



Arizona Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office

Accomplishment Report

February 2013



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

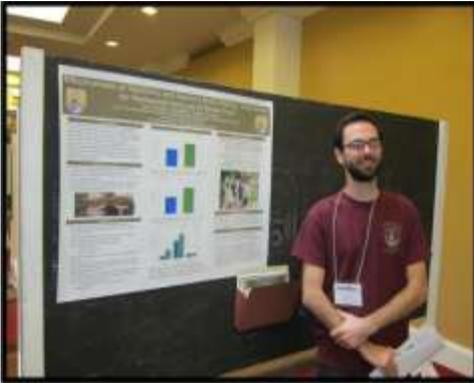
Parker

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

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, Kirk Young, Stewart Jacks, Andrew Larson, Brian Hickerson, Thomas Lubenau and Alex Poole attended the Joint Annual Meeting of the Arizona and New Mexico Chapters of the American Fisheries



Society and Wildlife Society. Alex Poole presented a poster on the capture efficiency of night time electrofishing efforts to remove brown trout.

Dominic Barrett participated in a conference call with California Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program staff to discuss a possible native fish refuge project benefitting razorback suckers along the lower Colorado River. Kirk Young met with U.S. Bureau of Reclamation staff to

discuss ways to increase coordination and implementation of native fish recovery efforts on the lower Colorado River. The possibility of an additional partnership was conceptualized and will be the subject of future discussions.

Jeremy Voeltz participated in the monthly Regional NFHAP call.

Mike Pillow renewed our 2013 Little Colorado River collecting and research permit with the Navajo Nation.

Randy Van Haverbeke completed a draft 2013 Little Colorado River Interagency Aviation and Evacuation Procedure Safety Plan for review and approval by USFWS, BOR, and USGS interagency aviation officers.

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

Aquatic Species Conservation and Management

Kirk Young and Randy Van Haverbeke met with Grand Canyon Monitoring and Research Center staff to finalize scopes of work and budgets for humpback chub work in 2013/2014. Existing work (Little Colorado River population estimate monitoring; translocation activities; and mainstem aggregation population assessment) will continue with the addition of one aggregation trip.

Staff from the Parker Office surgically implanted 40 razorback sucker and 40 bonytail chub with sonic tags and spent 14 days tracking the fish movement on the lower Colorado River.



Aquatic Habitat Conservation and Management

In cooperation with the National Wild Turkey Federation, Dominic Barrett completed Partners for Fish and Wildlife Subrecipient Landowner Agreements

for the West Pigeon Creek Riparian Enhancement and Upland Restoration Project and the Horseshoe Spring Grassland Restoration Project.

Public Use

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.



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

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Desert-Fish-Habitat-Partnership/193053497376208>

Cooperation with Native Americans

Jeremy Voeltz and Stewart Jacks worked with the AGFD (Arizona Game and Fish Department), A-WC NFH, and WMAT-WORD to outline the annual exchange of Apache

trout eggs to AGFD in return for aquatic weed harvesting services in lakes on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation.

Leadership in Science and Technology

Dennis Stone continued to work on the water chemistry (dissolved CO₂, temperature, discharge, sediment load) component of the humpback chub translocation experiment manuscript.

Dennis Stone reviewed a manuscript that was submitted for publication in the North American Journal of Fisheries Management.

Randy Van Haverbeke finalized editorial review comments for Journal of Fish and Wildlife Management manuscript entitled: *Long term monitoring of an endangered desert fish and factors influencing population dynamics*. The manuscript has now been resubmitted.

Kirk Young engaged in a Glen Canyon Technical Work Group web-x follow-on to last month's Technical Work Group Annual Report meeting. Noteworthy was a trout predation study by USGS staff that showed very low predation rates on bonytail and roundtail chubs from hatchery-reared rainbow trout. In addition, predations rates increased when chub were exposed to low water temperatures. When published, the work will add to an ever-growing body of science inferring the large influence temperature has in conservation of native southwestern chub (see new recent publication in Southwest Naturalist at <http://dx.doi.org/10.1894/0038-4909-57.4.421>)

Workforce Management

Jeremy Voeltz participated in several conference calls for the Region 2 Focus Group Implementation Team.

Jeremy Voeltz, Kirk Young, and Stewart Jacks met to discuss the remainder of FY13's budget, with an emphasis on travel reductions and effects related to the potential sequestration.

Randy Van Haverbeke completed an Interagency Aviation Training Workshop in Albuquerque.

Jennifer Johnson completed the NCTC online course "8 Weeks to Writing with Clarity"

Kayla Barrett and Dominic Barrett welcomed their baby, Eloise River, to the world on February 15. Mother and daughter are doing great!

