

- I. Project Title: Floodplain Restoration Program – Thunder Ranch
- II. Bureau of Reclamation Agreement Number(s): NA
- III. Principal Investigator(s): Brent R. Uilenberg
Bureau of Reclamation
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- IV. Abstract: The Thunder Ranch Flood Plain Restoration Site is located on the Green River near Jensen UT. The site consists of a flood easement purchased from the ranch owner, riverside levee breaches, and construction of a setback levee to protect ranch property adjacent to the flood easement. The setback levee was over topped and sustained severe erosion damage as a result of the extremely high flows in the spring of 2011. The terms of the flood easement require prompt repair of the setback levee to avoid exposure to damage claims and maintain a productive working relationship with the ranch owner.
- V. Study Schedule: The project was initiated as soon as the extent of the damage was determined. Repairs were completed in March 2012.
- VI. Relationship to RIPRAP: Green River Action Plan: Mainstem II.A – Restore and manage bottomland habitat
- VII. Accomplishment of FY 2012 Tasks and Deliverables, Discussion of Initial Findings and Shortcomings: Following discovery of the extent of damage to the setback levee, Upper Colorado Recovery Program, FWS and Reclamation staff met with the ranch owner to develop a plan to repair the setback levee in order to comply with the terms of the flood easement. Reclamation staff then developed designs for the repair work. Permits were obtained from the FWS and Army Corp of Engineers to perform the repair work. Construction was accomplished under an internal service agreement with the Provo Area Office whereby force account equipment and operators performed the repair work. Repair work was initiated in February and completed in March of 2012.
- VIII. Recommendations: Continue to conduct inspections on an annual basis to maintain the functionality of the bottomland restoration site and to comply with the terms of the flood easement. Perform repair work on an as needed basis. The magnitude and cost of this repair work points to the need to establish a contingency fund, using base funding, to respond to this type of unexpected work as capital project authorization will expire in FY 2023 and the need to maintain the functionality of these sites will continue.

IX. Project Status: Ongoing.

X. FY 2012 Budget Status

A. Funds Provided: \$0

B. Funds Expended: \$307,012.21

C. Difference: (\$307,012.21)

D. Percent of the FY 2012 work completed, and projected costs to complete: 100 percent, additional repair work will be provided on an as needed basis

E. Recovery Program funds spent for publication charges: None

XI. Status of Data Submission (Where applicable): NA

XII. Signed: Brent R. Uilenberg November 14, 2012
Principal Investigator Date

APPENDIX: None