



Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program

Dated: February 10, 2015

February 3, 2015, Final Management Committee Webinar Summary

Participants: See Attachment 1

CONVENE: 9:00 a.m.

Introductions, review/modify agenda and time allocations, and appoint a timekeeper.

1. Approve October 21, 2014, revised draft webinar summary – Comments on agenda item #10 in the summary were received from Melissa Trammel and a revised summary was provided to the Committee with this agenda. The Committee made minor edits, which >Angela Kantola will incorporate and then post the final to the listserver (*done*).
2. Nonnative fish screening update – Tom Chart noted they sent out a summary of the screening conference call. The Program Director's office next will outline screening in context of the Basinwide Strategy and compile list of tentative projects going forward (by late February). Harry Crockett said CPW is hosting a public meeting in Craig this Thursday evening to inform the public of the plan to put net on Elkhead Reservoir. Efforts will have to be made to achieve significant reductions of smallmouth bass and northern pike in reservoir in five years as we don't plan to replace the net. CPW will cover routine maintenance like they do at Highline (divers cleaning, minor repairs, etc.) and hopes Park personnel will monitor the net and try to keep large debris like trees from drifting into it. We haven't yet developed firm plan as to what would happen if net sustained major accidental-type damage. Brent said his concept is that we would not be committing to replacing the net (since the intent is to manage the fishery to the point where a net [a temporary "Band-Aid solution"] is no longer needed); but that we would repair the net if it was damaged. Hopefully the fishery will have reached the necessary point by the time the net wears out in 5-7 years. Brent said Reclamation has an O&M contract with the River District associated with the reservoir. The fish screen is integral to operating the reservoir, so that can be used to transfer funds (and do something like a letter agreement with Colorado, for example). This would be the most expedient and streamlined approach. Dave Speas asked if there will be a design/conceptual design to review; Brent said Ray Tenney is eager to begin conversation with the net manufacturer and will be working on developing specifications. >The Program Director's office will share the design with the Biology and Management committees and ask anyone with concerns to respond within a week of that e-mail. Harry thought Ray Tenney likely will work with the company that made the Highline net. Melissa noted Paul Badame had contacted a number of net companies, and suggested touching base with him about that. Dave asked if they've considered a net that would be needed only during a spill (to conserve wear and tear); Brent said that was considered, but "laying the net down" may cause more wear and fish could be released when the net is taken down. With regard to removal, Henry asked if CPW has considered trying to disrupt male smallmouth bass on the nests; Harry said he doesn't know, but CPW is open to consider all ideas. It will be a big challenge to effectively reduce smallmouth bass and northern pike within ~5 years. Tom Pitts asked if anyone on the Committee objects to proceeding with net; Henry and Melissa said they'd prefer rotenone, but they and everyone agreed to this net-first approach. >Brent will start working on the letter agreement among Reclamation, River District (Ray), and State of Colorado (Michelle and Harry). Henry Maddux expressed the Committee's appreciation to CPW and others for their work on Elkhead.

3. Washington D.C. briefing trip – The Committee discussed plans for the briefing trip scheduled for the week of April 13. Non-Federal Program participants met via conference call last Monday and Henry and Tom Pitts are working on a draft itinerary of meetings. Some time slots may be double-booked to reduce the number of people in each meeting. Henry said they're also trying to consolidate appointments by meeting location. Have identified some alternate slots to help folks as they try to set up briefings. Henry will send the draft itinerary to the group shortly, after Tom Pitts reviews. Hotel reservations have been complicated. The Holiday Inn Capitol is most convenient, but won't provide a room block at the government rate this year due to few rooms and high prices due to the cherry blossom festival. Not everyone was able to get the \$229 government rate. Tom Pitts said it seems to be helpful to check every day. Leslie will let folks know if they can get in on a Washington Court hotel block rate, but acknowledged that rates are quite high. Leslie asked if the group plans to meet with the new Interior Subcommittee of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee. Leslie James said the subcommittee is just being organized and Bill McGrath is the staff director (in the new O'Neill Building, which requires an escort to enter, like at OMB). Leslie doesn't know how they'll interface with other committees yet. >Leslie will work with Henry to get a meeting scheduled with the new subcommittee. Leslie said Senator Inhofe has said he will make ESA a priority on the Senate side and Leslie thinks the House will, also, so the group can expect questions about the ESA and how this Program relates. Tom Pitts and Henry echoed this and Henry said the group will work hard to help folks see the Recovery Program in a positive light. Michelle said Colorado hasn't yet heard if can send a representative. >Tom Pitts and UDNR will contact James Eklund and Mike King to endorse Ted Kowalski's participation. Tom Chart said the briefing book is in progress.

