

Gila River Basin Native Fishes Conservation Program

2017 Workshop

August 9th and 10th, 2017

Northern Arizona Center for Entrepreneurship and Technologies (NACET)

Accelerator Conference Room

2201 N Gemini Road, Flagstaff, 86001

Agenda

Workshop Goals:

1. Review history of the program, its successes and opportunities for improvement
2. Review CAP Strategic Plan species recovery needs and conservation measures; and provide input for potential modifications
3. Provide direction for the next 5-year Strategic Plan
4. Discuss opportunities to improve and expand internal and external communication

DAY 1 - AUGUST 9TH, 8:00AM-4:30PM

8:00AM Coffee and breakfast snacks

8:20AM Workshop welcome
Bill Stewart, Fish Biologist, Bureau of Reclamation

8:25AM Participant introductions and agenda review
Andi Rogers, Southwest Decision Resources

8:40AM Why here, why now: Workshop background and desired outcomes
Bill Stewart, Fish Biologist, Bureau of Reclamation

8:55AM Background/historical perspectives on the program
Rob Clarkson, Retired Fish Biologist, Bureau of Reclamation

9:45AM BREAK

10:00AM HATCHERY, PROPAGATION AND REFUGE - SUCCESSES, CHALLENGES & FUTURE RESEARCH
Kris Stahr, Research Fish Biologist, Arizona Game and Fish Department
Dave Ward, Research Fish Biologist, U.S. Geological Survey
Matt O'Neill, Fish Biologist, USDA Forest Service
Josh Walters, Hatchery Manager, Arizona Game and Fish

10:45AM Facilitated panel session

- Discussion of goals/targets by species
- Understanding propagation and mortality
- Understanding the process from hatchery to repatriation (focus on conservation)

11:30AM LUNCH (CATERED BY THE TOASTED OWL)

12:15PM SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES – RECOVERY AND MONITORING
Tony Robinson, Gila River Basin Native Fishes Lead, Arizona Game and Fish Department
Mike Ruhl, Native Fish Program Manager, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish
Rob Clarkson, Retired Fish Biologist for Bureau of Reclamation

1:00PM **Small group discussions focused on:**

- Establishment strategies
- Monitoring techniques
- Metrics of success

1:45PM **Small group share back**

2:00PM **BREAK**

2:15PM **NON-NATIVE AQUATIC MANAGEMENT - HISTORY, SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES**

Tony Robinson, Gila River Basin Native Fishes Lead, Arizona Game and Fish Department
Julie Carter, Aquatic Wildlife Program Manager, Arizona Game and Fish Department (via webex)
Heidi Blasius, Fisheries Biologist, Bureau of Land Management
Rob Clarkson, Retired Fish Biologist for Bureau of Reclamation

3:15PM **Small group discussions focused on:**

- Effectiveness, challenges and improvements of control tools/techniques
- Communication, planning and outreach surrounding treatments

4:10PM **Small group share back**

4:25PM **Wrap up, review Day 2**

4:30PM **DAY 1 WORKSHOP ENDS (HAPPY HOUR BEGINS)**

DAY 2 - AUGUST 10TH, 8:30AM- 4:30PM

8:30AM **Coffee and breakfast snacks**

9:00AM **Welcome and Day 2 agenda review**

9:10AM **LONG TERM MONITORING OF NON-NATIVE SPECIES AND NATIVE THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES - HISTORY, CHANGES AND MOVING FORWARD**

Rob Clarkson, Retired Fish Biologist for Bureau of Reclamation
Ross Timmons, Native Fish Biologist, Arizona Game and Fish Department

9:40AM **Small group discussions focused on:**

- Understanding long term monitoring effectiveness, timing, duration, etc.
- Exploring monitoring needs across species
- Utilizing monitoring dollars effectively

10:25AM **Small group share back**

10:40PM BREAK

10:50AM HABITAT ENHANCEMENT- CASE STUDY: LAS CIENAGAS NCA AND SAN PEDRO RNCA TUCSON FIELD OFFICE, BLM

Jeff Simms, Fishery Biologist, Bureau of Land Management

11:15AM Small group work session
Design a habitat enhancement project

12:00PM Small group share back

12:15-1:00PM LUNCH (CATERED BY FRATELLI'S PIZZA)

NEW AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES IN FISH MANAGEMENT *Presentations via WebEx*

1:00PM Population viability modeling
Bill Pine, Associate Professor in the Department of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation, University of Florida

1:25PM eDNA sampling
Michael Young, Research Fisheries Biologist, US Forest Service

1:50PM Upper Colorado River basin non-native control program
Kevin McAbee, Fish Biologist, US Fish Wildlife Service

2:15PM Development of new piscicides for removal of aquatic invasive species
Dave Ward, Research Fish Biologist, U.S. Geological Survey

2:40PM BREAK

2:55PM Facilitated group session

- What are the benefits, challenges, limitations and applicability of the new and emerging technologies presented?

3:25PM IMPROVING AND EXPANDING COMMUNICATION - PAST, PRESENT, MOVING FORWARD
Rob Clarkson, Retired Fish Biologist, Bureau of Reclamation
Bill Stewart, Fish Biologist, Bureau of Reclamation

Plenary brainstorm

- Education and Outreach, communication tools (website, online forums, etc.)
- Internal and external communication

4:15PM Workshop wrap up/next steps

4:30PM DAY 2 WORKSHOP ENDS