

# BUDGET The United States Department of the Interior JUSTIFICATIONS

### and Performance Information Fiscal Year 2026

# CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT COMPLETION ACT

justifications are prepared For the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Subcommittees.

NOTICE: These budget





# U.S. Department of the Interior Office of the Secretary

## Central Utah Project Completion Act FY 2026 Budget Justification

## **Central Utah Project Completion Act**

### FY 2026 Budget Estimates

### Table of Contents

Central Utah Project	. 1
FY 2026 Budget Summary	. 1
FY 2026 Overview	.2
Central Utah Project Completion Act Account	. 5
Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission Account	. 8
Title IV - Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Account	1
Appropriation Language	4

Central Utah Project
FY 2026 Budget Summary
(thousands of dollars)

Appropriation	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 CR <sup>1/</sup>	FY 2026 Request
Current			•
Central Utah Project Completion Account	18,350	18,350	13,000
Central Utah Project Completion Account	23,000	23,000	17,000
Internal Mandated Transfer (P.L. 113-235)	(4,650)	(4,650)	(4,000)
Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Account	4,650	4,650	4,000
Internal Mandated Transfer	4,650	4,650	4,000
Permanent			
Title IV - Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Account <sup>2/</sup>	3,245	3,342	3,421
Total Current and Permanent	26,245	26,342	20,421

<sup>1/</sup> The President reserves his authority under the "Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025" (P.L. 119-4) to revise 2025 spending within the amounts provided by Congress.

<sup>2/</sup> In FY 2014, the Mitigation Commission was allowed to access interest from their Investment Account for mitigation activities. The account was established by Title IV of Central Utah Project Completion Act (P.L. 102-575), which authorized the creation of a trust account (Account) in the U. S. Treasury, to provide an ongoing source of funds for the Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission (Mitigation Commission) for 1) mitigation and conservation projects that were authorized in Titles II and III of the Act, and 2) mitigation and conservation projects that were unknown at the date of enactment but would become necessary as CUP water development features authorized in Title II of the Act were designed and/or constructed over time.

#### CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT COMPLETION ACT OFFICE

#### FY 2026 Overview

The Central Utah Project (CUP) was originally authorized in 1956 as a participating project of the Colorado River Storage Project. The CUP was planned by the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), and construction began on the project in 1966. For planning purposes, the CUP was originally divided into six units. The Bonneville Unit was the largest and last of the CUP units to be established. Reclamation continued the planning and construction of the CUP until October 30, 1992, when the Central Utah Project Completion Act (CUPCA), Public Law 102-575, Titles II-VI, was enacted which amended the Colorado River Storage Project Act (CRSPA).

CUPCA provides for the orderly completion of the CUP by increasing the appropriations ceiling and authorizing features and measures for the delivery of water for municipal, industrial, and irrigation purposes; water conservation; wildlife mitigation; and in-stream flows. CUPCA also provides for cost-sharing of project costs with the local repayment entity, establishes a water conservation program, allows local entities to construct project features, and requires compliance with environmental laws. CUPCA established a partnership arrangement among the Department of the Interior (Interior), the Central Utah Water Conservancy District (CUWCD), the Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission (Mitigation Commission), and the Ute Indian Tribe. The CUWCD was given the responsibility for completing the water conveyance facilities and the Mitigation Commission was tasked with completing the environmental mitigation. To implement CUPCA, Interior established a small office in Provo, Utah (CUPCA Office) under the direction of the Assistant Secretary for Water and Science to oversee the completion of the project and the activities of the CUWCD, the Mitigation Commission, and the Ute Indian Rights Settlement.

The CUPCA program advances the Secretary's and Administration's priorities through continued construction and rehabilitation of infrastructure, responsible resource development, and strengthening partnerships with Tribal nations. The CUPCA Program provides critical water supplies and power generation that support the region.

