

Gila River Basin Native Fish Conservation Program  
(aka Central Arizona Project Fund Transfer Program)  
Joint Policy-Technical Team Meeting  
**January 23, 2008**

Final Meeting Minutes (by J. Sorensen)

Meeting location: Arizona Game & Fish Dept headquarters, 5000 W Carefree Hwy, Phoenix, AZ

Participants: Renee Held and David Propst (NMDGF), Steve Spangle and Doug Duncan (USFWS), Henry Messing and Rob Clarkson (USBR), Kirk Young—for Bob Broscheid, Jeff Sorensen, and Tony Robinson (AZGFD), Tim Frey and Bill Grossi (BLM), and Chuck Paradzick (SRP).

Topics: (presenter)

1. Review of 2007 accomplishments and any difficulties (Duncan)
  - Duncan provided handouts of 2007 program accomplishments
  - USBR website for the program is up and running...kudos to Clarkson and others
  - Clarkson will update the website periodically with new info
2. Technical Committee's recommended 2008 projects (Clarkson)
  - Clarkson provided handouts of proposed FY08 projects and task budget summaries for RPA3 and RPA4; see next topic on PC decisions
3. Policy Committee decision on new proposals (PC leads)
  - Task 3-84. AZGFD native fish recovery actions (yr 3 of n): approved, \$150,100
  - Task 3-84a. Repatriate listed fishes to Morgan City Wash and Chalky Spring: approved, costs included above
  - Task 3-85. NMDGF native fish recovery actions (yr 3 of n): approved, costs detailed below
  - Task 3-85a. Spikedace repatriation to San Francisco River, NM (yr 2 of 5): approved, \$17,000
  - Task 3-85b. Gila River forks community isotope evaluation (yr 2 of 3): approved, \$55,900
  - Task 3-85c. Red Rock Cienega restoration of Gila topminnow and Gila chub (yr 2 of 2): approved, \$7,500
  - Task 3-85d. Inventory of fishes of the San Francisco drainage (yr 1 of 2): approved, \$27,000 (to be evenly split among NMDGF, USFS, and FWS).
  - Task 3-85e (new). Assess and implement re-establishment of Gila chub in suitable areas from Task 3-85d: approved, \$5000
  - Task 3-86. Bubbling Ponds Hatchery facility support (yr 3 of n): approved, \$38,000
  - Task 3-87. Blue River fish hatchery investigations: approved, \$7,500, negotiating on a scope of work
  - Task 3-88. Additional funding for Task 3-43, miscellaneous program expenses: approved, \$10,000

- Task 4-75. Upper Gila River mechanical removal of nonnatives (yr 3 of 4), USFS: approved, \$30,000
  - Task 4-76. Upper Gila River mechanical removal of nonnatives (yr 3 of 4), USFWS: approved, \$30,000
  - Task 4-77. AZGFD nonnative fish control actions (yr 3 of n): approved, \$99,900
  - Task 4-77a. Spring Creek renovation and repatriation: approved, costs included above
  - Task 4-78. NMDGF nonnative fish control actions (yr 3 of n): approved, costs detailed below
  - Task 4-78a. Upper Gila River mechanical removal of nonnatives (yr 3 of 4), NMDGF: approved, \$30,000
  - Task 4-78b. Little Creek mechanical removal of nonnatives (yr 1 of 3): approved, \$23,000
  - Task 4-79. West Fork Oak Creek fish barrier construction: approved, \$150,000
  - Task 4-80. Redfield Canyon/Muleshoe Ranch mechanical removal of nonnatives—proposal being drafted; postpone decision till after June (do by email), \$23,922
  - Pending—Rinne proposal on mechanical removal of nonnatives in Upper Verde River: not approved, but Policy Committee is interested in getting a final report on Rinne’s prior study of mechanical removal of nonnative in the Upper Verde River. Clarkson will contact Rinne on this request
4. Update of the reconsultation (Duncan)
    - Includes Santa Cruz Basin, Gila chub, and Chiricahua leopard frog
    - Duncan is working on the take statement for the biological opinion
  5. Any edits to the program strategic plan? (Sorensen)
    - Clarkson provided Sorensen with some hardcopy edits to an earlier draft—most of those edits were already incorporated; remaining edits to be considered.
  6. External partner opportunities--i.e. SRP’s HCP and Desert Fish Habitat Partnership (Paradzick, Messing, Sorensen)
    - Paradzick provided a handout on SRP’s HCP and described how it compliments and furthers the Gila River Basin Native Fish Conservation Program’s efforts
    - Sorensen provided a handout on the DFHP effort as a FYI—an additional opportunity to compliment and further the program’s efforts
  7. Discussion on use of bio-control technologies on non-natives (all)
    - Topic deferred till later due to lack of time. Clarkson will forward by email additional info on this topic.
  8. Schedule 2008 meeting dates for Technical Committee and Joint Committees (all)
    - No June meeting...use email instead
    - Joint Committee meeting scheduled for August 13, 2008 at USFWS AESO