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WAYNE ALLARD

*United States*

*Senator*

*State of Colorado*



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**TO:** John Shields, Wyoming State Engineer's Office

**DATE:** May 2, 2001

**FROM:** Andrew Colosimo, Legislative Assistant

**FAX NUMBER:** 307-777-5451

**NUMBERS OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:** 5

**COMMENTS:**

John,

Attached are the joint funding request letters. I never heard back from Sen. Bennett's office, so I had to go ahead without them.

Talk to you soon - Andy Colosimo

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 27, 2001

The Honorable Conrad Burns, Chairman  
The Honorable Robert C. Byrd, Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Interior and Related Agencies  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Burns and Senator Byrd:

We are writing to request your support and assistance in insuring continued funding for the Recovery Implementation Program for Endangered Fish Species in the Upper Colorado River Basin (Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program) and the San Juan River Basin Recovery Implementation Program. These cooperative programs involving the States of Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming, Indian tribes, federal agencies and water, power and environmental interests are ongoing in the Upper Colorado River Basin and have as their objective recovering four species of endangered fish while water development proceeds in compliance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973. We respectfully request support and action by the Subcommittee that will provide the following appropriations:

1. \$706,000 in "recovery" funds to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) for fiscal year 2002 to meet its funding commitment to the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program. This is the same amount that was appropriated in fiscal year 2001 for this program. Funding will be used for FWS' program management costs, population estimation and monitoring and data management activities associated with this multi-element program.
2. \$400,000 in operation and maintenance funds ("Fisheries Activity; Hatchery O&M Subactivity") to support the operation of the FWS' Ouray National Fish Hatchery in Utah for fiscal year 2002. Funding will enable continuing hatchery operation production of endangered fish for stocking, research, and refugia (adult fish for spawning and maintaining genetic stocks) for the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program.
3. \$126,000 in "recovery" funds to the FWS to meet its funding commitment to the San Juan River Basin Recovery Implementation Program for needed research and monitoring and program management activities in fiscal year 2002.

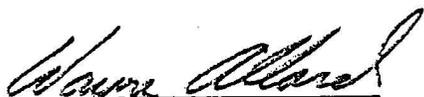
The Honorable Conrad Burns  
The Honorable Robert Byrd  
April 27, 2001  
Page 2

During the 106<sup>th</sup> Congress, Public Law 106-392 was enacted which authorizes the Federal Government to provide up to \$46 Million of cost sharing for the remaining capital construction projects for the two recovery programs. Capital construction for these programs remains to be completed for additional hatchery facilities to produce endangered fish for stocking, restoring flood plain habitat and fish passage, regulating and/or supplying instream habitat flows, installing screens to prevent fish entrapment in canals, and removing and/or relocating nonnative fishes.

The four participating states will contribute \$17 Million and \$17 Million will be contributed from revenues derived from the sale of Colorado River Storage Project (CRSP) hydroelectric power. Subsection 3(c) of the law authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to accept up to \$17 Million of contributed funds from Colorado, Wyoming, Utah and New Mexico, and to expend such contributed funds as if appropriated for that purpose. Each of the four participating states has appropriated non-federal cost sharing funding. These facts demonstrate the strong commitment and effective partnerships that are present in both of these ongoing programs.

The undersigned continue to believe that this Subcommittee's assistance in the past has similarly been a major factor in the success of these multi-state, multi-agency programs in progressing toward recovery of the endangered fish in the Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basin while necessary water use and development activities are occurring. The help of the Subcommittee is needed again this year to ensure that the FWS is provided with adequate funding for these vitally important programs. We are thankful for your past support and look forward to working with you in the future.

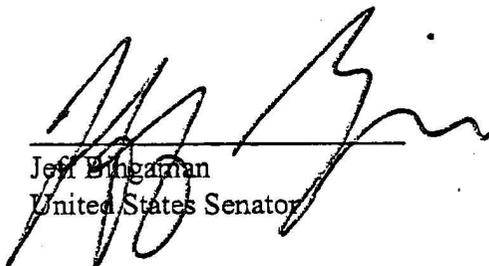
Sincerely,



Wayne Allard  
United States Senator



Orrin G. Hatch  
United States Senator



Jeff Bingaman  
United States Senator

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 27, 2001

The Honorable Pete V. Domenici, Chairman  
The Honorable Harry Reid, Ranking Member  
Energy and Water Development Subcommittee  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Domenici and Senator Reid:

We are writing to request your support for an appropriation in fiscal year 2002 of \$6,950,000, to the Bureau of Reclamation within the line item labeled "Endangered Species Recovery Programs and Activities for the Upper Colorado River Region." Of that amount, the sum of \$5,135,000 should be designated for expenditure on construction activities associated with the Recovery Implementation Program for Endangered Fish Species in the Upper Colorado River Basin (Upper Basin Program), and \$1,815,000 should be designated for the San Juan River Basin Recovery Implementation Program (San Juan Program).