#### **Budget Highlights**

The 2026 Budget provides funding for continued construction of the Utah Lake System pipelines. The remaining pipelines to be constructed are the Spanish Fork Canyon – Santaquin Pipeline and the Santaquin – Mona Pipeline. Once the Utah Lake System is complete and operational, 60,000 acre-feet of water will be available to the communities of Salt Lake County and South Utah County. Water delivered by the Utah Lake System can also be used to generate hydroelectric power, supporting the Administration's objectives to unleash American energy and lower prices for American families. Upon completion of the Utah Lake System, CUWCD's repayment obligation of the federal investment in the Utah Lake System will begin in full.

The 2026 Budget also provides funding to the Mitigation Commission for continued implementation of mitigation commitments for fish, wildlife, and recreation as identified in project planning documents and Title III of CUPCA.

#### **Good Accounting Obligation in Government Act Report**

The Good Accounting Obligation in Government Act (GAO-IG Act, P.L. 115-414) enacted January 3, 2019, requires that Agencies report the status of each open audit recommendation issued more than one year prior to the submission of the Agency's annual budget justification to Congress. The Act requires Agencies to include the current target completion date, implementation status, and any discrepancies on closure determinations.

The Department of the Interior leadership takes audit follow-up very seriously and considers our external auditors, to include the Government Accountability Office (GAO) and Office of the Inspector General, valued partners in not only improving the Department's management and compliance obligations but also enhancing its programmatic and administrative operations. As stewards of taxpayer resources, the Department applies cost-benefit analysis and enterprise risk management principles in recommendation implementation decisions. The Department's GAO-IG Act Report is available at the following link: <a href="https://www.doi.gov/cj">https://www.doi.gov/cj</a>

Detailed performance information for 2024, 2025, and 2026 is included in this justification.

Land Certification:	All land certifications for the authorized projects are complete.		
Project Cost Allocation:	Project cost allocations ratios have been calculated and are documented in the 2004 Final Supplement to the 1988 Definite Plan Report for the Bonneville Unit.		
Benefit-Cost Ratios:	The project has a benefit cost ratio of 1.27 using a analysis and the project planning interest rate of 3. using the 2004 rate of 5.625% from the Economic Principles and Guidelines for Water and Related La Implementation Studies.	125% and ratio of 0.71 and Environmental	
Status of Repayment Contract:	Repayment of the reimbursable costs is required in with the CUWCD. Amendments or supplemental negotiated as necessary. The water users are under remaining portion of the CUP based on the amount An amended block notice making an additional 500 for delivery to South Utah County was issued in M	contracts will be contract to repay the t of water delivered. 0 acre-feet available	
Other Information:	<u>Utah Lake System</u> – Overall planning and NEPA d completed in 2004. Activities now include updated designs, specifications, land acquisition, and constr deliver project water, conserved water, and meet er along the populated Wasatch Front. Construction I	d NEPA documents, ruction of facilities to nvironmental needs	
Appropriation Ceiling:	Appropriation ceilings remaining as of October 202	24 are:	
	<ul> <li>Title II (Sec. 202 to 207)</li> <li>Title II (Sec. 201(a)(1)), Sec. 8 of CRSP</li> <li>Title II (Sec. 201(a)(1)), Sec. 5 of CRSP</li> <li>Title II (Sec. 201 (c))</li> <li>Title III</li> <li>P.L. 84-485, P.L. 92-370, P.L. 100-563</li> </ul>	\$194,930,038 \$6,982,100 0 \$64,081,200 0	
	Total	\$265,993,338	

#### **Central Utah Project Completion Act Account**

**LOCATION:** The project is located in Utah's Bonneville and Uinta Basins, in Uintah, Duchesne, Wasatch, Summit, Utah, Salt Lake, and Juab Counties.

**DESCRIPTION/JUSTIFICATION:** The 2026 Request provides funding to continue the partnership with Central Utah Water Conservancy District in the ongoing construction of the Utah Lake System facilities. Interior's required program oversight activities and commitments under project planning and environmental compliance documents will continue.

