

## Humpback Chub Ad Hoc Group Update



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Fish and Wildlife Service  
AMWG Meeting, Phoenix, Arizona  
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8/31/05

### History – March 2005 AMWG Humpback Chub Motion First Motion - Implementation

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**Motion:** The AMWG directs the creation of a humpback chub implementation plan Ad Hoc Group. This Ad Hoc Group will:

1. Determine which actions identified in the humpback chub comprehensive plan can be accomplished under the AMP.
2. Explore the various options for completing actions that do not fall under the authorities of the AMP.

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## AMWG Humpback Chub Ad Hoc Group Progress on the First Motion

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### ■ Humpback chub project implementation:



- Sam Spiller and Nikolai Ramsey will co-chair the AMWG Humpback chub Implementation Ad Hoc Group
- No new HBC projects in 2006 budget and work plan - no analysis needed with regard to in/out
- The HBCIMP (with assistance from Randy Seaholm) will review the new draft Humpback Chub Comprehensive Plan
- The HBCIMP will create a report of in/out regarding the plan projects
- HBCIMP will work with LCRMSCP, other groups/agencies to fund out projects

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## History – March 2005 AMWG Humpback Chub Motion Second Motion – Humpback Chub Comprehensive Plan

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**Motion:** The AMWG directs the TWG to further develop the humpback chub comprehensive plan, as follows:

1. Describe linkages, sequences, and feedback loops among projects
2. Identify priorities and a timeline for completion of each action within the comprehensive plan.
3. Spell out specific steps and criteria for any actions that would be needed if a crisis occurs (e.g., severe population decline).
4. Continue to include active participation by GCMRC staff and any additional expertise.
5. Incorporate comments from the Science Advisors. The TWG will include a response to comments document in their final draft.

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## TWG Humpback Chub Ad Hoc Group Progress on the Second Motion

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### ■ Humpback chub comprehensive plan:



- Working on revision of June 9, 2004 version of "Status and Management Strategy for Humpback Chub in Grand Canyon"
- Identify project needs, linkages between projects, project timing (with GCMRC and SPG), identify projects as research, monitoring or management to link to other AMP planning documents (SPG)
- Identify timelines for project completion
- Develop Crises Criteria: identify possible crises (e.g. low population level, hazardous materials spill, new exotic species, reduced flow at Blue Springs) and define response or planning/research
- Completion of draft revised plan by January 2005

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## Other Actions of the HBCCP in 2005

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### Worked with BAHG and GCMRC to develop AMP 2006 budget recommendation:

- Implementation of past projects
- Continue Chute Falls translocation/monitoring in 2006
- Conduct Warm Water Species Suppression Workshop in December 2005, results guide 2006 efforts
- Develop experimental flow recommendation/studies for 2006 WY



### Reviewed Draft Genetics Management Plan:

- Better scientific basis; more specific recommendations
- Step down approach
- Comparison to other species plans
- Incorporate hbc genetic data/acknowledge gaps



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## Other Actions of the HBCCP in 2005 cont.

### Arizona Game and Fish Department Hatchery Evaluation:

- Crises Criteria? Are we there yet?
- Consensus on refuge population, propagation of humpback chub in Grand Canyon
- AGFD developing refuge planning/funding
- FWS permitting



### Little Colorado River Watershed Coordinating Council:

- Met with LCRWCC in July (Reclamation/Fisheries)
- Presented information on GCDAMP relationship
- to LCR watershed planning (needs, common ground, resources)
- Potential products could satisfy biological opinion, needs of AMP with good collaboration



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## Office of Surface Mining Project to Develop Water Supply for Black Mesa Mine

- Black Mesa Mine ships coal via slurry line to Mohave Generating Station in Nevada
- Secure water needs for operation of slurry line
- Little Colorado River Aquifer
- Hydrology by USGS; BOR technical advisor



### Effects to Humpback chub? USGS Draft Hydrologic Study 7/05:

- Max depletion 11.6 KAF/year =  $<.002-.004$  cfs drop in flow at Blue Springs at year 40
- USGS superposition model does not look at cumulative effects
- Peabody to fund cumulative effects model maybe by Oct 2005

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