

**Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Work Group**  
**Agenda Item Information**  
**May 28, 2015 Webinar**

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Agenda Item

Technical Work Group (TWG) Report

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Action Requested

✓ Information item only; we will answer questions but no action is requested.

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Presenter(s)

Shane Capron, TWG Vice Chair

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Previous Action Taken

N/A

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Relevant Science

See below.

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Background Information

The Technical Work Group (TWG) meeting was held on April 21–22, 2015. This agenda item is a report to the AMWG on progress made at the TWG towards addressing some of the more recent issues that were brought up during the 2015 Annual Reporting (AR) meeting.

**Humpback chub Translocations**

In accordance with the Comprehensive Fisheries Management Plan (CFMP) for Grand and Glen Canyons, Grand Canyon National Park—with the assistance of the Bureau of Reclamation and others—initiated a series of humpback chub translocations to Havasu and Shinumo creeks to contribute towards the long-term goals of establishing additional spawning aggregations and/or increasing mainstem aggregations of humpback chub below the Little Colorado River. Tributary translocation summaries from the 2015 AR meeting indicated that translocations may be successful in Havasu Creek and chub may be reproducing. GCMRC reports on humpback chub aggregations indicated that these translocations have contributed to mainstem populations and catches at mainstem locations such as Pumpkin Springs. Stakeholder discussions at the AR meeting indicated an interest in pursuing mainstem translocations of humpback chub. The TWG discussed the potential for forming a new ad hoc group to discuss mainstem translocations and came to the conclusion that it is premature to form an ad hoc group.

The TWG expressed its support of scoping out the feasibility of mainstem translocations, and asked the agencies to update them on progress in scoping out such a project, to report to the TWG as details emerge, and to include TWG members whenever possible in these discussions.

### **Lees Ferry Fishery**

At the April TWG meeting, Arizona Game and Fish Department (AGFD) and GCMRC presented information on the state of the Lees Ferry trout fishery. Spring electrofishing survey Catch Per Unit Effort (CPUE) has been declining since 2012 and fish condition is the lowest since 1991. Angler catch rates have been dropping and are extremely low for walk-in anglers. The GCMRC April trip reports confirm continued declines of trout numbers in most reaches, including a decline of more than 50% near the confluence of the Little Colorado River. Lees Ferry anglers, guides, and businesses presented a few recommendations at the April TWG meeting that included proactive efforts to identify actions to maintain/enhance trout fishery without impacting native fish downriver.

### **Razorback Sucker Research and Monitoring in the lower Grand Canyon**

Evidence of reproduction by razorback sucker (RBS) and humpback chub was seen during the 2014 larval fish sampling in the lower Grand Canyon. Razorback sucker monitoring and research activities by Biowest, Bureau of Reclamation, and National Park Service also showed the presence of larvae at the Colorado River inflow to Lake Mead for the fifth year in a row. Native fish dominate the total fish community in the lower Grand Canyon and Lake Mead inflow area. Responsible entities will continue to monitor the Colorado River inflow area for larval and small bodied native fish sampling.