AUTHORIZATION: Titles II - VI of P.L. 102-575, October 30, 1992; P.L. 84-485, April 11, 1956; P.L. 90-537, September 30, 1968; P.L. 92-370, August 10, 1972; P.L. 94-423, September 28, 1976; P.L. 96-470, October 19, 1980; P.L. 100-563, October 31, 1988; P.L. 104-286, October 11, 1996; P.L. 106-140, December 7, 1999; P.L. 107-366, December 19, 2002; Section 214 of P.L. 108-137, December 1, 2003; Section 507 of P.L. 110-229, May 8, 2008; Section 201(d) of P.L. 111-5, February 17, 2009; and P.L. 113-20, July 18, 2013; P.L. 118-169, December 23, 2024.

**PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT:** This project is aligned with the Department of the Interior's goals and priorities.

**Completion Data**: As of September 2024, work authorized by CUPCA is 84 percent complete. The major projects presently under construction are:

The Utah Lake Drainage Basin Water Delivery System, Spanish Fork Canyon – Santaquin Pipeline; and Provo River Delta Restoration Project.

#### Fiscal Year 2026 Planned Program Performance

#### **Central Utah Project Completion Account**

The 2026 Budget provides \$17 million. Of this amount, \$13 million will be expended from this account and \$4 million will be transferred to the Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Account for use by the Mitigation Commission.

*Utah Lake Drainage Basin Water Delivery System* – The 2026 Budget requests \$5.20 million. The Utah Lake System construction began in the summer of 2007 and includes 55 miles of large diameter (60-inch to 96-inch) welded steel, cement mortar-lined and cement mortar-coated pipelines and hydroelectric facilities. The pipelines consist of Spanish Fork Canyon Pipeline; Mapleton – Springville Pipeline; Spanish Fork Canyon – Provo Reservoir Pipeline; Spanish Fork Canyon – Santaquin Pipeline. Of these pipelines, the Spanish Fork Canyon Pipeline, Mapleton – Springville Pipeline, and Spanish Fork Canyon – Provo Reservoir Pipeline are complete. The Spanish Fork Canyon – Santaquin Pipeline is under construction and the Santaquin – Mona Pipeline remains to be constructed.

The primary purpose of the Utah Lake System is to deliver 60,000 acre-feet of municipal and industrial water to communities in Salt Lake and Utah Counties to meet contractual commitments with local water users. The Spanish Fork Canyon – Provo Reservoir Pipeline provides 22,000 acre-feet of water to Salt Lake County. The Spanish Fork Canyon – Santaquin Pipeline will provide 30,000 acre-feet to the

Central Utah Project Completion Act-5

communities of south Utah County. In addition to municipal and industrial use, the Utah Lake System will deliver an annual average of 16,000 acre-feet and 8,500 acre-feet of water to the Provo River and Hobble Creek respectively, to meet fish, wildlife, and recreation commitments during the months of July through September. This water was acquired as conserved water under Section 207 of CUPCA. The Utah Lake System also provides hydroelectric power generation, contributing to meet the energy needs of the community. Completion of the pipelines will initiate repayment to the United States for that portion of the construction and allow for future hydroelectric power to be developed.

*Water Conservation* – The 2026 Budget requests \$1.40 million. The Water Management Improvement Program established under Section 207 of CUPCA supports the planning and development of water conservation projects that extend the municipal and industrial water supply for communities in Utah County and Salt Lake County. The Water Management Improvement Program provides critical solutions to address water availability challenges and ongoing drought conditions.

