



AZFWCO presented Dennis Callaway, in the middle, with the "2012 AZFWCO Partner of the Year Award"

**AZFWCO Staff**

***Pinetop***

- Stewart Jacks, Project Leader
- Vacant, Assistant Project Leader
- Jeremy Voeltz, Project Coordinator
- Dominic Barrett, Partners for Fish & Wildlife Biologist
- Jennifer Johnson, Fish Biologist
- Kayla Barrett, Fish and Wildlife Biologist
- Travis Taylor, Biological Technician
- Karla McGhan, Administrative Officer
- Patti Ferlisi, Office Assistant



***Flagstaff***

- Kirk Young, Project Coordinator
- Randy Van Haverbeke, Senior Fish Biologist
- Dennis Stone, Fish Biologist
- Mike Pillow, Fish Biologist
- Jim Walters, Biological Technician
- Rick Deshler, Biological Technician

***Parker***

- Mitch Thorson, Fish Biologist
- Tammy Knecht, Fish Biologist
- Robert Randall, Fish Biologist
- John Naugle, Biological Technician

## Partnerships and Accountability

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AZFWCO presented Dennis Callaway with the “2012 AZFWCO Partner of the Year Award.” Mr. Callaway is the Superintendent of the River's Edge Golf Course in Needles, CA. He has been instrumental in managing the golf course ponds we use for rearing razorback sucker and bonytail. We appreciate Mr. Callaway's work to help us achieve our natural resource conservation mission.

Kirk Young, Rob Randall, Tammy Knecht, Mitch Thorson, and Stewart Jacks participated in the Colorado River Aquatic Biologists Annual Meeting in Laughlin, NV. Kirk gave a presentation titled "Summary of Humpback Chub Monitoring and Translocation Activities in the LCR, Grand Canyon," Rob gave a presentation titled “Lower Colorado River Native Fish Backwater Status,” Tammy gave a presentation titled "Environmental Factors that Reduce

Predation by Nonnative Fishes on Native Fishes of the Colorado River,” and Mitch gave a presentation titled “The Status of Giant Salvinia in the Lower Colorado River.” The staff also participated in the Lake Mohave Native Fish Work Group meeting held in conjunction with the meeting.

Kirk Young participated in the Glen Canyon Technical Work Group annual report meeting. Kirk gave a presentation titled, “Chute Falls Humpback Chub Translocations, Objectives, Effectiveness and Future Work.”

Randy Van Haverbeke participated in the 34th Annual Upper Colorado River Basin Fish Biologist's meeting in Moab, UT. Randy's presentations were titled, “Update of Arizona Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office Mark-Recapture Studies in the Little

Colorado River” and “Sampling Mainstem Aggregations of Humpback Chub in Grand Canyon 2010-2012.”

Kayla Barrett participated in the NFHP (National Fish Habitat Partnership) teleconference and provided an update to the group on the DFHP (Desert Fish Habitat Partnership).

Kayla Barrett coordinated and facilitated the DFHP teleconference.

Other Accomplishments:  
AZFWCO staff participated in the monthly Fishery Coordination meeting among AZFWCO, A-WC NFH (Alchesay-Williams Creek National Fish Hatchery), & WMAT-WORD (White Mountain Apache Tribe-Wildlife & Outdoor Recreation Division).

## Aquatic Species Conservation and Management

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Travis Taylor assisted the Williams Creek NFH staff with Apache trout spawning.

Randy Van Haverbeke submitted project reports for GCMRC (Grand Canyon Monitoring and Research Center). These annual reports are submitted to meet contractual obligations and used to update the Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Program Technical Workgroup.

Mike Pillow completed an Ecological Risk Screening Summary review for Region 3.

Randy Van Haverbeke and Kirk Young participated in an informal fish biologist meeting at GCMRC to discuss the upcoming L-TEMP meeting.

Mike Pillow and Kirk Young developed a map showing the locations where translocated humpback chub were recaptured from 2008-2011.

Kirk Young participated in a teleconference among Southwest Native Aquatic Resources and Recovery Center, AESO (Arizona

Ecological Service Field Office), GCMRC and AZFWCO staff. The call was to determine whether humpback chub could be produced in support of experimental trials to determine the lower size limit at which humpback chub could be reliably and safely PIT tagged.

Rob Randall retrieved two remote PIT tag scanners from Office Cove and downloaded data from the loggers. The scanners contacted 19 razorback suckers within a one-month monitoring period.

## Public Use

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Mitch Thorson and Rob Randall worked with staff from Bill Williams River and

Havasu NWRs to conduct a Youth Archery Event at Topock Marsh.

Students practiced their archery skills while shooting at foam carp targets.

## Public Use *(continued)*

Did you know AZFWCO had a Facebook page? We post information on our staff, upcoming projects, educational events, and volunteer opportunities across the state. We

currently have 348 “likes” from 20 countries. Check us out at [www.facebook.com/AZFWCO](http://www.facebook.com/AZFWCO).

facebook

Check out DFHP’s Facebook page. We post information on projects, request for proposals, pictures, steering committee news, and much more.

facebook

## Cooperation with Native Americans

Rob Randall and Mitch Thorson helped stock razorback suckers in two locations along the Colorado River located on the Colorado River Indian Tribes reservation. The razorback suckers were reared at Bubbling Ponds State Native Fish Facility. This was the first time the tribe has allowed stocking of endangered fish specifically in the Colorado River on tribal lands.

