

Prospectus
Colorado River Basin Science and Resource Management Symposium
December 3, 2007

Background and Need:

- Multiple programs have evolved independently since 1980; programs that have major impact on water management and conservation efforts in the Colorado River basin
- Many common goals and objectives among programs: biological resources; threats; restoration, monitoring and research strategies; and water management strategies and constraints
- In spite of commonalities there has been no formal opportunity for information exchange among programs
- Effectiveness of programs individually and collectively will be enhanced through a basin wide conference

Theme: Coming Together: Coordination of science and restoration activities for the Colorado River Ecosystem

Purpose: Promote the exchange of information on research and management activities related to the restoration/conservation of the Colorado River in the United States

Scope: The focus of the symposium would be the entire Colorado River and major tributaries in the USA from its headwaters to the Mexican Border

Potential Focus Areas (may need to be prioritized):

1. Keynotes, panels, basinwide synthesis of major finding, activities, and approaches
2. Resource status and trends
3. Climate change and long term drought: how will it affect restoration efforts
4. Nonnative fish management and restoration
5. Monitoring program design and effectiveness
6. Native fish propagation, stocking genetic management
7. Instream flow management and protection (including dam operations)
8. Sediment conservation and management
9. Native American Values
10. Riparian habitat monitoring and restoration
11. Recreation
12. Governance structures: adaptive management and collaborative decision making

Date/location: 3-days, December 2-4, 2008, (may be followed by individual program meetings);

Location Options:

- Las Vegas, Nevada (UNLV, casino)
- Flagstaff, Arizona (NAU conference center)
- Laughlin, NV

Target audience (500 participants):

- Land and resource managers and decision-makers
- Scientists and researchers
- Stakeholders
- Media

Major Sponsors:

- USGS, Grand Canyon Monitoring and Research Center
- FWS, Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Implementation Program
- FWS, San Juan Endangered Fish Recovery Implementation Program
- BOR/FWS, Lower Colorado River Multi Species Habitat Conservation Plan
- National Park Service (Colorado River National Park Units)
- Colorado River Fish and Wildlife Council

Other cooperators:

- Water Education Foundation
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- The Nature Conservancy
- State Game and Fish Agencies
- States

Budget and Logistics:

Program Committee (GCMRC lead)

Organizing Committee

Budget (TBD):

- Conference planner
- Paid Speakers (synthesis reports)
- Advertising
- Web registration
- Printing
- Refreshments
- Social event
- Proceedings (abstracts/full papers)
- Venue
- Audio visuals
- Registration fee