



Photo credit: Jeremy Voeltz

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
Vacant, Biological Technician

Apache Trout Crew

Alex Poole, Biological Technician
Brian Hickerson, Student Trainee
Ethan Jacks, Student Trainee



Partnerships and Accountability

Dominic Barrett participated in the monthly Intermountain West Joint Venture teleconference.

Kayla Barrett coordinated and facilitated Desert Fish Habitat Partnership's (DFHP) bi-monthly teleconference.

Kayla Barrett participated in the National Fish Habitat Program (NFHP) Fish Habitat Partnership's teleconference and provided call notes to DFHP members.

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

Alex Poole, Ethan Jacks, and Brian Hickerson returned to the Apache Trout Crew for the 2013 field season. The crew, along with Travis Taylor and Stewart Jacks, completed brown trout removal efforts on Crooked Creek. Only one brown trout was found in the stream.

Randy Van Haverbeke, Mike Pillow, Dennis Stone, Travis Taylor, Rick Deshler, Jim Walters, and Kirk Young, with assistance from volunteers, conducted the second spring native fish monitoring trip in the Little Colorado River. In addition to normal monitoring activities, the crew collected ~300 larval humpback chub for transport to the Southwest Native Aquatic Recovery & Research Center for future broodstock and translocation work.

Jennifer Johnson assisted Arizona Game and Fish Department (AGFD)

with a native fish project at Willow Springs Lake.

Jennifer Johnson assisted Williams Creek NFH staff with the collection of trout from the head and tail boxes at the hatchery. The larger trout were taken to Bog Tank for the children's fishing derby.

Kirk Young completed a final draft of a new Army Corp of Engineers In-Lieu Fee (ILF) Program instrument for the lower Colorado River. The ILF Program is a continuation of the existing program that applies mitigation funds to assist recovery work for listed big river fish in the area.

Randy Van Haverbeke participated in a teleconference with National Park Service (NPS) staff about

humpback chub recovery activities in Shinumo and Havasu creeks.

Jeremy Voeltz submitted a pre-proposal to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) to fund Apache trout recovery activities on Fort Apache Indian Reservation (FAIR) in 2014.

Randy Van Haverbeke participated in a meeting with Grand Canyon Monitoring and Research Center (GCMRC) staff to discuss details for upcoming July and September mainstem humpback chub aggregation monitoring trips.

Kirk Young worked with Nevada Department of Wildlife and AGFD to draft a proposal to evaluate small-scale augmentation and soft release of razorback suckers into Lake Mead.

Public Use

AZFWCO's 2012-2013 "Trout in the Classroom" project came to an end in May. The students said goodbye to their Apache trout for this school year. Before saying goodbye, the students participated in an art contest with the winner's artwork being featured on the front of the "Trout in the Classroom" t-shirts, which were given to each student. Two classrooms participated reaching more than 100 students this



school year. Chasina, a student at the White Mountain Montessori School, was the winner of our Apache Trout in the Classroom art contest.

Stewart Jacks presented career information about natural resources to 127 5th graders at the Blue Ridge Mid School Career Day.

Public Use

Kayla Barrett provided information to the owner of seriouslyfish.com for a blog about DFHP. Check out the story at <http://www.seriouslyfish.com/the-desert-fish-habitat-partnership/>

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 391 “likes” from 20 countries. Check us out at www.facebook.com/AZFWCO.

facebook

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>

facebook

Cooperation with Native Americans

Rob Randall, Tammy Knecht, and Mitch Thorson performed telemetry surveys on tagged native fish within No Name Lake on the Colorado River Indian Tribes (CRIT) Reservation.



Kirk Young reviewed the Environmental Assessment for proposed work on Pasture Canyon Dam on Hopi lands. Working with Jeremy Voeltz and the Arizona Ecological Service Field Office (AESO), AZFWCO is proposing to use

the proposed construction as an opportunity to replace the current fish assemblage (goldfish, koi, green sunfish) with a healthier sport fishery and reducing threats to native fish downstream.

Rob Randall conducted a trammel net survey for razorback sucker and bonytail within the Ahakhav Preserve backwater on the CRIT Reservation.

Jeremy Voeltz worked with WMAT-WORD on securing access for AGFD to cut aquatic weeds on select lakes on the FAIR lakes this summer. Jeremy worked with the WMAT’s Cultural Resources program and the Service’s Federal Aid Division on compliance to address any potential cultural affects from this activity. The work is completed by AGFD in exchange

for receiving Apache trout eggs from the A-WC NFH.

