Biennial Budget and Work Plan (FY 2013-14)

- Comments from TWG after Feb. 2 meeting
- BAHG review, additions, discussion
- BAHG final Feb. 14
- 51 comments plus 4 policy level (AMWG guidance needed)
- Consider KA II updates
- Consider 2 EAs, BIOP
- Annual reports
POLICY ISSUE

- Review of distribution and status of missing and at risk species - $50,000
- Placeholder added for reintroducing extirpated species in Grand Canyon

Request consideration related to AMP policy, RIN 3.1.1 states no use of AMP funds for extirpated species work (category C information need)

AMWG acknowledged species of concern white paper in August 2011
2 EAs and BiOp (10)

- Clearly identify compliance needs for these actions and make them a high priority, including tribal perspectives
- Identify and mitigate adverse effects to traditional cultural properties
- Restructure budget to better incorporate the compliance needs for HFEs
- Integration of tribes, TEK, into monitoring program related to these actions
- Rapid Response science plan to contrast store and release
- Lack of funding for riparian and cultural/archaeology monitoring may make compliance with NHPA difficult
- Consider HFE monitoring in the core monitoring plan
Humpback Chub (9)

- Consider humpback chub comprehensive plan
- Consider humpback chub restoration study (100k)
- Consider how to minimize research sampling impacts to aggregations
- Support for PBR study, coordinate results with TWG
- Clarity on annual incidental take monitoring related to new ITS, and provide annual updates on take
- Chute Falls translocation plan requested
- Support brown trout removal in mainstem and BA
Humpback Chub (continued)

- Clear link between budget and core monitoring plan to support and evaluate progress to recovery
- How can the program achieve goals described in the status review and further described by FWS?
- Has carrying capacity been reached (in the LCR), and if so, what can be done to achieve goals?
- Are we on track for being able to evaluate when goals are reached?
Native American Values & TEK (5)

• Concern that the AMP is losing sight of humanistic values associated with Grand Canyon and the Colorado River ecosystem

• Lack of presented information regarding Native American issues was a significant information need not covered during the KA II process

• Use un-used funds to support tribal concerns

• DOI should include a project/program in 13-14 budget to consider how to integrate TEK into GCMRC, (50k)
Riparian Vegetation (4)

- Riparian vegetation model development
- Given significance of riparian changes, study vegetation to understand impacts to sediment retention/sand bars
- Funding isn’t sufficient to address:
  - Continuation of past data sets
  - Synthesizing past monitoring
  - Monitoring encroachment on sand bars
• Consider meetings in locations that allow contact with the resources we are considering, to include stakeholder values
• Allow adequate funding to have meetings and connection to the resource
• Consider river trip in 13-14 budget
Other Categories

- Refinement of ecosystem models
- Use of Cataract Canyon (or other areas) as a control
- Reclamation should define compliance responsibility under 1994 PA and 2007 treatment plan, and complete NHPA compliance
- Concerns over arch. site preservation, and values associated with it
- Too much focus on sediment suspension and transport if it primarily is used to build sand bars that erode quickly, revisit needs
Other Categories (cont'd)

- Lees Ferry gravel pits ecosystem study feasibility analysis
- Re-consider need to monitor old high water zone
- Nutrient dynamics model pilot study
- Study RBT/native fish dynamics in Shinumo Creek
- AMP administrative history study
- Consider what could be learned from floods >60k cfs
- Emphasize timely research results, more funds?
Other Categories (cont'd)

• Maintain research focus on dam operations needs for compliance

• Consider restructuring budget to meet goals such as nonnative fish and HFEs and removing “Experimental Flow Fund” line item, general reconsolidation of budget to clarify