4. Program review of draft Colorado pikeminnow recovery plan – Tom Czapla and Seth Willey said the draft plan was sent out December 4 with a request for comments from other FWS Regions and the Recovery Team by the end of January (comments were received from five people). The draft recovery plan was sent to the Upper Colorado and San Juan Programs on December 5, 2014. Tom Czapla proposed as a next step to schedule a half-day webinar with the Upper Colorado Management Committee (with an invitation to the San Juan Coordination Committee) to discuss the draft and comments received. Tom Chart said he wants to be sure that the San Juan and Upper Basin Program tracking together in this review. Henry hopes the Service will look at comments from these Programs as the implementation arm. Henry and Tom suggested that program's participant submit written comments after the webinar. The talking point on this topic during the D.C. briefing trip is that the draft recovery plan is under revision and has a ways to go. Dave Speas asked if the Biology Committee could be invited to the webinar. Tom Chart said we've received considerable input from the science-based Recovery Team; as Henry said, the focus of Program review at this point is on implementation, making the Management Committee the main point of contact. At their discretion, Management Committee members can invite Biology Committee members. Tom Chart said we'll also invite the San Juan Coordinating Committee to the webinar. Dave Speas asked that the Biology Committee be kept informed of the process. Clayton said he will ask Western's Biology Committee representative and alternate to be on the webinar with him. Patrick McCarthy said that makes sense to him. Henry said he thinks the Management and Coordination committees will want to limit discussion related to biology and focus instead on timelines, feasibility, and implementation. Tom Pitts clarified that the webinar will be a briefing on what's in the plan. Clayton clarified that subsequent to the briefing he anticipates Management Committee members can submit written comments. Henry said the Management Committee will need to decide if they will comment as a Committee or as individual members of the Committee. Henry said he thinks we'll have to send out a Doodle poll for the webinar. Clayton asked if comments will be on the current draft or a subsequent one; Henry said the current one (Service will consider comments already received with those received from the Management and Coordinating committees on timelines, feasibility, and implementation). Clayton said he's okay with that, but cautioned that if he and his technical support folks see a science issue that will affect implementation, they want to be able to comment on that. Henry agreed. Melissa suggested the Committee likely will need to comment individually (as have lower basin stakeholders); Henry agreed that's probably what will happen and he'll recommend that at the webinar, though he'd like folks to think about the best approach. Melissa asked when lower basin

stakeholders received the draft (noting she'll consult with NPS lower basin folks in light of the fact that they may not have had enough time to comment). Tom Chart said he shared the draft recovery plan with the lower basin program as a courtesy because Colorado pikeminnow recovery can occur upstream of Glen Canyon dam. He understands their general interest in the pikeminnow draft plan as they will be fully involved in revision of the humpback chub plan. Lower basin folks got the document about a week after upper basin folks. >The Program Director's office will set up a Doodle poll for half-day webinar March-April and will give priority to those MC members who don't have alternates (*Doodle poll sent 2/5/15*).

5. Update on developing White River management plan – Michelle said they will submit a draft scope of work to their contracting office by the end of this week and it will then enter an iterative review process that can take a week to 2 months. Next it will go out for bid (usually 10 days to 2 weeks), followed by interviews, and selection of a contractor. >Michelle will share the updated SOW with the Management Committee when it goes out for bid and discuss who may want to be on the review panel. A CWCB staff member working on the White River Basin implementation plan has offered to help make sure we stay in touch with basin folks and their thoughts on a future reservoir.
6. Capital projects update – Brent Uilenberg referred to the October meeting summary.
 - OMID canal automation regulating reservoir construction contract couldn't be done in 2014; bids will be re-solicited with a target award date of spring 2015. Revised design and specifications package for SLC review next week. Anticipate completion in FY16.
 - The Tusher Wash fish barrier design was on hold until Reclamation could investigate the effectiveness of the weir wall at Hogback Diversion on the San Juan. An entrainment test was conducted in November and Mark McKinstry presented the results to the Biology Committee in January. Initial results indicated the weir reduced adult/juvenile entrainment by 89%. This compares very favorably to the amount of time we operate our traditional fix-plate screens in the Grand Valley. Brent said the Biology Committee approved moving forward with a design for Tusher that is based on the Hogback weir concept (recognizing that monitoring will continue at Hogback throughout the irrigation season and that those results could impact the Tusher Wash design). Brent asked if the Management Committee is okay with Reclamation (to the extent they have available engineering capability) starting to develop a weir wall design for Tusher Wash. The worst case is that we would spend \$100-\$200K of staff time on a design that would not be used if further Hogback monitoring proved this technology a failure. Kevin McAbee added that the reward of beginning the design process will be getting the barrier in place at least a year earlier if Hogback proves out – which is great in light of the documented level of entrainment we have at Tusher. The Committee approved Reclamation moving forward.
 - Replacement of the Stewart Lake gate is proceeding according to schedule and it should be operational by spring runoff.
 - Lori Martin and Brent met with the attorney for the City of Rifle to discuss sealing the breach in the restored LaFarge gravel pit pond (the pond is across from Rifle's municipal water intake). The attorney seemed supportive and will review the proposal with City Council. Coordination to address this and other ponds won't be completed in time to seal breaches before 2015 runoff.
 - Brent hasn't heard anything further since Reclamation met with a staffer from Congressman Tipton's office regarding a renewed Vermillion Ranch landowner complaint about erosion and spring flows released from Flaming Gorge. Tom Chart hadn't heard anything further, either. Beverly Heffernan described the landowner's position related to reconfigured peak flows and said he complains when Flaming Gorge releases exceed inflow.
 - Improving GVIC fish screen effectiveness would cost ~\$300-\$500K (rough estimate), but this is not our highest priority right now.
 - Brent received new indexing data for the capital projects ceiling and >will share an updated capital projects budget table with the Committee.

