

**GILA RIVER BASIN NATIVE FISHES CONSERVATION PROGRAM**  
STRATEGIC PLAN 2013-2017  
December 2012

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation  
New Mexico Game and Fish Department  
Arizona Game and Fish Department

## INTRODUCTION

This is the third 5-year strategic plan to assist the near-term implementation of the Gila River Basin Native Fishes Conservation Program (Program; previously known as the Central Arizona Project [CAP] Fund Transfer Program). The Program is funded by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), and is directed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) and Reclamation, in cooperation with the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (NMDGF) and Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD). The Program mission is to undertake and support conservation actions (recovery and protection) for federal/state-listed or candidate fish species native to the Gila River basin by implementing existing and future recovery plans for those fishes. This strategic plan identifies the long-term vision for the Program as well as broad goals and actions that are expected to be accomplished by the Program over the next 5 years.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAM

The Program was developed to partially mitigate impacts of the CAP on threatened and endangered native fishes of the Gila River basin. The Service concluded in a 1994 biological opinion that the CAP is a conduit for transfers of non-indigenous fishes and other aquatic organisms from the lower Colorado River (where the CAP originates) to waters of the Gila River basin. That opinion identified the spread and establishment of nonnative aquatic organisms as a serious long-term threat to the status and recovery of native aquatic species, following a long history of habitat loss and degradation. Impacts of nonnatives include predation, competition, hybridization, and parasite and pathogen transmission. In most cases, it is extremely difficult or impossible to remove invaders once they have established.

For these reasons, the 1994 Service opinion concluded that operation of the CAP would jeopardize the continued existence of 4 native threatened or endangered fish species: Gila topminnow (*Poeciliopsis occidentalis*), spikedace (*Meda fulgida*), loach minnow (*Tiaroga cobitis*), and razorback sucker (*Xyrauchen texanus*). The Service also concluded that the CAP would adversely modify designated critical habitat of spikedace, loach minnow, and razorback sucker. A suite of reasonable and prudent alternatives were designed to monitor the introduction and spread of nonnative aquatic species, construct and operate barriers to prevent the upstream spread of nonnative species, implement fund transfers to the Service to recover natives and control nonnatives, and inform and educate the public about the value of native fishes and the negative impacts posed by nonnatives. In a 2001 revision of the 1994 opinion, the reasonable and prudent alternatives became conservation measures, and the Santa Cruz River subbasin was

added to its geographic scope. In a 2008 revision, the newly-listed endangered Gila chub (*Gila intermedia*) and Chiricahua leopard frog (*Lithobates chiricahuensis*) were added to the Program as species affected by operation of the CAP.

This five-year strategic plan is intended primarily to guide the implementation of the fund transfers to the Service and its subcontractors. These funds undertake and support conservation actions (recovery and protection) for the five priority fishes, and other native fishes in the Gila River basin (including federal/state-listed species, candidates, and other non-listed species) by implementing existing and future recovery plans for those fishes. In addition, the biological opinions support the control and eradication of nonnative fishes and other non-indigenous aquatic organisms. Thus the Program is also directed toward actions against nonnative aquatic biota where they interfere with recovery of native forms.

Reclamation will transfer \$550,000 to the Service each year for a total of 30 years to implement this program. Approximately one-half that amount is intended for native fish recovery actions, and one-half for nonnative aquatic biota control actions. Expenditure of these funds is jointly agreed upon by Reclamation and the Service in consultation with AZGFD and NMGFD. The Service submits an annual report to Reclamation detailing the expenditure of the funds and how they contributed to recovery of fishes in the Gila River basin.

The CAP Fund Transfer Program started in June 1997, and is now 14 years into its 30-yr commitment. Some of the major past accomplishments of the Program are:

- Aravaipa Creek geohydrology study
- Status surveys of spokedace, loach minnow, and roundtail chub
- Maintenance of captive stocks of topminnow lineages
- Assessment study of razorback sucker and Colorado pikeminnow
- Development of a larval fish identification key
- Development of spokedace, loach minnow, and chub propagation techniques
- Development and expansion of a spokedace, loach minnow, and chub propagation facility at Bubbling Ponds Hatchery
- Reconstruction/development of refuge ponds for Gila chub, desert pupfish, and Gila topminnow
- Pupfish genetic studies
- Repatriations of native fishes to protected streams
- Community isotope analysis of native and nonnative fish interactions at the Gila forks
- Support for the feasibility, design, and construction of fish barriers to prevent upstream movements of nonnative fishes
- Studies on fish diseases/pathogens, crayfish control, and genetic biocontrol of nonnative fishes
- Independent evaluation of the implementation and effectiveness of the Program
- Acquisition of renovation chemicals and supplies (and helicopter support)
- Support of chemical renovations of streams and stock tanks

