

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

Agenda Item

Fish and Wildlife Service Draft Revised Recovery Goals for the Colorado River fishes: Razorback Sucker, Bonytail, Humpback Chub, and Colorado Pikeminnow

Action Requested

√ Feedback requested by September 2, 2008.

Presenters

Dr. Tom Czapla, Propagation & Research Coordinator, Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program, Fish and Wildlife Service, Denver, CO
Sam Spiller, Lower Colorado River Coordinator, Fish and Wildlife Service, Phoenix, AZ
Glen Knowles, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, Fish and Wildlife Service, Phoenix, AZ

Previous Action Taken

The Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) has periodically updated the AMWG on the status of this revision of recovery goals for Colorado River fishes.

Relevant Science

√ The following describes the relevant research or monitoring on this subject:
See the SCORE report at <http://www.gcmrc.gov/products/score/2005/score.htm>.

Background Information

The FWS recently distributed revised versions of draft recovery goals for the Colorado River fishes: Razorback Sucker, Bonytail, Humpback Chub, and Colorado Pikeminnow. These were forwarded to the GCDAMP stakeholders on July 30, 2008. The FWS is requesting comments on these revisions by September 2, 2008, which is before the AMWG meeting but before this document will be sent to the AMWG. (See below for details for submitting comments.)

The draft recovery goals have been updated to include significant new information gathered since the 2002 versions. There are four major areas of change:

1. The inclusion of language that discusses “significant portion of range” as opined by the Department of Interior solicitor (see section 2.1).
2. The inclusion of a brief discussion on “effects of climate change” (see section 4.5.2).
3. The inclusion of estimates of time and costs to achieve recovery (see section 5.4).
4. Unique to the Colorado pikeminnow, based on new information, the modification of the minimum viable population (MVP) from 2,600 to 2,800 (see section 3.3.2).

Please submit your comments by September 2, 2008 to: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program (Attn. Dr. Tom Czapla), Mountain-Prairie

Fish and Wildlife Service Draft Revised Recovery Goals, continued

Region, P. O. Box 25486, DFC, Denver, Colorado 80225; telephone: 303.969-7322, ext. 228; facsimile: 303.969-7327. After your comments are addressed, which will take approximately one month, the draft recovery goals will be released for public comment through the Federal Register. At the same time, the FWS will submit the revised recovery goals for external peer review by qualified scientists familiar with the recovery planning process and the species. This is likely to be coordinated through the FWS Washington Office.

If you would prefer a CD copy of these review documents for the four species of fish, please contact Sam Spiller at 602.242-0210, ext. 240, or sam_spiller@fws.gov.

Humpback Chub

Recovery Goals Update

July 30, 2008 - Revised Recovery Goals sent to AMWG (also to seven states and key stakeholders & existing conservation programs). Revision is updated to include significant new information gathered since 2002.

Four major areas of change:

1. We have included language that discusses “significant portion of range” as opined by the Department of Interior solicitor (see section 2.1).
2. We have included a brief discussion on “effects of climate change” (see section 4.5.2).
3. We have included estimates of time and costs to achieve recovery (see sections 5.4).
4. Unique to the Colorado pikeminnow, we have changed the MVP based on new information from 2,600 to 2,800 (see section 3.3.2).

Humpback Chub Recovery Goals Update

Comments due September 30, 2008 to:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program (Attn. Dr. Tom Czapla), Mountain-Prairie Region, P. O. Box 25486, DFC, Denver, Colorado 80225; telephone: 303-969-7322x228 and fax: 303-969-7327.

Recovery Goals will be published later in the Federal Register for public comment period and scientific peer review.