- Brent discussed Aspinall selenium management (which is off-Program budget with Reclamation putting in ~\$500K/year). The River District applied for a USDA grant and received \$8M to accelerate activities to reduce Gunn River selenium loading. The Committee was very happy to hear this. Patrick McCarthy mentioned that TNC is a partner in this effort, also, and Michelle said Colorado also has provided some Species Conservation Trust funding. Tom Pitts praised this exemplary project for involving local folks and getting selenium remediation implemented. Tom Chart asked about analysis of fish tissue samples collected by the Recovery Program and Brent said the Science Subcommittee is including the analysis of those data in their reports.
7. Repairs to dike protecting Wahweap ponds – The rock wall built by NRCS was damaged in monsoon flooding in 2014 (photos). Henry Maddux said the wall had a 12-15’ toe which was washed away. This is the second big flood in the past 7 years or so. The dike was compromised in some spots. Krissy said the water went over the top of the rock wall. Tom Czapla said Wahweap currently produces 10,000 250mm bonytail and some excess fish for the Program and also holds a reserve razorback broodstock from the upper Colorado River. The rough cost estimate for repair is \$380-500+K. Fortunately, \$314K remains from the previous NRCS project. Utah will consider design improvements at weak spots. Henry said he just wanted to give the Committee a heads up about this now, but Utah could be requesting funding for costs exceeding the NRCS leftover from UDWR (sportfish), the Recovery Program, and the Virgin River Recovery Program (all have ponds at Wahweap; and the Recovery Program has 23 of the 35 total ponds there). Henry noted that the Recovery Program reduced O&M funds for Wahweap in 2010 by \$37K because of apparent needs had been over-estimated, but this means not much funding is available when these kinds of repairs are necessary. Krissy said she can probably put ~\$40-\$50K of Wahweap’s 2015 budget toward the repair. Utah hopes to make the repairs as soon as possible – hopefully by early to mid-July before next monsoon season. NRCS has said they are running low on Emergency Watershed Protection Funds, and so can’t help with additional costs on the Wahweap repair because no human population is threatened. Brent appreciated Utah working to find as much non-Program funding for this as possible. If any Program funds are needed, Brent asked if we have a mechanism to transfer them. Dave Speas said O&M is mentioned in the agreement; >Dave will determine if additional needed funds could be transferred under that agreement. Krissy asked if someone in Reclamation could review existing wall plans and assist with recommendations for repairs and Brent said perhaps Mark Wernke or someone from the Provo Reclamation office could assist. >Krissy will let Brent and others know about a potential site visit.
 8. Update on peak flow study – Jana Mohrman described comments received. Tom Pitts recommended: clarifying what was completed and what needs to be ongoing/future; clarifying recommendation versus listing of methods; clarifying priorities; identifying costs by basin in a table; and identifying timing (e.g., some actions are post-recovery). Jack Schmidt recommended defining the role of peak flow, floodplain, incise channels, etc. and identifying which flows move gravel and which move smaller sediments/maintain channel equilibrium. Melissa Trammell asked how, in light of the original intent to resolve discrepancies between Cory Williams’ and John Pitlick’s work, we arrived at this larger technical supplement effort. Melissa also recommended focusing on which new studies need to be done. Tom Chart said they appreciate the comments received and will be working with Kirk LaGory and address these comments. Melissa added that it would be helpful to include justification for which of the possible methods is recommended for resolving the discrepancies.
 9. Update on next steps to improve coordination to minimize impacts of energy development in and near endangered fish habitat (determine agency coverage, provide GIS shapefiles, meet with BLM, outreach, SJ coordination) – Jana Mohrman said we’re working to update spawning sites, etc. to add to GIS (Program PIs have been helping with this). Tom Chart said we’re evaluating where we focus our outreach efforts, noting we’ve historically focused heavily on water users and we may need to also focus on sportfishing groups and the oil and gas industry

10. Review of sufficient progress action items –See Attachment 2.
11. PDO personnel update – Angela Kantola said that the I&E Coordinator position is working its way through the Service’s Human Resources department and she’s hopeful the position will be advertised within the next month or two. Tom Chart said the Management and Implementation committees gave tacit approval for a future database manager position, but we haven’t moved on that position yet.
12. Review previous meeting assignments – See Attachment 1.
13. Schedule next meeting, webinar, or conference call – The next meeting is scheduled for March 24, 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. at Utah Department of Natural Resources in Salt Lake City. (Leslie will need to leave the meeting no later than 4 p.m.). Meeting agenda items will include review of RIPRAP revisions and assessment and draft FY16-17 Program guidance.
 - The Committee will have a working lunch. Utah will provide box lunches from Jason’s Deli. >**If you will be attending the meeting and would like a box lunch, please let Angela Kantola know by March 10** so that she can add you to the e-mail list that Jason’s Deli will use to take your lunch order in advance of the meeting.
 - Those flying to Salt Lake can board the UTA Trax Green Line train from Airport Station towards West Valley Central (a train leaves every 15 min) and get off at Power Station (8 minutes, 2 stop after airport), then walk about 2 minutes to the airport.
 - If anyone needs to fly in the night before, the recommended hotel is Hyatt House SLC Downtown, 140 south 300 West, 801-359-4020. This hotel is a short walk from the 300 West south Temple stop on the green line which originates at the airport (hotel is just over a block south of the light rail stop). Travel to the meeting the next day on the green line back to Power Station or let Henry Maddux know in advance and he can send a vehicle to pick folks up and bring them to the office.

ADJOURN: 11:53 a.m.