- Rocky Mountain Research Station facility improvements for emergency native fish salvage and holding
- Investigation of mechanical removal efforts for the control of nonnative fishes

#### PROGRAM LONG-TERM VISION

The principal goals of Gila River Basin Native Fishes Conservation Program are to: 1) achieve enhanced conservation status of federally-listed and candidate fish species in the Gila River basin; 2) alleviate and diminish threats from extant nonnative aquatic species to native fishes; and 3) remove nonnative fishes that might enter the Gila River basin via the Central Arizona Project or other pathways. While the focus of this Program is recovery of federally-listed species, it is recognized that long-term viability of protected species is accomplished only in the context of conservation of intact native fish assemblages and their associated environments.

#### PROGRAM PRIORITIES AND FUNDING CRITERIA

Funding to conserve Gila River basin native fishes is limited and the recovery of listed fishes is critical. Monies from the Program thus are prioritized such that meaningful, achievable, and lasting on-the-ground activities benefit native fishes according to recovery plan goals (Appendix A) and other management guidance documents (e.g. conservation agreements, habitat conservation plans, State Wildlife Action Plans, integrated watershed management plans, forest management plans, BLM habitat management plans, etc).

Highest priority projects for the Program are those that are necessary to:

- prevent extinction and stabilize populations in the wild
- replicate rare populations in the wild

Actions needed to prevent extinction and stabilize populations in the wild include:

- Construct fish passage barriers to protect existing populations
- Control nonnative aquatic species above barriers
- Establish new and/or maintain existing populations
- Implement other actions to remove immediate threats and thereby help prevent extinction

Actions needed to replicate rare populations in the wild include:

- Safeguard streams for replication of rare populations
- Where necessary, construct fish passage barriers and renovate streams
- Undertake captive production, including development of propagation techniques
- Implement other actions to insure that rare populations are replicated and protected

Additional priority is given to projects that:

- benefit the 5 priority species identified in the biological opinions;
- benefit multiple species, including all native fishes of the Gila River basin;
- provide immediate on-the-ground benefit; and/or

- address other activities pertaining to research or management that aid in conserving native fish populations and habitat.

It is recognized that planning and environmental compliance activities must proceed in advance of on-the-ground actions. However, mandates under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act for Federal agencies to assist in conserving threatened and endangered species, and separate monies available to State agencies for this same purpose, may help provide for these needs when possible. These potential funding needs will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis as appropriate.

In addition to how each project addresses Program priorities and meets the strategic plan's 5-year goals, each project must:

- contribute to recovery of Gila River basin native fishes
- be technically sound and able to be implemented
- be able to accomplish its objectives in a reasonable timeframe
- not be redundant either in scope or funding source

Original project ideas are based on recovery plans and are generated through discussions with ad hoc groups of biologists, agency, academic, and non-governmental organizations, private fish biologists working in the Gila River basins, and other entities as appropriate.

Proposed projects are evaluated using a standardized evaluation form (Appendix B). The score form is part of the process (but not the only element) that the Technical Committee uses to help evaluate project merits and recommendations to approve or reject.

#### Program 5-Year Goals Based on Recovery Plan Tasks and Priorities for the 5 Priority Species:

##### **Recovery Need: Build the scientific foundation for recovery efforts**

Although the Program concentrates on implementing on-the-ground recovery actions, certain basic research and planning needs are needed to build the foundation for future recovery actions.

##### Goals/Strategies:

1. Identify critical streams and populations in need of protection and replication.
2. Investigate novel methods to control nonnative aquatic biota.
3. Update and assemble existing knowledge of life history needs and ecology of Gila River basin native fishes.
4. Assess existing water rights to identify possible protection and acquisition prospects, as opportunities arise.
5. Survey poorly-studied stream systems to document existing fish communities.
6. Develop and implement a program to obtain management easements for private stock tanks, as opportunities arise.

