



Arizona Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office



AZFWCO Staff

Pinetop

- Vacant, 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
- Vacant, 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

AZFWCO Mission: Working with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish and other aquatic organisms and their habitat in Arizona and the Southwest.

Partnerships and Accountability

Jeremy Voeltz, Doug Duncan (Arizona Ecological Services Field Office), and Bill Radke (San Bernardino/Leslie Canyon National Wildlife Refuge) submitted a 2014 Cooperative Recovery Initiative proposal. The proposal was slightly modified from last year's version that was nearly funded, and includes activities to prevent extinction and achieve downlisting criteria for several listed species and beneficial actions for other listed and non-listed species in the ~800,000 acre Malapai Borderlands Region in Southeastern Arizona, which includes the San Bernardino and Leslie Canyon National Wildlife Refuges.

Dennis Stone, Mike Pillow, and Randy Van Haverbeke participated in the December Fish Cooperators Meeting hosted by the Grand Canyon Monitoring and Research Center

(GCMRC) in Flagstaff, AZ. Discussed at the meeting were the presentations for the January TWG meeting along with results from 2013 projects and logistics for 2014 projects. Randy gave a presentation entitled, "Mark-Recapture and Monitoring in the Little Colorado River 2000-2013."

Dominic Barrett participated in two meetings with the White Mountain Land Trust and others to discuss the Intermountain West Joint Ventures (IWJV) Capacity Grant, landowner workshops, and conservation efforts.

Dominic Barrett met with Saint John's High School staff to discuss a possible wetland project.

Dominic Barrett participated in the Region 2 Partners for Fish and

Wildlife (PFW) conference call, HabITS Working Group conference call, and the monthly IWJV conference call.

Kayla Barrett finalized meeting minutes from the Desert Fish Habitat Partnership (DFHP) annual meeting and distributed to DFHP members and FWS staff.

Mike Pillow participated in planning teleconferences with AZ/NM American Fisheries Society chapter leadership regarding the upcoming meeting in Pinetop, AZ. As the fisheries program chair, he is responsible for scheduling oral fisheries presentation and assigning session moderators. The last call for papers ends on January 10.

Public Use

Jeremy Voeltz talked with a freelance writer from the Rocky Mountain Game and Fish Magazine. The author is doing a story for the May 2014 issue on recreational fishing for Apache trout in the White Mountains of Arizona with a focus on opportunities on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation.

Jennifer Johnson assisted Alchesay-Williams Creek NFH with Apache trout

spawning to harvest eggs for future year's recreational angling program on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation.

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 422 "likes"

from 20 countries. Check us out at www.facebook.com/AZFWCO.



Check out DFHP's Facebook page. We post information on projects, request for proposals, pictures, and much more. <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Desert-Fish-Habitat-Partnership/193053497376208>



Habitat Conservation and Management

Dominic Barrett completed a Subrecipient Landowner Agreement for the PFW funded Milligan Valley Erosion Control Project. In support of the project, Dominic Barrett also worked with the Army Corps of Engineers to comply with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. The Army Corps of Engineers will determine if the project

area is subject to Army Corps of Engineers jurisdiction.

Dominic Barrett completed marking 80 acres of ponderosa pine forest for the PFW funded Turkey Spring Forest Management Project. Contracted thinning will occur this winter or spring.

Kayla Barrett participated and helped prepare for the Desert FHP/ State Wildlife Action Plan webinar hosted by NFHP.

Kayla Barrett participated in the Economic Evaluation Tool webinar hosted by the River Network.

Habitat Conservation and Management *continued*

Kayla Barrett contacted WNTI coordinator to discuss questions regarding the MSCG with WNTI, DFHP, and GPFHP.

Kayla Barrett started working on the

Desert FHP Newsletter for winter 2013.

Rob Randall completed backwater quality and water quality data entry for the month of November:

Backwaters that were completed were River's Edge Golf Course, Office Cove, Parker Dam Pond, and Emerald Canyon Golf Course Ponds 1, 9 and 11.

Cooperation with Native Americans

Jeremy Voeltz participated in a conference call with the Arizona Ecological Services Field Office and

staff and legal counsel for the White Mountain Apache Tribe to discuss the Tribe's on-going efforts to

develop a native aquatic species conservation plan.

Aquatic Species Conservation and Management

Jeremy Voeltz attended the annual Gila Trout Recovery Team meeting in New Mexico. The AZFWCO is administering several Western Native Trout Initiative grants for Gila trout conservation in Arizona.

Dennis Stone continued working on a manuscript concerning the humpback chub translocation experiment above Chute Falls in the LCR.

Randy Van Haverbeke completed

and submitted a draft annual report for 2013 to Grand Canyon Monitoring and Research Center entitled: Mark Recapture and Fish Monitoring Activities in the Little Colorado River in Grand Canyon from 2000-2013.

Jennifer Johnson attended an Apache trout implementation meeting with the USFS, AZGFD and WMAT-WORD. The group discussed activities from the 2013 field season and started planning

for the 2014 field season.

Mike started working on renewing the Navajo Nation Department of Fish and Wildlife collecting permit. The renewal request will be sent in January along with copies of the 2013 trip reports.

Rob Randall worked with the USGS in Topock Marsh to help complete a mapping and bathometric survey of the marsh located on the Havasu National Wildlife Refuge.

Leadership in Science and Technology

Jennifer Johnson submitted a draft report entitled, "Nonnative Trout Removal from Apache Trout Streams on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation 2013 Summary Report" for internal review.

Mike Pillow continued working on

the humpback chub provenance project, linking fish with old tags in the USGS fisheries database to fish with new tags, by scanning old datasheets for information that is missing in the database. This time he was reviewing C.O. Minckley's fisheries data from the Little

Colorado River 1987-1989. These data sheets helped to fill in many missing collection date fields in the database.

Workforce Management

AZFWCO met in Flagstaff for a one day staff meeting and Christmas party.

Staff completed the on-line training DOILearn course "USGS Hazard

Communication-GHS"

Kayla Barrett completed the November AZFWCO Accomplishment Report.

Mike Pillow, Travis Taylor, and Rob Randall kept current on vehicle maintenance and oil changes, and processed vehicle receipts and mileage and sent them to Karla McGhan.

Workforce Management *continued*

Upcoming Events/Activities:

Colorado River Aquatic Biologists
Meeting: January 8-9, 2014
Laughlin, Nevada

TWG/AMWG Report-out Meeting:
January 28-29, 2014 Phoenix,
Arizona

Joint Annual Meeting of the AZ/NM
Chapters of the American Fisheries
Society and Wildlife Society:
February 6-8, 2014 Pinetop,
Arizona

