

**Peer Review Plan  
for  
Gila Chub (*Gila intermedia*)  
Draft Recovery Plan**



Illustration credit: Randy Babb

**About the Document**

**Title:** Gila chub (*Gila intermedia*) Draft Recovery Plan

**Dissemination Date:** October 2015

**Purpose:** The purpose of the draft recovery plan is to provide a strategy that leads to the delisting of the Gila chub throughout its range, in accordance with section 4(f)(1) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.). This draft recovery plan was prepared by the Technical Subgroup of the Gila Chub Recovery Team, who provided expertise in fisheries biology, hydrology, land management, captive care, and conservation biology that was used to develop strategies and actions necessary for the fish's recovery.

**About the Peer Review Process**

**Type of Review:** Influential

**Date of Peer Review:** The peer review will be conducted during the public review period for the draft recovery plan from October 27 to December 28, 2015.

**Estimated Dissemination of the Final Recovery Plan:** October 2016

**Type of Peer Review and Reviewer Selection Method/Expertise of Reviewers:** The Service will solicit reviews from six independent scientific reviewers with expertise in biology, conservation, and ecology of fish and/or the ecosystems upon which they depend. Reviewers were selected based upon the following criteria:

- **Expertise:** Reviewers should have knowledge in one or more of the following areas: conservation biology; fisheries ecology, hydrology, captive care, and land management activities in Arizona and New Mexico and their effects on Gila chub populations.
- **Independence:** Reviewers are not employed by the Service. Academic and consulting scientists have sufficient independence from the Service or the Department of the Interior if the government supports their work.
- **Objectivity:** Reviewers are recognized by their peers as being objective, open-minded, and thoughtful. The reviewers should be comfortable sharing their knowledge and identifying their knowledge gaps.
- **Advocacy:** Reviewers are not known or recognized for an affiliation with an advocacy position regarding the protection of this species under the Endangered Species Act.
- **Conflict of Interest:** Reviewers should not have any financial or other interest that conflicts with or that could impair their objectivity.

**About Public Participation:** A 60 day public comment period for the draft recovery plan began October 27, 2015, during which time the public will have the opportunity to review and provide input to the draft plan. The availability of the plan will be made public through news releases, newspaper articles, and mailings, and will be posted on Service websites with solicitations for public comment.

Both the draft and final plan addendums will be available at <http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/>

This peer review plan is made available on this website to allow the public to monitor our compliance with the Office of Management and Budget's Final Information Quality Bulletin for Peer Review.

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