

- I. Project Title: Orchard Mesa Canal Automation Project
- II. Bureau of Reclamation Agreement Number(s): NA
- III. Principal Investigator(s): Brent R. Uilenberg  
Bureau of Reclamation  
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- IV. Abstract: The project consists of constructing a canal automation system composed of 33 canal check structures, 87 acre-foot regulating reservoir, pumping plant(s), upper/lower canal interconnect pipeline, replacement of open channel laterals with pressurized pipelines and integrated SCADA system. The objective of the canal automation system is to reduce the volume of water diverted from the Colorado River for irrigation use by the Orchard Mesa Irrigation District and to redirect this water to generate more hydroelectric energy thereby indirectly improving flows in the Colorado River. Very conservative estimates indicate that ~17,000 acre-feet of water can be redirected to improve instream flows in the 15-Mile Reach of the Colorado River. This water will more than offset the volume of storage water (10,825 acre-feet) that will no longer be available for instream flow enhancement from Ruedi Reservoir after 2011.
- V. Study Schedule: Preliminary project planning was initiated in the early 1990's using Reclamation's General Investigation Program. Project planning, permitting, O&M contract execution and NEPA compliance was completed in FY 2013. Project construction was initiated in FY 2013. Construction of all 33 canal check structures was completed during the winter of 2013-2014. These facilities were operated throughout the 2014, 2015 and 2016 irrigation season. A construction contract for the 87 acre-foot regulating reservoir was awarded in FY 2016, with a projected completion date of July 2017. Construction completion of the entire canal automation project is currently scheduled for FY 2019 depending upon Federal appropriations; however, the majority of projects benefits will be realized when the regulating reservoir is place in service.
- VI. Relationship to RIPRAP: Colorado River Action Plan: Mainstem I.A.5.m.(1) Orchard Mesa Irrigation District (OMID) Canal Automation
- VII. Accomplishment of FY 2016 Tasks and Deliverables, Discussion of Initial Findings and Shortcomings: A construction contract for the 87 acre-foot regulating reservoir was awarded in FY 2016, with a projected completion date of July 2017. Planning and design work for remaining Project facilities was also performed.
- VIII. Additional noteworthy observations: Based on expenditures and obligations through FY

2016 there is approximately \$1.1 million remaining within the approved \$16.5 million project budget.

IX. Recommendations: Continue to adjust Project scope to optimize benefits within available approved budget.

X. Project Status: The Project is approximately 2 years behind the initial schedule.

XI. FY 2016 Budget Status

A. Funds Provided: \$10,494,395

B. Funds Expended: \$10,494,395

C. Difference: \$0

D. Percent of the FY 2016 work completed, and projected costs to complete: NA

E. Recovery Program funds spent for publication charges: \$0

XII. Status of Data Submission (Where applicable): *Indicate what data have been submitted to the database manager and when they were submitted.*

XIII. Signed: Brent R. Uilenberg December 15, 2016

Principal Investigator                      Date

*(Just put name and date here, since you will be submitting the report electronically)*

APPENDIX: NA