These cooperative programs involving the States of Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming, Indian tribes, federal agencies and water, power and environmental interests are ongoing in the Upper Colorado River and San Juan River Basins and have as their objective recovering endangered fish species while water development proceeds in compliance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973.

Reclamation initiatives that will move forward with the provision of this funding and non-federal cost sharing ready to be contributed will include completing modification and automation of canals to more efficiently operate irrigation projects near Grand Junction, Colorado, and dedicating the "saved" water to endangered fish. Non-native fish control is another important program activity for which funds will be used for pond reclamation to prevent nonnative fish from escaping into the river where they may harm endangered fish. Installation of a fish barrier screen at Elkhead Reservoir to prevent nonnative fish from escaping into the Yampa River is also planned.

FY 2002 funds will also be used for flood plain restoration activities to continue land acquisition, levee removal, and other flood plain restoration activities at high priority sites. Restoring these flood plains is thought to be especially important for endangered razorback sucker and will benefit a variety of wetland-dependent wildlife. While further native fish stocking in the Green, Colorado, and Gunnison Rivers is needed for fish recovery, existing hatcheries and native fish production facilities fall short of meeting stocking needs. This federal funding, along with the non-federal cost sharing to be contributed, will also be used to lease or construct additional growout ponds to raise the native, endangered fish. Further, Reclamation funds will be used to restore fish passage on the Colorado River at the Grand Valley Project and

The Honorable Pete Domenici  
The Honorable Harry Reid  
April 27, 2001  
Page 2

the Price-Stubbs Diversion dams. These activities will benefit razorback sucker and Colorado pikeminnow by giving them access to more of their historic habitat. San Juan River Program fiscal year 2002 expenditures will construct a fish passage structure at the Public Service of New Mexico weir and removal of the Cudei Diversion Dam and its replacement with a siphon. In addition, the feasibility of fish passage at the Arizona Public Service weir will be investigated and additional rearing ponds for razorback suckers will be constructed.

During the 106<sup>th</sup> Congress, Public Law 106-392 was enacted which authorizes the Federal Government to provide up to \$46 Million of cost sharing for the remaining capital construction projects for the two recovery programs. Capital construction for these programs remains to be completed for additional hatchery facilities to produce endangered fish for stocking, restoring flood plain habitat and fish passage, regulating and/or supplying instream habitat flows, installing screens to prevent fish entrapment in canals, and removing and/or relocating nonnative fishes. The four participating states will contribute \$17 Million and \$17 Million will be contributed from revenues derived from the sale of Colorado River Storage Project (CRSP) hydroelectric power. Subsection 3(c) of the law authorizes the Secretary of Interior to accept contributed funds not to exceed \$17 Million from Colorado, Wyoming, Utah and New Mexico, and authorizes the Secretary to expend such contributed funds as if appropriated for that purpose. Each of the four participating states has appropriated non-federal cost sharing funding. These facts demonstrate the strong commitment and effective partnerships that are present in both of these ongoing programs.

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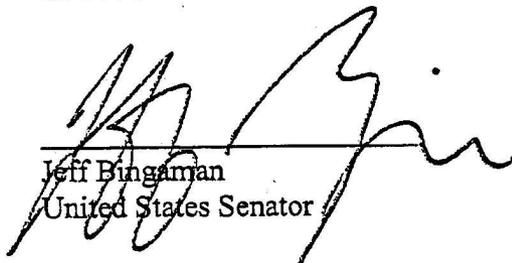
Sincerely,



Wayne Allard  
United States Senator



Orrin G. Hatch  
United States Senator



Jeff Bingaman  
United States Senator

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 19, 2001

The Honorable Sonny Callahan, Chairman  
The Honorable Peter Visclosky, Ranking Minority Member  
Energy and Water Development Subcommittee  
House Appropriations Committee  
2362B Rayburn Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Callahan and Ranking Member Visclosky:

We are writing to request your support for an appropriation in fiscal year 2002 of \$6,950,000, to the Bureau of Reclamation within the line item labeled "Endangered Species Recovery Programs and Activities for the Upper Colorado River Region." Of that amount, the sum of \$5,135,000 should be designated for expenditure on construction activities associated with the Recovery Implementation Program for Endangered Fish Species in the Upper Colorado River Basin (Upper Basin Program), and \$1,815,000 should be designated for the San Juan River Basin Recovery Implementation Program (San Juan Program).

