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I found Hirsch et al. 2006 to be a very thorough summary of the current status of the CRCT. It contains the most comprehensive distributional data I have seen on CRCT and it helps place the individual state efforts in perspective.

This status review very clearly indicates the current state of knowledge about the CRCT on a geographical scale. The challenges facing the CRCT are also developed in the review - introgression, disease, and fragmentation. The maps provided in the status review are especially valuable, allowing a visual determination of opportunities for developing metapopulations, as well as assessing risks facing the CRCT through disease and potentially irreconcilable fragmentation. I did not find any major problems with the status review. Information on the techniques used to generate the genetic status information (meristics, allozymes, mtDNA, AFLP, microsats, etc.) for each population would be helpful, but other than that I felt that the genetic status of the CRCT was clearly spelled out.

This document should serve as a very important, and likely a requisite source for agencies to use when focusing their efforts on conservation of the CRCT.

It does appear that the overall genetic structure of the Colorado River cutthroat trout across its entire range is not known, and I am not surprised by that. The intense effort focused on identifying populations that require special conservation consideration has overridden any efforts to determine the broader genetic associations within the subspecies. I know that our lab has been so busy evaluating the levels of introgression that we have not had time to examine the broader genetic structure across the entire range. And we likely are in a position to make that evaluation as well as any other lab. At this point we do not know how similar populations in one GMU are to those in other GMUs, nor how much historic gene-flow has been taking place within the subspecies. That is one area where future efforts can generate very useful information for focusing conservation efforts.

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