

COLORADO RIVER RECOVERY PROGRAM  
FY 2016 ANNUAL PROJECT REPORT

RECOVERY PROGRAM  
PROJECT NUMBER: C-21

- I. Project Title: Capital Projects Coordination
- II. Bureau of Reclamation Agreement Number(s): NA
- III. Principal Investigator(s): Brent R. Uilenberg  
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- IV. Abstract: Manage and implement capital projects associated with the Upper Colorado River Recovery Program. Work includes preparation of preliminary cost estimates; developing and revising schedules and budgets; developing budget requests for appropriated funds; responding to agency, departmental, OMB and Congressional requests for supporting budget information; allocating costs between appropriated, power revenue and state funds; coordinating with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation in the collection and expenditure of state funds; developing and managing contracts and agreements; trouble shooting operational problems and implementing corrective actions on completed capital projects; and, resolving issues/disputes associated with implementation of capital projects.
- V. Study Schedule: Ongoing throughout authorized period of performance for capital projects. Authorization for Capital Projects now extends through 2023 as a result of P.L. 111-11 amendments to P.L. 106-392.
- VI. Relationship to RIPRAP: General Recovery Program Support Action Plan: VII. Provide Program Planning and Support (Program Management)
- VII. Accomplishment of FY 2016 Tasks and Deliverables, Discussion of Initial Findings and Shortcomings: Major FY 2016 accomplishments included: 1) CRWCD completed installation of spillway net to minimize escapement of problematic nonnative fish from Elkhead Reservoir, UCRIP cost share reimbursement will occur in FY 2017; 2) Continued efforts to install spillway net to minimize escapement of problematic nonnative fish from Ridgway Reservoir. Obtained Safety of Dams (SOD) approval for spillway net installation based on appraisal concept review. Net installation and O&M contracting options are being explored. Tri-County Water Conservancy District continues to operate the reservoir in a manner to avoid spills with operational support from Reclamation; 3) Prepared FY 2019 budget request and responses to FY 2017 and FY 2018 departmental, OMB and Congressional budget inquiries; 4) A construction contract for the OMID regulating reservoir was awarded in FY 2016 and a July 2017 completion date is currently projected. The Orchard Mesa Irrigation District continued to line select canal reaches to eliminate system seepage losses. Planning and permitting activities for the final phases of the project are proceeding; 5) Work is progressing on installation of

fish escapement facilities at Starvation Reservoir; 6) The Tusher Wash Diversion Dam rehabilitation was completed by the by the Green River Canal Company, State of Utah and NRCS. The project concept for minimizing entrainment at this facility has evolved into a fish barrier weir and potentially other system improvements depending upon ongoing negotiations with the Green River Canal Company and Thayne Hydropower. FY 2018 construction contract award now anticipated based on status of the negotiations; 7) Provided miscellaneous technical assistance associated with the Grand Valley Project Fish Passage and Screen, Grand Valley Irrigation Company Fish Passage and Screen, Redlands Water and Power Company Fish Passage and Screen and Grand Valley Water Management facilities. Operational performance of these facilities continues to improve as irrigation entities develop more experience; 8) Continued participation in the Green Mountain Reservoir Historic User Pool weekly meetings and Coordinated Reservoir Operation process to manage Colorado River flow regimes to benefit fish habitat; 9) Participated in discussions/resolution of Gunnison basin selenium issues and implementation of the Gunnison Basin PBO. A selenium remediation plan was developed in FY 2011 and plan implementation is proceeding. Reclamation provided \$500,000 of FY 2016 funding for this effort in addition to Salinity Control Program funds secured by irrigation water providers; 10) Obtained UCRIP approval to provide financial assistance to the Grand Valley Water User Association and Orchard Mesa Irrigation District to rehabilitate Grand Valley project Power Plant. Rehabilitation of this facility will help to ensure continued water supply benefits to 15 Mile Reach; 11) Public involvement activities were provided in support of capital projects and Reclamation participation in I&E Committee activities was continued.

VIII. Additional noteworthy observations: Based on FY 2011 indexing, remaining unallocated Capital Project funds under current legislative authorization at the end of FY 2016 is approximately \$7.6 million.

IX. Recommendations: Need to index remaining ceiling authorization to FY 2016 level. Current indexing will become more critical as we approach full allocation of authorized Capital Project ceiling.

X. Project Status: Ongoing

XI. FY 2016 Budget Status

- A. Funds Provided: \$100,000
- B. Funds Expended: \$171,227
- C. Difference: \$71,227
- 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): NA

XIII. Signed: Brent R. Uilenberg December 15, 2016  
Principal Investigator Date