



Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program

Stephen D. Guertin, Chairman
Implementation Committee

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Nonnative Fish Management River Specific Fact Sheets 2010

Colorado River

Between Rifle, Colorado (River Mile 240) and the Westwater boat landing (River Mile 128) near the Colorado-Utah State Line

- Who:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Grand Junction, Colorado
Colorado Division of Wildlife, Grand Junction, Colorado
- What:** Smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, and other centrarchids (sunfish species). On the first trip, smallmouth bass will be marked and released back into the river. During eight subsequent trips, smallmouth bass captured will be euthanized. Some will be provided to the Colorado Division of Wildlife for a stable isotope study to determine origin. Largemouth bass greater than 10 inches in length will be relocated to Highline Lake.
- When:** April through September, 2010
- Why:** See related questions and answers.
- Contact:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Grand Junction, Colorado
Michelle Shaughnessy, 970-245-9319, ext. 19, michelle_shaughnessy@fws.gov
- Colorado Division of Wildlife, Denver, Colorado
Tom Nesler, 303-291-7461, tom.nesler@state.co.us
- Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program, Denver, Colorado
Debbie Felker, 303-969-7322, ext. 227, debbie_felker@fws.gov
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Other Recovery Program studies/activities within this river section:

- Sediment and channel monitoring
- Floodplain topographical surveys
- Stocking of endangered fishes; monitoring of stocked fish
- Colorado pikeminnow monitoring/population estimate
- Humpback chub monitoring/population estimate

NOTE: Nonnative fish management is only one piece of the recovery puzzle. Recovery efforts are also underway to provide river flows, restore habitat, construct fish screens and maintain and operate fish passages, produce and stock endangered fish, and monitor results. For more information, visit the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program's website: ColoradoRiverRecovery.org.

5/3/2010

Duchesne River

Between the town of Myton, Utah (River Mile 40) and the Green River confluence.

Who: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Vernal, Utah
Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, Vernal, Utah
Ute Indian Tribe Fish and Wildlife Department, Ft. Duchesne, Utah

What: Smallmouth bass: one trip during high flows and one trip during low flows to gage the current distribution and abundance of smallmouth bass to determine if more intensive removal efforts need to be applied. All smallmouth bass will be tagged and released to better understand how this population uses habitats in the Green River mainstem.

Northern pike: Any northern pike encountered will be removed and euthanized. They will not be relocated to other waters because Utah adheres to a strict policy to prevent the transfer of fish diseases from one area to another.

When: April through October, 2010

Why: See related questions and answers.

Contact: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Vernal, Utah
Michelle Shaughnessy, 970-245-9319, ext. 19, michelle_shaughnessy@fws.gov

Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, Vernal, Utah
Trina Hedrick, 435-781-5315, trinahedrick@utah.gov

Ute Indian Tribe Fish and Wildlife Department, Ft. Duchesne, Utah
Jay Groves, 435-725-4816, jayg@utetribe.com

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Other Recovery Program studies/activities within this river section:

-Sediment monitoring

NOTE: Nonnative fish management is only one piece of the recovery puzzle. Recovery efforts are also underway to provide river flows, restore habitat, construct fish screens and maintain and operate fish passages, produce and stock endangered fish, and monitor results. For more information, visit the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program's website: ColoradoRiverRecovery.org.

5/3/2010

Green River

Between Brown's Park (River Mile 398) and Rainbow Park (River Mile 328) in Colorado and Utah

Who: Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Vernal, Utah

What: Smallmouth bass. During two sampling trips, smallmouth bass will be removed and euthanized. They will not be relocated to other waters because of the remoteness of the study area, and because Utah adheres to a strict policy to prevent transfer of fish diseases from one area to another.

Northern pike. Any northern pike captured during sampling trips will be removed and euthanized. They will not be relocated to other waters because of the remoteness of the study area, and Utah adheres to a strict policy to prevent transfer of fish diseases from one area to another.

