



Letters of Support

for

the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program and
the San Juan River Basin Recovery Program

for

Fiscal Year 2002



Letters Of Support

The Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery and San Juan River Basin Recovery Implementation Programs have a broad range of supporters. On the following pages are joint delegation letters demonstrating the support of Members of Congress representing Colorado,

New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming for FY 2002 appropriations for these programs. The following organizations and individuals also sent letters of support for FY 2002 appropriations. It is anticipated that they will also support the FY 2003 appropriations.

Letters of support for FY 2002 appropriations were sent to Congress by:

- ◆ State of Colorado
Bill Owens, Governor
- ◆ State of Utah
Michael O. Leavitt, Governor
- ◆ State of Wyoming
Jim Geringer, Governor
- ◆ Board of Water Works of Pueblo, Colorado
Alan C. Hamel, Executive Director
- ◆ Central Utah Water Conservancy District
Orem, Utah
Don A. Christiansen, General Manager
- ◆ City of Craig, Colorado
David DeRose, Mayor
- ◆ City of Grand Junction, Colorado
Gene Kinsey, Mayor
- ◆ Colorado Department of Natural Resources
Denver, Colorado
Greg E. Walcher, Executive Director
- ◆ Colorado River Water Conservation District
Glenwood Springs, Colorado
R. Eric Kuhn, General Manager
- ◆ Denver Board of Water Commissioners
Denver, Colorado
H.J. Barry, Manager
- ◆ New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission
Santa Fe, New Mexico
Thomas C. Turney, Secretary
- ◆ Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District
Loveland, Colorado
Eric Wilkinson, General Manager
- ◆ OXY USA, Inc.
Midland, Texas
Harry Tate
- ◆ Public Service Company of New Mexico
Albuquerque, New Mexico
Patrick J. Goodman, Vice President
- ◆ Robert W. Spears
Lake City, Colorado
- ◆ San Juan Water Commission
Farmington, New Mexico
L. Randy Kirkpatrick, Executive Director
- ◆ Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District
Pueblo, Colorado
Steve Arveschoug, General Manager
- ◆ Southwestern Water Conservation District
Durango, Colorado
Fred V. Kroeger, President, Board of Directors
- ◆ The Nature Conservancy
Boulder, Colorado
Robert Wigington, Western Water Attorney
- ◆ Ute Water Conservancy District
Grand Junction, Colorado
Larry W. Clever, General Manager

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 19, 2001

The Honorable Joe Skeen, Chairman
The Honorable Norman Dicks, Ranking Minority Member
Interior Subcommittee
House Appropriations Committee
B308 Rayburn Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-6023

Dear Chairman Skeen and Ranking Member Dicks:

We are writing to request your support and assistance in insuring continued funding for the Recovery Implementation Program for Endangered Fish Species in the Upper Colorado River Basin (Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program) and the San Juan River Basin Recovery Implementation Program. These cooperative programs, involving the States of Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming, Indian tribes, federal agencies and water, power and environmental interests, are ongoing in the Upper Colorado River Basin and have as their objective recovering four species of endangered fish while water development proceeds in compliance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973. We respectfully request support and action by the Subcommittee that will provide the following:

1. The appropriation of \$706,000 in "recovery" funds to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) for fiscal year 2002 to meet its funding commitment to the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program. This is the same amount that was appropriated in fiscal year 2001 for this program. Funding will be used for FWS' program management costs, population estimation and monitoring and data management activities associated with this multi-element program.
2. The appropriation of \$400,000 in operation and maintenance funds ("Fisheries Activity; Hatchery O&M Subactivity") to support the operation of the FWS' Ouray National Fish Hatchery in Utah for fiscal year 2002. Funding will enable continuing hatchery operation production of endangered fish for stocking, research, and refugia (adult fish for spawning and maintaining genetic stocks) for the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program.
3. The appropriation of \$126,000 in "recovery" funds to the FWS to meet its funding commitment to the San Juan River Basin Recovery Implementation Program for needed research and monitoring and program management activities in fiscal year 2002.

