RIVER RECOVERY PROGRAM PROJECT NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Title:

Principal Investigator: *[Name, mail and e-mail addresses, phone number]*

Project/Grant Period:            Start date (Mo/Day/Yr):  
   End date: (Mo/Day/Yr):  
   Reporting period end date (Mo/Day/Yr):  
   Is this the final report? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Performance: *Briefly describe the tasks accomplished and any tasks not met. One paragraph is sufficient.*