7. Evaluate the potential for environmental DNA methods to assist with conservation goals of the Program.

Actions/Objectives (numbers correspond to goals/strategies):

1. Complete the research, assembly, and prioritization lists of streams/fish stocks in need of protection, and identify potential repatriation streams.
2. Complete study of the effectiveness of mechanical control of nonnative fish populations, and initiate study of the potential for Supaverm® to selectively control nonnative fishes
3. As opportunities arise, initiate ecological/life history studies of native biota where such understanding can assist with conservation goals of the Program.
4. Survey major surface and groundwater rights in perennial stream reaches of the Gila River basin where acquisition can contribute to conservation goals of the Program.
5. Investigate fish distributions in the upper Gila River watershed in New Mexico that have not recently been surveyed.
6. Initiate an agreement to develop easement language for management of private stock tank fishes, and acquire five stock tank easements.
7. Determine how eDNA methods can contribute toward conservation goals of the Program, and implement them as appropriate.

### **Recovery Need: Prevent extinction of rare populations and species**

Fundamental goals are to protect remaining populations of target fish species and replicate the rarest populations to preclude local extirpation or extinction. Protection includes establishing “captive” populations of all existing unique genetic stocks of all target species. Captive populations may be maintained in a hatchery or other facility, or at secure sites in the wild. Salvage followed by chemical renovations may be necessary to prevent extinctions of some populations or to secure certain waters for population replications; renovations will not be necessary for replications to fishless or native-only waters.

Goals/Strategies:

1. Acquire and maintain hatchery/pond stocks of critically endangered populations as insurance against extinction in the wild and to provide sources for population replications.
2. Scope, design and install low-head fish barriers to prevent upstream movements of nonnative biota.
3. Maintain adequate supplies of chemicals and associated equipment to conduct surface water renovations.
4. Survey stock tanks and other surface waters in drainages identified for native fish protection under the previous Recovery Need (1), and salvage native fishes in advance of renovations.

5. Chemically and/or mechanically renovate streams and other surface waters identified under the previous Recovery Need (1) to remove nonnative fishes.
6. Replicate rare populations and their associated native fish community into protected streams and other surface waters.
7. Acquire habitat and management easements to protect key surface waters.
8. Facilitate the above strategies by ensuring compliance with applicable federal and state laws and regulations, and completion of internal compliance processes.
9. Restore degraded aquatic habitats to use for native fish.

Actions/Objectives (numbers correspond to goals/strategies):

1. Acquire and maintain hatchery stocks of all wild populations of spinedace and loach minnow, all major genetic stocks of Gila topminnow and other species' populations as appropriate.
2. Scope, design, and install low-head fish barriers on three streams.
3. Purchase rotenone, permanganate, and application equipment in sufficient quantity to allow successful renovations of all approved surface waters.
4. Survey and remove nonnative fishes from stock tanks in drainages approved for renovations under the previous Recovery Need (1).
5. Renovate a minimum of five streams or other surface waters to prepare them for repatriations of native fishes.
6. Replicate stocks of rare species into 10 streams or other surface waters.
7. Acquire stock tank easements as necessary in watersheds designated for native fish management.
8. Complete environmental compliance for all proposed on-the-ground projects.
9. Identify and prepare/restore refuge sites for appropriate native fish populations.

### **Recovery Need: Manage Toward Recovery**

The overarching goal of this phase of the Program is to build upon on-the-ground actions implemented during prior years. This will be accomplished by identifying additional streams and populations that are considered necessary to ensure long-term persistence of target species, and by geographically expanding protective measures to encompass selected watersheds and connect streams that are occupied by only native fishes. The bulk of this recovery need will be accomplished in later years.

Goals/Strategies:

1. Plan, scope, design and install additional fish barriers.
2. Maintain and operate the Bubbling Ponds Native Fishes Conservation Facility through the course of the Program.
3. Identify sub-drainages with potential for connecting stream complexes (sub-drainages) into native fish recovery areas.
4. Continue and expand repatriations of native fish communities.
5. Protect target surface waters through water rights and/or land acquisition.

6. Inform and educate the public about the conservation status and values of native fishes and the problems nonnative fishes create for them.
7. Monitor on-the-ground activities to quantitatively measure and evaluate programmatic success in improving the status of target species and their habitats.
8. Track projects to ensure that prerequisites are met before succeeding projects are implemented.
9. Periodically evaluate the success of species repatriations and surface water renovations.