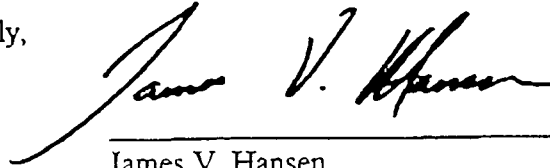
During the 106th Congress, Public Law 106-392 was enacted which authorizes the federal government to provide up to \$46 million of cost sharing for the remaining capital construction projects for the two recovery programs. Capital construction for these programs remains to be completed for additional hatchery facilities to produce endangered fish for stocking, restoring floodplain habitat and fish passage, regulating and/or supplying instream habitat flows, installing screens to prevent fish entrapment in canals, and removing and/or relocating nonnative fishes. The four participating states will contribute \$17 million, and \$17 million will be contributed from revenues derived from the sale of Colorado River Storage Project (CRSP) hydroelectric power. Subsection 3(c) of the law authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to accept up to \$17 million of contributed funds from Colorado, Wyoming, Utah and New Mexico, and to expend such contributed funds as if appropriated for that purpose. Each of the four participating states have already appropriated non-federal cost sharing funding. These facts demonstrate the strong commitment and effective partnerships that are present in both of these ongoing programs.

The undersigned continue to believe that this Subcommittee's assistance in the past has similarly been a major factor in the success of these multi-state, multi-agency programs in progressing toward recovery of the endangered fish in the Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basin while necessary water use and development activities are occurring. The help of the Subcommittee is needed again this year to ensure that the FWS is provided with adequate funding for these vitally important programs. We are thankful for your past support and look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,



Scott McInnis



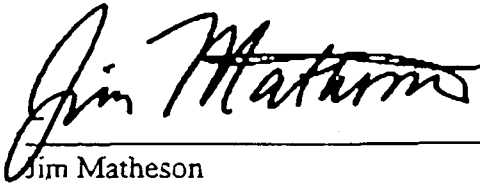
James V. Hansen




Barbara Cubin



Chris Cannon



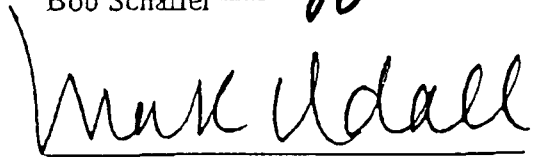
Jim Matheson



Bob Schaffer



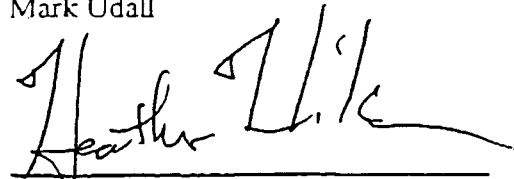
Tom Tancredo



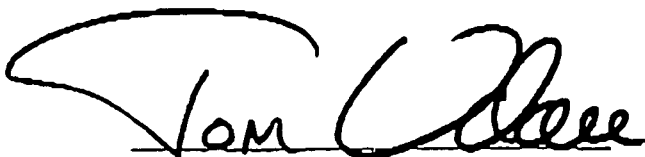
Mark Udall



Diana DeGette



Heather Wilson



Tom Udall

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 19, 2001

The Honorable Sonny Callahan, Chairman
The Honorable Peter Visclosky, Ranking Minority Member
Energy and Water Development Subcommittee
House Appropriations Committee
2362B Rayburn Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Callahan and Ranking Member Visclosky:

We are writing to request your support for an appropriation in fiscal year 2002 of \$6,950,000, to the Bureau of Reclamation within the line item labeled "Endangered Species Recovery Programs and Activities for the Upper Colorado River Region." Of that amount, the sum of \$5,135,000 should be designated for expenditure on construction activities associated with the Recovery Implementation Program for Endangered Fish Species in the Upper Colorado River Basin (Upper Basin Program), and \$1,815,000 should be designated for the San Juan River Basin Recovery Implementation Program (San Juan Program).

These cooperative programs, involving the States of Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming, Indian tribes, federal agencies and water, power and environmental interests, are ongoing in the Upper Colorado River and San Juan River Basins and have as their objective recovering endangered fish species while water development proceeds in compliance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973.

