I. Project Title: Green River nonnative fish control

II. Principal Investigators:

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III. Project Summary:

Developing and implementing management options for controlling nonnative impacts in the upper basin has recently become a high priority within program management. Because of this, a draft strategic plan has been developed to help guide nonnative control actions. The increased emphasis on nonnative control is based largely on observational data historically collected by the Service and more recently observational and experimental data collected by Utah (Crowl and Lentsch). In summary, the nonnative fish community is pervasive throughout the system, with foci being found in the Duchesne/White River confluence, as well as near the Yampa/Green confluence (Muth, personal observation).

The primary target nonnative fish are channel catfish and centrarchids. We feel that the evaluation of three different habitat/geomorphic reaches is very important to determine if, when, and where mechanical removal will be the most effective for reducing negative interactions with native species in the upper basin. These three sites represent most habitats and geomorphic reaches found in the upper basin. The purpose of this study is to mechanically remove channel catfish to reduce the interactions with native species in two specific areas: the Ouray reach (RM 246-266) and the Gray Canyon reach (RM 328-338) of the Green River, to determine if removal of these fish is effective and feasible.

Nonnative removal trips were conducted in 1997 and 1998, following flood recession, within the Ouray reach of the middle Green River and within the Gray Canyon reach of

the lower Green River. The final reports that analyze this data are currently being completed.

IV. Study Schedule:

a. Initial year: 1997
b. Final year: 1999

V. Relationship to the RIPRAP:

General Recovery Program Support Action Plan

III. Reduce negative impacts of nonnative fishes and sportfish management activities (nonnative and sportfish management)
III.A. Reduce negative interactions between nonnative and endangered fishes
III.A.2. Identify and implement viable active control measures
III.A.2.a. Identify options (including selective control removal) to reduce negative impacts of problem species and assess regulations and options (including harvest) to reduce negative impacts on native fishes from nonnative sportfish

Green River Action Plan: Mainstem

III. Reduce negative impacts of nonnative fishes and sportfish management activities (nonnative and sportfish management)
III.A. Reduce negative interactions between nonnative and endangered fishes

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

Objective 1

Final report with recommendations on the effectiveness/feasibility of large scale removal of centrarchids (e.g., smallmouth bass, green sunfish, black crappie) and channel catfish in the Ouray reach (RM 246-266) of the Green River is currently being completed.

Objective 2

Final report with recommendations on the effectiveness/feasibility of removing channel catfish in the Gray Canyon reach (RM 328-338) of the Green River is currently being completed.

VII. Recommendations: None at this time.

VIII. Project Status: Final report being prepared.

IX. FY 99 Budget:

	UDWR	USU
A. Funds budgeted:	$5,000	$15,000
B. Funds expended/obligated:	$5,000	$15,000
C. Difference:	$ -0-	$ -0-

D. Percent FY 99 work completed: 100%

E. Recovery Program funds spent for publication charges: $0.00

X. Status of Data Submission:

All necessary data from previous years has been transferred to appropriate people. Final report will contain final data analysis.

XI. Signed: Matthew Andersen, December 7, 1999

Matthew Andersen