

GCDAMP Triennial Budget and Work Plan Process paper

- The BAHG will help Reclamation and GCMRC develop and bring to the TWG budgets that are prepared for full TWG discussion and recommendation to AMWG.
- Thus, technical issues and resolutions of major issues will be resolved to the extent possible before full TWG review.
- Review and provide input on the initial budget spreadsheet and draft final budget spreadsheet and work plan to GCMRC and Reclamation, including input from the CRAHG and other ad hoc groups.
- Provide recommendations to TWG at its spring and summer meetings.

BAHG Meetings

Guidance, priorities, and areas of emphasis: February 6, 11am-noon (AZ/MST)

First draft

- February 20, 1-4pm (AZ/MST): Humpback Chub, Nutrients, Water Quality, and Sediment.
- February 25, 1-4pm (AZ/MST): Foodbase, Rainbow Trout Fishery, Other Native Fish Species (other than HBC), and Nonnative Invasive Species
- February 28, 8am-noon (AZ/MST): Tribal and Cultural. Resources, Riparian Vegetation, Socioeconomics, Recreation, Hydropower, Overflight Remote Sensing and GIS.

Second draft

- April 17, 1-4 pm (AZ/PDT): GIS, Rainbow Trout Fishery, Other Native Fish Species (other than HBC), and Nonnative Invasive Species.
- April 20, 1-4 pm (AZ/PDT): Tribal and Cultural Resources, Riparian Vegetation, Socioeconomics, Recreation, Hydropower, Overflight Remote Sensing.
- April 21, 1-4 pm (AZ/PDT): Humpback Chub, Nutrients and Water Quality, Foodbase, and Sediment.

SA presentation: June 16, 12-3pm (AZ/PDT)

BAHG final meeting and report to TWG: June 17, 12-2pm (AZ/PDT)

Notes from these meetings can be found on the GCDAMP wiki on the BAHG page at http://gcdamp.com/index.php?title=GCDAMP_BAHG_Page.

Concerns raised during the last BAHG meeting

- Removal of funding for the gage at the mouth of the LCR, the Kanab Creek gage, and the Havasu Creek gage;
- Funding sediment dynamics monitoring in the western Grand Canyon along the Hualapai Reservation through the experimental fund (B.6.5) but not providing any funding for analysis (B.4 is unfunded);
- The reduction in TRGD (trout monitoring sites) from 3 sites to 1 site and how this might affect our ability to assess effects of HFEs, TMFs, and brown trout control on the rainbow and brown trout populations in Lees Ferry;
- Identifying a study duration for the aeolian sand transport / vegetation removal experiment;
- Whether the Cultural Program Administrative History (Project Element D.3) was of such importance to be prioritized over other projects receiving a reduction in funding;
- Desire to continue to develop better real-time monitoring of DO in the tailrace of the dam, better predictive modeling, and a mitigation or response plan in the event of a release of water with DO low enough to impact the rainbow trout fishery;
- Desire to increase emphasis in the workplan to assess the value of spring HFE-type releases according to the DOI guidance and AMWG motion;
- Elimination of JCM-West monitoring in 2023 and whether enough time has been allocated to identify factors that led to the expansion of humpback chub in that part of the canyon;

Written comments and one-on-one discussions

Many stakeholders have also submitted written comments and there have been many one-on-one discussions with Reclamation and GCMRC regarding changes to future drafts of the budget and workplan, many of which were not directly discussed during the BAHG meetings. These stakeholders also requested that these comments be considered by Reclamation and GCMRC in subsequent drafts of the budget and workplan.



Chair: Craig Ellsworth

Members: Jan Balsom, Cliff Barrett, Richard Begay, Charley Bullets, Peter Bungart, Rob Billerbeck, Shane Capron, Winkie Crook, Kurt Dongoske, Craig Ellsworth, Michelle Garrison, Paul Harms, Brian Healy, Ken Hyde, Leslie James, John Jordan, Vineetha Kartha, Jakob Maase, Ryan Mann, Jessica Neuwerth, Theresa Pasqual, Craig McGinnis, Bill Persons, Ben Reeder, Peggy Roefer, Seth Shanahan, Larry Stevens, Jim Stroger, Steve Wolff, and Kirk Young.

Invited technical advisors: Helen Fairley, Mike Moran, Clayton Palmer, Dave Rogowski, and Scott VanderKooi.