Reclamation initiatives that will move forward with the provision of this funding and non-federal cost sharing ready to be contributed will include completing modification and automation of canals to more efficiently operate irrigation projects near Grand Junction, Colorado, and dedicating the "saved" water to endangered fish. Non-native fish control is another important program activity for which funds will be used for pond reclamation to prevent nonnative fish from escaping into the river where they may harm endangered fish. Installation of a fish barrier screen at Elkhead Reservoir to prevent nonnative fish from escaping into the Yampa River is also planned.

FY 2002 funds will be also be used for floodplain restoration activities to continue land acquisition, levee removal, and other floodplain restoration activities at high priority sites. Restoring these floodplains is thought to be especially important for endangered razorback sucker and will benefit a variety of wetland-dependent wildlife. While further native fish stocking in the Green, Colorado, and Gunnison Rivers is needed for fish recovery, existing hatcheries and native fish production facilities fall short of meeting stocking needs. This federal funding, along with the non-federal cost sharing to be contributed, will also be used to lease or construct additional growout

ponds to raise the native, endangered fish. Further, Reclamation funds will be used to restore fish passage on the Colorado River at the Grand Valley Project and the Price-Stubb Diversion dams. These activities will benefit razorback sucker and Colorado pikeminnow by giving them access to more of their historic habitat. San Juan River Program fiscal year 2002 expenditures will construct a fish passage structure at the Public Service of New Mexico weir and removal of the Cudei Diversion Dam and its replacement with a siphon. In addition, the feasibility of fish passage at the Arizona Public Service weir will be investigated and additional rearing ponds for razorback sucker will be constructed.

During the 106th Congress, Public Law 106-392 was enacted which authorizes the Federal Government to provide up to \$46 million of cost sharing for the remaining capital construction projects for the two recovery programs. Capital construction for these programs remains to be completed for additional hatchery facilities to produce endangered fish for stocking, restoring floodplain habitat and fish passage, regulating and/or supplying instream habitat flows, installing screens to prevent fish entrapment in canals, and removing and/or relocating nonnative fishes. The four participating states will contribute \$17 million and \$17 million will be contributed from revenues derived from the sale of Colorado River Storage Project (CRSP) hydroelectric power. Subsection 3(c) of the law authorizes the Secretary of Interior to accept contributed funds not to exceed \$17 million from Colorado, Wyoming, Utah and New Mexico, and authorizes the Secretary to expend such contributed funds as if appropriated for that purpose. Each of the four participating states have already appropriated non-federal cost sharing funding. These facts demonstrate the strong commitment and effective partnerships that are present in both of these ongoing programs.

The undersigned continue to believe that this Subcommittee's assistance in the past has similarly been a major factor in the success of these multi-state, multi-agency programs in progressing toward recovery of the endangered fish in the Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basin while necessary water use and development activities are occurring. The help of the Subcommittee is needed again this year to ensure that Reclamation is provided with adequate funding for these vitally important programs. We are thankful for your past support and look forward to working with you in the future.

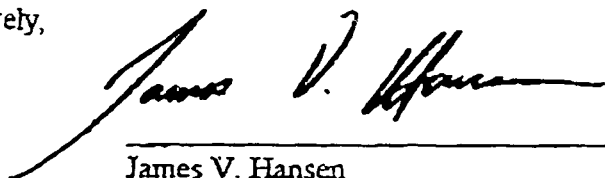


Scott McInnis



Barbara Cubin

Sincerely,



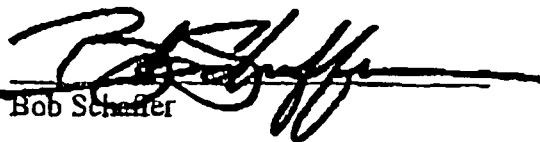
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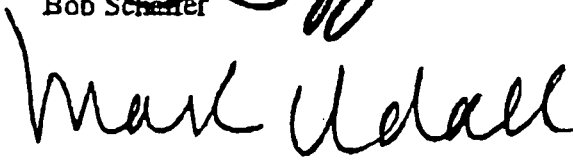
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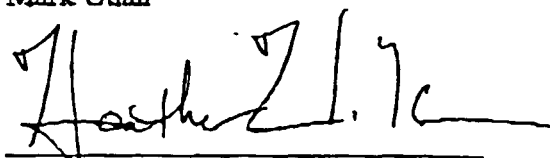
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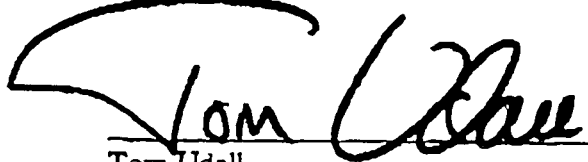
Mark Udall



