

## April 29, 2002 CAP Fund Transfer Program Technical Team Meeting

### ACTION ITEMS, ASSIGNMENTS and SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

No additional comments were received and the revised guidance document titled "Central Arizona Project Fund Transfer Program Long-Term Direction, Project Allocation Guidance and Rationale" prepared by USFWS and USBR now is approved by all parties.

Technical Team meetings are to be comprised of Technical Team members only. Other parties are welcome to attend and observe, but will not participate.

The Technical Team supports deletion of detailed macrohabitat sampling as a requirement of the cooperative agreement between AZGFD and USBR titled "Fish Monitoring of Selected Streams in the Gila River Basin." The team supports periodic (5-10 year interval) habitat measurements at San Pedro River sites.

Barrett agreed to identify and locate compliance documents for all approved Gila topminnow stocking sites on the Tonto National Forest, and to provide copies to appropriate parties.

Bettaso agreed to provide the Technical Team with copies of AZGFD strategic plans for management of Gila topminnow (annual section 7 plans plus the nongame umbrella plan). He also will assess and report on AZGFD funding requirements to complete internal compliance processes, and those needed to plan renovation actions.

### FY03 Potential Projects

Draft project descriptions (comprised of background, scope of work/assistance, estimated cost, and period of performance) are to be prepared as follows for potential FY03 projects. These project descriptions are for inclusion in the interagency agreement between USBR and USFWS and are not the detailed scopes of work that will be developed as part of the contracting process. The total estimated cost of these projects is \$555+K (some costs are to be determined). Some project assignments were made subsequent to the meeting, and may be changed by mutual agreement.

#### **Barrett, USFWS**

No assigned project descriptions.

#### **Bettaso, AZGFD**

Fresno Canyon Renovation. The purpose of this project is to fund renovation of Fresno Canyon to remove green sunfish, protect Gila topminnow and other native fishes, and repatriate Gila chub. An estimate of compliance costs and time will be included. \$15K

Gila Topminnow Stocking. This project consists of identification of suitable sites and implementation of Gila topminnow stocking. Cost to be determined.

State Wildlife Property Assessment. The purpose of this project is to provide funds to assess the potential role that State Wildlife Properties in Arizona might play in the

conservation and management of native fishes. Approximately 12-15 properties statewide will be evaluated. \$25K

White Paper on Fish Barriers and Stream Renovations. This project is to provide funds to produce a white paper that reviews available published and gray literature and assesses success of barrier construction and stream renovation projects as fish management tools in western United States. \$10K

### **Clarkson, USBR**

Fossil Creek Stock Tank Aerial Survey. The purpose of this project is to provide funds to schedule a BR helicopter and appropriate individuals to perform an aerial survey of stock tanks in the Fossil Creek watershed during the current drought period when many sites are desiccated. BR will contract this project separately from the CAP fund transfer.

Native Fish Facility. The purpose of this project is to provide funds to define needs for a native fish holding and research facility, review attributes of existing facilities, and make a recommendation to either use an existing facility or to design and construct a new one. Emphasis is on warm-water stream fishes, but also addressing needs of Gila topminnow and desert pupfish. \$35K

Red Rock Canyon Barrier. The purpose of this project is to provide funds to construct a barrier to protect Gila topminnow and other native species in Red Rock Canyon, Santa Cruz River basin. \$75K

Tonto Creek Barrier Phase I. The purpose of this project is to provide funds to perform a Phase I feasibility study for placing one or more barriers in the Tonto Creek drainage to protect native fishes. \$15K

Tonto Creek Barrier Phase II. The purpose of this project is to provide funds to perform a Phase II design study for one or more barriers in the Tonto Creek drainage to protect native fishes. Implementation of this project depends upon a favorable recommendation from the Phase I feasibility study. \$15K

### **Marsh**

Fishless and Native Only Streams. The purpose of this project is to provide funds for a two-part, two-year study to identify streams that are either fishless or occupied only by native fish species. Part 1 consists of a database search and assessment and Part 2 is comprised of field surveys. Target watersheds include those of the Agua Fria, upper Salt, and San Francisco rivers. \$60K (two years).

Propagation Techniques for Chubs. The purpose of this project is to provide funds for a three-year, applied research study to develop practical methods to hold, propagate and rear Gila, headwater and roundtail chub. \$100K (three years)

Stock Gila Chub. The purpose of this project is to provide funds to stock Gila chub into streams in the Blue River system that already are targeted for Gila trout, such that management programs for the two species can be integrated and implemented cooperatively. \$5K

**Propst, NMDGF**

Differentiation Among Chub Populations. This purpose of this project is to provide funds to perform basic research into the population-level differentiation, if any, among and between geographically isolated stocks of Gila, headwater and roundtail chub in the Gila River basin. This information is critical to guide future repatriations of these chubs as part of recovery actions in behalf of the listed species and to enhance status of imperiled but unlisted ones. \$90K (three years)

Loach Minnow and Spikedace Stocking Protocol. The purpose of this project is provide funds to make recommendations based on geographic relationships, demography and genetic information on which existing stocks of loach minnow and spikedace are most suited for repatriation into potential recipient streams in Arizona and New Mexico. \$10K

GIS Database for New Mexico Fishes. The purpose of this project is to provide funds to assist in construction over a 3-year period of a GIS-based database that incorporates records for all native fish species in the New Mexico portion of the Gila River basin. These data are to be integrated with the existing Gila River fishes database that currently resides at Arizona State University. \$100K (three years).

draft May 4, 2002