

Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Work Group
Agenda Item Information
September 9-10, 2008

Agenda Item

Grand Canyon Monitoring and Research Center (GCMRC) Updates

Action Requested

√ Information item only. We will answer questions but no action is requested.

Presenters

John Hamill, Chief, Chief, Grand Canyon Monitoring and Research Center
Ted Melis, Deputy Chief, Grand Canyon Monitoring and Research Center

Previous Action Taken

Monitoring and Research Plan:

√ By AMWG: At its May 2008 meeting, the AMWG passed the following motion by consensus:
AMWG authorizes the TWG to work with GCMRC to update the Monitoring and Research Plan (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.

Relevant Science

√ N/A

Background Information

1. **Monitoring and Research Plan (MRP):** Consistent with the motion passed by the AMWG in May 2008 (see above), GCMRC will work with the TWG to update the MRP by December 2008. The update will focus primarily on 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. In addition, GCMRC will also update the GCMRC Strategic Science Plan (SSP) so the MRP and SSP are consistent with each other.
2. **Colorado River Basin Science and Resource Management Symposium,** November 18-20, 2008 in Scottsdale, AZ. Please see the attached flyer for the upcoming Colorado River Basin Science and Resource Management Symposium, "Coming Together: Coordination of Science and Restoration Activities for the Colorado River Ecosystem." This symposium will promote the exchange of information on research and management activities related to the restoration and conservation of the Colorado River and its major tributaries, from the headwaters to the U.S.-Mexico border. This two and one-half day Symposium will feature three plenary sessions on Days 1 and 3, concurrent technical sessions on Day 2, vendors, and poster sessions. The

Southwest Biological Science Center (USGS) is one of 10 sponsors of the symposium. AMWG and TWG members are strongly encouraged to attend this symposium. Additional information about the agenda of the symposium and guidelines for submitting abstracts can be found at www.watereducation.org.

3. **General Core Monitoring Plan.** The MRP that was approved by the AMWG outlines a four-step process for developing and approving core monitoring projects. Step 1 of the process is the development of a General Core Monitoring Plan which identifies by resource area the general goals, objectives, scope, schedule, and funding level for each core monitoring project. The Plan will be based on consideration of AMWG priorities, currently identified information needs, the feasibility of developing a monitoring project to meet those needs, and other relevant information. The draft Plan will be provided to the TWG for review this fall; a draft of the plan will be presented at the next AMWG meeting.