Attachment 1: Participants

Colorado River Management Committee Webinar, February 3, 2015

Management Committee Voting Members:

Brent Uilenberg	Bureau of Reclamation
Michelle Garrison	State of Colorado
Tom Pitts	Upper Basin Water Users
Steve Wolff	State of Wyoming
Seth Willey for Bridget Fahey	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Melissa Trammell	National Park Service
Patrick McCarthy	The Nature Conservancy
Clayton Palmer	Western Area Power Administration
Leslie James	Colorado River Energy Distributors Association
Henry Maddux	State of Utah

Nonvoting Member:

Tom Chart	Recovery Program Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
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Recovery Program Staff:

Kevin McAbee	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Tom Czapl	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Angela Kantola	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Others

Jerry Wilhite	Western Area Power Administration
Rich Valdez	SWCA
Harry Crockett	Colorado Parks and Wildlife
Beverly Heffernan	Bureau of Reclamation
Dave Speas	Bureau of Reclamation
Jana Mohrman	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Krissy Wilson	Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, Biology Committee Chair
Dave Campbell	San Juan Program Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Sarah Rinkevich	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Pete Cavalli	Wyoming Game and Fish

Attachment 2 Meeting Assignments

1. **Tom Pitts** will work with **Clayton Palmer and Brent Uilenberg** and provide a list of additional Program contributions to be added to the Program's budget pie chart that appears in each year's briefing book. *In process.* For the 2012 & 2013 *Program Highlights*, we used the \$37.4M annualized estimate. **Western** contracted with Argonne to model and report actual Flaming Gorge power replacement costs going back to 2001. Subsequently, **Western** will provide annual power replacement cost for the previous year each January for inclusion in the *Program Highlights* pie charts. Those pie charts will include a footnote explaining the calculation and assumptions. **Program participants** will identify other significant costs that have not previously reported (e.g., the Granby component of 10,825 which is estimated at \$16M, \$1.25M contributed by Colorado for GVWM and \$1.5M for OMID, CRWCD contributed property for OMID, etc.) (*Done*). **Tom Chart** will ask **Dave Campbell** to work with the SJCC to determine their additional costs not currently reported (e.g., Southern Ute expenditures on population model). Also, **Patrick McCarthy** will provide information on TNC's capital contributions in the San Juan Program. *A Cost Subcommittee met several times via conference call to review the proposal for and results of the power replacement costs analysis. 1/29/14: Water user and Colorado additional costs added and documented in Kantola's Briefing Book Pie Chart Data spreadsheet. Power revenue replacement costs "placeholder" from previous years retained until Argonne report finalized and approved (currently in revision). 3/20: Tom Pitts said that a few adjustments on water user contributions will need to be made, but we seem to have the totals and process for updating pretty much squared away.* **Tom Pitts** will work with the water users to develop an annual report on O&M and contract costs on the 10,825 water.
2. **Angela Kantola** will send out a revised version of the annual depletion charge budget adjustment update in October when Reclamation's FY15 contribution is known. *Done, and FY16 update provided in Attachment 3(with updates to NFWF and USFWS footnotes #2 and #5).*
3. **Angela Kantola** still needs to draft a proposed annual schedule of Management and Implementation committee meetings. Angela will draft this as one face-to-face meeting of the IC and two of the MC (August and ~February, one in Denver and one in Salt Lake). *Pending.*
4. **Tom Pitts** will work with **Henry Maddux, Bridget Fahey, and Brent Uilenberg** to frame a discussion about what will recovery look like as it relates to flows, ongoing operation & maintenance, continued monitoring, and responding to nonnative fish concerns. They will then bring it back to the Management Committee at a later date. *2/3/15: Henry Maddux said this may be part of comments on the Recovery Plan and become part of the recovery plans.*
5. **Michelle Garrison** and **Jana Mohrman** will add appropriate detail to the White River Management Plan scope of work for the in early November and Colorado will issue an RFP will go out a month or two later. **Jana** and **Angela Kantola** will work with the Service's Regional Office to determine how to engage the Ute Tribe in this process early on.
6. The **Program Director's office** will share Elkhead net design documents with the Biology and Management committees and ask anyone with concerns to respond within a week of that e-mail. **Brent Uilenberg** will start working on the net O&M letter agreement among Reclamation, River District (Ray), and State of Colorado (Michelle and Harry).
7. D.C. briefing trip: **Leslie James** will work with Henry to get a meeting scheduled with the new Interior Subcommittee of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee. **Tom Pitts** and **UDNR** will contact James Eklund and Mike King to endorse Ted Kowalski's participation in the briefing trip.

8. **Michelle Garrison** will share the updated White River Management Plan SOW with the Management Committee when it goes out for bid and discuss who may want to be on the review panel.
9. **Brent Uilenberg** will share an updated capital projects budget table with the Committee.
10. **Dave Speas** will determine if additional funds that may be needed for repair of the dike at Wahweap could be transferred under Reclamation's existing agreement with UDWR. **Krissy Wilson** will let Brent and others know about a potential site visit to Wahweap.
11. **Those attending the March 24 Management Committee** meeting in Salt Lake City who would like a box lunch will let Angela Kantola know by March 10.

