

COLORADO RIVER RECOVERY PROGRAM
FY 2012 ANNUAL PROJECT REPORT

RECOVERY PROGRAM
PROJECT NUMBER: C-28

I. Project Title: Tusher Wash Fish Screen

II. Bureau of Reclamation Agreement Number(s): NA

Project/Grant Period: Start date (Mo/Day/Yr):
 End date: (Mo/Day/Yr):
 Reporting period end date:
 Is this the final report? Yes _____ No _____

III. Principal Investigator(s): Brent R. Uilenberg
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IV. Abstract: The Tusher Wash Diversion Dam, located on the Green River above Green River, UT diverts water into the Green River Canal Company Main Canal. Entrainment of native fish has been documented. The project consists of constructing a fish screen and/or fish barrier and fish return pipeline in the Green River Canal Company Main Canal to minimize entrainment of fish. During the course of 2012 a preliminary design for an electrical fish barrier was prepared by Smith-Root and this approach has been selected as the preferred alternative of the Upper Colorado Recovery Program.

V. Study Schedule: This project has been deferred for a number of years, initially due to water right litigation between the Green River Canal Company and Thayne Hydropower which was ultimately resolved in the Utah Supreme Court. Additionally, the State of Utah and the Green River Canal Company have been evaluating the feasibility of rehabilitating the diversion dam to address needed repairs and improve operations. In FY 2012 a partnership was developed between the Green River Canal Company, State of Utah and the NRCS to design, permit and construct the diversion dam rehabilitation with a target construction initiation date of October 2013. The Upper Colorado Program is working to incorporate the installation of an electrical fish barrier in the rehabilitation project.

VI. Relationship to RIPRAP: Green River Action Plan: Mainstem II.B.2 Screen Tusher Wash diversion to prevent endangered fish entrainment.

VII. Accomplishment of FY 2012 Tasks and Deliverables, Discussion of Initial Findings and Shortcomings: Upper Colorado Recovery Program, FWS and Reclamation staff participated in the dam rehabilitation evaluation and development of a preliminary design

for an electrical fish barrier which has been adopted as the preferred alternative to minimize fish entrainment. The Green River Canal Company, State of Utah and NRCS have retained a consultant to address NEPA compliance and other permitting requirements for the project. A design firm has not yet been retained by NRCS. Construction is tentatively scheduled to be initiated at the end of the 2013 irrigation season.

- VIII. Recommendations: Continue to participate in dam rehabilitation and electrical fish barrier permitting process. Proceed with preparation of final designs for the electrical fish barrier (requires completion of designs for the dam rehabilitation project to complete); coordinate with other project participants to include construction of the fish barrier in the dam rehabilitation project; and, develop contract(s)/agreement(s) to provide the mechanism to fund construction, operation and maintenance of the electrical fish barrier with Upper Colorado Recovery Program funding.
- IX. Project Status: Given the current status of the dam rehabilitation project and contract development it is questionable if construction of the combined project can be initiated in 2013.
- X. FY 2012 Budget Status
- A. Funds Provided: \$0
 - B. Funds Expended: \$4,343.46
 - C. Difference: (\$4,343.46)
 - D. Percent of the FY 2012 work completed, and projected costs to complete: 100%
 - E. Recovery Program funds spent for publication charges: None
- XI. Status of Data Submission (Where applicable): NA
- XII. Signed: Brent R. Uilenberg November 14, 2012
Principal Investigator Date

APPENDIX: None