When: June through September, 2010

Why: See related questions and answers.

Contact: Colorado State University
Kevin Bestgen, 970-491-1848, kbestgen@cnr.colostate.edu

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Vernal, Utah
Michelle Shaughnessy, 970-245-9319, ext. 19, michelle_shaughnessy@fws.gov

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Other Recovery Program studies/activities within this river section:

- Sediment monitoring
- Fish community monitoring

Between Echo Park (River Mile 344) and Split Mountain (River Mile 318) in Utah

Who: Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, Moab, Utah
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Vernal, Utah

What: Smallmouth bass. On the first two trips, smallmouth bass will be marked and released back into the river. On 13 subsequent trips, smallmouth bass will be removed and euthanized. They will not be relocated to other waters because Utah adheres to a strict policy to prevent transfer of fish diseases from one area to another.

Northern pike. On all 15 trips, any northern pike encountered will be removed and euthanized. They will not be relocated to other waters because Utah adheres to a strict policy to prevent transfer of fish diseases from one area to another.

When: July through October, 2010

Why: See attached questions and answers.

Contact: Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, Vernal, Utah
Paul Badame, 435-259-3780, paulbadame@utah.gov

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Vernal, Utah
Michelle Shaughnessy, 970-245-9319, ext. 19, michelle_shaughnessy@fws.gov

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Other Recovery Program studies/activities within this section of river:

- Sediment monitoring
- Larval razorback sucker drift and entrainment study
- Stocking of endangered fishes
- Colorado pikeminnow monitoring/population estimates
- Larval Colorado pikeminnow and larval razorback sucker monitoring
- White sucker removal

Between Split Mountain (River Mile 318) and the Sand Wash boat launch (River Mile 200) in Utah

Who: Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, Vernal, Utah

What: Northern pike. During weekly trips (March-April), northern pike will be removed and euthanized. They will not be relocated to other waters because Utah adheres to a strict policy to prevent transfer of fish diseases from one area to another.

Smallmouth bass. On the first trip, smallmouth bass will be marked and released back into the river. On 11 subsequent trips, smallmouth bass will be removed and euthanized. They will not be relocated to other waters because Utah adheres to a strict policy to prevent transfer of fish diseases from one area to another.

When: Late-March through October, 2010

Why: See attached questions and answers.

Contact: Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, Vernal, Utah
Trina Hedrick, 435-781-5315, trinahedrick@utah.gov

Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program, Denver, Colorado
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Other Recovery Program studies/activities within this river section:

- Sediment monitoring
- Larval razorback sucker drift and entrainment study
- Stocking of endangered fishes
- Colorado pikeminnow monitoring/population estimates
- Larval Colorado pikeminnow and larval razorback sucker monitoring
- White sucker removal
- Floodplain habitat monitoring

NOTE: Nonnative fish management is only one piece of the recovery puzzle. Recovery efforts are also underway to provide river flows, restore habitat, construct fish screens and maintain and operate fish passages, produce and stock endangered fish, and monitor results. For more information, visit the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program's website: ColoradoRiverRecovery.org.

5/3/2010

Yampa River

Between Hayden (River Mile 177) and Craig (River Mile 135) in Colorado

Who: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Vernal, Utah

What: Northern pike. On the first trip, northern pike will be marked with an external tag and released back into the river. On six subsequent trips, northern pike will be removed and relocated to the Yampa State Park Headquarters pond during high flows and to Loudy-Simpson pond as flows recede, to provide additional or continued angling opportunities for the public.

Smallmouth bass. On one sampling trip, smallmouth bass will be marked with an external tag and released back into the river. On all other passes, smallmouth bass will be euthanized and made available to Colorado Division of Wildlife and/or Colorado State University researchers.

When: April through June, 2010

Why: See related questions and answers.

