

- I. Project Title:** Public Involvement Accomplishments for the Recovery Program on the Mainstem of the Colorado River
- II. Bureau of Reclamation Agreement Number(s):** NA
- III. Principal Investigator(s):** Justyn Hock
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- IV. Abstract:** The mainstem of the Colorado River from Rifle, Colorado, to Lake Powell, Utah, supports populations of Colorado pikeminnow, humpback chub, razorback sucker, and bonytail. One focal point of recovery efforts of these endangered fish is the 15-Mile Reach of the Colorado River immediately upstream of the confluence with the Gunnison River, near Grand Junction, Colorado. Capital Improvement projects concerning this 15-Mile Reach include:
- A. Grand Valley Water Management:** Development of a water supply alternative for the 15-Mile Reach of the Colorado River. Included in this project are efficiency improvements to the Government Highline Canal, part of Reclamation's Grand Valley Project, and delivering surplus water from Green Mountain Reservoir to the Grand Valley Power Plant near Palisade, Colorado. These improvements are expected to conserve a significant amount of project water to benefit the habitat of the four endangered fish species in the 15-Mile Reach.
- B. Orchard Mesa Canal Automation System:** Hosting public meetings and working on an environmental assessment for Orchard Mesa Irrigation District System Improvements. System improvements include: construction of a 15 acre regulating reservoir, upgraded check structures in canals, installation of remote monitoring systems, construction of a recirculation pump system and Duck Pond Park, and improved operational procedures.
- V. Study Schedule:** Ongoing public involvement support for capital improvement projects.
- VI. Relationship to RIPRAP:** General Recovery Program Support Action Plan

VII. Accomplishment of FY 2012 Tasks and Deliverables, Discussion of Initial Findings and Shortcomings:

A. Tasks:

1. Develop public awareness and support and/or informed consent for Recovery Program activities/projects.
2. Provide support for the Information and Education Coordinator

B. Strategies:

1. Media:

- a. Produced and distributed new releases regarding construction of fish recovery structures. (Ongoing)
- b. News articles appeared in local newspapers about the Recovery Program projects/proposals. (Ongoing)

2. Meetings:

- a. Coordinated news releases with water users. (Ongoing)
- b. Arranged meetings with local congressional staff to keep them up-to-date and aware of Recovery Program activities that Reclamation is involved with in the area.
- c. Participate in Information and Education Committee meetings. (Ongoing)

3. Tours:

- a. Arrange tours of the Grand Valley Recovery Program's completed facilities and proposed fish passages, grow-out ponds, fish screens, and habitat restoration areas (as needed).

4. Other:

- a. Assist the Information and Education Coordinator with various Recovery Program activities as needed.

VIII. Recommendations: None

IX. Project Status: On track and ongoing

X. FY 2012 Budget Status:

- A. Funds Provided: \$0
- B. Funds Expended: Expenditures included in Capital Projects Annual Report
- C. Difference: \$0
- D. Percent of the FY 2012 work completed, and projected costs to complete: 100 percent, additional expenditures will occur on an as needed basis to support

