

I. Project Title:

Land acquisition for the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program

II. Submitted by: Pat Nelson

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III. Project Summary:

The purpose of the land acquisition component of the Recovery Program is to acquire habitat for the endangered fishes. Three easements were acquired during FY 2002. Land acquisition was put on hold by the Management Committee in January 2002 pending a technical review of the Habitat Restoration Program.

IV. Project Schedule:

Initial Year: 1996

Final Year: TBD

V. Relationship to RIPRAP:

GREEN RIVER ACTION PLAN: MAINSTEM

II. Restore habitat

II.A. Restore and manage flooded bottomland habitat.

II.A.2. Acquire interest in high-priority flooded bottomland habitats between Ouray NWR and Jensen to benefit endangered fish.

II.A.2.d. Negotiate acquisition and acquire.

COLORADO RIVER ACTION PLAN: MAINSTEM

II. Restore habitat

II.A. Restore and manage flooded bottomland habitat.

II.A.5. Acquire interest in high-priority flooded bottomland habitats.

II.A.5.d. Negotiate acquisition and acquire.

COLORADO RIVER ACTION PLAN: GUNNISON RIVER

- II. Restore habitat
 - II.A. Restore and manage flooded bottomland habitat.
 - II.A.3. Acquire interest in high-priority flooded bottomland habitats.
 - II.A.3.d. Negotiate acquisition and acquire.

VI. Accomplishment of FY 2002 Tasks and Deliverables:

A perpetual easement was acquired on the 21-acre Pennington/Bird/Brenner property on the Colorado River RM 165 at a cost of \$227,000. The offer had previously been withdrawn, resulting in a lawsuit. The Department of Justice decided to settle rather than going to court.

Two perpetual easements were acquired on the Gunnison River at RM 55: the 54.5-acre Fedler property (\$150K) and the 45-acre Morgan property (\$135K).

VII. Recommendations: Continue land acquisition on an as-needed basis.

VIII. Project Status: Except for outstanding offers (e.g., Audubon, Hoagland), land acquisition on hold pending technical review of Recovery Program.

IX. FY 2002 Budget Status

A. Funds Provided: \$748,000

Note: Of funds provided, \$495K was reimbursement from title company for Rasmussen, Thompson, and Sullivan properties that had been acquired in June 1999.

B. Funds Expended: \$650,000

-\$227K for Pennington/Bird/Brenner

-\$150K for Fedler

-\$135K for Morgan

-\$138K for support (surveys, appraisals, etc.)

C. Difference: \$ 98,000

D. Percent of the FY 02 work completed, and projected costs to complete:

E. Recovery Program funds spent for publication charges: N/A

X. Status of Data Submission (Where applicable): N/A

XI. Signed: Pat Nelson 2/14/03
Principal Investigator Date