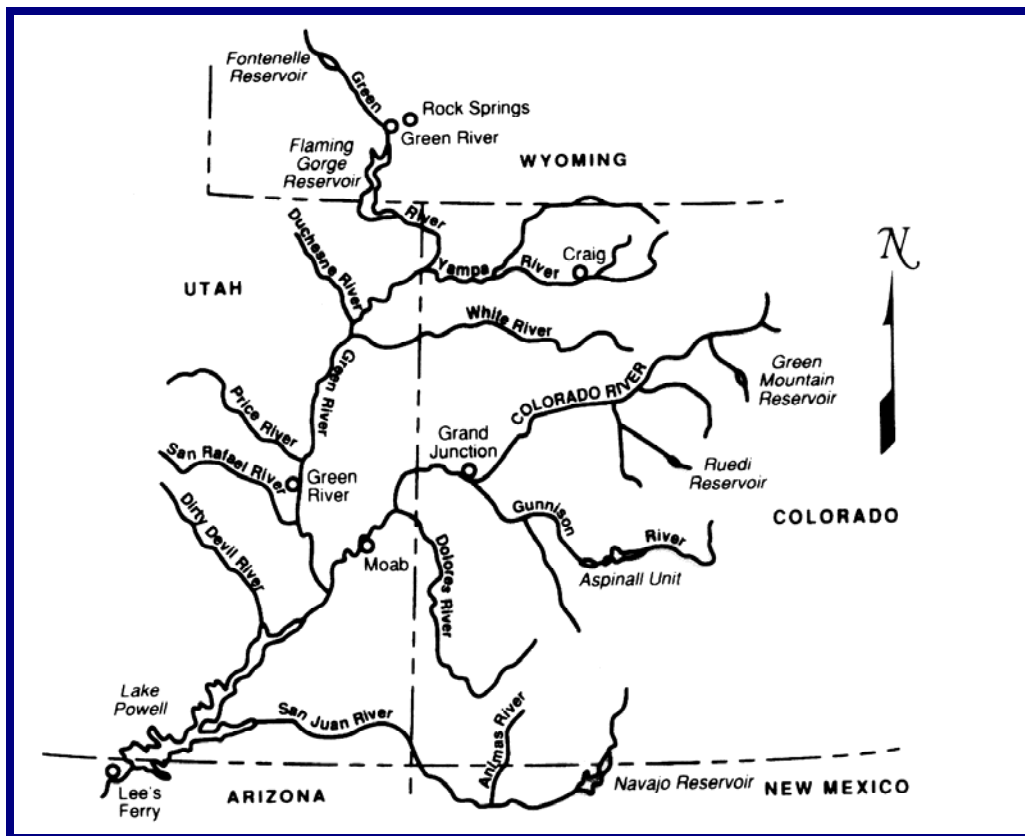


**Upper Colorado River
Endangered Fish Recovery Program
and
San Juan River Basin
Recovery Implementation Program
Non-Federal Program Participants'
Congressional Funding Requests**

Fiscal Year 2009



The Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program is working to recover the endangered Colorado pikeminnow, humpback chub, bonytail and razorback sucker fish species in the Green River and Colorado River Basins in Colorado, Utah and Wyoming. The San Juan River Basin Recovery Implementation Program is progressing towards recovery of the Colorado pikeminnow and razorback sucker fish species in the San Juan River Basin in Colorado, Utah and New Mexico.

Requested Fiscal Year 2009 Congressional Appropriations

The non-federal participants in the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program and the San Juan River Basin Recovery Implementation Program request the support of the Congress for fiscal year 2009 funding as follows:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Budget

- ☑ Support of the President's budget for **\$697,000** to be allocated to the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program within the "Recovery Program" line-item for \$68,067,000 as contained in the "Resources Management Appropriation; Ecological Services Activity; Endangered Species Subactivity; Recovery Element;"
- ☑ Support of the President's budget for "Fisheries and Aquatic Resource Conservation Activity; National Fish Hatchery Operations Subactivity" funding as it contains **\$475,000** for the Ouray National Fish Hatchery, a key propagation facility for the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program; and
- ☑ Support an allocation of **\$200,000** in "recovery" funds for the San Juan River Basin Recovery Implementation Program within the "Resources Management Appropriation; Ecological Services Activity; Endangered Species Subactivity; Recovery Element" budget.

Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program

Region 6 "Recovery" Funds (\$697,000) for:

- **Program management:** Funds for salaries, expenses and recovery activities of the Program Director and Program staff for the critically-important day-to-day program administration and management essential for the continuing success of this ongoing multi-agency, multi-element, large river basin species collaborative conservation partnership.
- **Monitoring achievement of recovery goals:** FWS employees' estimations of the abundance of fish populations, stocking evaluations and monitoring of fish and habitat response to Program actions establish the progress that is being made towards accomplishing the recovery goals' downlisting and delisting criteria.
- **Data Management:** FWS personnel in the FWS CRFP Offices maintain the Program's essential computerized inventory database systems - providing resources management and analysis tools used to assess species' response to program activities. Species response is the basis for determining when the recovery goals are met.

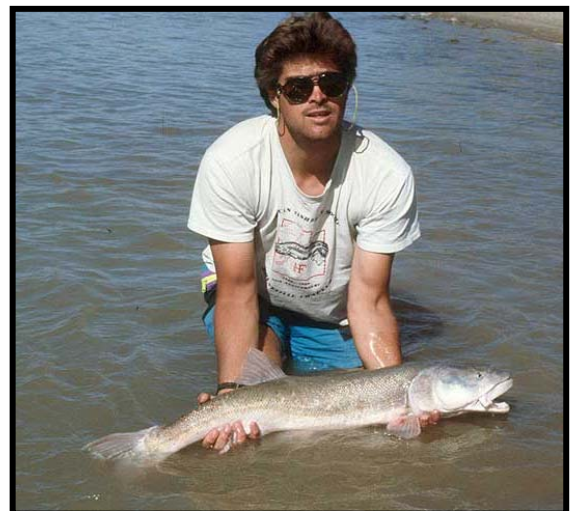
"Fisheries Activity; National Fish Hatchery Operations Subactivity" (\$475,000) for:

- **Ouray National Fish Hatchery:** Meeting the ongoing operation, maintenance and upkeep expenses associated with this innovative Program hatchery is essential to meeting the Upper Colorado Program's stocking objectives.