*Fish and Wildlife* – The 2026 Budget requests \$4.45 million. The Fish and Wildlife budget includes costs paid annually to CUWCD as part of Interior's non-reimbursable operation and maintenance obligations per Reclamation law and agreements. Interior also provides water for instream flows for fisheries and Endangered Species Act requirements. These flows are provided by CUWCD under contract. The mitigation of impacts to endangered species is a condition of operation of the entire CUP. Under the Endangered Species Act, and in accordance with CUPCA Titles II and III and Fish and Wildlife Service Biological Opinions, Interior has committed to the recovery of the June sucker that exists only in Utah Lake. These commitments are documented in the 1999 Diamond Fork System EIS Records of Decision. These commitments include participation in the June Sucker Recovery Implementation Program (JSRIP) and funding for hatchery operation and maintenance, water delivery, and recovery monitoring. Due to the efforts of Interior and partner entities, the June sucker was moved from endangered to threatened status in February 2021 and the JSRIP continues to work toward delisting.

*Program Administration* – The 2026 Budget includes \$1.95 million for use by Interior to carry out the responsibilities of the Secretary and for other activities required by CUPCA. Secretarial responsibilities include overall program oversight, implementation of the Ute Tribal Settlement, and fish and wildlife obligations. The CUPCA Office provides for inspection of construction of new facilities, review of existing facilities, and contract formalization and oversight to ensure the interest of the United States is fulfilled. The CUPCA Office provides for the review and preparation of planning and environmental documents and continues to work with the Ute Tribe to implement authorized projects and to finalize the settlement compact as mandated by Title V of CUPCA.

#### SUMMARIZED FINANCIAL DATA (thousands of dollars)

#### **Program Financial Data**

Activity	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 CR <sup>1/</sup>	FY 2026 Request
Utah Lake Drainage Basin Water Delivery System	10,482	10,482	5,199
Water Conservation	2,000	2,000	1,400
Fish & Wildlife Conservation Projects	4,118	4,118	4,451
Program Administration	1,750	1,750	1,950
Total, Central Utah Project Completion Account	18,350	18,350	13,000

<sup>1/</sup> The President reserves his authority under the "Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025" (P.L. 119-4) to revise 2025 spending within the amounts provided by Congress.

#### WORK PROPOSED FOR FY 2026:

#### **Central Utah Project Completion Account**

#### Utah Lake Drainage Basin Water Delivery System

Activities include continued construction of the Spanish Fork Canyon – Santaquin Pipeline. Once the entire Utah Lake System is complete, it will provide a critical municipal and industrial water supply for several communities in Salt Lake and Utah counties. Water will also be used for hydroelectric power generation, and will be delivered to streams for recreation, fisheries, and habitat. Block notices making water available for delivery to south Utah County are being issued as reaches of the pipeline are completed and put into service. These block notices will initiate payment of a portion of the CUWCD repayment obligation. **\$5,199,000** 

#### Water Conservation

Activities include planning, environmental compliance, and implementation of water conservation projects. These projects will extend the municipal and industrial water supply for communities in Utah County and Salt Lake County. \$1,400,000

#### Fish & Wildlife Conservation Projects

Funds will provide for costs paid annually to CUWCD as part of Interior's non-reimbursable operation and maintenance obligations, and for costs to deliver water for in stream flows. In addition, funds will be used to pay the cost of operating and maintaining hatchery facilities under Section 313(c) of CUPCA, for mitigation projects required by Section 314(c) of CUPCA, and for support of the JSRIP. **\$4,451,000** 

#### **Program Administration**

Funds will be used to provide oversight of the CUWCD, Mitigation Commission, and Ute Tribe settlement, and to otherwise carry out the responsibilities of the Secretary under CUPCA. The CUPCA Office provides for construction and existing facilities inspection, and contract formalization and oversight to ensure the interest of the United States is being met and provide for the review and preparation of planning and environmental documents. \$1,950,000

#### **Total, Central Utah Project Completion Account**

#### \$13,000,000

Central Utah Project Completion Act-7

#### Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission Account

**LOCATION:** The project is located in Utah's Bonneville and Uinta Basins, in Uintah, Duchesne, Wasatch, Summit, Utah, Salt Lake, and Juab Counties.

