

Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Work Group
Agenda Item Information
February 19-20, 2014

Agenda Item

National Park Service Comprehensive Fisheries Management Plan

Action Requested

Information only

Presenters

Martha Hahn, Chief of Science and Resource Management, Grand Canyon National Park

Previous Action Taken

N/A

Relevant Science

More information about the NPS Comprehensive Fisheries Management Plan can be found here:
<http://www.nps.gov/grca/naturescience/fish.htm>

Background Information

The National Park Service Comprehensive Fisheries Management Plan (CFMP) Environmental Assessment (EA) for waters between Glen Canyon Dam and Lake Mead within Grand Canyon National Park (Grand Canyon) and Glen Canyon National Recreation Area (Glen Canyon) was completed in May 2013 and a Finding of No Significant Impact released on December 10, 2013.

The goals of the plan include maintaining a highly valued recreational rainbow trout fishery within Glen Canyon downstream of Glen Canyon Dam, and restoring and maintaining a native fish community, including endangered humpback chub and razorback sucker, downstream in Grand Canyon over the next 20 years.

The Comprehensive Fisheries Management Plan was developed in coordination with tribal governments, the Arizona Game and Fish Department and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. In addition, the NPS collaborated with the Bureau of Reclamation to incorporate conservation measures required to offset or mitigate impacts from Glen Canyon Dam.

Alternative 2 of the EA was approved in the FONSI, which will be implemented over the next 20 years, and provides fisheries management goals and objectives for specific waters within both NPS units as well as a comprehensive “toolbox” of fisheries management strategies, that includes:

- Experimental stocking of sterile (non-spawning) rainbow trout in Lees Ferry in the event the fishery declines below identified numbers;
- Translocations (i.e., moving fish from one location to another) of endangered humpback chub from the Little Colorado River to other Colorado River tributaries; nonnative fish control in specific areas such as Bright Angel Creek;

NPS Comprehensive Fisheries Management Plan, continued

- Prevention, detection, and control of nonnative fish and aquatic invasive species;
- Beneficial use of all nonnative fish removed; and,
- Extirpated species reintroduction feasibility studies.

A handout will be provided that outlines the goals and management strategies of the plan and an update on implementation of current projects will be presented.