Diana DeGette



Heather Wilson



Tom Udall

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 27, 2001

The Honorable Pete V. Domenici, Chairman
The Honorable Harry Reid, Ranking Member
Energy and Water Development Subcommittee
Senate Appropriations Committee
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Domenici and Senator Reid:

We are writing to request your support for an appropriation in fiscal year 2002 of \$6,950,000, to the Bureau of Reclamation within the line item labeled "Endangered Species Recovery Programs and Activities for the Upper Colorado River Region." Of that amount, the sum of \$5,135,000 should be designated for expenditure on construction activities associated with the Recovery Implementation Program for Endangered Fish Species in the Upper Colorado River Basin (Upper Basin Program), and \$1,815,000 should be designated for the San Juan River Basin Recovery Implementation Program (San Juan Program).

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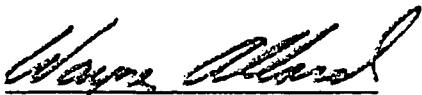
The Honorable Pete Domenici
The Honorable Harry Reid
April 27, 2001
Page 2

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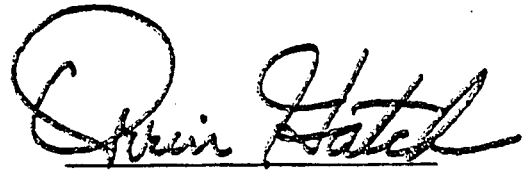
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Sincerely,



Wayne Allard
United States Senator



Orrin G. Hatch
United States Senator



Jeff Bingaman
United States Senator

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 27, 2001

The Honorable Conrad Burns, Chairman
The Honorable Robert C. Byrd, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Interior and Related Agencies
Senate Appropriations Committee
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Burns and Senator Byrd:

We are writing to request your support and assistance in insuring continued funding for the Recovery Implementation Program for Endangered Fish Species in the Upper Colorado River Basin (Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program) and the San Juan River Basin Recovery Implementation Program. These cooperative programs involving the States of Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming, Indian tribes, federal agencies and water, power and environmental interests are ongoing in the Upper Colorado River Basin and have as their objective recovering four species of endangered fish while water development proceeds in compliance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973. We respectfully request support and action by the Subcommittee that will provide the following appropriations:

1. \$706,000 in "recovery" funds to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) for fiscal year 2002 to meet its funding commitment to the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program. This is the same amount that was appropriated in fiscal year 2001 for this program. Funding will be used for FWS' program management costs, population estimation and monitoring and data management activities associated with this multi-element program.
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The Honorable Conrad Burns
The Honorable Robert Byrd
April 27, 2001
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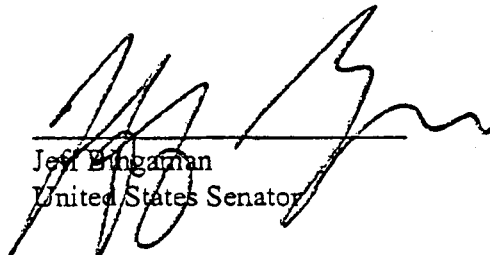
Sincerely,



Wayne Allard
United States Senator



Orrin G. Hatch
United States Senator



Jeff Bingaman
United States Senator



Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program

Implementation Committee

Ralph Morgenweck

Implementation Committee Chair
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John Shields

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San Juan River Basin Recovery Implementation Program

Coordination Committee

Joy Nicholopoulos

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Supervisory Fishery Biologist
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Pat Page

Hydrology Committee Chair
Southern Water Management Team Leader
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Recovery Program Participants

Washington, D.C. Briefings • March 13-19, 2002

John Shields

Management Committee Chair
Upper Colorado River Recovery Program
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Water Users' Representative
Upper Colorado River and San Juan River Recovery Programs
(Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, New Mexico)
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Bob McCue

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