

Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Work Group
Agenda Item Information
May 22-23, 2008

Agenda Item

Update of Monitoring and Research Plan

Action Requested

- √ The following motion is recommended by TWG. However, no motion is presumed to be made unless and until an AMWG member makes the motion in accordance with the AMWG Operating Procedures.

AMWG authorizes the TWG to work with GCMRC to update the MRP to reflect the new priorities and provisions of the 2007 Biological Opinion concerning the shortage guidelines and coordinated operations of lakes Powell and Mead, the 2008 Biological Opinion on the Operation Glen Canyon Dam, and the associated Environmental Assessment; and to report recommended MRP changes to the AMWG for review and approval by its Fall/Winter 2008 meeting.

Presenters

John Hamill, Chief, Grand Canyon Monitoring and Research Center
Kurt Dongoske, Chair, Technical Work Group

Previous Action Taken

- √ By AMWG:

In August 2007, the AMWG passed the following motion by consensus (emphasis added):
The Adaptive Management Work Group (AMWG) recommends approval of the July 30, 2007 draft of the Monitoring and Research Plan (MRP) to the Secretary of the Interior **with the understanding that it will be revised to reflect the results of the Long-Term Experimental Plan Environmental Impact Statement once it is finalized**, and with the following amendments:

- On page 9: Replace, “In the FY 2007-2011 period, Grand Canyon Monitoring and Research Center (GCMRC) anticipates two additional Beach/Habitat Building Flow (BHBF) tests,” with, “For budgeting purposes, in the FY 2007-2011 period, GCMRC anticipates two additional BHBF tests.”
- On page 52: MRP language will be changed to clarify that “replication of the 2004 BHBF” refers only to that portion of the hydrograph used in the 2004 experiment consisting of the rising limb, peak, and recession.

- √ By the Secretary of the Interior:

On January 15, 2008, Deputy Secretary Lynn Scarlett, by memorandum to the members and alternates of the AMWG, approve the Monitoring and Research Plan as recommended by the AMWG.

- √ By TWG:

In April 2008, TWG passed the following motion by consensus:

The TWG requests that the AMWG authorize the TWG to work with GCMRC to update the MRP to reflect the new priorities and provisions of the 2007 Biological Opinion concerning the

Update of Monitoring and Research Plan, continued

shortage guidelines and coordinated operations of lakes Powell and Mead, the 2008 Biological Opinion on the Operation Glen Canyon Dam, and the associated Environmental Assessment. The TWG will report recommended MRP changes to the AMWG for review and approval by the Fall/Winter 2008 meeting.

Relevant Science

√ N/A

Background Information

GCMRC's Monitoring and Research Plan (MRP) was finalized earlier this year. It needs to be updated in light of the recent Biological Opinion and Environmental Assessment associated with the high flows and steady flows experiments. This motion is requested to authorize TWG to work with GCMRC on this task.

Monitoring and Research Plan

- ❖ Conference call, approved through consensus
- ❖ Good opportunity to integrate tribal monitoring programs

Motion: TWG recommends that AMWG authorize the TWG to work with GCMRC to update the MRP to reflect the new priorities and provisions of the 2007 Biological Opinion concerning the shortage guidelines and coordinated operations of lakes Powell and Mead, the 2008 Biological Opinion on the Operation of Glen Canyon Dam, and the associated Environmental Assessment; and to report recommended MRP changes to the AMWG for review and approval by its Fall/Winter 2008 meeting.