

COLORADO RIVER RECOVERY PROGRAM
FY 2012 ANNUAL PROJECT REPORT

RECOVERY PROGRAM
PROJECT NUMBER: C-21

- I. Project Title: Capital Projects Coordination
- II. Bureau of Reclamation Agreement Number(s): NA
- III. Principal Investigator(s): Brent R. Uilenberg
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- IV. Abstract: Manage and implement capital projects associated with the Upper Colorado River Recovery Program. Work includes preparation of preliminary cost estimates; developing and revising schedules and budgets; developing budget requests for appropriated funds; responding to agency, departmental, OMB and Congressional requests for supporting budget information; allocating costs between appropriated, power revenue and state funds; coordinating with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation in the collection and expenditure of state funds; developing and managing contracts and agreements; trouble shooting operational problems and implementing corrective actions on completed capital projects; and, resolving issues/disputes associated with implementation of capital projects.
- V. Study Schedule: Ongoing throughout authorized period of performance for capital projects. Authorization for Capital Projects now extends through 2023 as a result of P.L. 111-11 amendments to P.L. 106-392.
- VI. Relationship to RIPRAP: General Recovery Program Support Action Plan: VII. Provide Program Planning and Support (Program Management)
- VII. Accomplishment of FY 2012 Tasks and Deliverables, Discussion of Initial Findings and Shortcomings: Major FY 2012 accomplishments included:
 - 1) Elkhead Reservoir Enlargement Agreement draft contract was prepared and provided for review to the Colorado River Water Conservation District (CRWCD), Fish and Wildlife Service and Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) in FY 2011. No further progress was made on this contract amendment in FY 2012.
 - 2) Prepared FY 2015 budget request and prepared responses to FY 2013 and FY 2014 departmental, OMB and Congressional budget inquiries.
 - 3) O&M funding commitments for the Orchard Mesa Irrigation District (OMID) Canal Automation Project was secured from the CRWCD, CWCB, OMID and Upper Colorado Recovery Program. Contracts committing these sources of O&M funding were

developed. The contract with the CRWCD has been executed. The contract to provide Upper Colorado Recovery Program funding is ready for execution pending completion of NEPA compliance. Negotiations with the CWCB are ongoing. The regulating reservoir property was purchased from the CRWCD for \$902,000 in FY 2011. Design and permitting work is proceeding. California Polytechnic University has completed a re-evaluation of the Project which will significantly reduce construction costs. The draft report has been submitted to OMID for review and approval. Construction was not initiated in FY 2012 primarily due to an inability to execute the CWCB contract. An FY 2013 construction start is anticipated pending execution of the CWCB contract and completion of the NEPA process.

4) Participated in the Tusher Wash Diversion Dam rehabilitation evaluation being conducted by the Green River Canal Company, State of Utah and NRCS. A study of the potential to use an electrical fish barrier in lieu of a traditional fish screen was completed. This project configuration has been selected as the preferred alternative to minimize fish entrainment and work is ongoing to incorporate construction of this facility in the diversion dam rehabilitation being funded by the NRCS. Construction is tentatively scheduled to begin at the conclusion of the 2013 irrigation season.

5) Miscellaneous equipment was installed and technical assistance associated with the Grand Valley Project Fish Screen, Grand Valley Irrigation Company Fish Passage, Redlands Water and Power Company Fish Screen and Grand Valley Water Management facilities was provided. Reclamation's role in the operation of these facilities continues to decline as irrigation entities assume more responsibility for these facilities.

6) Continued participation in the Green Mountain Reservoir Historic User Pool weekly meetings and Coordinated Reservoir Operation process to manage Colorado River flow regimes to benefit fish habitat.

7) Participated in discussions/resolution of Gunnison basin selenium issues and implementation of the Gunnison Basin PBO. A selenium remediation plan was developed in FY 2011 and plan implementation is proceeding. Reclamation provided \$500,000 of FY 2012 funding for this effort in addition to Salinity Control Program funds secured by irrigation water providers in the Gunnison and Grand Valley.

8) Minor repairs were made to the Butch Craig Back Water Habitat Site levee following spring runoff.

9) Construction of the Horse Thief Canyon Fish Rearing Pond Facility was completed and placed in operation to replace leased ponds in the Grand Valley.

10) Major repairs to the Price-Stubbs Fish Passage caused by high spring runoff in 2011 were completed.

11) Major repairs to the Thunder Ranch Back Water Habitat Site caused by high spring flows in 2011 were completed.

12) Public involvement support was provided in the implementation of capital projects and Reclamation participation in I&E Committee activities was continued.

VIII. Recommendations: Efforts to modify the Elkhead Reservoir Enlargement Agreement need to be renewed. Grand Valley Water Management, Grand Valley Project Fish Screen and Fish Passage facilities need to be transferred to the Grand Valley Water Users

Association. The Tusher Wash Diversion Dam rehabilitation and electrical fish barrier NEPA compliance, 404 Permit, Cultural Resource compliance, O&M contract development and design preparation need to be completed in FY 2013 to maintain construction contract award schedule in late FY 2013. Construction of the OMID Canal Automation Project needs to be initiated as soon as possible to provide water to replace 10,825 acre-feet of Ruedi Reservoir water that was lost in 2012.

IX. Project Status: See above discussion in recommendation section.

X. FY 2012 Budget Status

- A. Funds Provided: \$100,000
- B. Funds Expended: \$76,022.68
- C. Difference: \$23,977.32
- D. Percent of the FY 2012 work completed, and projected costs to complete:
- E. Recovery Program funds spent for publication charges: None

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

XII. Signed: Brent R. Uilenberg November 14, 2012
Principal Investigator Date

APPENDIX:

CAPTIAL PROJECT EXPENDITURE SUMMARY

Fish Passage General Expenses.....	\$766.37
Grand Valley Project Fish Screen Non-Contract.....	\$4,905.14
Redlands Fish Screen Non-Contract.....	\$4.35
Butch Craig Levee Repair.....	\$8,333.22
Wahweap Fish Hatchery Non-Contract.....	\$20,000.00
Capital Projects Coordination.....	<u>\$42,013.60</u>
FY 2012 Total.....	\$76,022.68