

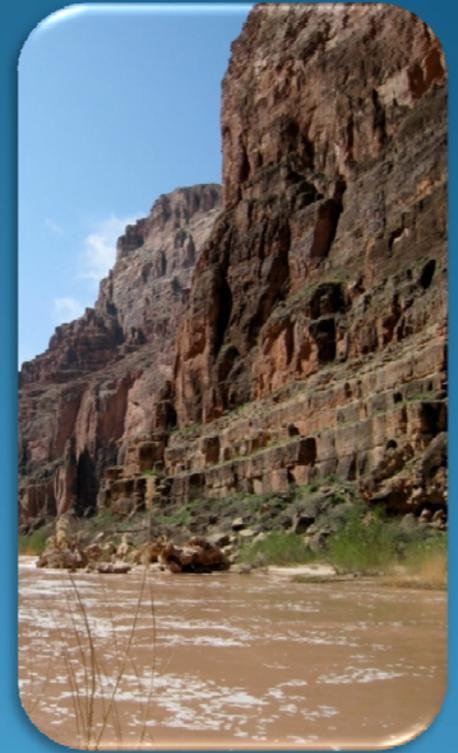


General Core Monitoring Plan Workshop Results TWG Chair Report

By Shane Capron
Chair, Technical Work Group

The Road Map

- TWG comments on GCMP completed November 16, 2009
- General issues raised by TWG
- December 1, 2010, workshop results
- Next Steps



OVERVIEW

Core Monitoring is important to annual budget process, buy in is important

GCMP will morph into MRP in next draft in 2012

GCMP responsive to myriad CMINs, but the AMP hasn't had a chance to decide if all these activities should be CM or in a different category of activity = adaptive management

Can we integrate adaptive management into this process and how?



COMMENTS

- Arizona Game and Fish Department
- Pueblo of Zuni
- Western Area Power Administration
- Colorado Water Conservation Board
- National Park Service
- Bureau of Reclamation
- Arizona Department of Water Resources
- Grand Canyon Wildlands Council
- *Science Advisors

TWG Chair compiled the comments and developed a list of 21 major issues to consider at the workshop



GOALS OF THE WORKSHOP

- Review major TWG comments, solicit any others, create a list of major issues
- Determine the most important of the comments, rank these to determine support
- Develop plan to address the comments, timeline for completion of GCMP
- Criteria for being “in” the list, comments that require substantial changes to the document, approach, or strategy
- Thus, specific technical changes, edits, general discussion or comments were generally not included in the list and will be responded to by GCMRC as usual



WORKSHOP

- 18 participants, 6 GCMRC, SA Executive Coordinator, Mary Orton facilitated
- In the workshop we added to the list of 21 major issues and came up with 24 major issues to consider and clarified
- We then went through a dot-voting exercise to help prioritize TWG concerns
- This involved continued tweaking and re-arranging of the list as topics became combined or altered through discussion



CORE MONITORING DEVELOPMENT APPROACH

- Support for general core monitoring plan first and then individual plans
- Need to identify key goals of our long term monitoring program
- Develop individual plans slowly based on scientific merits
- Sediment was provisionally approved by TWG in 2008