Jeremy Voeltz had discussions with the Navajo Nation about updating their Fisheries Management Plan to reflect new information and to add goals to provide additional conservation to the Zuni bluehead sucker.

Dominic Barrett submitted notification letters to the Hopi Tribe, Navajo Nation, Pueblo of Zuni, and White Mountain Apache Tribe describing project actions associated with the Partners for Fish & Wildlife (PF&W) funded Turkey Spring Forest Management Project.

Jennifer Johnson collected water quality data from Tonto Lake on the FAIR in preparation for trout stocking.

Leadership in Science and Technology

Rob Randall deployed three remote PIT tag scanners into Topock Marsh in the upper part of Lake Havasu to evaluate movement of native fish throughout the marsh and to determine if there is active movement of native fish from outside of the marsh. One scanner

out of the three identified three razorback suckers. All three fish were stocked into the marsh by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation in 2010 and two out of the three fish were also sampled in AGFD’s 2012 Topock Marsh survey.

Aquatic Habitat Conservation and Management

Dominic Barrett is working with Sevilleita NWR to complete the PF&W funded Clear Creek Grassland Restoration Project. Dominic and Refuge staff will work together to restore 283 acres of high elevation grassland habitat on the Colorado Plateau. Current restoration efforts will compliment previous works completed by private landowners, PF&W, AGFD, and Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS).



Dominic Barrett completed HABITS entries and closeout packages for

Echinique Draw Grassland Restoration Project, Little Colorado River Stream and Riparian Restoration Project, Hogtrail Canyon Grassland Restoration and Riparian Enhancement Project, Beaver Creek Riparian Protection Project, and Horseshoe Spring Grassland Restoration Project.

Kayla Barrett coordinated with Region 8 staff, FIS users, and DFHP members to discuss status of de-obligated and reallocation of DFHP funds for the Mountain View Creek project.

Dominic Barrett met with a PF&W Cooperator and potential contractors to discuss work and costs associated with the Turkey Spring Forest Management Project.

Dominic Barrett met with a PF&W Cooperator to close the Echinique

Draw Grassland Restoration Project. All work and payments have been completed.

Other Accomplishments: Rob Randall completed native fish backwater water quality monitoring for River's Edge Golf Course Ponds, Office Cove, Parker Dam Pond, Emerald Canyon Golf Course Ponds, Topock Marsh, Moovalya, Escara, and No Name Lake.

Tammy Knecht completed Corps of Engineers contracted water quality at Alamo Lake.

Kayla Barrett developed a database for DFHP projects for internal use.

Workforce Management

All AZFWCO staff participated in a monthly staff meeting covering topics that included awards, budget, personnel changes, safety, training, and work schedules. Several awards were given at the meeting. Kirk Young and Jeremy Voeltz were presented Time Off Awards for stepping up and serving as Acting Project Leader while Stewart Jacks was on a 60-day assignment. Randy Van Haverbeke was presented a Time Off Award for his recent publication on the long-term humpback chub work. Additionally, Mitch Thorson was presented his 20-Year pin and Jennifer Johnson was presented her 10-Year pin.

Alex Poole, Ethan Jacks, and Brian Hickerson returned to the Apache Trout Crew for the 2013 field season. Welcome back!

Jennifer Johnson participated in the NCTC course "Building Urban and Community Habitats with Youth." The course was designed by NCTC, Division of Education Outreach, to empower conservation professionals to assess, develop, and work with local youth service corps that engage 14-25 year olds in job training, conservation skills, and leadership opportunities through community habitat enhancement, restoration, or

monitoring projects.



Jennifer Johnson and Tammy Knecht completed the annual safety inspections of the Whiteriver and Parker offices respectively.

Jennifer Johnson completed the American Fisheries Society's



Workforce Management

Continuing Education Webinar: Power-Based Standardization in Electrofishing.

Kayla Barrett returned to work after being on maternity leave. For a quick glimpse of new baby Eloise check out the staff photo below. For more pictures and extensive

stories about Eloise give Kayla a call.

Jeremy Voeltz won three medals at the 2013 Arizona Mead Cup: a silver for his apple/cherry cider, silver for his grape mead, and bronze for his apple cider. Additionally, Jeremy won three

bronze medals at the 2013 Great Arizona Homebrew Competition for his IPA, habanero IPA, and raspberry porter. And finally, Jeremy won first place in its category at the 2013 National Homebrew Competition First Round for an oaked cherry mead that was aged nearly three years.

