

**COLORADO RIVER RECOVERY PROGRAM
FY-2012-2013 PROPOSED SCOPE OF WORK for:**

Project No.: C-6 Baeser

Rearing Bonytail/Razorback Sucker in Baeser Bend wetland in the Green River.

Lead Agency: US Fish and Wildlife Service

Submitted by:

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Category:

Expected Funding Source:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing project | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Annual funds |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ongoing-revised project | <input type="checkbox"/> Capital funds |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Requested new project | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (explain) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Unsolicited proposal | |

I. Title of Proposal: Rearing Bonytail/Razorback Sucker in Baeser Bend wetland in the Green River.

II. Relationship to RIPRAP:

Green River Action Plan: Mainstem

IV.A. Augment or restore populations as needed.

IV.A.1. Develop state stocking plan for the four endangered fishes of the Green River.

IV.A.1.c. Implement plan.

III. Study Background/Rationale and Hypotheses: Razorback suckers and bonytail are thought to have higher survival than hatchery reared fish if they are raised in a natural wetland from the larval stage. Baeser Bend wetland will be void of nonnative fish in 2012. We will stock larval razorback sucker and/or bonytail in the spring of 2012, allow them to grow and acquire needed survival skills in the wetland, and begin capturing, tagging, and releasing them into the Green River in the fall of 2013. We do this with the end goal of producing fish to contribute to the population in the river and to later compare survival of hatchery reared fish and fish raised in a natural wetland. To date, over 1,500 razorback suckers have been stocked from Baeser Bend wetland, and of the initial 1,026 from the first year, 16 individuals were documented by the state of Utah in two of their

projects during the subsequent field season. We need more time and a larger sample size to determine the contribution and effectiveness of fish raised in natural wetlands to the populations in the river; this project should fill this data gap.

- IV. Study Goals, Objectives, End Product: Our goal is to stock as many razorback suckers and bonytail as possible into the Green River from Baeser Bend wetland, to supplement the existing populations, and to later calculate the survival of these fish and compare these rates with hatchery reared fish.
- V. Study area: Baeser Bend wetland on the middle Green River.
- VI. Study Methods/Approach: We will stock larval razorback sucker and or bonytail in spring of 2012 into Baeser Bend wetland. We will maintain water levels at Baeser Bend through pumping water from the Green River into the wetland. During pumping events, we will cover the discharge hose with special small meshed sock nets to prevent invasion of nonnative fishes. We will make a special effort to leave the wetland with as much water as possible just prior to ice-up in the winter to facilitate overwinter survival. We would begin harvesting razorback sucker and bonytail when each species reaches 300 and 200 mm respectively, which would likely occur in October 2013. We would then seek guidance from the Biology Committee to determine if we would stock more fish into the wetland.
- VII. Task Description and Schedule

Task 1: Stock larval razorback sucker and bonytail into Baeser Bend floodplain.

Task 2: Pump Baeser Bend floodplain.

Task 3: Tag and release fish into Green River.

Task 4: Data Analysis, report writing, presentations.

Schedule: FY-2012

Task	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
1						X						
2								X			X	
3												
4												

Schedule: FY-2013

Task	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
1												
2			X					X			X	
3										X		
4											X	X

VIII. FY-2012 Work

- Deliverables/Due Dates Annual Report due November 2012
- Budget

Task 1. No cost (fish production costs are covered in propagation scopes and no charge is requested for stocking fish).

Task 2. Pump Baeser Bend floodplain.

Operational Costs	Cost
GS-11 Biologist (\$44.25/hr x 64 hrs)	\$2,832
GS-8 Fisheries Tech (\$37.38/hr x 51 hrs)	\$1,906.38
GS-5 Fisheries Tech (\$17.45/hr x 200 hrs)	\$3,490
Fuel @ \$4.50/gal x 50 gal/day x 8 days	\$1,800
Oil, filters, grease, tires, misc. parts for trailers/pump	\$1,000
GSA truck lease \$334/mo/1 truck/4 mo	\$1,336
(truck/trip x 80mi/truck x \$0.30/mi x 18 trips) Vernal to Baeser round trip	\$432
Subtotal	\$12,796.38

Task 3. No cost during 2012 (Fish will be harvested in 2013).

Task 4. Data Analysis, report writing, presentations, administration.

Labor	Cost
GS-9 Administrative Officer (\$38.54/hr x 35 hrs)	\$1,348.90
GS-11 Biologist (\$44.25/hr x 16 hrs)	\$708
GS-12 Supervisory Fish Biologist (\$49.65/hr x 54 hrs)	\$2,681.10
GS-13 Assistant Project Leader (\$61.38/hr x 26 hrs)	\$1,595.88
GS-14 Project Leader (\$74.16/hr x 11 hrs)	\$815.76
Subtotal	\$7,149.64

FY- 2012 Total = \$19,946.02

FY- 2013 Proposed budget:

Task 1. No cost (No stocking in 2013).

Task 2. Pump Baeser Bend floodplain.

Operational Costs	Cost
GS-11 Biologist (\$45.54/hr x 96 hrs)	\$4,371.84
GS-8 Fisheries Tech (\$38.45/hr x 96 hrs)	\$3,361.92
Fuel @ \$4.50/gal x 50 gal/day x 12 days	\$2,700.00
Oil, filters, grease, tires, misc. parts for trailers/pump	\$500
GSA truck lease \$334/mo/2 trucks/4 mo	\$2,672.00
(truck/trip x 80mi/truck x \$0.30/mi x 24 trips) Vernal to Baeser round trip	\$576.00
Subtotal	\$14,511.04

Task 3. Tag and release fish into Green River.

Labor	Cost
GS-11 Biologist (\$45.54/hr x 80 hrs)	\$3,643.20
GS-8 Fisheries Tech (\$38.45 x 80 hrs)	\$2,801.60
GS-5 Fisheries Tech (\$17.95/hr x 69 hrs)	\$1,238.55
(truck/trip x 80mi/truck x \$0.30/mi x 10 trips) Vernal to Baeser round trip	\$240
Subtotal	\$7,923.35

Task 4. Data Analysis, report writing, presentations

Labor	Cost
GS-9 Administrative Officer (\$38.54/hr x 35 hrs)	\$1,348.90
GS-11 Biologist (\$45.54/hr x 128 hrs)	\$5,829.12
GS-12 Supervisory Fish Biologist (\$52.69/hr x 54 hrs)	\$2,845.26
GS-13 Assistant Project Leader (\$65.05/hr x 26 hrs)	\$1,691.30
GS-14 Project Leader (\$76.34/hr x 11 hrs)	\$839.74
Subtotal	\$12,554.32

FY- 2013 = \$34,988.71

IX. Budget Summary:

FY-2012=\$19,946.02

FY-2013=\$34,988.71

X. Reviewers: Dale Ryden, USFWS Assistant Project Leader