

**Final Minutes From November 27, 2006 Meeting Of The Cap Funds Transfer Program's
Technical Committee**

Paul Barrett

Attendees: Bureau of Reclamation – Rob Clarkson
Fish and Wildlife Service – Paul Barrett, Glen Knowles
Arizona Game and Fish Department – Jeff Sorenson, Tony Robinson
New Mexico Game and Fish Department – David Propst

The meeting began at 10:00 am. The meeting agenda is attached.

Tony Robinson was introduced as Arizona Game and Fish Department's Central Arizona Project Implementation Coordinator. Glen Knowles attended because there is discussion within the Fish and Wildlife Service that he make take over Barrett's duties with the Technical Committee if Barrett replaces Steve Spangle on the Policy Committee.

Clarkson summarized the ongoing projects that will carry over into 2007 and require additional funding. They are as follows:

RPA3

\$34,000.00 per year for Bubbling Pond Operation and Maintenance. Year 2 of 5.

This was originally scheduled to begin in 2006 but due to construction and other delays it will be initiated early in 2007.

\$190,000.00 for Arizona Game and Fish Department Recovery Actions (Megaproposal). Year 2 of 2.

\$40,000 Gila Forks Inventory. Year 2 of 2 (\$20,000.00 each for New Mexico Department of Game and Fish and the Gila National Forest).

\$3,700.00 additional cost for Arizona State University topminnow maintenance (Task 3-74)

\$267,700 RPA 3 total 2007 funds already committed

RPA4

\$90,000.00 Gila Fork Mechanical Removal. Year 2 of 4 (\$30K each for the Gila National Forest, New Mexico Fishery Resources Office [Fish and Wildlife Service], New Mexico Department of Game and Fish)

\$60,000.00 Arizona Game and Fish Department Recovery Actions (Megaproposal). Year 2 of 2.

\$150,000.00 RPA 4 total 2007 funds already committed

The status of some existing projects was discussed as follows:

RPA 3

Pupfish Genetics, Oklahoma State University – *ongoing*
 Arizona loach minnow and spinedace data compilation – *AGFD will check on status (most info is from collecting permits)*
 San Pedro Pond Reconstruction – *completed*
 Bubbling Ponds Operation and Maintenance – *hasn't started but will this year*
 Little Creek New Mexico Barrier Design – *ongoing*
 Helicopter Support – *ongoing*
 Topminnow Stock Maintenance, Arizona State University – *ongoing but is requesting approximately \$10,500.000 for each year beginning in 2008.*

RPA 4

Upper Gila Mechanical Removal – *initiated*
 Stillman Lake/Verde Springs renovation implementation – *NEPA documents recently released to public*
 Fresno Canyon renovation – *incorporated as a part of Arizona Game and Fish Department Recovery Actions project*
 Bonita Creek Fish Barrier Design – *Not part of Fund Transfer Program*
 West Fork Oak Creek Barrier Design – *Consideration as 2007 project \$20,000.00*
 Redrock (AZ) Canyon Renovation – *Incorporated as part of Arizona Game and Fish Department's Megaproposal.*

The group then discussed the available funds for FY07 based on a spreadsheet provided by Clarkson. The following table summarizes the results.

RPA 3	New FY07 Funds	\$250,000.00
	Balance available from past years	\$96,800.00
	Funds needed for ongoing projects	<u>-\$267,700.00</u>
	Funds available for new projects	\$79,100.00
RPA 4	New FY07 Funds	\$250,000.00
	Balance available from past years	\$75,500.00
	Funds needed for ongoing projects	<u>-\$150,000.00</u>
	Funds available for new projects	\$175,500.00
Total Funds available for new FY07 projects		\$254,600.00

Six new projects were proposed for FY07 and each was discussed. One, Verde River Mechanical Removal was rejected. The projects are summarized as follows:

Genetic Biocontrol Symposium – *Accepted with conditions.* Need to add summary to symposium using Gila River as case study.

Verde Mechanical Removal – *Rejected because of difficulty in following the proposal and no apparent barrier to ingression by nonnative into study area.*

Topminnow stock maintenance – *Accepted.*

Gila River Fishes Isotope Study– *Accepted.*

San Francisco River Spikedace Repatriation – *Accepted with the modification that New Mexico cost will be taken up by New Mexico Department of Game and Fish. Resulting costs are \$12,000.00 for the first year and \$32,000.00 for five years.*

New Mexico Redrock Renovation– *Accepted.*

Cost associated with each proposal is summarized in the following table.

Project	Number of Years	Total Cost	1st Year Costs	RPA
Genetic Biocontrol Symposium	1	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	4
Verde River Mechanical Removal	4	\$120,000.00	\$40,000.00	4
Topminnow Stock Maintenance	1	\$3,700.00	\$3,700.00	3
Gila River Fishes isotope Study	3	\$167,000.00	\$55,900.00	4
San Francisco River Spikedace Repatriation	5	\$32,000.00	\$12,000.00	3
New Mexico Redrock Renovation	1	\$20,000.00	\$12,500.00	3
Total FY07 funds approved for new projects			\$134,100.00	

Because the funds available for new projects in FY07 (\$254,600.00) exceeds the accepted projects (\$134,100.00) no projects were rejected due to limited funding. Furthermore the group decided to expend up to \$25,000.00 for rotenone to be used in stream renovations. This leaves a balance of \$109,100.00 available in FY07 funding.

The group then discussed program associated antimycin available. New Mexico Game and Fish Department has 6, Arizona Game and Fish Department 156, and the Fish and Wildlife Service 36 units available. A discussion followed on the poor quality of antimycin produced in 2006. Antimycin and rotenone each have their strengths and weaknesses as piscicides but because we have a significant amount of antimycin available, it was then decided to pursue the purchase of rotenone for future renovations.

The next Fund Transfer Program Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for December 13 at the Arizona Game and Fish Department offices in Phoenix. The meeting is not open to Technical Committee members and an agenda is not yet available. It is thought the meeting will focus on evaluating the recommendations in the Program Review report submitted by the Wildlife Management Institute.

Barret asked the group to provide any suggested changes to the Proposal Evaluation Form.

Sorensen will be contacting the Policy committee members to schedule a joint Technical-Policy meeting in late January of 2007.

Action Items.

- Fish and Wildlife Service will get a copy of the final invoice for the Gila River Inventory project to Clarkson (**Barrett**).
- The status of the Arizona loach minnow and spinedace data compilation within Arizona Game and Fish Department will be investigated (**Sorensen**).
- Contact Paul Marsh to see what is proposed for future maintenance of five topminnow stocks at Arizona State University (**Clarkson**).
- Contact the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum to see if they are interested and capable of maintaining the five topminnow stocks (**Barrett**).
- Contact manufactures to determine how much rotenone can be purchased for \$25,000.00 (**Clarkson**).
- Prepare agenda for the December 13 Policy Committee meeting (**Sorensen**).
- Schedule January 2007 joint Technical-Policy meeting (**Sorensen**).
- Review Proposal Evaluation Form and provide suggestions to Barrett (**All**).