

COLORADO RIVER RECOVERY PROGRAM
FY 2009 ANNUAL PROJECT REPORT

RECOVERY PROGRAM
PROJECT NUMBER: FR-BW SYNTH

I. Project Title: Historical assessment of factors affecting young Colorado pikeminnow abundance and physical habitat availability in the Green River, Utah.

II. Principal Investigator(s):

Lead Agencies: Larval Fish Laboratory, CSU and Argonne National Laboratory

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Jointly Submitted by: Larval Fish Laboratory, CSU, Argonne National Laboratory

III. Project Summary: The Green River Study Plan recommends research to evaluate the effect of base flow variability on backwater habitat maintenance and quality. Responsive to that recommendation, this proposed study will begin as a synthesis of physical and biological information already collected in Reaches 2 and 3, including evaluating potential links between physical habitat data and abundance dynamics of age-0 Colorado pikeminnow. This work will assist with evaluation of studies that aim to obtain a better understanding of how base flows and base flow variability affect backwater maintenance and quality in Reaches 2 and 3.

IV. Study Schedule: Initial Year 2009
 Final year 2011

V. Relationship to RIPRAP (*Version: March 8, 2000*):

Green River, I.D.1.e.(4) Integrate biological and physical data on backwaters.

VI. Accomplishment of FY 2009 Tasks and Deliverables, Discussion of Initial Findings and

Shortcomings: Shortly after initiation of this project, errors or missing data were discovered in the dataset that described the historical abundance of fishes in backwaters of the Green River. Additionally, some data from the lower Green River may have been lost, but the extent of that was unknown. After consultation with the Recovery Program office, we jointly decided that until a reliable dataset was available, that all work on this project should cease. This was because we wanted the biological and geomorphic aspects of this study to proceed jointly.

VII. Recommendations: Delay further work until such a time when biological data were available.

VIII. Project Status: Delayed until further notice.

IX. FY 2009 Budget Status

A. Funds Provided: \$61,860

B. Funds Expended: \$1400 (all expenditure by LFL)

C. Difference: \$60,460

D. Percent of the FY 2009 work completed < 5%, and projected costs to complete: remaining budget.

E. Recovery Program funds spent for publication charges: None

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

XI. Signed: Kevin R. Bestgen
Reporting Principal Investigator

10 Nov. 2009
Date