Attachment 2: Status of Action Items from the 2014 Sufficient Progress Letter

February 3, 2015

#	Recommended Action Items	Lead	Due Date	Status
General – Upper Basin-wide				
1	Fully implement the <i>Basinwide Nonnative Strategy</i> and continue work with the States to implement the specific, tangible actions added to the RIPRAP in 2013 (Table 2a).	States, PDO, FWS		See Table 2a for this and other nonnative fish management actions.
2	Complete revised <i>Integrated Stocking Plan</i> .	PDO	3/31/15	Revised draft sent for Biology Committee review July 31, 2014; PDO revising & will send back to States by 2/6/15.
3	Complete recommendations for and implement humpback chub broodstock development.	PDO/BC		Ad hoc group working on developing action plan; genetic analysis of upper basin chubs to be completed ~ January 2016. Conference call with hatchery managers 2/4 and subsequent meeting at Dexter to discuss backup broodstock.
4	Develop scope of work to investigate age-0 and age-1 humpback chub mortality (especially in Black Rocks/Westwater and Desolation canyons) as recommended in the Research Framework).			In FY16-17 guidance, will include work to incorporating a young of year component back into the adult sampling; won't fully address, but help track the young life stages.
5	Support research and coordinate with the San Juan Program to determine contaminant dose response information related specifically to the endangered Colorado River fish as well as necessary remediation. Service will consult with EPA on proposed revised fish tissue-based criteria for selenium with respect to impacts on the endangered fish.			San Juan River Recovery Implementation Program is conducting a population viability analysis for Colorado pikeminnow to determine how impaired reproduction, (linked to elevated levels of heavy metal s or selenium) would affect population dynamics. 1. >PDO will share San Juan's Colorado pikeminnow PVA analysis with Biology and Management committees as soon as possible (and provide timeframe if it's not available). Also selenium sampling on Gunnison. Evaluation of selenium in wild razorback sucker fish tissues from Stewart Lake.
Green River				
6	Track concerns about baseflows (e.g., in 2013, 104 days were below 1,500 cfs and 47 days were below 1,300 cfs minimum summer baseflow targets at Green River, Utah) as Green River flow recommendations evaluated.	PDO		Draft backwater synthesis report (biological portion) out for review by Biology Committee that will help us understand baseflow needs. Initiate Green River flow recommendations evaluation in spring 2015 (Kickoff meeting February 24.)
7	Complete modeling work and maintain revised schedule to implement flow Green River protection in FY 16-17.	Utah/USBR		Modeling completed and on way to State policy review (Robert King lead). GRUWAT drafting a white paper on findings from modeling.
8	Complete backwater synthesis draft final report (anticipated summer, 2014) and launch evaluation of Green River flow recommendations (scope of work for evaluating the recommendations in review; scope for conducting experiment to disadvantage smallmouth bass anticipated later in summer 2014).			Biological portion of report in peer/BC/WAC review. Physical habitat portion draft anticipated to go to PD by 1/31/15. Synthesis report to follow.

#	Recommended Action Items	Lead	Due Date	Status
9	Continue government-to-government consultation with Northern Ute Tribe and request that the Old Charlie Wash lease be renewed.	USFWS		Ouray NWR manager working to meet with Tribe (no success yet). FWS Utah's ES office also trying to work with Tribe (and new Business Committee) on this.
10	Implement entrainment solution at Tusher Wash.	USBR		The Program is planning a fish exclusion system for the canal. NRCS rebuild of diversion structure scheduled to begin in fall 2015, pending signature of a ROD by NRCS. NRCS will incorporate fish passage into this structure. USBR pursuing a fish exclusion system through a separate process, will begin design of weir wall similar to the one recently installed at Hogback Diversion on the San Juan.
Yampa River				
11	Provide: accounting of past depletions for the Yampa River (due in 2010); back-casted baseline of current depletions; and a recommendation and justification addressing projected future depletions and whether or not additional instream flow filings or other flow protections mechanisms should be considered.	CWCB		CWCB is scheduled to complete accounting of past depletions using the StateCU model (Due date from YPBO - 1 st report July 1, 2010; 2 nd report July 1, 2015). The depletion accounting report will include a discussion of the need for flow protection (which would require a peak flow recommendation). A contract for the irrigated acreage assessment was awarded in February 2013. Another contract still needs to be awarded to update the dataset. The models will be updated through 2010 or 2011. Colorado has given high priority to the Yampa and Colorado river basins portion of this work. 2/3/15: Michelle said CWCB still working on updating models and has someone contracted to update all the west slope models (will share timeline as soon as available), then next step will be depletion accounting. Don't anticipate a lot of changes in consumptive use, but corrections as to where depletions occur, etc.
White River				
12	Develop White River Management Plan	CWCB/PDO		CWCB is working on contracting and the Program Director's office will continue to track progress over the next year. Previously established due dates were: model completion fall 2014; plan completion winter 2015; and PBO summer 2015. CWCB will submit a draft scope of work to contracting by 2/6/14. After 1 week-2 month review process, will go out for bid (10 days to 2 weeks), followed by interviews, and selection of a contractor.
Colorado River				
13	Improve achievement of flow targets, especially in drought years.			The Program is working to improve the overall strategy for flow augmentation in the 15-Mile Reach to be considered each spring and adjusted as the year progresses, addressing all possible sources of water, priorities, antecedent conditions, projected flows and supplies, including OMID, Grand Valley Project, CFOPS, etc. FWS and Reclamation are exploring opportunities (and would include Colorado and the River District in these discussions) to continue delivering Ruedi water (or a portion thereof) to replace the release of 10,825 acre-feet of Ruedi Reservoir water that concluded in 2012. In addition, the OMID Canal Automation Project is expected to provide about 17,000 af of water in most years. The check structures in the OMID project are complete and will result in partial water savings beginning in the 2014 (current) irrigation season. The project will be fully implemented in 2016. 15-Mile Reach PBO requires review of progress to implement flow protection / effects on endangered fishes in 2015. PDO anticipates limited staff availability from FWS-ES-Grand Junction to help with this review. CWCB is exploring possibilities for at least short-term flow augmentation in the 15-Mile Reach.
14	Maintain ability to meet April flow targets (prevent future "April Hole")			Grand Valley Water Users cut back their irrigation diversions during the 'April Hole' by >800 cfs. CWCB has reviewed hydrology and characterizes 'April Holes' of the magnitude seen in 2013 as very rare. In the future, water users and the Service will address the potential for this situation to recur as part of the normal HUP calls regarding water management for the 15 Mile Reach and determine what measures if

