I. Title of Proposal:

Tusher Wash Fish Screen Facility

II. Relationship to RIPRAP:

Green River Action Plan: Mainstem II.B.5 Screen Tusher Wash diversion to prevent fish entrainment

III. Study Background/Rationale and Hypotheses:

The Tusher Wash Diversion Dam is owned and operated by the Green River Canal Company. The dam is located on the Green River, near Green River, Utah. The dam diverts water from the Green River for irrigation and hydroelectric power generation. The dam is not an impediment to upstream movement of fish at most flow rates but entrainment of native fish has been documented. In response to this problem, the Upper Colorado River Recovery Implementation Program (Program) has identified screening the Tusher Wash Diversion Dam canal system as an important component of recovery efforts for Colorado pikeminnow and razorback sucker.

The Program has adopted 3/32" wedge wire screening material as a standard as it prevents entrainment of a wide range of fish life stages, minimizes operation and maintenance problems and represents proven state-of-the-art technology. All screening and passage alternatives will emphasize minimization of fish mortality and operational...
impacts to the canal system.

IV. Study Goals, Objectives, End Product:

Goal: Screen Tusher Wash Diversion Dam canal system.

Objectives:

1. Conduct preconstruction planning and environmental compliance activities leading to selection of a preferred alternative.

2. Prepare designs, specifications, O&M contract and cost estimates leading to construction contract award.

3. Provide construction management services resulting in construction of the fish screen facility.

V. Study area: The dam is located on the Green River, near Green River, Utah.

VI. Study Methods/Approach

At the present time hydroelectric power production at the Tusher Wash Diversion Dam has been discontinued due to a legal dispute between the Green River Canal Company and Thayn Hydropower which owns and operates a hydroelectric plant which obtains its water supply from the Green River Canal. Once this dispute if resolved and a design flow rate is determined for the fish screen, a public scoping process will be conducted to identify issues and concerns regarding the proposal to screen the Tusher Wash Diversion Dam canal system. A range of alternatives will be formulated to provide screening facilities and address issues and concerns. The alternatives will be presented and analyzed in a Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA). The Program Director’s staff and Biology and Water Acquisition Committees will be consulted to provide technical input in the process leading to selection of a preferred alternative. Following completion of the planning and permitting phase, final designs, specifications and cost estimates will be prepared and a contract awarded to construct the preferred alternative.

VII. Task Description and Schedule (Schedule dependent on resolution of ongoing legal dispute)

1. Conduct geotechnical investigations

2. Formulate range of alternatives

3. Conduct public scoping process

4. Prepare DEA
5. Assuming Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) prepare Final Environmental Assessment (FEA).

6. If significant impacts, associated with the preferred alternative, are identified prepare Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

7. Prepare final designs, specifications, O&M contract, cost estimates and award construction contract

8. Construct fish screen

9. Operate and evaluate fish screen and modify if required

10. Long term operation and maintenance of fish screen

VIII. FY-2002 Work

Task 2.a. Participate in resolution of legal issues preventing construction of fish screen facilities

- Deliverables/Due Dates - Agreement on design capacity of the fish screen facilities (ongoing)

- Budget
  - Labor - 1 work week $2,000
  - Travel $1,000
  - Equipment $0
  - Other $0
  - Total $3,000

FY - 2003 Work - Dependent on resolution of legal dispute

Out Year Funding Needs - Current out year capital funding allocation associated with fish screening facilities at Tusher Wash Diversion Dam is $1,880,000. Actual capital and annual O&M costs are dependent on numerous variables including alternative selected, rate of inflation and economic condition of the construction industry.

IX. Budget Summary - See current Capital Project Discussion Work Plan

X. Reviewers

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XI. References