Actions/Objectives (numbers correspond to goals/strategies):

1. Complete the scoping, environmental compliance, and design of five additional fish barriers, and initiate their construction.
2. Maintain and operate the Bubbling Ponds Native Fishes Conservation Facility as needed through the course of the Program.
3. Identify five sub-drainages with interconnected perennial stream reaches with potential to convert to native fish recovery areas.
4. Plan renovations of five new stream reaches or other surface waters.
5. Investigate acquisition potential for a minimum of five water rights/properties/easements to improve watershed protection for Gila River basin native fishes.
6. Further develop and implement a public awareness program to educate about the conservation status and values of native fishes and the problems nonnative species create for them, including development and launch of a website dedicated to the Program.
7. Implement 5-year monitoring and evaluation programs for all species repatriations that occur during the period of this plan.
8. Track progress and status of all projects identified in annual fund transfer agreements during the period of this plan.
9. Periodically evaluate the success of species repatriations and surface water renovations.

## PROJECT SELECTION PROCESS

Primary administration of the Program is by Reclamation and the Service. Program guidance is in cooperation with AZGFD and NMGFD. Two committees have been established with representation from the four agencies to address technical and policy matters of the Program. The Technical Committee is comprised of biologists (1 per agency) that oversee project solicitation, evaluation, and recommendations for implementation. Non-voting members to the Technical Committee also include representatives from the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management. The Policy Committee gives guidance to the Technical Committee, approves or rejects recommended projects, and deals with policy and political issues that may arise during implementation of the Program. The Policy Committee is comprised of agency representatives (one per agency, but typically not the same person on the Technical Committee). The Policy Committee meets annually to review project proposals, where consensus among the

four parties is the goal. Because this is a federally-funded program, the Service and Reclamation will make the final decisions on project implementation if consensus cannot be reached.

The following are steps and timeframes involved in formulating, selecting, and awarding Program projects:

1. First week of November (**Technical Committee meeting**). The Technical Committee evaluates project proposals and generates a list of internal projects for consideration for funding in the next fiscal year.
2. November - January. The Technical Committee prepares project summaries (or “blurbs”)—a short description of purpose, proposed actions, timeframe (project duration), and estimated funding amount for each potential project. The Technical Committee evaluates each proposed project, and drafts a list of proposed projects (with summaries and recommendations for approval) for the Policy Committee.
3. January (**Joint Committee meeting**). The Technical and Policy committees meet jointly to discuss and recommend selections of potential projects to be funded in the following federal fiscal year. Project selections for funding are either approved, conditionally approved (if further clarification or modification by proposal applicants is needed), or rejected. Prior year project accomplishments, failures, and status are also reported to the Policy Committee. Time will be set aside at this meeting to discuss Program function, processes, and potential improvements.
4. June (**Joint Committee meeting--optional**). If needed, the Technical and Policy committees meet jointly to review the revised project list (conditionally-approved proposals from the January meeting), and the final list is approved. Other Program topics may be discussed as needed.
5. September. Reclamation uses the finalized project summaries to prepare a modification of the interagency agreement that is used to transfer funds to the Service. After both Reclamation and the Service sign the modification, funding is transferred.
6. October-December. The Service funds subcontractors as necessary to implement the tasks through interagency agreements, cooperative agreements, grant agreements, purchase order contracts, regular contracts, transfers of money to other Service stations, and any other appropriate mechanism.



## APPENDICES

- A. Summary of Recovery Plan Tasks for 4 of the 5 Priority Species
- B. Project Evaluation Score Form (version IV)
- C. Project Interim Report Template
- D. Example Budget Request for Proposed Projects