Rob Randall transported 40 bonytail from the Southwest Native Aquatic Resources & Recovery Center to be held at Achii Hanyo Native Fish Facility. These fish will be used for a telemetry

project on the Colorado River Indian Tribes portion of the lower Colorado River beginning in February.

Mike Pillow and Dennis Stone met with Sarah Rinkevich (USFWS tribal liaison for Grand Canyon fisheries) to update her on ongoing fisheries work in Grand Canyon affiliated with humpback chub and the removal of nonnative fishes.

Dominic Barrett reviewed payment information for the PF&W (Partners for Fish & Wildlife) funded Carrizo,

Cibecue, and White River Watersheds Improvement Project. As part of the project, White Mountain Apache Tribe - Land Operations Department installed four spring exclosures last fall.



## Leadership in Science and Technology

Dominic Barrett reviewed a manuscript titled, “Effectiveness of Nighttime and

Daytime Electrofishing: Implications for Mechanical Removal of Non-

Native Brown Trout” written by Jason Fischer and Jennifer Johnson.

## Aquatic Habitat Conservation and Management

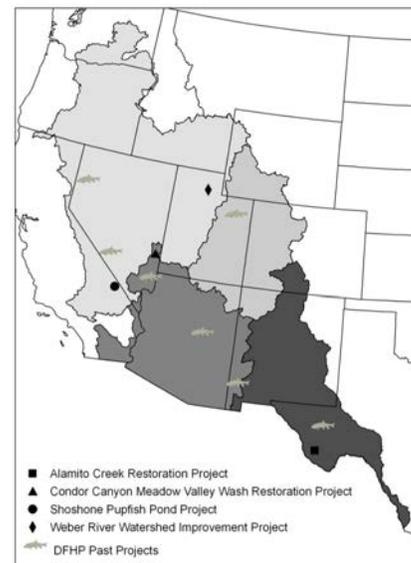
Dominic Barrett met with AGFD (Arizona Game and Fish Department) staff and two private landowners to discuss potential grassland restoration, wetland enhancement, and grazing management projects.

In cooperation with the National Wild Turkey Federation, Dominic Barrett completed a PF&W Subrecipient Landowner Agreement for the Hogtrail Canyon Grassland Restoration and Riparian Enhancement Project. The project will remove invasive juniper and

mesquite in riparian and upland areas.

Kayla Barrett completed and distributed the Desert Fish Habitat Partnership 2012 Annual Report. Kayla sent the report to DFHP members, Service staff, Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (LCC) coordinators, other Fish Habitat Partnership coordinators, National Fish Habitat Partnership Board members, and others.

Dominic Barrett and Kayla Barrett completed a GIS map illustrating current and past DFHP projects.



## Aquatic Habitat Conservation and Management

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Dominic Barrett participated in the monthly Apache County Natural Resource Conservation District meeting in Springerville.

Kayla Barrett coordinated a teleconference with AZFWCO, TXFWCO, and NMFWCO, Desert LCC coordinator, previous acting Desert LCC coordinator, NWR staff, and others to discuss the development of springs and seeps habitat assessment workshops to be held in 2013 in AZ and NM. AZFWCO will be working with the Spring Stewardship Institute to put on these workshops.

Dominic Barrett completed a Section 7 consultation for the PF&W funded Turkey Spring Forest Management Project. The project will be completed during spring 2013.

Kayla Barrett submitted a DFHP and LCC Interaction Report to NFHP for 2012.

Dominic Barrett completed a modification to extend the performance period for PF&W funded Big Sandy River Riparian Fencing Project.

Kayla Barrett coordinated with Western Native Trout Initiative and Great Plains Fish Habitat Partnership coordinators regarding the Western Fish Habitat Partnerships multi-state conservation grant.

Other Accomplishments:

Rob Randall and Tammy Knecht completed water quality collection and data entry for River's Edge Golf Course Ponds, Office Cove, Parker Dam Pond, Emerald Canyon Golf Course Ponds, High Levee Pond, Three Fingers Lake, Topock Marsh, and Alamo Lake.

## Workforce Management

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Travis Taylor was selected as the Term Multi-Project Bio-Tech stationed out of the Whiteriver office. Congratulations Travis.

Stewart Jacks completed Phase II of ALDP training at NCTC.

Jennifer Johnson completed the National Safety Council Defensive Driving and B-3 Combination Helicopter/Airplane Safety courses.

AZFWCO staff completed "No Fear Act," "OPM Uniformed Services

Employment and Re-employment Rights Act," "Veteran Employment Training for Hiring Managers," "Google E-mail and Calendar Essentials Training for DOI", and "Managing Shared Calendars in Google Apps" DOI-Learn training courses.

Mike Pillow released the Little Colorado River Volunteer Request Announcement.

Tammy Knecht, Rob Randall, and Mitch Thorson participated in

telemetry training provided by Sonotronics. The training included SUR software, proper deployment, and data downloads.

Staff participated in AZFWCO's monthly teleconference covering topics that included budget, personnel, safety, training, and work schedules.

