



A golden humpback chub from the Little Colorado River. The chub is considered a color anomaly, however, a fin clip was collected and will be analyzed to confirm species identity.

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



Apache Trout Crew

- Alex Poole, 1040 Seasonal

Parker

- Mitch Thorson, Fish Biologist
- Tammy Knecht, Fish Biologist
- Robert Randall, Fish Biologist
- John Naugle, Biological Technician
- Sean O'Kray, Biological Technician

Partnerships and Accountability

Dominic Barrett participated in the Regional Fisheries conference call.

Kayla Barrett coordinated and facilitated the Desert Fish Habitat Partnership (DFHP) teleconference. Kayla also provided notes and distributed to DFHP members.

Kayla Barrett participated in the National Fish Habitat Partnership (NFHP) FHPs teleconference. Kayla provided notes and distributed to DFHP members.

Kayla Barrett started preparing for the DFHP Annual Meeting 20 November 2013 in Flagstaff, AZ in conjunction with the Desert Fishes Council meeting.

Kirk Young met with John Swett and Gregg Garnett of the Lower Colorado River MSCP program to identify future cooperative work to benefit aquatic

species within the project area. The meeting will likely result in a new intergovernmental agreement.

Rob Randall completed backwater quality and water quality data entry for the month of September: Backwaters that were completed were River's Edge Golf Course (Needles), Office Cove (BWRNWR), Parker Dam Pond (Parker Dam), Emerald Canyon Golf Course Ponds 1, 9 and 11 (Parker) and Topock Marsh (HNWR).

Rob Randall worked on reports for both the 2013 Mohave Roundup and the 2012-2013 Off-Channel Habitat updates.

Dennis Stone provided GCMRC six humpback chub incidental mortalities that occurred in the LCR this year, which will be used for chub-aging

(via otoliths) and food-base research (via stomach contents) and possibly some other studies (e.g., stable isotopes).

Tammy Knecht attended the Imperial ponds 5 year Management plan meeting at Imperial National Wildlife refuge.

Tammy Knecht submitted the 2013 Lake Havasu summary report to the partners of the Lake Havasu Fisheries Partnership.

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).

Public Use

Kayla Barrett updated the DFHP Facebook page and sent latest DFHP Newsletter to be posted on the NFHP website.

Kayla Barrett discussed developing a DFHP poster for the NFHP Board meeting in October with Tom Busiahn.

Tammy Knecht completed monthly water quality for Alamo Lake.

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 402 "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

Habitat Conservation and Management

Dominic Barrett began marking 80 acres of ponderosa pine for the Turkey Spring Forest Management Project. Marking will be completed in early October. Marked trees will be cut by hand crews and heavy equipment this fall.

Kayla Barrett published the Desert FHP Newsletter Vol 4 No 1 and distributed to DFHP members, FWS staff, LCC and FHP coordinators, NGO staff, and others.

Kayla Barrett coordinated the DFHP

ranking committee and FY14 proposals process.

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Habitat Conservation and Management

NGO staff, and others.

Dominic Barrett and staff from Sevilleta NWR completed the PF&W funded Clear Creek Canyon Grassland Restoration Project in eastern Arizona. The project restored approximately 330 acres of high elevation grassland habitat. Pictures are before and after photos of the project area; note Chevelon Butte in the background. Restoration efforts mechanically ground invasive one-seed juniper (*Juniperus monosperma*) but left cliffrose (*Purshia* spp.) and Mormon tea (*Ephedra viridis*) for wildlife benefits.



Kayla Barrett coordinated the DFHP ranking committee and FY14 proposals process.

Kayla Barrett discussed drafting a possible business plan for DFHP with DFHP members.

Jennifer Johnson and Alex Poole finished a BVET survey on Ord Creek.

Cooperation with Native Americans

Dominic Barrett reviewed cultural resources survey reports for three PF&W funded projects. In compliance with NHPA, notification letters were sent to five potentially affected Tribes notifying them of proposed federal actions and ground disturbances.

