I. Project Title: INTERAGENCY STANDARDIZED MONITORING PROGRAM — Adult/subadult and YOY Colorado pikeminnow monitoring.

II. Principal Investigator(s):

Frank K. Pfeifer, Project Leader
Charles W. McAda, Fishery Biologist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
764 Horizon Drive, Building B
Grand Junction, Colorado  81506
(970) 245-9319: Fax 245-6933
frank_pfeifer@fws.gov
chuck_mcada@fws.gov

III. Project Summary:

The Interagency Standardized Monitoring Program (ISMP) was developed in 1986 to monitor population trends of Colorado pikeminnow and humpback chub in the Colorado River Basin. The original ISMP was composed of three parts: 1) spring electrofishing for subadult and adult Colorado pikeminnow in parts of the Green, Colorado, White and Yampa rivers (about 20 -30% of occupied habitat within each of the rivers); 2) autumn backwater seining for YOY Colorado pikeminnow in the Colorado and Green rivers; and 3) sampling for adult humpback chubs with trammel nets in Black Rocks and Westwater Canyon. These sampling programs relied on changes in catch per effort (CPE) to monitor changes in population size and structure. A summary report describing the results of the first seven years (1986–1992) of ISMP was produced and finalized by the Recovery Program in 1994. Annual reports have been produced every year since 1994. This component of ISMP provides support to program participants.

IV. Study Schedule: Length of the Recovery Program.


VI. Accomplishment of FY 00 Tasks and Deliverables, Discussion of Initial Findings and Shortcomings:

Tasks

1. Purchase and distribute PIT tags for use in the monitoring program.

   2,000 PIT tags were purchased, cataloged and distributed to monitoring program
2. Maintain the Interagency Standardized Monitoring Database

The Interagency Database is complete through 1999. Integrate it with the rest of the database. Data collected during 1999 will be submitted during the early part of 2001.


The monitoring program changed dramatically during 2000. Shoreline electrofishing for adult Colorado pikeminnow and periodic sampling of the humpback chub populations has been replaced with population estimates. A decision needs to be made whether a handbook continues to be necessary or whether annual scopes or work will be the best method of standardizing work among the different investigators conducting the work.

4. Assist states with field work as needed.

Assistance was provided as requested.

5. Produce and distribute an annual consolidated report of the adult/subadult Colorado pikeminnow (spring shoreline electrofishing) and YOY Colorado pikeminnow monitoring (fall backwater seining) for the previous year.

A draft annual report including the 1998 and 1999 YOY Colorado pikeminnow has been completed and circulated to monitoring program workers. Modifications will be made and the revised report will be completed in early 2001.

VII. Recommendations: Assess the first few years of populations estimates and determine the future course of action for the monitoring program.

VIII. Project Status: Ongoing, but behind schedule. The 1999 annual report will be completed in early 2001.

IX. FY 00 Budget Status

A. Funds Provided:
   - PIT tags 8,000
   - Labor, Travel 21,000
   - Total 29,000

B. Funds Expended: 29,000

C. Difference: 0
D. Publication Charges

0

X. Status of Data Submission: Original data are not collected in this project.

XI. Signed: C.W. McAda, December 7, 2000