

COLORADO RIVER RECOVERY PROGRAM  
FY 2009 ANNUAL PROJECT REPORT

RECOVERY PROGRAM  
PROJECT NUMBER: C-9

- I. Project Title: O&M for Elkhead Reservoir Fish Releases
- II. Principal Investigator(s): Ray D. Tenney, P.E.  
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Colorado River Water Conservation District  
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- III. Project Summary: Elkhead Reservoir as enlarged includes 5,000 acre-feet of Recovery Program controlled storage as a result of the Recovery Program participating in the capital investment in the enlargement project. This water is released, as directed by the Recovery Program, to enhance flows in the Yampa River in critical habitat for the benefit of the listed fishes. Operating costs for Elkhead Reservoir are distributed between the Recovery Program and the River District (owners of the enlargement pool) and the City of Craig and the Yampa Participants (the owners of the original pool). Billing of the operating costs is on a calendar year basis, in arrears. For the purposes of this report, expenditures in the 2009 FFY are reported with an estimate of the total expected calendar year expenses to be invoiced to the Recovery Program for 2009 operations.
- IV. Study Schedule: Ongoing.
- V. Relationship to RIPRAP: Green River Action Plan: Yampa and Little Snake Rivers, I.B.2.a.(2)(b), Deliver water for endangered fish.
- VI. Accomplishment of FY 2009 Tasks and Deliverables, Discussion of Initial Findings and Shortcomings:
- 5,000 acre-feet of water was delivered as requested. See attached operations summary memo.
- Seepage at the toe of the dam identified in the annual dam safety inspections was again observed this year. Monitoring will continue with no remedial action undertaken in 2009.
- Displacement of riprap in the outlet works stilling basin was also observed during dam safety inspections in 2009 and monitoring will continue.
- Wetland mitigation area monitoring indicates wetland mitigation area development is progressing well. Wetland assessment report was transmitted to the Recovery Program under separate cover.

A construction deficiency in the embankment drainage system was identified and remedied by the contractor. Charges related to this work occurred in FFY 2009 but prior to the end of calendar year 2008 so effort related to this work was billed in the 2008 billing.

Drainage on the east side of the spillway caused erosion which was remedied by conversion of a steep drainage swale to a pipe.

An aquatic nuisance species avoidance program targeted at mussels potentially transported on recreational boats was implemented. The boat ramp was gated and operated for limited hours during which 100% inspection of all launched water craft was performed. Suspect boats were disinfected using a heated pressure washer unit. Staffing of the ANS program at Elkhead was funded through the State of Colorado's ANS program. As Colorado State Parks operates the recreational features at Elkhead the ANS program is under their charge.

VII. Recommendations: The opportunity for the Recovery Program to annually lease up to 2,000 acre-feet of additional water from the River District's pool in Elkhead Reservoir Enlargement is provided for. The decision dates for the Recovery Program to commit to the lease opportunity are defined by agreement to be May, June and July. Consideration by the River District of later dates of request for lease water would allow the Recovery Program to respond to declining flows in the Yampa Rifer as the 5,000 acre-foot pool is depleted. The Recovery Program may wish to discuss later dates of request for lease water with the River District.

VIII. Project Status: On track and ongoing

IX. FY 2009 Budget Status

A. Funds Provided:

B. Funds Expended: See attached spreadsheet of expenditures through September 30, 2009. As the billing cycle is on calendar year these costs represent the January 1 through September 30 costs incurred. Final 2009 expenditures and distribution will be made in January 2010 for invoicing in FFY 2010.

C. Difference: *[Include an explanation for any major difference.]*

D. Percent of the FY 2009 work completed, and projected costs to complete: *[For projects funded by the Bureau of Reclamation.]*

E. Recovery Program funds spent for publication charges: \$0

X. Status of Data Submission (Where applicable): N/A

XI. Signed: Ray Tenney  
Principal Investigator                      Date

*(Just put name and date here, since you will be submitting the report electronically)*



2009\_Elkhead\_Ops\_  
Memo\_10-31-09.pdf

APPENDIX:

Elkhead Reservoir 2009 Summary Through 9-30-09					
		Entire Pool	Enlargement Pool		Non-Reimbursible
	Totals	24777 af	11956 af	RIP Only	Expenses
Construction Related Exp.	\$ 120.00	\$ -	\$ 120.00		\$ -
Gauging	\$ 12,066.66	\$ 12,066.66	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Water Quality	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Rec. Fees	\$ 15,000.00	\$ -	\$ 15,000.00	\$ -	\$ -
Electric	\$ 3,722.45	\$ 3,157.82	\$ -	\$ 564.63	\$ -
Operating	\$ 73,035.78	\$ 72,075.78	\$ 960.00	\$ -	\$ -
Travel	\$ 482.90	\$ 482.90	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Labor	\$ 30,624.11	\$ 6,656.15	\$ 22,268.91	\$ -	\$ 1,699.05
Management/Admin. Fee		\$ 9,443.93	\$ 3,822.89	\$ 56.46	
City of Craig Expenses	\$ 28,864.29	\$ 28,864.29	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Totals	\$ 163,916.19	\$ 132,747.54	\$ 42,171.80	\$ 621.09	\$ 1,699.05
<b>2009 Prorated Costs Calculations Between CRWCD &amp; Others</b>					
Partipants	af	%	%	Prorated Costs	Cost/af
Yampa Participants	8408	33.93%		\$ 45,047.47	\$ 5.36
City of Craig	4413	17.81%		\$ 23,643.49	\$ 5.36
Recovery Program	5000	20.18%	41.82%	\$ 45,045.80	\$ 9.01
CO River District	6956	28.07%	58.18%	\$ 61,803.66	\$ 8.88
				\$ 175,540.43	
<b>2009 Reconciliation Between CRWCD &amp; Others</b>					
	Prorated Costs	Pmts/Credits	Balance	Agreement Carry Forward	Due Immediately
Yampa Participants	\$ 45,047.47		\$ 45,047.47	\$ 45,047.47	\$ -
City of Craig	\$ 23,643.49	\$ 28,864.29	\$ (5,220.80)	\$ -	\$ (5,220.80)
	\$ -				
Recovery Program	\$ 45,045.80	\$ -	\$ 45,045.80	\$ -	\$ 45,045.80
Totals	\$ 113,736.77	\$ 28,864.29	\$ 84,872.48	\$ 45,047.47	\$ 39,825.01