I. Project Title: Grand Valley Water Management

II. Principal Investigator(s): Brent R. Uilenberg
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III. Project Summary: The 15-Mile Reach of the Colorado River, extending from the confluence of the Gunnison River upstream to the Grand Valley Irrigation Company Diversion Dam near Palisade, CO, is considered to be important habitat critical to the recovery of the Colorado pikeminnow and razorback sucker. This reach of the river is severely depleted by both east and west slope water diversions. The project consists of seven new canal check structures and rehabilitation of eight existing canal check structures in the Government Highline Canal; the Palisade return flow pipeline; Highline Lake pumping plant; and integrated SCADA system. The overall purpose of the project is to reduce river diversions by the Grand Valley Project and increase flows in the 15-Mile Reach.

IV. Study Schedule: Project planning and design was initiated in 1992 utilizing Reclamation’s General Investigation funding. Construction of the Palisade return flow pipeline, check structures and Highline Lake pumping plant were completed in 2000, 2001 and 2005 respectively. Installation and programming of the SCADA system was essentially completed in September 2006. Completed components of the overall system have been successfully phased into operation resulting in significant water saving since 2002.


VI. Accomplishment of FY 2009 Tasks and Deliverables, Discussion of Initial Findings and Shortcomings: Continued improvements and refinements to the SCADA system where completed in FY 2009 as well as minor technical support in the operation of the canal automation system. Water level and gate position sensors were replaced and upgraded. The Grand Valley Water Users Association retained the services of a contractor to maintain the canal automation system. Based on Colorado State Engineer, Division 5 diversion records, significant water saving were achieved in 2009 contributing to a timely declaration of surplus water in Green Mountain Reservoir and subsequent delivery of water in the August through October time frame. See attached spreadsheets for summary of project accomplishments and deliveries of Green Mountain Reservoir surplus water.
VII. Recommendations: Continued technical support will be required in FY 2010 to troubleshoot problems and implement corrective actions; however, this project appears ready to be transferred to the Grand Valley Water Users Association with minimal further involvement by Reclamation.

VIII. Project Status: Ongoing.

IX. FY 2009 Budget Status

A. Funds Provided: $0
B. Funds Expended: $29,490
C. Difference: -$29,490
D. Percent of the FY 2009 work completed, and projected costs to complete: NA
E. Recovery Program funds spent for publication charges: NA

X. Status of Data Submission (Where applicable): NA

XI. Signed: Brent R. Uilenberg February 9, 2010
Principal Investigator Date
(Just put name and date here, since you will be submitting the report electronically)

APPENDIX: [More comprehensive/final project reports (NOT to be used in place of a complete annual report.). If distributed previously, simply reference the document or report.]