Progress Update on Revision of the Humpback Chub Comprehensive Plan

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TWG Meeting, Phoenix, Arizona
February 3, 2005
History of the HBC Plan

- January 28-29, 2003 AMWG meeting – recognizing that HBC numbers have declined precipitously, Grand Canyon Trust suggests motion to “start a process… to take a more comprehensive approach to addressing the plight of humpback chub (HBC).”

Motion passed (17, 0, 3): “AMWG meet in special session on or about April 1, 2003, to consider action to implement a comprehensive research and management program for the HBC, and in the interim an ad hoc committee of AMWG, TWG, GCMRC, and science advisors develop recommendations and report to AMWG at the special session.”
May 29, 2003 AMWG meeting – Current version of “Status and Management Strategy for Humpback Chub in Grand Canyon” presented. Chairman Spiller notes that HBC Ad Hoc was unable to reach consensus on proposals, especially augmentation, although consensus was reached that a genetics management plan was necessary. Numerous comments received from AMWG.

August 13, 2003 AMWG meeting – plan is redistributed at AMWG meeting. AMWG does not make any formal acceptance of the plan, but uses it at the August meeting in developing FY 2004 budget.
June 9, 2004 – Kubly submits revised plan to HBC AHG (authors include Burton, Davis, Gloss, Henderson, Knowles, Kubly, Persons, Sponholtz, and Stevens).

- Similar format and content
- Names of potential contract recipients eliminated
- Cost estimates removed
- Project summaries shortened
- Some projects combined
- Two new projects added: Non-native stocking procedures and improve rearing habitats
- Added discussion of project implementation in section 5
History cont.

August – September 2004 – Four conference calls; lack of consensus regarding content of revisions leads to recommendation that a powerpoint presentation be given to the AMWG on the unresolved issues to seek guidance on how best to proceed. Two tiers of concerns recognized: technical issues and policy issues.
HBC PLAN – Technical Issues

- Removal of HBC from Grand Canyon
- Integration of plans (CMP, LTEP, HBC)
- Prioritization, linkages, sequencing
- Improve scientific basis of the document
- Risk analysis of each action/project
HBC PLAN – Policy Issues

- Forward HBC plan on to the Secretary with a recommendation to develop a recovery program for Grand Canyon HBC.

- Designate each HBC plan project as in or out of the AMP and fund accordingly.

- Fully incorporate HBC plan into the AMP.