

PRO-773  
ENV-6.00

To Interested Persons, Organizations, and Agencies

Subject: Final Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact for the Green River Pumping Project

The Final Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Green River Pumping Project (GRPP) have been completed and signed by the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), Provo Area Office. A copy of these documents is enclosed in CD format. This EA and FONSI can also be viewed electronically at [www.usbr.gov/uc/provo/index.html](http://www.usbr.gov/uc/provo/index.html) (look under the section "Current Focus" and click on the EA).

The EA describes the effects of the Proposed Action which is Reclamation's execution of a temporary Water Service Contract with the Uintah County Water Conservation District (UWCD) for a supply of up to 10,000 acre feet (af) per year of Colorado River Storage Project water available from Flaming Gorge Reservoir. Construction of the GRPP, located approximately 20 miles south of the USGS Jensen, Utah, stream gauge, would occur in order to deliver this water. The UWCD has also indicated its intent to pursue a long term Water Service Contract with Reclamation, and accordingly the EA analyzes potential effects of water delivery and GRPP operation for the presumed 40-year period of a long term contract in addition to the 5-year temporary contract period. Effects ascribed to the No Action Alternative are also described.

This EA also serves as a Biological Assessment (BA) for the purposes of consulting with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531-1534). Formal consultation with the Service ended with their issuance of a Biological Opinion on June 11, 2010. The Service found that the Proposed Action is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of endangered fish species known to occur in the area affected by the Proposed Action nor is it likely to adversely modify designated critical habitat. The final Biological Opinion is included in the EA as Appendix F.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact W. Russ Findlay using the information given below.

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Thank you for participating in this environmental review process.

Sincerely,

Bruce C. Barrett  
Area Manager

Enclosure

Bc w/encl:

UC-100, UC-430, UC-720, PRO-700, PRO-770, PRO-772, PRO-773, 84-55000