Contact: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Vernal, Utah
Michelle Shaughnessy, 970-245-9319, ext. 19, michelle_shaughnessy@fws.gov

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Other Recovery Program studies/activities within this river section:

- None

Between Craig, Colorado (River Mile 134) and near Cross Mountain Canyon (River Mile 61) in Colorado

Who: Colorado Division of Wildlife, Grand Junction, Colorado

What: Northern pike. On the first trip, northern pike will be marked with an external tag and released back into the river. On subsequent trips (five minimum), northern pike will be removed and relocated to the Yampa State Park Headquarters pond during high flows and to Loudy-Simpson pond as flows recede, to provide additional or continued angling opportunities for the public.

Smallmouth bass. On one sampling pass, smallmouth bass will be marked with an external tag and released back into the river. Smallmouth bass greater than 10 inches in length will be stocked in the upper portion of Elkhead Reservoir after the reservoir has stopped spilling. Prior to that time all smallmouth bass will be euthanized. Throughout the entire sampling season (a minimum of five removal trips), smallmouth bass less than 10 inches in length will be euthanized.

When: April through July, 2010

Why: See attached questions and answers.

Contact: Colorado Division of Wildlife, Denver, Colorado
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Other Recovery Program studies/activities within this river section:

- Warmwater fish bioenergetics study to determine age, growth, and food habits
- Smallmouth bass experiment to evaluate removal effectiveness
- Native and endangered fish response evaluation

Within Little Yampa Canyon (River Mile 100 to 124) and within Lily Park (River Mile 51 to 56) in Colorado

Who: Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado

What: Smallmouth bass. On one sampling trip, smallmouth bass will be marked with an external tag and released back into the river. On nine removal trips, smallmouth bass greater than 10 inches in length will be removed and relocated to the upper portion of Elkhead Reservoir (after the reservoir has stopped spilling) to provide additional or continued angling opportunities for the public. In late summer, crews will sample shoreline habitats with electric seines to remove young smallmouth bass from 12 miles of Little Yampa Canyon and in Lily Park. Smallmouth bass less than 10 inches in length, and all smallmouth bass removed from the river before and during the Elkhead Reservoir spill will be euthanized.

Northern pike. On the first trip, northern pike will be marked with an external tag and released back into the river. On subsequent trips, northern pike will be removed and relocated to the Yampa State Park Headquarters pond during high flows and to Loudy-Simpson pond as flows recede, to provide additional or continued angling opportunities for the public.

White sucker and common carp. On smallmouth bass and northern pike removal trips, crews will determine if white sucker and common carp can also be effectively removed without compromising the primary objective of smallmouth bass and northern pike management. This pilot effort will help the Recovery Program determine if white sucker and common carp removal should continue or expand in the future. All fish will be euthanized.

When: April through August, 2010

Why: See attached questions and answers.

Contact: Colorado Division of Wildlife, Denver, Colorado
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Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado
John Hawkins, 970-491-2777, jhawk@lamar.colostate.edu

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Other Recovery Program studies/activities within this river section:

- Warmwater fish bioenergetics study to determine age, growth, and food habits
- Northern pike removal and translocation
- Native and endangered fish response evaluation

Yampa Canyon Between Dinosaur National Monument (River Mile 46) and the Green River Confluence (RM 0) in Colorado

Who: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Vernal, Utah

What: Smallmouth bass. On the first trip, smallmouth bass will be marked with an external tag and released back into the river. On six subsequent trips, smallmouth bass will be removed and euthanized because of the remoteness of Yampa Canyon.

Channel catfish. On all seven trips, any channel catfish encountered that are greater than 15 inches in length will be removed and euthanized. Smaller channel catfish will be returned to the river.

Northern pike. Any northern pike captured will be removed and euthanized because of the remoteness of Yampa Canyon.

When: April through September, 2010

Why: See attached questions and answers.

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Other Recovery Program studies/activities within this river section:

- Sediment monitoring
- Larval Colorado pikeminnow and razorback sucker monitoring

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