

**Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Work Group**  
**Agenda Item Information**  
**May 1, 2007**

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Agenda Item: Monitoring and Research Plan Update

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Action Requested

- √ Information item only; we will answer questions but no action is requested.
- Feedback requested from AMWG members.
- Motion requested. (The following motion is  requested, and is provided as a courtesy to AMWG members.  recommended by TWG. However, no motion is presumed to be made unless and until an AMWG member makes the motion in accordance with the AMWG Operating Procedures.)

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Presenter(s): John Hamill, Chief, GCMRC

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Previous Action Taken

- √ By AMWG: see attached
- √ By TWG: see attached
- By an Ad Hoc Group:
- Other:

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Relevant Science

- There has been no relevant research or monitoring on this subject.
- The following describes the relevant research or monitoring on this subject:

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Background Information

- √ See attached.

## Addressing AMWG concerning about the Monitoring and Research Plan (MRP)

### AMWG Recommendation

“AMWG approves the MRP as a working document to help guide preparation of the FY 08-09 work plan and budget; and recommends to the Secretary of the Interior the GCMRC be charged with (1) addressing the concerns listed in the TWG minority report in a final FY 07-11 document and (2) bringing that document to the AMWG for further consideration in the summer of 2007.” AMWG Meeting, December 5, 2007

The TWG minority report was authored by NPS, Colorado and WAPA.

### NPS Issues Related to the MRP

The NPS and GCMRC met on 1/11/2007 regarding NPS concerns over the draft MRP that had been specified in the minority report presented to the AMWG on 12/6/06. The discussion boiled down to a concern that the draft MRP (11/14) lacked a comprehensive list of critical science questions that would be addressed over the next 5 years. To address this NPS concern, GCMRC/NPS agreed to the following:

GCMRC would develop a crosswalk table showing how the 250 +/- Research Information Needs in the AMP Strategic Plan relate to the Strategic Science Questions in the draft MRP. Through a review of this table, GCMRC and NPS will identify new science questions that should be included in the MRP. GCMRC will bring revised the list to the TWG for review. The crosswalk table and additional science questions would be included in the revised draft MRP and brought to the AMWG for approval at its summer meeting.

### WAPA and State of Colorado Issues Related to the MRP

John Hamill (GCMRC) met with Rod Kuharich (CO), Randy Seaholm (CO), Mary Barger, (WAPA), and Clayton Palmer (WAPA) on December 6, 2006, in Las Vegas, NV, to discuss issues identified in the TWG minority report on the MRP. Three major issues were identified:

1. **Humpback Chub (HBC) monitoring:** There is a concern that FWS has not accepted the protocols/models use by GCMRC determine the HBC population status in the Grand Canyon. GCMRC has been working with FWS to ensure that the monitoring protocols and models for humpback chub (HBC) in the Grand Canyon are consistent with the requirements of the HBC Recovery Plan. Language will be included in the MRP that clarifies that the HBC monitoring being conducted under the auspices of the AMP will be designed to meet the standards or requirements specified in the HBC Recovery Plan.
2. **Sediment**
  - Policy guidance needs to be provided on the geographic scope sediment work in the Grand Canyon, i.e., is the focus on the entire Colorado River from Glen Canyon Dam to Lake Mead or just to the Marble Canyon reach.
  - WAPA and Colorado would like the MRP to reflect that other options for sediment conservation will be addressed

- Colorado expressed concern that use of sand bars by recreational users significantly threatens the persistence of sand bars.
- WAPA/Colorado will draft proposed revisions to the MRP to reflect the points above.

### 3. Food Base

- Hamill indicated that the MRP currently specifies that effects of stable vs fluctuating flows on food base would be addressed through the Long Term Experimental Program which is still a work in progress. There is currently a place holder in the MRP to address the effects of alternative flow regimes on food base.
- Palmer supports implementation of Argonne National Lab's proposal for doing short term experiments to evaluate the effects of fluctuating flows on drift and food base in FY 2008. Hamill indicated that this proposal should be brought to the TWG for consideration in the preparation of the FY 2008 work plan.

### Next Steps

1. GCMRC will revise the MRP based on consideration of comments/recommendations from the primary authors of the Minority Report (Colorado, NPS and WAPA) (Jun 1)
2. GCMRC will send out proposed MRP revisions for review and concurrence by the TWG (Jun 1)
3. GCMRC will send out proposed MRP revisions for review and approval by the AMWG (Late July 2007)