

COLORADO RIVER RECOVERY PROGRAM
FY 2015 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 2015 Tasks and Deliverables, Discussion of Initial Findings and Shortcomings: Major FY 2015 accomplishments included the following.
 - 1) Continued process to implement measures minimize escapement of problematic nonnative fish from Elkhead Reservoir.
 - 2) Initiated process to identify alternative approaches to minimize escapement of problematic nonnative fish from Ridgway Reservoir. Obtained support from Tri-County Water Conservancy District to operate the reservoir in a manner to avoid spills.
 - 3) Prepared FY 2018 budget request and prepared responses to FY 2016 and FY 2017 departmental, OMB and Congressional budget inquiries.
 - 4) Design and permitting work for the OMID Canal Automation Project regulating reservoir was completed; however, a construction contract for this facility was not awarded. An FY 2016 construction contract award is currently anticipated. The Orchard Mesa Irrigation District continued to line select canal reaches to eliminate system seepage losses. Planning and permitting activities for the final phases of the

- project are proceeding.
- 5) Completed replacement existing gates at Stewart Lake to improve water control and operator safety and provide additional operational flexibility to support the Flaming Gorge Larval Trigger Study.
 - 6) Participated in the Tusher Wash Diversion Dam rehabilitation Environmental Impact Statement process being conducted by the Green River Canal Company, State of Utah and NRCS. The project concept for this facility has evolved into a fish barrier weir pending confirmation of the effectiveness of a similar facility at the Hogback Diversion Dam, potentially integrating an electrical barrier if needed to improve effectiveness. FY 2017 construction contract award now anticipated base on inability to operate the Hogback Fish Barrier Weir in 2015
 - 7) Miscellaneous technical, assistance associated with the Grand Valley Project Fish Passage and Screen, Grand Valley Irrigation Company Fish Passage and Screen, Redlands Water and Power Company Fish Passage and 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.
 - 8) 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.
 - 9) 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 2015 funding for this effort in addition to Salinity Control Program funds secured by irrigation water providers.
 - 10) Public involvement activities were provided in support of capital projects and Reclamation participation in I&E Committee activities was continued.

VIII. Additional noteworthy observations: None

IX. Recommendations: None

X. Project Status: Ongoing

XI. FY 2015 Budget Status

- A. Funds Provided: \$100,000
- B. Funds Expended: \$201,865
- C. Difference: (\$101,865)
- D. Percent of the FY 2015 work completed, and projected costs to complete: NA
- E. Recovery Program funds spent for publication charges: \$0

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

XIII. Signed: Brent Uilenberg November 04, 2015
Principal Investigator Date