## Appendix A. Summary of Recovery Plan Tasks for 4 of the 5 Priority Species

**Spikedace and Loach Minnow:**

- 1) Protect existing populations
  - Task 1.1 (priority 1) Identify all populations and determine level of protection
  - Task 1.2 (priority 2) Prioritize populations based on need for protection
  - Task 1.3 (priority 1) Designate critical habitat
  - Task 1.4 (priority 1) Enforce laws and regulations
  - Task 1.5 (priority 1) Discourage detrimental land and water uses
  - Task 1.6 (priority 1) Ensure natural flows
  - Task 1.7 (priority 1) Curtail introductions of nonnative fishes
  - Task 1.8 (priority 1) Identify need for and construct barriers
  - Task 1.9 (priority 2) Identify available unprotected private lands and water rights
  - Task 1.10 (priority 2) Acquire available lands and associated water rights
  - Task 1.11 (priority 2) Protect acquired lands
- 2) Monitor status of existing populations
  - Task 2.1-2 (priority 1) Establish standard monitoring locations and techniques
  - Task 2.3 (priority 2) Establish and maintain computerized database
  - Task 2.4 (priority 1) Determine natural variation in abundance and age-class structure
  - Task 2.5 (priority 1) Monitor community composition including range of natural variation
  - Task 2.6 (priority 1) Determine genetic characteristics of existing populations
- 3) Identify nature and significance of interaction with nonnative fishes -- Task 3.1-2 (priority 2)
- 4) Quantify, through research, habitat needs and the effects of physical habitat modification on life cycle completion – Task 4.1-6 (priority 2)
- 5) Enhance or restore habitats occupied by depleted populations
  - Task 5.1-2 (priority 2) Identify management areas and determine necessary habitat improvement
  - Task 5.3 (priority 3) Implement habitat improvement
- 6) Reestablish populations to selected streams within historic range
  - Task 6.1 (priority 3) Identify stocks to be used for reintroduction
  - Task 6.2 (priority 3) Identify and prepare sites for reintroduction
  - Task 6.3-4 (priority 3) Reintroduce into selected reaches and monitor
  - Task 6.5-6 (priority 3) Determine reasons for success/failure and rectify as necessary
- 7) Determine quantitative criteria for describing a self-sustaining population – Task 7.1-3 (priority 2)

- 8) Plan and conduct investigations on captive holding, propagation and rearing
  - Task 8.1 (priority 3) Select stocks to be used for hatchery brood stock
  - Task 8.2 (priority 3) Collect hatchery stocks
  - Task 8.3 (priority 3) Hold and maintain stocks in a hatchery
  - Task 8.4-5 (priority 3) Evaluate and assess propagation techniques and life-cycle requirements
  - Task 8.6 (priority 3) Supply hatchery-reared fish as needed
- 9) Information and education
  - Task 9.1 (priority 2) Provide information and education relative to the species to the public sector
  - Task 9.2 (priority 2) Ensure all professional information is made available

**Gila Topminnow (POOC):**

- 1) Prevent extinction by protecting remaining natural and long-lived reestablished populations
  - Task 1.1 (priority 1) Maintain refugia populations of natural populations
  - Task 1.2 (priority 1) Designate critical habitat
  - Task 1.3 (priority 1) Identify extent of geographical distribution of POOC
  - Task 1.4 (priority 1) Protect occupied habitats from detrimental land and water use practices
  - Task 1.5 (priority 1) Protect from invasion by detrimental nonnative aquatic species
  - Task 1.6 (priority 1) Prohibit the introduction or release of nonnative aquatic species to POOC-occupied areas
  - Task 1.7 (priority 1) Design and implement site specific management plans for natural and long-lived reestablished populations
  - Task 1.8 (priority 1) Determine minimum viable population
- 2) Reestablish and protect populations throughout historical range
  - Task 2.1 (priority 1) Identify suitable habitats
  - Task 2.2 (priority 1) Reestablish into suitable habitats
  - Task 2.3 (priority 1) Protect suitable reestablishment habitats from detrimental land and water use practices
  - Task 2.4 (priority 1) Protect suitable reestablishment habitats from detrimental nonnative aquatic species
  - Task 2.5 (priority 1) Prohibit the introduction and release of nonnative aquatic species to POOC-occupied or suitable reestablishment habitat
  - Task 2.6 (priority 1) Design and implement site specific management plans for reestablished populations
- 3) Monitor natural and reestablished populations and their habitats
  - Task 3.1 (priority 1) Develop standardized population and habitat monitoring protocols and implement them
  - Task 3.2 (priority 1) Maintain a population and habitat database and generate annual reports
  - Task 3.3 (priority 1) Implement criteria for declaring reestablished populations as extirpated

- 4) Develop and implement genetic protocol for managing populations
  - Task 4.1 (priority 2) Facilitate genetic exchange among reestablished populations as needed
  - Task 4.2 (priority 2) Conduct additional genetic studies of POOC populations
- 5) Study life-history, genetics, ecology, and habitat of POOC and interactions with nonnative aquatic species -- Task 5.0 (priority 2)
- 6) Inform and educate the public and resource managers -- Task 6.0 (priority 3)