#	Recommended Action Items	Lead	Due Date	Status
				any should be taken based on current conditions. This should avoid a repeat of the extreme low flows in the spring. The Service and water users will formalize specific recommendations prior to the 2015 irrigation season to deal with the situation should it recur in the future and implement those recommendations as needed to avoid or mitigate April low flows. CWCB is exploring possibilities for at least short-term flow augmentation in the 15-Mile Reach. Everyone has agreed to watch flows closely as April approaches.
15	Provide the depletion accounting report that was due July 1, 2010.			See first item under Yampa River: CWCB is scheduled to complete accounting of past depletions using the StateCU model (Due date from YPBO - 1 st report July 1, 2010; 2 nd report July 1, 2015). The depletion accounting report will include a discussion of the need for flow protection (which would require a peak flow recommendation). A contract for the irrigated acreage assessment was awarded in February 2013. Another contract still needs to be awarded to update the dataset. The models will be updated through 2010 or 2011. Colorado has given high priority to the Yampa and Colorado river basins portion of this work. Michelle said CWCB still working on updating models and has someone contracted to update all the west slope models (will share timeline as soon as available), then next step will be depletion accounting. Don't anticipate a lot of changes in consumptive use, but corrections as to where depletions occur, etc.
16	Complete CFOPs report (evaluation of options for providing and protecting additional peak flows to the 15-Mile Reach).			CFOPS Phase III (a due date of Sept 30, 2010 was identified in the 2010 RIPRAP) draft report distributed April 2. Tom Pitts proposes meeting with PDO to explore completion via contract with Section 7 funds.
17	Increase operation of fish screens.			HUP call participants will continue to discuss screen operation with the goal of more frequent operation at the GVIC canal (recognized as the oldest and most problematic design). The Program will continue to evaluate ways to improve screening operations and methods, and to fund salvage operations of fish remaining in the canals at the end of the irrigation season.

Table 2.a.

Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program
 Nonnative Fish Management Actions: an Addendum to the Recovery Action Plan
 January 2015 Update on Progress

River / Action	Responsible Entity(s)	New RIPRAP #	2013	2014	2015	Out years	PDO/MC update 2/2015
General (in addition to ongoing projects / actions)							
Finalize the UCR Basin Nonnative and Invasive Aquatic Species Prevention and Control Strategy (Basinwide Strategy).	Program Director's Office (PDO)	III.D.	X				<i>Complete; Feb, 2014.</i>
Cease translocation of all nonnative predators to any fishery within the UCR.	States / Program	III.E.		X	X	X	<i>Implemented 2014 field season.</i>
The States will commit to remove northern pike and / or replace them with a Compatible (compatible with recovery) species (as identified in the Basinwide Strategy) throughout the UCR Basin. Specific waters will be targeted based on risk of escapement, opportunity and available resources.	States / Program	III.F.	States will convey this message in their Fishing Brochure / Guidebook starting in 2014				<i>CPW treated Paonia Resv. and held must kill fishing derby at Stagecoach. CPW began removing pike from Crawford in 2014 (~74% of the adult population removed). UDWR treated</i>

River / Action	Responsible Entity(s)	New RIPRAP #	2013	2014	2015	Out years	PDO/MC update 2/2015	
							<i>Stewart prior to inundation. Yampa pike removal expanded up to Steamboat in 2014. CSU programmatic synthesis of northern pike removal efforts (January 2015) demonstrated that current removal efforts are inadequate to permanently reduce pike abundance in the Yampa River.</i>	
Implement 'must kill' regulations for northern pike throughout the UCR basin (exceptions may include waters where northern pike are being replaced by tiger muskie).	WY and UT	III.F.1.		X	X	X	<i>Done in WY (must-kill and nongame fish designation). Done in UT.</i>	
Continue discussions concerning "must kill" regulations on northern pike throughout the UCR Basin to develop a proposal supported by law enforcement for regulatory consideration.	CO	III.F.2.	X	X	X	X	<i>If Colorado is unwilling to pursue must-kill regulations throughout the UCR basin in Colorado, then State is urged to pursue a comprehensive suite of alternative actions, in concert with Program partners, to achieve the necessary biological outcome. CPW convened a group of Program stakeholders to develop new nonnative fish management actions -first meeting held 11/04/14.</i>	
Remove smallmouth bass and / or replace them with a Compatible species (as identified in the Basinwide Strategy) everywhere they occur throughout the UCRB (exceptions = McPhee Res., Lake Powell Res., and upstream of Flaming Gorge Dam; and 'containment' may prove to be a viable management option for smallmouth bass at Starvation Res.). Specific waters will be targeted based on risk of escapement, opportunity and available resources.	States / Program	III.G.	States will convey this message in their Fishing Brochure / Guidebook starting in 2014					<i>CPW treated Miramonte. Progress being made to address Elkhead; CPW recommends screening first. Program Partners are working on a response to smallmouth at Ridgway. Tri-County operating reservoir to prevent spilling, CPW considering regulations, screening, chemical reclamation, and harvest incentives.</i>
Implement 'must kill' regulations for smallmouth bass throughout the UCR basin (see exceptions above).	WY and UT	III.G.1.		X	X	X	<i>UT implemented in the Green River downstream of Flaming Gorge Dam. All WY bass populations currently above Flaming Gorge Dam; will add regulations if show up elsewhere.</i>	
Continue discussions concerning "must kill" regulations on smallmouth bass throughout the UCR Basin to develop a proposal supported by law enforcement for regulatory consideration.	CO	III.G.2.	X	X	X	X	<i>If Colorado is unwilling to pursue must-kill regulations throughout the UCR basin in Colorado, then State is urged to pursue a comprehensive suite of alternative actions, in</i>	

