

Continued and new depletions associated with the proposed action are considered an adverse effect and are intended to be offset by new operations. New depletions can affect habitat and reproduction/recruitment; however, estimating the number of individuals of these species that would be taken as a result of water depletions is difficult to quantify.

The number of larvae that may be incidentally taken as a result of any of these factors is unknown. However, because of the potential for loss of individual listed species in fish screens and diversions, Reclamation requests an incidental take statement.

Another form of take might be associated with foregone growth potential due to higher frequency of high flows and potentially lower water temperatures and also perhaps the trade-off of moving water into the peak season at the expense of flows later in the year.

7.0 CONCLUSIONS

Based on the information and analysis of effects in this PBA, the following determinations were made for each of the listed species in the action area.

Clay-loving wild buckwheat	<i>Eriogonum pelinophilum</i>	no effect
Uinta Basin hookless cactus	<i>Sclerocactus glaucus</i>	no effect
Jones' cycladenia	<i>Cycladenia humilis var. jonesii</i>	no effect
Yellow-billed cuckoo	<i>Coccyzus americanus</i>	no effect
Mexican spotted owl	<i>Strix occidentalis lucida</i>	no effect
Southwestern willow flycatcher	<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i>	no effect
California condor	<i>Gymnogyps californianus</i>	no effect
Colorado pikeminnow	<i>Ptychocheilus lucius</i>	may affect, likely to adversely affect
Razorback sucker	<i>Xyrauchen texanus</i>	may affect, likely to adversely affect
Humpback chub	<i>Gila lacypha</i>	may affect, likely to adversely affect
Bonytai	<i>Gila elegans</i>	may affect, likely to adversely affect
Black-footed ferret	<i>Mustela nigripes</i>	no effect
Canada lynx	<i>Lynx Canadensis</i>	no effect
Gunnison's prairie dog	<i>Cynomys gunnisoni</i>	no effect
Uncompahgre fritillary butterfly	<i>Boloria acrocneema</i>	no effect

When compared to the environmental baseline, the proposed action will have overall beneficial effects on the razorback sucker and Colorado pikeminnow and their critical habitat and may benefit the bonytail and humpback downstream in the Colorado River. The new operations of the Unit along with future Recovery Program efforts and conservation measures will improve designated critical habitat conditions for the fish as compared to baseline conditions. However, there is a potential for take under both the baseline and under the proposal. This potential take from entrainment in canals and depletions could result in the harm or kill of individual endangered fish in the Gunnison or Colorado rivers. Therefore, due to the potential for take, the finding is that the proposed action may affect, is likely to adversely affect endangered fish species.

Other species considered in this PBA should not be affected by the proposed action.

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