**Razorback Sucker (XYTE):**

- 1) Prevent extinction of major extant XYTE populations and permanent loss of genetic diversity of existing populations
  - Task 1.1 (priority 1) Protect fish in refugia and maintain genetic diversity
  - Task 1.2 (priority 1) Restore physical habitats and provide fish access
  - Task 1.3 (priority 1) Reduce adverse biological impacts
  - Task 1.4 (priority 1) Augment wild populations
  - Task 1.5 (priority 1) Monitor populations and habitat status
- 2) Establish and protect additional wild populations
  - Task 2.1 (priority 2) Develop criteria for selecting additional recovery areas
  - Task 2.2 (priority 2) Assess restoration and access needs
  - Task 2.3 (priority 2) Select additional recovery areas in critical habitat reaches
  - Task 2.4 (priority 2) Determine habitat restoration needs
  - Task 2.5 (priority 2) Restore needed habitats and provide fish access
  - Task 2.6 (priority 2) Augment or reintroduce XYTE in recovery areas
- 3) Protect and maintain XYTE populations and their habitats
  - Task 3.1 (priority 3) Determine threats to XYTE populations
  - Task 3.2 (priority 3) Monitor and assess the impact of development projects
  - Task 3.3 (priority 3) Refine and enforce existing laws and regulations protecting XYTE
  - Task 3.4 (priority 3) Develop and implement cooperative interagency programs to protect and recover XYTE
- 4) Develop quantitative recovery goals and a long-term habitat protection strategy
  - Task 4.1 (priority 4) Develop quantitative recovery goals for each recovery area
  - Task 4.2 (priority 4) Develop quantitative recovery goals for the species
- 5) Promote and encourage improved communication and information dissemination
  - Task 5.1 (priority 5) Develop and conduct workshops to coordinate recovery efforts
  - Task 5.2 (priority 5) Conduct nationwide information and education programs
  - Task 5.3 (priority 5) Conduct local information and education programs
  - Task 5.4 (priority 5) Promote information and education programs within management agencies
  - Task 5.5 (priority 5) Encourage and support publication of research and other recovery results in technical literature

Appendix B.

**Gila River Basin Native Fishes Conservation Program  
Proposal Evaluation Form**

Fiscal Year \_\_\_\_\_ Project Duration \_\_\_\_\_ Total Cost/Year \_\_\_\_\_

Proposal Title \_\_\_\_\_

Evaluator(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Does the project prevent extinction and stabilize populations?	_____ (Y or N)
Does the project replicate populations?	_____ (Y or N)
Will the project provide critical information that can significantly assist either of the above criteria?	_____ (Y or N)

*If the project does not meet at least one of the above criteria,  
it will be rejected and no further evaluation is required.*

**Five Priority Species:** Does the project assist in the recovery of:

Spikedace (5pts) \_\_\_\_\_

List the task and number of each recovery task/action identified in the 1991 Spikedace Recovery Plan. (10 pts for each priority 1; 5 pts for each priority 2; 3 pts for each priority 3 task).

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Loach Minnow (5pts) \_\_\_\_\_

List the task and number of each recovery task/action identified in the 1991 Loach Minnow Recovery Plan. (10 pts for each priority 1; 5 pts for each priority 2; 3 pts for each priority 3 task).

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Topminnow (5pts)

\_\_\_\_\_

List the task and number of each recovery task/action identified in the 1984 Topminnow Recovery Plan. (10 pts for each priority 1; 5 pts for each priority 2; 3 pts for each priority 3 task).

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Razorback Sucker (5pts)

\_\_\_\_\_

List the task and number of each recovery task/action identified in the 1998 Razorback Sucker Recovery Plan. (10 pts for each priority 1; 5 pts for each priority 2; 3 pts for each priority 3 task).

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Gila Chub (10pts\*)

\_\_\_\_\_

Upon the completion of a published draft or final recovery plan for Gila chub, list the task and number of each recovery task/action identified in the Gila Chub Recovery Plan. (10 pts for each priority 1; 5 pts for each priority 2; 3 pts for each priority 3 task). \*Gila chub weighting (as one of the 5 priority species) will then be dropped to 5 pts plus task/action pts.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Will the project be of long- (>20 years) or short- (≤ 20 years) term benefit to the 5 priority species? (One point for each year of benefit with a maximum of 20 years,)

\_\_\_\_\_

**Other Listed Species:** List any other threatened or endangered species for which the project assists in the recovery and the task and number of each recovery action from the appropriate recovery plans: (5 pts each).

