

I. Project Title: INTERAGENCY STANDARDIZED MONITORING PROGRAM —
Adult/subadult and YOY Colorado pikeminnow monitoring.

II. Principal Investigator(s):

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III. Project Summary:

The Interagency Standardized Monitoring Program (ISMP) was developed in 1986 to monitor population trends of Colorado pikeminnow and humpback chub in the Colorado River Basin. The original ISMP was composed of three parts: 1) spring electrofishing for subadult and adult Colorado pikeminnow in parts of the Green, Colorado, White and Yampa rivers (about 20 - 30% of occupied habitat within each of the rivers); 2) autumn backwater seining for YOY Colorado pikeminnow in the Colorado and Green rivers; and 3) sampling for adult humpback chubs with trammel nets in Black Rocks and Westwater Canyon. These sampling programs relied on changes in catch per effort (CPE) to monitor changes in population size and structure. A summary report describing the results of the first seven years (1986–1992) of ISMP was produced and finalized by the Recovery Program in 1994. Annual reports have been produced every year since 1994. This component of ISMP provides support to program participants.

IV. Study Schedule: Length of the Recovery Program.

V. Relationship to RIPRAP: General Recovery Program Support Action Plan, V.A.1. Conduct Standardized Monitoring Program.

VI. Accomplishment of FY 99 Tasks and Deliverables, Discussion of Initial Findings and Shortcomings:

Tasks

1. Purchase and distribute PIT tags for use in the monitoring program.

2,000 PIT tags were purchased, cataloged and distributed to monitoring program participants.

2. Maintain the Interagency Standardized Monitoring Database

The Interagency Database is complete through 1997. Limited work needs to be done on the 1998 data to integrate it with the rest of the database. Data collected during 1999 will be submitted during the early part of 2001.

3. Update the ISMP Handbook.

The monitoring program is currently in a state of flux. A revised handbook was compiled and reviewed by participants in 1998. However, discussions are ongoing concerning the permanent nature of the monitoring program. The handbook will be revised further when decisions on the basic nature of the monitoring program are made.

4. Assist states with field work as needed.

Assistance was provided as requested.

5. Produce and distribute an annual consolidated report of the adult/subadult Colorado pikeminnow (spring shoreline electrofishing) and YOY Colorado pikeminnow monitoring (fall backwater seining) for the previous year.

The annual report for 1998 is behind schedule. However, a final report was completed that analyzed the 1986 – 1997 fall young of the year data in the Colorado River in relation to physical variables and relative density of other fish species (McAda and Ryel 1999). This was a joint project between ISMP and studies funded under the Aspinall Umbrella. The 1998 data will be summarized in a combined report for 1998 and 1999.

VII. Recommendations: Continue as scheduled. Make decisions on the future of ISMP.

VIII. Project Status: Ongoing, but behind schedule. An annual report for 1998 will not be prepared, but the 1998 data will be combined into the 1999 report.

IX. FY 99 Budget Status

A. Funds Provided:

PIT tags	8,000
Labor, Travel	<u>18,000</u>
	26,000

B. Funds Expended: 26,000

C. Difference: 0

D. Publication Charges 0

X. Status of Data Submission: Original data are not collected in this project.

XI. Signed: C.W. McAda, December 2, 1999

Appendix

Literature Cited

McAda, C. W., and R. J. Ryel. 1999. Distribution, relative abundance, and environmental correlates for age-0 Colorado pikeminnow and sympatric fishes in the Colorado River. Final Report to the Recovery Program for the Endangered Fishes of the Upper Colorado River, Project 45. U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Grand Junction, Colorado.