

I. Project Title: Ruedi Reservoir Water Lease (Year 1)

II. Principal Investigator: George Smith  
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III. Project Summary:

The Recovery Program's lease of water from Ruedi Reservoir will help stabilize and maintain late summer flows in the 15-Mile Reach of the Colorado River to provide habitat for Colorado pikeminnow and razorback sucker. The water will be leased by the Bureau of Reclamation at the request of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or its designee and will be protected to and through the reach by the Colorado water right system administered by the District 5 State Engineers Office. The goal of the effort is to provide a reliable source of late summer water for the 15-Mile Reach of the Colorado River to maintain the Service's recommended flows and to operate the GVIC fish ladder.

IV. Study Schedule: Initial Year - 2000, Final Year - To be determined by the Program.

V. Relationship to RIPRAP: Colorado River Action Plan I.  
Provide and protect instream flows.

VI. Accomplishments of FY 2000 Tasks and Deliverables, Discussion of Initial Findings and Shortcomings:

The Recovery Program lease of water from Ruedi Reservoir for delivery to the 15-Mile Reach of the Colorado River. The lease for up to 21,650 acre-feet of water measured at the Ruedi Power Plant was approved at the May CWCB meeting. The Recover Program agreed to pay a proportionate share of actual annual reimbursable operation, maintenance, and replacement costs allocated to the lease of 21,650 acre-feet of Round II Water Sales. A lease price of \$3.54 per acre-foot was established, and the Program agreed to pay on a per acre-foot basis. Based on accounting by the Colorado Division 5 Engineers Office, 19,420 acre-feet of water was released from Ruedi Reservoir fish contract pool.

VII. Recommendations: None

VIII. Project Status: Ongoing and on-track.

IX. FY 2000 Budget Status:

A. Funds provided:	\$ 76,814
B. Funds expended:	<u>\$ 68,747</u>
C. Difference:	\$ 8,067

X. Status of Data Submission: Colorado Division of Water Resources has provided an accounting sheet which is available on the Recovery Program web page.

XI. Signed: George Smith December 19, 2000  
Principal Investigator Date