STRENGTHS OF THE PLAN

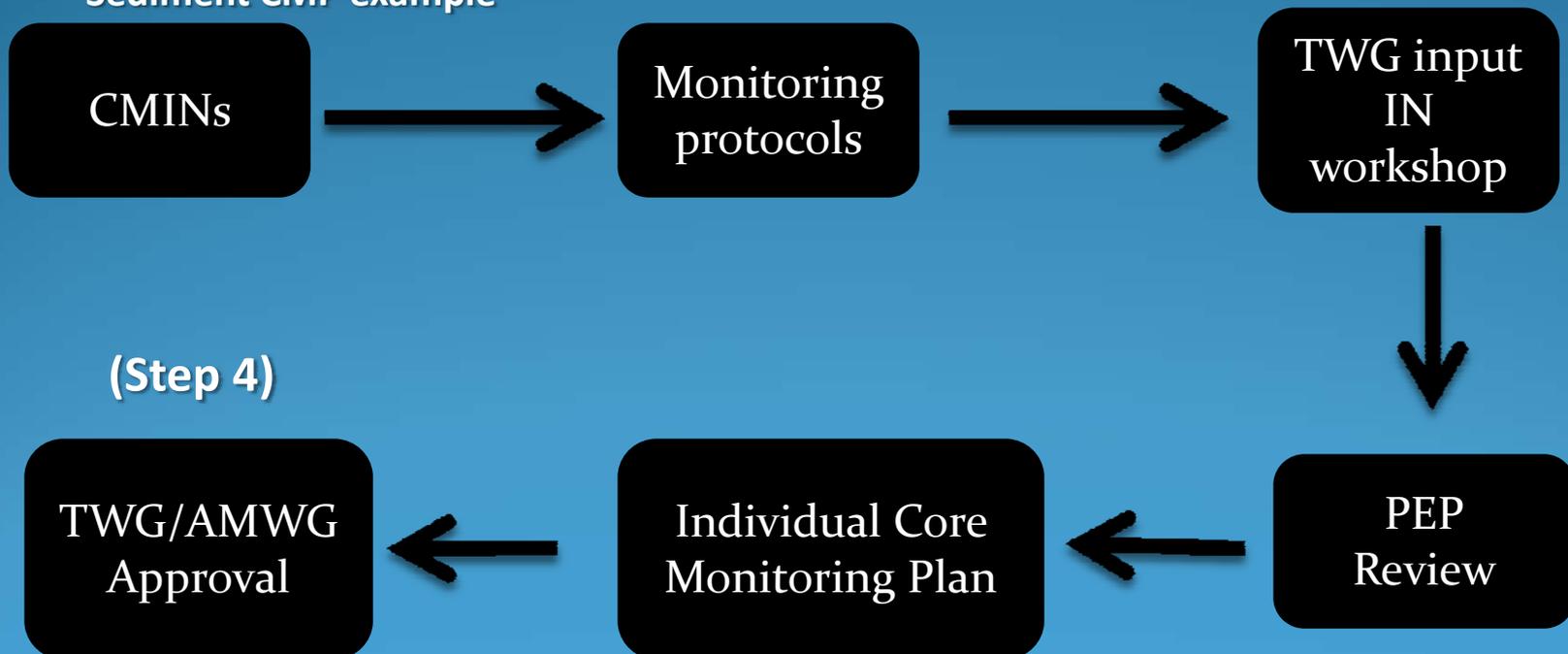
- Strength is in the research protocols and being responsive to general AMP needs
- AMP hasn't been as clear as GCMRC might like, makes their job more difficult
- Staff on site, long term perspective, good coordination within GCMRC
- Chapter 1 background
- We appreciate all the hard work that has been put into the long history here to develop core monitoring

TWO STRATEGIES

Two strategies are weaved together without explicitly discussing them, which makes it difficult to discuss the issues

Science Strategy

- Monitoring protocols, SA support of this strategy
- GCMRC provided a plan that was generally descriptive of the activities which would be included in the individual plans, including cost
- Sediment CMP example



TWO STRATEGIES

Adaptive Management Strategy

- Choices in the CMP are not just science, they are management based on risk, reward, and cost
- Should include discussion of trade-offs between precision, increased monitoring, cost, and effectiveness and how the program should look at the scientific implications
- Unclear how step 4 results in CMPs (Section 1.2 p1)
- During step 4 the AMP would like to be integrated through adaptive management in choosing what should be CM and what should not
- This can't be done successfully without support from GCMRC in a strategy which provides the necessary and important information to inform managers to consider when making choices

WORKSHOP RESULTS

Dot-Ranking

1. Describe criteria for activity inclusion in core monitoring proposals.
2. How can we accurately determine which of the core monitoring proposals meets our needs, or perhaps is beyond our needs without specified DFCs for the MOs?
3. Risk assessment for critical choices (qualitative or quantitative based on available resources). We lack information on trade-offs between statistical precision and sampling intensity that will drive costs, these analyses should drive our decision making

RESULTS continued

4. Missing is concerns of CMT and others to avoid the “Christmas tree” approach and to keep the budget in the 40-60% range of the science budget.
5. The strategy discussion needs to be a greater focus of the document describing the two strategies (science and management; Chapter 2).
5. More integration of tribal monitoring in each CMP/goal, critical lack of tribal integration now with emphasis on other areas which may be a responsibility of the NPS.

NEXT STEPS

1. Discuss & agree on any large items/areas left out of draft CMP (or that should be eliminated),
2. Amend the Step-4 process to include General Comments #1 & #3 (dot-ranked). Implement the changes in process with the Goal 2 (fish program) core monitoring plan.
3. Recommendation to AMWG on DFCs (#2 dot-ranked) to be considered at January TWG meeting during the discussion on GCMP,
4. Define iterative process between GCMRC & TWG for finalizing core monitoring plan.
5. Come to agreement on core monitoring definition,
6. GCMRC will create a response to comments table and revise draft for March 2010 TWG meeting,
7. Norm and Shane will discuss the large-scale prioritization of the GCMP, and then possibly fold that into the small group above,
8. GCMRC will report to TWG (report to be given by Helen Fairley on January 21, 2010) & AMWG (February 2010) on results of this workshop and solicit feedback.
9. March 2009: GCMRC will create a response to comments table & revise the GCMP draft for the March TWG meeting.

Adaptive Management Strategy