River / Action	Responsible Entity(s)	New RIPRAP #	2013	2014	2015	Out years	PDO/MC update 2/2015
							<i>concert with Program partners, to achieve the necessary biological outcome. CPW convened a group of Program stakeholders to develop new nonnative fish management actions -first meeting held 11/04/14.</i>
The States are dedicated to reducing burbot numbers through all means practicable (including targeted removal) throughout the UCR Basin. Current management practices (e.g., 'must kill' regulations; fishing derbies at Flaming Gorge) considered adequate.	States / USFWS	III.H.	States will convey this message in their Fishing Brochure / Guidebook starting in 2014				
Implement 'must kill' regulations for burbot throughout the UCR basin. Done in WY and UT. Wyoming and Utah implementing burbot bash; WY research projects.	WY and UT	III.H.1.	X	X	X	X	<i>Done in WY and UT. WY and UT implementing burbot bash; WY research projects.</i>
Continue discussions concerning "must kill" regulations on burbot (as a preemptive measure) throughout the UCR Basin to develop a proposal supported by law enforcement for regulatory consideration.	CO	III.H.2.	X	X	X	X	<i>If Colorado is unwilling to pursue must-kill regulations throughout the UCR basin in Colorado, then State is urged to pursue a comprehensive suite of alternative actions, in concert with Program partners, to achieve the necessary biological outcome. CPW convened a group of Program stakeholders to develop new nonnative fish management actions -first meeting held 11/04/14.</i>
Promote increased production of sterile gamefish (e.g., hybrids, triploids), as Compatible sport fish.	Service / States / Program	III.I.	X	X	X	X	<i>In discussions in WY, UT & CO.</i>
Work with State Wildlife agencies and water user groups to increase awareness amongst States' legislatures and the courts of the ecological and financial ramifications of illicit introductions.	States and PDO via the Implementation Committee	III.J.	X	X	X	X	<i>Ongoing in all states. (WY reg changes (leg)); PDO spoke to Judicial College in Reno; raised at IC meeting Sep 2013.</i>
Yampa River (in addition to ongoing projects)							
Elkhead Reservoir – establish a compatible sport fishery		III.B.1.a.(2)(a)					<i>Ongoing – justifiably delayed 1yr; Sherm Hebein working with Ray Tenney on “Elkhead Reservoir Fishery Reclamation Plan.” CPW and PDO recommend screening first; CO will cover \$500K toward screen from SCF.</i>
Coordinate / schedule drawdown with Colorado River Water Conservation District (CRWCD)	CPW / Program / CRWCD	III.B.1.a.(2)(a)(i)	X				<i>Likely to be deferred in favor of screening first.</i>
Develop / Implement Communications Plan	CPW / Program	III.B.1.a.(X				<i>Implementing. Working group met</i>

River / Action	Responsible Entity(s)	New RIPRAP #	2013	2014	2015	Out years	PDO/MC update 2/2015
		2)(a)(ii)					<i>with stakeholders in September, local government in December and will hold public meeting in February.</i>
Complete necessary environmental compliance	CPW / CRWCD	III.B.1.a.(2)(a)(iii)	X	X			
Identify and secure sources of replacement compatible sport fish.	CPW	III.B.1.a.(2)(a)(iv)	X	X			<i>Likely to be deferred in favor of screening first.</i>
Treat reservoir and necessary habitats in the upper Elkhead Creek drainage.	CPW / Program / CRWCD	III.B.1.a.(2)(a)(v)		X			<i>Likely to be deferred in favor of screening first.</i>
Stock compatible sport fish	CPW	III.B.1.a.(2)(a)(vi)			X		<i>Likely to be deferred in favor of screening first.</i>
Evaluate / retreat if necessary	CPW / Program / CRWCD	III.B.1.a.(2)(a)(vii)				X	<i>Likely to be deferred in favor of screening first.</i>
Walton Creek confluence area							
Evaluate feasibility of habitat modification to eliminate / reduce northern pike spawning habitat.	CPW / Program / BOR	III.B.1.d.(1)(b)(i)	X	X			<i>\$500K secured for modification from SCF; but will go to Elkhead screen and replacement funds sought from SCF for Walton rehab. Funds being requested again in 2015. Program contributed \$30K Section 7 funds to feasibility / design.</i>
Modify habitat as indicated through feasibility investigations.	CPW / Program / BOR	III.B.1.d.(1)(b)(ii)		X	X	?	<i>Very encouraging – TNC may have been a major player in making this happen.</i>
Upper River (upstream of Hayden, CO)							
Increase mechanical removal of northern pike in main channel and floodplain habitats as directed by Colorado Parks and Wildlife.	CPW / Program	III.B.2.d.(1)		X	X	X	<i>CPW and CSU reinitiated removal in this reach in 2014. Flows made work difficult to complete. Scheduled for 2015.</i>
Stagecoach Reservoir.							
Convert and extend the ongoing northern pike escapement study to a removal effort (will require an addendum to existing FERC Biological Opinion).	CPW / potentially Program in outyears	III.B.1.f.		X	X	X	<i>Stakeholders agreed to modify tagging study to removal effort. FWS writing FERC to communicate this change, which is acceptable under the existing BO. CPW likely open to removal, but doesn't have resources to implement (removal from Catamount being the higher priority).</i> <i>CPW continues to remove pike from Catamount and also has plans to</i>