Dominic Barrett and Jeremy Voeltz met with San Carlos Apache Tribe

Recreation and Wildlife Department staff to discuss fisheries related activities and opportunities for PF&W funded projects.

Jeremy Voeltz, Steve Spangle (Arizona Ecological Services Field Officer), and John Nystedt (Arizona Ecological Services Field Officer) met with the WMAT's Tribal Chairman, Tribal Council members,

and staff from various WMAT's Departments for a technical Statement of Relationship meeting. In effect for nearly 20 years now, the Statement of Relationship between the WMAT and the USFWS identifies specific Government-to-Government roles for the Tribe and USFWS, including points of contacts and information protocols for sensitive species data.

Aquatic Species Conservation and Management

Kirk Young participated on the September mainstem humpback chub aggregation monitoring trip. The trip was successful in that we captured quite a few humpback chub inside and outside of known aggregation sites and captured chub for an ultra-sounding project to look for eggs. Several of the chub we captured in the mainstem had egg development occurring. A bright exception to the extensive debris and mud was the collection of a golden chub. The chub is considered a color anomaly, however, a fin clip was collected

and will be analyzed to confirm species identity.

Mike Pillow helped to coordinate with all of our volunteers for the September trip through the several-day delay. He also organized and helped facilitate an all-crew meeting to discuss the situation on the Monday prior to scheduled fly-in.

Mike Pillow and Dennis Stone packed for and participated in the September humpback chub monitoring trip in the Little Colorado River. After several days of weather

delays, the trip finally took place Sept. 13-20. The trip was a muddy one – without many fish captured. Coyote camp captured approximately 130 HBC total. Mike also entered and checked the data from Coyote camp.

Randy VanHaverbeke participated on the September mainstem humpback chub aggregation monitoring trip. The trip was successful in that we captured quite a few humpback chub inside and outside of known aggregation sites and captured chub for an ultra-

Aquatic Species Conservation and Management

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Randy VanHaverbeke worked on data analyses and writing our 2013 annual report for GCMRC. The report will summarize our monitoring activities on humpback chub in the Little Colorado River since fall 2000.

Rob Randall continued to place remote PIT tag scanners into each backwater in an attempt to collect population estimates from each off-channel habitat.

Rob Randall went to 3 Mile Lake to investigate the water quality parameters located on the HNWR.

Jennifer Johnson and Alex Poole

completed brook trout removal on Thompson Creek to benefit Apache trout.

Jennifer Johnson, Alex Poole, and Travis Taylor began brook trout removal on the West Fork of the Black River to benefit Apache trout.

Leadership in Science and Technology

Dominic Barrett reviewed a manuscript discussing river otter demographics and reproductive characteristics for American Midland Naturalist.

Mike Pillow continued analyzing the GCMRC fisheries database for movement and growth among older humpback chubs that were given floy tags or Carlin tags in the late 1970's and 1980's and then given PIT tags in the 1990's. These links

between old tags and new can add several years, even decades, of capture data, such as size and location, to fish that are still being captured in the LCR and Colorado Rivers today.

Mike Pillow is also examining old photos that the Kolb brothers took of Blue Springs and other locations in the Little Colorado River in 1906 and 1909 and comparing them to photos he took in May of this year.

The photos show a dramatic change in the river channel and a lot of new vegetation growth. Comparing these photographs can illustrate how the LCR canyon has changed over the past 100+ years.

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

Workforce Management

Supervisors completed their DDCR37 forms to document completion of required EEO/Diversity training for FY13.

Staff complied with all of the requests from the Region and HQ to prepare for a potential government shutdown if Congress and the White House don't agree

on a Continuing Resolution to fund the government beyond the September 30th end of the current fiscal year.

Kayla Barrett completed the August AZFWCO Accomplishment Report.

Staff completed travel cardholder training in DOI Learn.

Kayla Barrett worked with Regional Office, NMFWCO, TXFWCO, and R8 staff to determine if DFHP funds were given to appropriate field stations.

Staff participated in the AZFWCO teleconference and R2 all employee teleconference.

Jeremy Voeltz and Kirk Young alternated as Acting Project Leader until the position will be refilled.

