

COLORADO RIVER RECOVERY PROGRAM
FY 2014 ANNUAL PROJECT REPORT

RECOVERY PROGRAM
PROJECT NUMBER: 1

I. Project Title: Utah Program Management

II. Bureau of Reclamation Agreement Number(s): R09AP40846

Project/Grant Period: Start date (Mo/Day/Yr): 10/01/2009
End date: (Mo/Day/Yr): 04/30/2015
Reporting period end date: 09/30/14
Is this the final report? Yes _____ No X

III. Principal Investigator(s): Krissy Wilson
Utah Division of Wildlife Resources
1594 West North Temple, Suite 2110
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-6301
Phone: (801) 538-4756
Fax: (801) 538-4745
Email: krissywilson@utah.gov

Matt Breen
Utah Division of Wildlife Resources
152 East 100 North
Vernal, UT 84078
435-789-3103; fax: 435-789-8343
Email: mattbreen@utah.gov

Katherine Creighton
Moab Field Station
1165 S. Highway 191 - Suite 4
Moab, UT 84532
435-259-3780; fax: 435-259-3785
katherinecreighton@utah.gov

IV. Abstract: The Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program supports multiple projects undertaken by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (Division). The work is conducted within three Division Regions in Utah (Northeast, Southeast, Southern) as well as by the Native Aquatic Species Coordinator and staff in Salt Lake City. Additionally, the Division cooperates and coordinates with other agencies and researchers across state boundaries within the Colorado River Basin. Efficient coordination of field activities, reporting of research and monitoring results in a timely manner, and effective program administration, and budgeting requirements requires statewide participation and oversight. Program Management funds allow Utah Division of Wildlife Resources to develop, prioritize, direct, coordinate, monitor and annually evaluate Colorado River fishes work program activities, contracts, and budgets.

- V. Study Schedule: FY1986 - ongoing
- VI. Relationship to RIPRAP: General Recovery Program Support Action Plan
Provide Program Planning and Support.
- VII. Accomplishment of FY 2014 Tasks and Deliverables, Discussion of Initial Findings and Shortcomings:

Tasks:

Attend Biology Committee (BC) meetings: The Native Aquatic Program Coordinator was able to attend or participate via conference call at all BC meetings in 2014.

Prepare Federal Aid requests and Recovery Program proposals.

- Salt Lake office staff and regional biologists prepared Recovery Program proposals and Federal Aid requests as applicable in 2014.

Review Recovery Program technical proposals.

- Native Aquatic coordinator and Division Staff reviewed and commented on all reports and technical proposals submitted to the Biology Committee for review during 2014.

Develop Recovery Program scopes for approved work.

- Coordinator and staff assisted with and coordinated submission of all scopes of work developed by regional personnel for FY 2014.

Administer and oversee approved projects and contracts.

- The Salt Lake office staff directed funding, tracked progress, and created contracts for all project work conducted by the Division.
- Salt Lake office staff tracked budgets and monitored expenses for each of these projects and their associated budgets.

Prepare annual reports for Recovery Program and Federal Aid.

- Salt Lake office staff provided guidance, reviewed, edited where necessary, and submitted annual reports for FY 2014 projects.

Attend Colorado River researchers meeting.

- Utah Division Wildlife Resources Salt Lake office and regional personnel attended and presented research results at the researchers meeting in January.

Complete other Biology Committee assignments.

- Coordinator and regional biologists assembled and presented materials at Biology Committee meetings and completed assignments as requested.
- Division biologists prepared and presented at the annual Nonnative Workshop held in December 2013.

- The coordinator served on the Colorado Pikeminnow Recovery plan team. The plan was updated and reviewed in the fall of 2014 and is awaiting review and approval from the USFWS.
- The coordinator assisted in the review, revision and completion of the Integrated Stocking Plan, which is in final review by the PDO office.
- The Coordinator assisted in drafting the Upper Colorado River Basin Nonnative and Invasive Aquatic Species Prevention and Control Strategy. The Strategy was approved by the Fisheries Chiefs of Utah, Colorado, and Wyoming and subsequently by the Biology and Management Committees (Management Committee approval February 11, 2014).
- The coordinator and Salt Lake office staff drafted a plan to prevent escapement of walleye and smallmouth bass from Starvation Reservoir. A temporary net was installed below the spillway in spring 2014 to capture fish escaping over the spillway during spring spilling. Rotenone treatment of the stilling basin was conducted after reservoir spilling ended to remove nonnative fish.
- The coordinator and Vernal office folks began initial approval process with the Service to experimentally introduce Colorado pikeminnow into a reservoir as a sportfish.
- Salt Lake office staff assisted regional offices with fieldwork, as needed and when available.

Coordinate program activities within the Section, Division, and among other agencies.

- Coordinator met with regional offices several times to track budgets and progress for program activities. Coordinator and staff assisted with preparation of scopes of work and organized budgets and scheduling for regions. Coordinator maintained contact with PDO and other BC representatives when necessary to keep on task and keep projects running smoothly.

Review and comment on Recovery Program and agency reports as requested.

- Coordinator reviewed and commented on reports submitted to the Biology Committee for review during 2014 as requested.

DELIVERABLES:

Program annual reports: 14 November 2014

Program statements of work and budgets: 15 December 2014

Completion of other tasks as assigned

VIII. Recommendations: Recommend continued support of Program Management.

IX. Project Status: On track and ongoing.

X. FY 2014 Budget Status

A. Funds Provided: \$149,125 (funds from ESMF, additional funding from BOR was

