

I. Project Title: **Grand Valley Project Fish Screen and Fish Passage**

II. Principal Investigator: Brent R. Uilenberg
2764 Compass Drive, Suite 106
Grand Junction, CO 81506
970-248-0641
FAX 970-248-0601
builenberg@uc.usbr.gov

III. Project Summary:

The Grand Valley Project Diversion Dam, located on the Colorado River approximately six miles upstream from Palisade, CO, diverts water into the Government Highline Canal. The dam is an impediment to upstream movement of native and non-native fish and entrainment of native fish has been documented. The project consists of constructing a selective fish passage through the dam near the left abutment and a fish screen and fish return pipeline in the Government Highline Canal two miles downstream from the diversion dam.

IV. Study Schedule:

Construction of the fish passage was completed in August of 2004. The passage was successfully operated on an intermittent basis during the 2005, 2006 and 2007 irrigation seasons. Full time operation of the fish passage is not scheduled to occur until completion of the Price-Stubb Fish Passage (located approximately six miles downstream of the Grand Valley Project Fish Passage) which is scheduled for April 2008. Construction of the fish screen was substantially completed in September 2005 with the exception of the SCADA system. Installation of the SCADA system was deferred until completion and successful operation of the Redlands Fish Screen SCADA system. The Redlands Fish Screen performed satisfactorily during the 2006 irrigation season and installation and programming of the Government Highline Fish Screen SCADA system is ongoing. Operation of the fish screen was scheduled for March 2007; however, this priority was down graded when it became apparent that the associated O&M contract with the Grand Valley Water Users Association would not be executed in FY 2007. Some work is anticipated in FY 2008 to trouble shoot and implement corrective actions.

V. Relationship to RIPRAP:

Colorado River Action Plan: Mainstem
II.B.3. Restore fish passage at Government Highline (Roller Dam)
II.B.3.b. Screen Government Highline diversion to prevent endangered fish entrainment

VI. Accomplishment of FY 2007 Tasks and Deliverables, Discussion of Initial Findings and Shortcomings:

The Grand Valley Project Fish Passage was operated intermittently in 2007. The gate actuator for the attraction flow pipeline was replaced to improve operation. Propane and miscellaneous supplies were purchased with capital funds to support the intermittent operation as the O&M contract was not executed. Some work was completed on the Government Highline Fish Screen SCADA system but is not complete. Goal is to complete this work during the winter/spring of 2008 and place the screen in operation when water is diverted into the canal system in March 2008.

VII. Recommendations:

Operation of the fish screen and fish passage will require more diligent management and administration of storage releases. A strategy needs to be developed in preparation for this potentially contentious issue. The O&M contract covering these two facilities has not yet been executed. Execution of this contract needs to be accomplished prior to the 2008 irrigation season. Continue to provide assistance trouble shooting problems and implementing corrective actions.

VIII. Project Status: Ongoing, see above recommendations.

IX. FY 2007 Budget Status

- A. Funds Provided: \$0 (Capital)
- B. Funds Expended: \$70,795 (Capital)
- C. Difference: -\$70,795
- D. Percent of the FY 2007 work completed, and projected costs to complete: NA
- E. Recovery Program funds spent for publication charges: None

X. Status of Data Submission: NA

XI. Signed: /s/ Brent R. Uilenberg November 9, 2007
Principal Investigator Date