San Juan River Basin Recovery Implementation Program

Region 2 "Recovery" Funds (\$200,000) for:

- **Program management:** Salaries and expenses of the San Juan Program Coordinator, Assistant Program Coordinator and other related FWS expenses in coordinating and completing Program actions will be paid with this requested funding.
- **FWS participation:** FWS participation in Hydrology, Biology and Coordination Committee planning and decision-making, report preparation and review is necessary to maintaining the San Juan Recovery Program partnership.



Colorado pikeminnow are thriving in the San Juan River.

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Budget

☑ **\$7,612,000** in “Endangered Species Recovery Implementation Program” within the Upper Colorado Region budget (**\$6,430,000** for construction activities for the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program; **\$782,000** for construction activities for the San Juan River Basin Recovery Implementation Program; and **\$400,000** for Fish and Wildlife Management and Development activities to avoid jeopardy).

Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program (\$6,430,000) for:

- **Water acquisition:** Complete construction financing of the Recovery Program’s share of the construction costs for the enlargement of Elkhead Reservoir completed in November 2006. The enlargement provides 5,000 acre-feet of water for the endangered fish through storage releases into Elkhead Creek and hence into the Yampa River in northwestern Colorado.



After Elkhead Reservoir filled in 2007, up to 5,000 acre-feet of permanent storage and 2,000 acre-feet of leased storage water is now available each year to augment Yampa River flows for the endangered fish.

San Juan River Basin Recovery Implementation Program (\$782,000) for:

- **Restoration of Fish Passage/Screen:**
 - **San Juan River Basin Hogback Fish Screen:** Continue construction of fish screen in the Hogback Canal, which diverts water from the San Juan River near Shiprock, New Mexico.
 - **San Juan River Basin Fruitland Fish Passage:** Begin planning and design of passage structure on the Fruitland Canal Company diversion dam.
 - **San Juan River Basin Arizona Public Service Fish Passage:** Begin planning, design and construction of the fish passage on the Arizona Public Service diversion dam
- **Program Management (both programs):** Continue preparation of Capital Improvement Program annual budgets, transferring Capital Improvement Program funds to appropriate entities, contract administration, tracking expenditures and resolving issues associated with capital project construction and operation.

Recent Reclamation Funding in the President’s Recommended Budget for *Endangered Species Recovery Implementation Program* Line-item

Fiscal Year	Total Funding
2005	\$5,234,000
2006	\$2,529,000
2007	\$4,594,000
2008	\$3,650,000
2009	\$7,612,000

Recovery Programs’ Capital Construction Projects: Necessary for Recovery of the Endangered Fish and Facilitating ESA Compliance for Water Use & Development

The recovery programs continue to demonstrate tangible, on-the-ground success in providing river flows, restoring habitat, constructing fish ladders and screens, producing and stocking endangered fish, managing nonnative fish species, and monitoring progress towards recovery. Since 1988, the Fish and Wildlife Service has consulted on over 1,600 water projects depleting more than 3 million acre-feet per year in the Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basins. These projects rely upon the recovery programs as reasonable and prudent alternatives under the Endangered Species Act. No lawsuits have been filed concerning the Endangered Species Act compliance being provided by these cooperative conservation partnership programs.

Letters of Support

Supporting Appropriations for the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program And the San Juan River Basin Recovery Implementation Program in Fiscal Year 2008

The Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery and San Juan River Basin Recovery Implementation Programs have a broad range of supporters. Joint delegation letters demonstrating strong bipartisan support by Members of Congress representing Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming were submitted to the Congressional Appropriations Committees supporting the programs' FY2008 funding. The following organizations and individuals also sent letters of support for FY 2008 appropriations. **It is anticipated each will submit letters supporting these FY 2009 appropriation requests.**

Letters of support for FY 2008 appropriations were submitted to Congress by:

Participating States

- **State of Colorado**
Bill Owens, Governor
- **State of Utah**
Jon Huntsman, Jr., Governor
- **State of Wyoming**
Dave Freudenthal, Governor
- **State of New Mexico**
Bill Richardson, Governor

Indian Tribal Participants

- **The Navajo Nation**
- **Southern Ute Tribe**



When a fish passage structure is completed at the long-unused Price-Stubbs Diversion Dam upstream of Palisade, CO, an additional 52 miles of habitat blocked since 1911 will be available for the endangered Colorado River fish. The Colorado River will be diverted into the bypass channel (foreground) during the construction process.

Water Users

- **Arizona Public Service**
- **BHP Billiton**
- **Central Utah Water Conservancy District**
- **City of Aurora, Colorado**
- **City of Colorado Springs, Colorado**
- **Colorado River Water Conservation District**
- **Colorado Water Congress**
- **Denver Water**
- **Grand Valley Water Users Association**
- **Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District**
- **Pueblo Board of Water Works**
- **Public Service Company of New Mexico**
- **San Juan Water Commission**
- **Southwestern Water Conservancy District**
- **Tri-County Water Conservancy District**
- **Uncompahgre Valley Water Conservancy District**
- **Upper Gunnison Water Conservancy District**
- **Wyoming Water Association**