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**Other native fishes:** List other native fishes the project will benefit (5 pt each).

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**Cost Sharing:** The total cost of the project will be matched by other sources at:

0 – 25% (0 points)	_____
26 – 50% (3 points)	_____
51 – 75% (5 points)	_____
76 – 100 % (7 points)	_____
> 100 % (10 points)	_____

**Technical Merits of the Proposal:** (check one quality)

Inadequate	_____
Insufficient	_____
Meets	_____
Exceeds	_____
Superior	_____

*If all evaluators agree that a project is inadequate, it will be rejected.*

**Is the proposed project cost effective/efficient:** \_\_\_\_\_ (Y or N)  
(use the TPEC example to evaluate 2 or more closely competing proposals)

**Are sustained benefits to native fish expected from the proposed project:** \_\_\_\_\_ (Y or N)

<b>Total Score for Proposal:</b> _____
--

**Comments:**

---

Appendix C. Interim Report Template for Funded Projects

**To:** Doug Duncan, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, AESO Tucson Sub-Office  
**From:** \_\_\_\_\_, *Agency or Entity*

**Re:** Project Update, *Month, Day, Year*

**Project Title:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**CAP Fund Transfer Program Task:** X-XX  
**Agreement/Contact Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Status:** *General background statement on progress of the project.*

**Task 1:** *Task Description. Status of the task (completed, ongoing, not yet initiated).*

**Task 2:** *Task Description. Status of the task (completed, ongoing, not yet initiated).*

...

**Task X:** *Task Description. Status of the task (completed, ongoing, not yet initiated).*

**Obstacles:** *Any obstacles or issues of concern met or anticipated. Actual or proposed solutions.*

**Funding:** *Total charges billed. Note any difficulties in receiving payments.*

**Preliminary Results:** *If appropriate.*

**Summary Comments or Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Appendix D. Example Budget Request for Proposed Projects

LINE ITEM DETAILS FOR EACH PROJECT ACTIVITY:

Budget Categories:	Rate or Cost Explanation	CAP Program to Fund:	Applicant Contribution:	Total Cost per Category:
Personnel (Labor)	\$00/hr wage/FTE	\$	\$	\$
Fringe Benefits (ERE)	Labor cost x 00%	\$	\$	\$
Travel (Per Diem)	\$00/day x 00 days	\$	\$	\$
Equipment (Capital Expenses)	Vehicle or items valued at \$5,000+	\$	\$	\$
Supplies (AOO)		\$	\$	\$
Contractual (Professional Outside Services)	# seasonal or part-time staff x \$00/hr or job	\$	\$	\$
Construction		\$	\$	\$
Other		\$	\$	\$
Total Direct Charges		\$	\$	\$
Indirect Charges	Labor cost x 00%	\$	\$	\$
<b>Total Cost per Year</b>		<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Total Cost over duration of project</b>		<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>

Notes:

*Example for Project AAA, Activity 1 (duration = 2 years)*

Budget Categories:	Rate or Cost Explanation	CAP Program to Fund:	Applicant Contribution:	Total Cost per Category:
Personnel (Labor)	\$28.85/hr wage	\$30,000	\$30,000 in-kind	\$60,000
Fringe Benefits (ERE)	Labor cost x 35%	\$10,500	\$10,500 in-kind	\$21,000
Travel (Per Diem)	\$40/day x 50 days	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,000
Equipment (Capital Expenses)	Vehicle or items valued at \$5,000+	\$0	\$0	\$0
Supplies (AOO)	(see itemized list)	\$4,000	\$0	\$4,000
Contractual (Professional Outside Services)	3 contract interns x \$4000/intern (=12 wks of fieldwork)	\$12,000	\$0	\$12,000
Construction		\$0	\$0	\$0
Other		\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Direct Charges		\$58,500	\$40,500 in-kind	\$99,000
Indirect Charges	Labor cost x 30%	\$9,000	\$0	\$9,000
<b>Total Cost per Year</b>		<b>\$67,500</b>	<b>\$40,500 in-kind</b>	<b>\$108,000</b>
<b>Total Cost over duration of project</b>		<b>\$135,000</b>	<b>\$81,000 in-kind</b>	<b>\$216,000</b>

Notes: Applicant labor/ERE is half paid by state wildlife agency using non-federal match (= 1040 hrs of a WSIII project supervisor). Applicant is providing a match of 37.5% as a cost-share to the total project cost.