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ponds to raise the native, endangered fish. Further, Reclamation funds will be used to restore fish passage on the Colorado River at the Grand Valley Project and the Price-Stubb Diversion dams. These activities will benefit razorback sucker and Colorado pikeminnow by giving them access to more of their historic habitat. San Juan River Program fiscal year 2002 expenditures will construct a fish passage structure at the Public Service of New Mexico weir and removal of the Cudei Diversion Dam and its replacement with a siphon. In addition, the feasibility of fish passage at the Arizona Public Service weir will be investigated and additional rearing ponds for razorback sucker will be constructed.

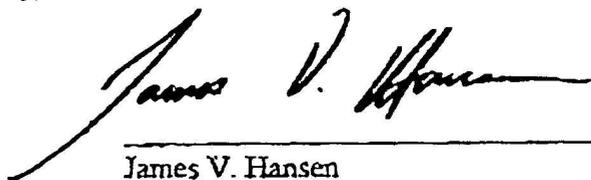
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Sincerely,



Scott McInnis



James V. Hansen



Barbara Cubin



Chris Cannon

05/03/2001 16:25 FAX



Jim Matheson



Bob Schaffer



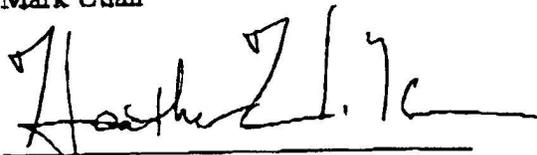
Tom Tancredo



Mark Udall



Diana DeGette



Heather Wilson



Tom Udall

03/15/01 10:21

**BOB SCHAFER**MEMBER OF CONGRESS FROM COLORADO  
FOURTH DISTRICT212 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
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## Congress of the United States

### House of Representatives

## COMMITTEES

AGRICULTURE

RESOURCES

EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE

VICE-CHAIRMAN

EARLY CHILDHOOD, YOUTH AND FAMILY

REPUBLICAN POLICY COMMITTEE

CONGRESSIONAL WESTERN WATER CAUCUS  
LUNCH BRIEFING on  
Draft Recovery Goals for Four Species of Endangered Fish  
Native to the Colorado River Basin  
Monday, March 19, 2001  
12-1:30 p.m.; 4-5 p.m.  
121 CHOB; HC-7

Dear Colleague:

The bipartisan Congressional Western Water Caucus invites you to attend a short luncheon briefing and discussion on draft recovery goals for four species of endangered Colorado River fish - Colorado pikeminnow (formerly Colorado squawfish), humpback chub, bonytail, and razorback sucker.

The recovery of these species is being undertaken in a cooperative manner involving the federal government, various state wildlife agencies in Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, New Mexico, Arizona and Nevada, and private entities. The briefing's purpose is to update you and your staff on the current and future efforts on implementing the recovery goals.

A notice of availability of draft recovery goals will be published in the *Federal Register* in late March or early April. A subsequent 45-day public comment period is planned.

The Mountain-Prairie Region of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, headquartered in Lakewood, Colorado, has the lead for conservation and recovery of these four fish species. These recovery goals are supplements and amendments to existing recovery plans for each species. They detail the criteria that must be met before the species may be considered for removal (delisting) from Endangered Species Act (ESA) protection. As "recovery" of species is essentially the reverse of listing, the draft recovery goals address the five listing factors detailed in Section 4(a)(1) of the ESA. The five listing factors are: 1) the present or threatened destruction, modification, or curtailment of its habitat or range; 2) overutilization for commercial, recreational, scientific, or educational purposes; 3) disease or predation; 4) inadequacy of existing regulatory mechanisms; and 5) other natural manmade factors affecting its continued existence.

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LA JUNTA, CO 81050  
(719) 384-7370706 S. DIVISION AVE.  
STEALING, CO 80761  
(970) 622-1788

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Criteria contained in the goals include demographic and genetic needs for self-sustaining, viable populations, and management actions/tasks that address the five listing factors to minimize or remove threats. The goals address the entire Colorado River Basin, thereby affecting seven states: Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada, and California.

Susan Baker, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Assistant Regional Director for Ecological Services, and Robert Muth, Program Director, Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish

Recovery Program will brief attendees about the draft recovery goals. Time will be allotted for questions and answers.

I hope you and your staff can attend this important luncheon briefing. An R.S.V.P. is not necessary, but will be appreciated. Please contact Rob Nanfelt of my staff at 202-225-4676 should you have any questions.

Very truly yours,



Bob Schaffer  
Member of Congress  
from Colorado