**DESCRIPTION/JUSTIFICATION:** CUPCA provides for completion of the CUP by increasing the appropriation ceilings and authorizing features and measures for the delivery of water for municipal, industrial, and irrigation purposes; water conservation; wildlife mitigation and monitoring; and in-stream flows. Under CUPCA, the CUWCD was given the responsibility for completing the water conveyance and water conservation facilities, and the Mitigation Commission was tasked with completing the mitigation and conservation activities.

AUTHORIZATION: Titles II - VI of P.L. 102-575, October 30, 1992; P.L. 84-485, April 11, 1956; P.L. 90-537, September 30, 1968; P.L. 92-370, August 10, 1972; P.L. 94-423, September 28, 1976; P.L. 96-470, October 19, 1980; P.L. 100-563, October 31, 1988; P.L. 104-286, October 11, 1996; P.L. 106-140, December 7, 1999; P.L. 107-366, December 19, 2002; Section 214 of P.L. 108-137, December 1, 2003; Section 507 of P.L. 110-229, May 8, 2008; Section 201(d) of P.L. 111-5, February 17, 2009; and P.L. 113-20, July 18, 2013; P.L. 118-169, December 23, 2024.

**PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT:** Central Utah Project completion is aligned with the Department of the Interior's goals and priorities.

#### Fiscal Year 2026 Planned Program Performance

#### **Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Account**

The 2026 Budget includes \$4.0 million to be transferred to the Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Account for use by the Mitigation Commission. These funds will be used to implement the mitigation and conservation projects for fish, wildlife, and recreation needed to complete mitigation measures committed to in pre-1992 Reclamation planning documents, and those authorized in Title III which include the following programs:

*Provo River/Utah Lake Fish and Wildlife* – The 2026 Budget continues work improving fish and wildlife habitat. A variety of projects are underway to improve recreation and support habitat along the Provo River and Utah Lake. The Provo River Delta Restoration Project (PRDRP) opened to the public in October 2024 and is scheduled for completion in early 2026. The Mitigation Commission will implement several other projects to improve habitat, including recovery of the threatened June sucker through participation in the JSRIP. Additionally, the budget will fund payment of O&M costs for delivery of water to Hobble Creek and Provo River and acquisition of additional water rights for Provo River instream flows. Funds will also continue development of improved hunter and angler access and experiences at the Utah Lake Wetlands Preserve, authorized by CUPCA.

*Diamond Fork Fish and Wildlife* – Activities include the restoration of stream and riparian areas in Diamond Fork Canyon following completion of the Diamond Fork System in consultation with Interior, CUWCD, Fish and Wildlife Service, Forest Service, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, and stakeholders including anglers and angler groups. The Pole Creek fire in 2019 destroyed vegetation on lands managed by the Mitigation Commission and work is underway to rehabilitate areas impacted by the fire. This work, along with monitoring of water quality and geophysical and biological responses within the drainage, will enhance angler use and ecosystem function.

*Duchesne/Strawberry Rivers Fish and Wildlife* – Activities include construction of the Duchesne River Area Canal Rehabilitation (DRACR) Wetlands Mitigation Project to mitigate for CUP impacts of the Strawberry Aqueduct and Collection System (SACS). The Mitigation Commission will continue to participate in sage grouse population monitoring efforts in the Uintah Basin as partial mitigation for loss of leks and habitat due to SACS.

*CRSP/Statewide Fish, Wildlife and Recreation* – Statewide activities include cooperation with the State of Utah to improve habitat on CUPCA affected watersheds.

*Operations, Management, Maintenance and Rehabilitation* – Funding provides for continued operations of the Mitigation Commission and partner agencies; management, maintenance and replacement of items associated with wildlife mitigation/management areas; wetlands preserves; river restoration corridors including properties along the middle Provo River that support the top blue ribbon stream fishery in the State of Utah; monitoring and mitigation of potential bird aircraft collisions associated with the PRDRP; stream gauging; water quality monitoring to ensure commitments are met; and contract costs for services and utilities.

