



Science Plan for Fall Steady Flows and Near Shore Ecology

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Update for AMWG April 29, 2009

Background

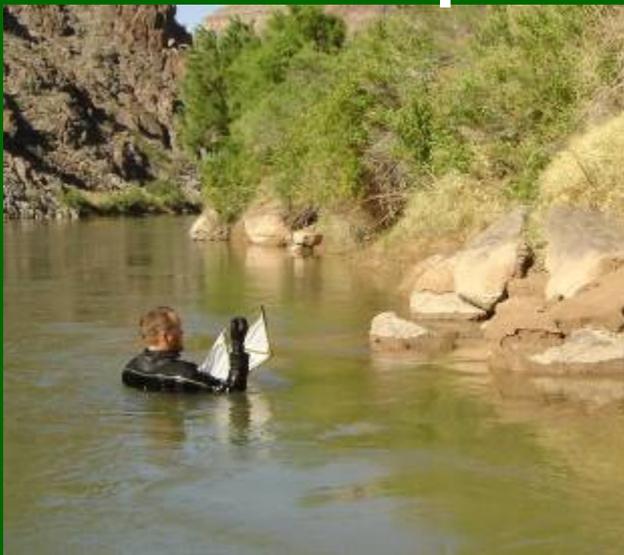
- February 2008 Environmental Assessment implements steady flows 2008-12
- February 2008 Biological Opinion requires study of near shore ecology and steady flows
- May 2008 AMWG Motion: GCMRC to prepare study plan; include flow recommendations to support study

GCMRC Approach: 3 Projects

- Aquatic Food Base
- Rainbow Trout
- Near Shore Ecology

Aquatic Food Base (AQFB)

- 2008-2012 Increased sampling frequency inverts and drift – bracket experimental flows
- 2009-12 Continuous DO collection at Lees Ferry and Diamond Creek – algae production
- Sep 2009 – backwaters AQFB monitoring
- Sep 2010 Final report on AQFB R&D



Rainbow Trout

- Redds and early life stages monitoring (Ecometric and AZGFD)
- Adult monitoring (AZGFD)
- 2009-2012 – monitoring and annual reporting



Near Shore Ecology

- 2008 Pilot Study
- 2008 Competition for cooperator
- 2009-2011 Cooperator field work –
Near shore habitat use by GC fishes
 - Sampling in LCR reach
 - Otolith studies
 - Sonic tags
 - Jul, Aug, Sep, Oct sampling
- 2012 Cooperator reporting





Science Plan

- **Study objectives (2008 BO)**
- **Science questions (SSP, MRP, others)**
- **3 Projects**
- **Recommended flows**
 - **Introduction**
 - **Assumptions/Constraints (MLFF, hydrology)**
 - **Aug-Sep transition (dry, average, wet)**
 - **Sep-Oct steady flows (dry, average, wet)**

- **Review at June 2009 TWG meeting**