

UPPER COLORADO RIVER ENDANGERED FISH RECOVERY PROGRAM

FY 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

PROJECT: 1

Project Title

Utah Program Management

Bureau of Reclamation Agreement Number:

R19AP00059 (UDWR)

Project/Grant Period:

Start date: 10/01/2018

End date: 09/30/2023

Reporting period end date: 09/30/2020

Is this the final report? No

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Abstract:

The Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program supports multiple projects undertaken by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (Division). The work was conducted within two Division Regions in Utah (Northeast, Southeast) as well as by the Aquatics Assistant Chief and staff in Salt Lake City. Additionally, the Division cooperates and coordinates with other agencies and researchers across state boundaries within the Colorado River Basin. Efficient coordination of field activities, reporting of research and monitoring results in a timely manner, and effective program administration, and budgeting requirements requires statewide participation and oversight. Program Management funds allow Utah

UPPER COLORADO RIVER ENDANGERED FISH RECOVERY PROGRAM

Division of Wildlife Resources to develop, prioritize, direct, coordinate, monitor and annually evaluate Colorado River fishes work program activities, contracts, and budgets.

Study Schedule:

1986 – Ongoing

Relationship to RIPRAP:

General Recovery Program Support Action Plan – Program Management

- VII. Provide Program planning and support (Program Management)
- VII.A. Determine actions required for recovery
- VII.A.3. Update, refine, and prioritize recovery actions (RIPRAP) annually
- VII.A.7 Monitor and assess Recovery Program accomplishments annually
- VII.A.8 Develop biennial work plan to address priority needs
- VII.B. Actively participate in Recovery Program committees and secure funding for annual work plan and larger projects
- VII.C. Manage, direct, and coordinate Recovery Program activities

Accomplishment of FY 2020 Tasks and Deliverables, Discussion of Initial Findings and Shortcomings:

Task 1. Statewide and Regional Program Management.

- Prepare for and attend Biology Committee meetings and conference calls. **Complete and ongoing.**
- Review and revise the Recovery Action Plan annually. **Complete and ongoing.**
- Serve on ad hoc work groups and technical committees. **Complete and ongoing.**
- Review proposed new scopes of work, revised ongoing scopes of work, and recommend revisions to the Annual Work Plan. **Complete and ongoing.**
- Review draft final Program technical reports, strategic plans and studies, and incorporate recommendations into Program guidance and implementation. **Complete and ongoing.**
- Attend annual Colorado & San Juan Rivers Joint Researcher’s meeting. **Attended and presented in Durango 2020.**
- Coordinate among Wildlife Resources, Water Resources, and Water Rights with assistance from the Utah Department of Natural Resources Recovery Programs office and staff. **Complete and ongoing.**
- Coordinate Utah issues/concerns in Recovery Program as necessary with Utah DNR Divisions, U.S. FWS, BOR, BLM, Utah Mitigation Commission, water user agencies and groups, environmental groups, and other interested parties. **Complete and ongoing.**
- Prepare scopes of work as required on various subjects, annual reports and all associated revisions. **Complete.**

Additional Noteworthy Observations:

- Coordinated construction of Red Fleet Reservoir fish escapement barrier with the Bureau of Reclamation and their Force Account.
- Participated in post 2023 Program planning and coordinated with other UT committee representatives.

UPPER COLORADO RIVER ENDANGERED FISH RECOVERY PROGRAM

- Utah’s role as “program biologist” for the annual Washington D.C. briefing trip was not fulfilled in 2020 due to COVID-19 travel restrictions.
- Supported the Utah/Colorado collaboration to develop, produce, share, and stock sterile triploid walleye for specific screened reservoirs in the Colorado River basin.
- Participated in the development of a new White River management plan with the PDO.

Recommendations:

We recommend continued support of Program Management, including support for reauthorization and funding of the Program through FY 2023.

Project Status:

On track and ongoing

FY 2020 Budget Status

Utah Funds Provided: \$163,028

USBR Funds Provided: -0-

Total Funds Provided: \$163,028

Total Funds Expended: \$163,028

Difference: -0-

Percent of the FY 2020 work completed, and projected costs to complete: 100%

Recovery Program funds spent for publication charges: -0-

Status of Data Submission

Data are formatted, have been QA/QC checked, and will be submitted to the USFWS by January 2021.

Signed:

Paul Badame, Matt Breen, Katie Creighton

Principal Investigators

11/13/2020