#### SUMMARIZED FINANCIAL DATA (thousands of dollars)

#### **Program Financial Data**

Activity	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 CR <sup>1/</sup>	FY 2026 Request
Section 201(a)(1) Mitigation Measures	1,000	1,000	800
Title III – Fish and Wildlife, Recreation, Mitigation,			
and Conservation <sup>2/</sup>	3,650	3,650	3,200
Total CUPCA Allotment	4,650	4,650	4,000

<sup>1/</sup> The President reserves his authority under the "Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025" (P.L. 119-4) to revise 2025 spending within the amounts provided by Congress.

 $2^{2}$  Section 201(a)(1) is reaching the ceiling of funding. The 2026 request utilizes more of available Title III funds.

#### WORK PROPOSED FOR FY 2026:

#### **Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission**

#### Section 201(a)(1) Mitigation Measures

Mitigation measures include habitat restoration along the lower Duchesne River as part of a commitment for impacts resulting from the Duchesne River Area Canal Rehabilitation project (DRACR) for recovery actions for the threatened June sucker along the Provo River and Utah Lake. **\$800,000** 

#### Title III – Fish and Wildlife, Recreation, Mitigation, and Conservation

Title III authorizations supplement or complement the funding available through Title II of CUPCA. CUPCA established 43 habitat and conservation projects within Title III, which have been organized into several watershed-based programs. The Mitigation Commission, CUWCD, and Interior have developed partnerships with the State of Utah to implement and manage these projects to meet commitments and achieve the most benefits for wildlife habitat. \$3,200,000

#### Total, Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission \$4,000,000

#### Title IV - Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Account

#### Planned Expenditures of Interest in FY 2026

LOCATION: The CUP is located in central and northeastern Utah.

**DESCRIPTION/JUSTIFICATION:** The Central Utah Project is composed of several member units. The largest unit is the Bonneville Unit, which is primarily responsible for developing the water supplies of the Colorado River Drainage for diversion and use in the Bonneville Basin of the Great Basin. The Bonneville Unit is composed of the Starvation Collection System, the Strawberry Aqueduct and Collection System, the Diamond Fork System, the Municipal and Industrial System, and the Utah Lake Drainage Basin Water Delivery System.

On October 30, 1992, the Central Utah Project Completion Act, Titles II through VI of P.L. 102-575, was enacted. CUPCA raised the Bonneville Unit appropriations ceiling; required local non-Federal cost sharing of project capital costs; allowed local entities to construct certain project features under the direction of the Secretary; authorized certain water conservation and wildlife mitigation projects; and created the Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission, transferring authority for planning, funding, and implementing Title II and III funds (under CUPCA) and Section 8 funds (under CRSPA for the Bonneville Unit only) for mitigation activities to the Mitigation Commission.

Title IV of CUPCA authorized the creation of a trust account in the U.S. Treasury, the purpose of which is to provide an ongoing source of funds for the Mitigation Commission for:

(1) mitigation and conservation projects that were authorized in Titles II and III of the Act, and

(2) mitigation and conservation projects that were unknown at the date of enactment but would become necessary as CUP water development features authorized in Title II of the Act were designed and/or constructed over time.

Pursuant to Title IV of the Act, the Account is comprised of (A) contributions to build up an initial principal within the Account, plus (B) interest that would be earned on the principal during an initial period of years. Annual contributions from the Department of the Interior, the Central Utah Water Conservancy District, and the State of Utah were specified over an initial eight-year period; an annual contribution from the Western Area Power Administration of the Department of Energy (WAPA) continued through FY 2013.

Beginning in FY 2014, the interest earned and accrued to the Account is no longer required to be reinvested into the Account and, instead, is directly available either for Mitigation Commission expenditure or, upon the Mitigation Commission's discretion, for re-investment into the Account. Funding available through Titles II and III of the Act has not been sufficient to implement the required and planned programs of the Mitigation Commission. Therefore, funding from interest earned and accrued on the Account is used to support and supplement vital projects.

