

I. Project Title: Database Management Program

II. Principal Investigator(s):

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III. Project Summary:

Development of a centralized database was a requirement of the Recovery Program when it was formed in 1986. All researchers who receive funding through the Recovery Program are required to submit all fishery data to the central database at the completion of their study. In addition, all researchers are required to submit a complete list of all endangered fish handled each year to the central database. Guidelines for the annual tagging list are circulated to researchers each year. A consolidated tagging list is compiled and distributed after tagging data are received from all researchers.

Most of the UCRB database consists of the 'all fish' data collected during the different investigations funded by the Recovery Program. These data relate to species, number collection date, site, gear, effort expended, habitat and any other parameter associated with collection of that fish. Only field fish-collection data or radiotelemetry data are required to be submitted. The Recovery Program does not require submitting data from invertebrate, geomorphology, hatchery or laboratory studies. All fishery data associated with a study are due to the database when the final report is approved by the Recovery Program.

All data are stored in individual dBASE files according to project and year(s) of collection. Data are not combined into one large database because of the wide variety of studies and study designs used. A list of field names and data codes has been prepared to guide database development. Investigators who use dBASE and field names and codes from the list do not need to provide any further documentation about the data file. However, any fields not described in the List of Field Names must be fully documented when the file is submitted. Because of the wide variety of study designs file structures vary widely, but all data of the same type are contained in fields with the same name and structure (e. g. the river where sampling occurred is identified by the same two-digit code in a field named 'RIVER'). Investigators may also submit their data as delimited ASCII files or spreadsheet files. However, these files must contain only raw data aligned in rows and columns suitable

for importing into dBASE or another database program. The data codes or numeric format must conform to the list of codes mentioned above. Investigators must also submit complete documentation describing the contents of the file.

The database manager checks each file to ensure that the data conform to the required format and prepares one page of documentation for each file received. The documentation includes name of principal contact, river where data were collected, year of data collection, a brief summary of the study design, description of the data file itself (i.e. field names and description of contents, data codes, etc), and a list of the major reports or publications that are associated with the data file. Future users will be referred to the reports for a complete description of the study design and conclusions of the original researchers.

The database manager also distributes PIT tags to researchers as they request them and maintains a list of all tags and who they are distributed to. PIT tag lists submitted by researchers are compared with this database to identify transcription errors. All errors can not be corrected, but at least a few errors can be eliminated before they are included in the basin-wide tagging list. Other errors are corrected when they are identified.

IV. Study Schedule: Scheduled to continue for the length of the Recovery Program.

V. Relationship to RIPRAP:

General Recovery Program Support Action Plan. V.A.2. Conduct interagency data management program to compile, manage, and maintain, all research and monitoring data collected by the Recovery Program.

VI. Accomplishment of FY 99 Tasks and Deliverables, Discussion of Initial Findings and Shortcomings:

PIT tags have been distributed as researchers and hatchery managers have requested them.

All PIT tag data received were checked for errors. Several minor errors were found and clarified with the original investigators. Work on the 1998 combined tagging list is behind schedule. The revised tagging list will not be updated until the 1999 data have been received. However, 1998 data have been utilized for recapture information, even though they have not been completely incorporated into the basin-wide list.

Modifications were made to the basin-wide tagging list to more easily distinguish data collected during ISMP from data collected during other sampling programs.

Large amounts of data are expected to be submitted to the database in 2000 because most studies funded under the Aspinall and Flaming Gorge Umbrellas have been completed and finalized by the Recovery Program.

A reminder that data are due will be sent to all researchers in December.

- VII. Recommendations: Continue the database program.
- VIII. Project Status: Project is on track. Scheduled to continue through the length of the Recovery Program.
- IX. FY 99 Budget
 - A. Funds Provided: 34.5 K
 - B. Funds Expended: 34.5 K
 - C. Difference: 0
 - D. Publication Charges: 0
- X. Status of Data Submission: Original field data is not collected during this project.
- XI. Signed: C.W. McAda, December 2, 1999