River / Action	Responsible Entity(s)	New RIPRAP #	2013	2014	2015	Out years	PDO/MC update 2/2015
							<i>eradicate the illegally established population of northern pike in Chapman Res.</i>
White River							
Determine and implement an adequate level of mechanical removal to reduce smallmouth bass.	CPW / Program	III.B.2.a.	X	X	X	X	<i>Program implementing as much mechanical removal as possible below Kenney; new techniques in discussion. Recovery Program continues to support and encourage a multi-agency effort to designate White River as a native fish conservation area. Utah continues to discuss.</i>
Develop a measure of successful suppression of SMB	Program	General: III.B.2.a. (1)		X			<i>Pending. Sampling crews continue to remove as many fish as possible.</i>
Green River (in addition to ongoing projects)							
Direct new (or shift existing) nonnative fish removal efforts to address increasing numbers of walleye.	Program	III.A.4.d.	X	X	X	X	<i>Walleye captures have increased in upper and lower Green River; gizzard shad have been found in lower GR backwaters since 2007 and increased markedly over the past few years in lower Colo. River backwaters. Gizzard shad could significantly affect food web ecology in backwaters and mainstem. Illegal population of walleye in Red Fleet Reservoir is problematic source. UDWR is convening a Red Fleet user group and developing a Mgmt. Plan in order for reclamation to occur (rotenone). UDWR plans to rotenone in October 2015 and then develop a compatible sportfishery and install a screen. <i>UDWR adjusted work to add spring and fall passes for walleye and gizzard shad removal in lower Green River in years when pikeminnow population estimates not conducted. 4 sampling trips in lower Green</i></i>

River / Action	Responsible Entity(s)	New RIPRAP #	2013	2014	2015	Out years	PDO/MC update 2/2015
							during Spring 2014 yielded 149 walleye. UDWR added one spring pass for walleye in the middle Green as well. Work planned to continue in 2015 (deferring humpback chub population estimates by one year to better time those estimates in the future and also provide additional capacity to focus on walleye in 2015).
Develop a management strategy to address escapement of walleye (and smallmouth bass) from Starvation Reservoir.	UDWR	III.A.4.e.	Dec., 2013				UDWR produced a timely feasibility report; installed a temporary screen in spill channel during spring 2014 runoff; will install more robust temporary screen in 2015 and is pursuing a permanent solution (but expected to seek funding assistance from Program). USBR may be able to complete installation and construction of the permanent screen in October 2015.
Implement recommendations from the management strategy.	UDWR / Program	III.A.4.e. (1)		X	X	X	Pending.
Colorado River (in addition to ongoing projects)							
Upstream of Grand Valley Project dam: Determine and implement an adequate level of mechanical removal in the main channel. More importantly, use all techniques available to eradicate northern pike (and other nonnative species of concern) from floodplain habitats.	CPW / Program	III.A.9.	X	X	X	X	CPW: a) implemented significant mechanical removal; b) coordinating with USBR on future levee work at LaFarge Pond.
Develop a measure(s) of successful suppressions of northern pike (and other nonnative species of concern).	Program			X			Pending.
Direct new (or shift existing) nonnative fish removal efforts to address increasing numbers of walleye in the lower river.	Program	III.A.8.	X	X	X	X	2 additional passes added from Cisco to Dewey Bridge and one pass was added from Dewey Bridge to Potash in 2013. Service added 2014 fall passes to remove walleye in lower Colorado reaches (Cisco to Potash) and UDWR added removal passes for the Lower Green. FWS removed 109 walleye (346 - 600 mm TL,) during 2014 CPM pop estimate

River / Action	Responsible Entity(s)	New RIPRAP #	2013	2014	2015	Out years	PDO/MC update 2/2015
							trips from RM 108 (just downstream of Cisco) to RM 3.5 (just above the confluence). With regard to escapement of fish from Lake Powell, a management plan is being developed and upper basin will be involved in review (Dale Ryden representing).

COLORADO RIVER RECOVERY PROGRAM
¹FY 2015 DEPLETION CHARGE AND ANNUAL BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS
February 10, 2015

ITEM	FY 2015	FY 2016
² DEPLETION CHARGE:	\$20.54	\$20.87
³ AGENCY ANNUAL CONTRIBUTIONS:	FY 2015	FY 2016
⁴ Bureau of Reclamation (maximum power revenues)	\$5,448,190	\$5,448,190
⁵ Fish and Wildlife Service	\$1,242,514	\$1,262,394
Colorado	\$215,471	\$218,918
Utah	\$151,362	\$153,784
Wyoming	\$47,919	\$48,686
ANNUAL/O&M TOTAL:	\$7,105,456	\$7,131,972

NOTES:

¹Adjustments for 2015 (except for Bureau of Reclamation annual contributions) are based on a 2014 Consumer Price Index increase of 1.6% over 2013 (source: Bureau of Labor Statistics; <http://data.bls.gov/cgi-bin/surveymost> [Consumer Price Index - All Urban Consumers, Series Id: CUUR0000SA0, Not Seasonally Adjusted, Area: U.S. city average, Item: All items, Base Period: 1982-84=100], released January 16, 2015).

²The balance (unaudited) reported by NFWF in the depletion charge ("Section 7") account was \$614,102 as of September 30, 2014

³FY 2016 depletion charge and budget adjustments become effective October 1, 2015. Agency annual contributions shown are the established contributions; actual contributions may vary somewhat.

⁴Maximum power revenues adjusted for inflation will be calculated using CPI released in October 2015, per PL 106-392. (See Dec. 13, 2004, Management Committee meeting summary for an explanation of the difference.). Figure shown is estimate only, based on January 2015 CPI of 1.6%.

⁵The actual Service FY 16 contribution is expected to be about \$1,262,400 (\$737,400 recovery funds and \$525,000 hatchery O&M).