**AUTHORIZATION:** P.L. 84-485, The Colorado River Storage Project Act, April 11, 1956; P.L. 102-575, Titles II through VI (Central Utah Project Completion Act or CUPCA), October 30, 1992, as amended by Section 214 of P.L. 108-137.

#### SUMMARIZED FINANCIAL DATA (thousands of dollars)

#### **Program Financial Data**

Activity	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 CR <sup>1/</sup>	FY 2026 Request
Diamond Fork Fish and Wildlife	0	0	50
Provo River/Utah Lake Fish and Wildlife	584	533	399
Duchesne/Strawberry Rivers Fish and Wildlife	0	0	101
Operations, Management, Maintenance and			
Rehabilitation	2,661	2,809	2,871
Total Title IV Program <sup>2/</sup>	3,245	3,342	3,421

<sup>1/</sup> The President reserves his authority under the "Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025" (P.L. 119-4) to revise 2025 spending within the amounts provided by Congress.

<sup>2</sup>/Funding estimates in this table include sequestration adjustments.

**WORK PROPOSED FOR FY 2026:** The Mitigation Commission implements its program on a watershed basis. Three watershed programs will be funded with Title IV Account interest earnings in 2025.

#### **Diamond Fork Fish and Wildlife**

Two projects will be funded with interest in FY 2026. The first is an ongoing water quality and stream flow measurement monitoring effort, which is cost-shared with CUWCD. The second is managing 175 acres of CUP wetlands and wildlife mitigation area in Diamond Fork Canyon. \$50,000

#### Provo River/Utah Lake Fish and Wildlife

Management of habitat restoration projects is vital for meeting CUPCA commitments and ensuring future development and management of CUP water supplies. This includes operation of facilities constructed as part of the Provo River Restoration Project through the Heber Valley, which encompasses 1,200 acres of habitat in the State of Utah. Areas near Utah Lake have been restored to support recovery of the threatened June sucker. The Mitigation Commission works with the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources to identify management priorities and with the June Sucker Recovery Implementation Program on appropriate recovery actions. Additional areas around Utah Lake are managed in cooperation with the State to benefit wildlife in fulfillment of CUPCA commitments. \$399,000

#### **Duchesne/Strawberry Rivers Fish and Wildlife**

Activities include support for ongoing efforts to improve recreation, rehabilitate wildfire damage, and conserve sage grouse and other wildlife through management and conservation actions on mitigation properties in the Uintah Basin. \$101,000

#### Agency Administration, Operations, Management, Maintenance and Rehabilitation

The Mitigation Commission will continue operations with partner agencies for management, maintenance, and replacement. This includes wildlife management areas, wetland preserves, river restoration corridors, terrestrial conservation and mitigation sites, stream gauging, and water quality monitoring. Other specific projects include payment to CUWCD for costs attributable to operation, maintenance, replacement, and reserve charges for Bonneville Unit water acquired by

Central Utah Project Completion Act-12

the Commission to support enhancement projects. The Mitigation Commission also established and manages the Lower Duchesne Wetlands Mitigation Project with the Ute Indian Tribe, with Title IV Account interest. \$2,871,000

#### **Total Mitigation Commission Program**

\$3,421,000

#### **Appropriation Language**

#### **Central Utah Project Completion Account**

For carrying out activities authorized by the Central Utah Project Completion Act, titles II through VI of Public Law 102–575, as amended, \$17,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$4,000,000 shall be deposited into the Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Account for use by the Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission: Provided, That of the amount provided under this heading, \$1,950,000 shall be available until September 30, 2027, for expenses necessary in carrying out related responsibilities of the Secretary of the Interior: Provided further, That for fiscal year 2026, of the amount made available to the Commission under this Act or any other Act, the Commission may use an amount not to exceed \$2,186,000 for administrative expenses.

Note.—This account is operating under the Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025 (Division A of Public Law 119–4).