

**COLORADO RIVER RECOVERY PROGRAM
FY 2010-2011 PROPOSED SCOPE OF WORK for:
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT – INTERPRETIVE SIGNS AND EXHIBITS**

Project No.: PIP 12H

Lead Agency: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Program Director’s Office)

Submitted By: Debbie Felker, CRRP
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Date: May 8, 2009

Category:

Expected Funding

Source:

- Ongoing project
- Ongoing-revised project
- Requested new project
- Unsolicited proposal

- Annual funds
- Capital funds
- Other (explain)

I. Title of Proposal: Interpretive Signs and Exhibits About the Endangered Fishes of the Upper Colorado River Basin

II. Background:

Interpretive signs and exhibits at museums and visitor centers are key tools used to educate the general public. Numerous opportunities exist for the Recovery Program to partner with public and private organizations to develop signs and exhibits that will explain the importance of recovering the endangered fishes of the Upper Colorado River Basin and some of the actions taking place to accomplish this. Priority for placement of interpretive signs and exhibits will be given to geographic locations where the majority of Recovery Program efforts are taking place in Colorado and Utah. In addition, funds will be budgeted to maintain existing Recovery Program exhibits in these states, as well as in Page, Arizona. Please see the attached list of current and approved projects as of May 2009.

III. Study Schedule:

Initial year: FY 2001
Final year: Ongoing

IV. Relationship to RIPRAP:

VI. INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS AND SUPPORT FOR THE ENDANGERED FISHES AND THE RECOVERY PROGRAM.

V. Strategies/Dates:

1. Pursue the following new project(s), seeking funding support from other organizations whenever appropriate:

FY 2010:

- a. Denver Zoo – The Denver Zoo asked the Recovery Program to partner with it and the Colorado Division of Wildlife to establish a classroom aquarium project with a front-range school(s) modeled after CDOW’s program in western Colorado. The zoo’s project would be somewhat different in that the zoo would like to display the endangered fish raised in the classroom in a zoo exhibit. CDOW and the Recovery Program are working with zoo staff with a goal of launching the program in September 2009. The Recovery Program provided a letter of support offering to provide a one-time contribution of \$5,000 toward the project, as well as to assist with obtaining the proper permit to display endangered species, providing outreach materials to the classroom(s) and hatchery-raised fish and food.
Responsibility: Debbie Felker
Completion Date: Ongoing
- b. Dinosaur National Monument Aquarium Exhibit – An aquarium exhibit at the monument’s visitor center was removed during a lengthy renovation period. The visitor center is expected to reopen in 2011. In anticipation of the reopening, funds are needed to reestablish the aquarium exhibit.
- c. Interpretive Exhibit Maintenance. Funds are needed to ensure that Recovery Program signs and exhibits are well maintained and that interpretive messages are current.
Responsibility: Debbie Felker
Completion Date: Ongoing

Strategies/Dates FY 2011

- a. No new projects are currently planned for FY 2011; however, funds may be requested at a future date for a new project and/or maintenance of existing projects.

VI. Budget:

FY 2010

Project A: Denver Zoo Classroom Program/Aquarium Exhibit **\$ 5,000**

The Recovery Program would provide a one-time contribution to support this program. Funds would be used to purchase aquarium supplies and produce interpretive signs.

Project B: Dinosaur National Monument Aquarium Exhibit **\$ 2,000**

Funds would be used to help the monument reestablish the aquarium and produce accompanying interpretive sign(s.)

Project C: Interpretive Exhibit Maintenance **\$ 3,000**

Funds may be needed to repair/replace exhibits. Funds would go for items such as aquarium supplies (tanks, filters, gravel, chemicals) and/or to update/repair/replace interpretive panels.

TOTAL FY 2010: **\$10,000***

FY 2011 Budget:

TOTAL FY 2011: **\$ -0-**

Status of Completed and Approved
Recovery Program Interpretive Exhibits as of May 8, 2009

Arizona

- Interpretive exhibit with aquarium, Carl Hayden Visitor Center at Glen Canyon Dam, Page
- Interpretive exhibit with aquarium, Yuma Crossing State Historical Park, Yuma (This is not a Recovery Program exhibit, however, our program helped the state park obtain a permit to display endangered fish and obtain hatchery-raised fish to display. Our program also provided our historic accounts publication, bookmarks, and stickers for their use and sent them examples of interpretive signs our program produced.

Colorado

- The interpretive exhibit with aquarium previously located at Colorado River State Park Visitor Center in Fruita was relocated in 2007 to the Colorado Division of Wildlife/U.S. Forest Service Visitor Center in Steamboat Springs, Colorado
- Interpretive exhibit with aquarium, The Montrose Pavilion, Montrose
- Interpretive exhibit with aquarium, Downtown Aquarium (formerly Ocean Journey), Denver.
- Trailside signs and Colorado pikeminnow benches are in place along the Colorado Riverfront Trail and at the Grand Valley Audubon Society's Lucy Ferril Ela Wildlife Sanctuary, Grand Junction.
- Interpretive exhibit re: native and nonnative fishes of the Yampa River, Yampa River State Park Visitor Center, Hayden
- Interpretive signs are in place at Wolford Mountain Reservoir near Kremmling. This was a cooperative project with the Colorado River Water Conservation District.
- Angler notification signs are posted along rivers and at boat launch sites.
- Angler sign at Rifle Gap State Park (cooperative project with Colorado Division of Wildlife)

Projects planned and approved for FY 2009:

- The Recovery Program gave the Colorado River Water Conservation District \$10,000 in FY 08 (see project 152 – Elkhead Dam and Reservoir Operation and Maintenance) to help develop and install interpretive signs at Elkhead Reservoir in northwest Colorado. This project is under way and slated for completion by November 2009.
- Pursue installing trailside signs at the Unaweep Charoloais Ranch in Delta (confluence Gunnison and Uncompaghre rivers)

NOTE: In addition to the above Recovery Program projects, Colorado State Parks installed 3 interpretive signs about endangered fish at each of nine parks: Colorado River, Crawford, Highline Lake, Navajo, Rifle Falls, Stagecoach, Steamboat Lake, Vega and Yampa River. State Parks produced and paid for these signs and did not ask for Recovery Program review of them prior to production and installation. The signs do not include the Recovery Program's logo.

Utah

- Outdoor kiosk and indoor interpretive exhibit at Ouray National Fish Hatchery near Vernal
- Angler notification signs posted along rivers and at boat launch sites
- Ouray National Wildlife Refuge near Vernal (There are several outdoor signs about endangered fish that the refuge developed with its own funds)
- Brown's Park National Wildlife Refuge developed an interpretive exhibit at its visitor center and interpretive signs at a fishing site

Projects planned and approved for FY 2009:

- Develop and install interpretive signs at the Jensen Visitor Center near Vernal

(NOTE: An aquarium exhibit established at Dinosaur National Monument near Jensen, Utah, was removed when the visitor center closed for renovation. This scope of work includes plans to reestablish the exhibit when the visitor center reopens in 2011.)