

**Approved February 15, 2007**



**Biology Committee Workshop  
October 10-11, 2006  
Albuquerque, NM**

**Members Present:**

Chuck McAda  
Bill Miller  
Ron Bliesner  
David Propst  
Paul Holden  
Tom Wesche  
Jason Davis for Jim Brooks  
Mark McKinstry  
Gregory Gustina (Oct 10)

**Program Management:**

David Campbell

Joann Perea-Richmann

**Interested Parties:**

Jim Brooks  
Yvette Paroz (Oct 10)  
Debra Hill

**Representing:**

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Region 6  
Southern Ute Indian Tribe  
Bureau of Indian Affairs  
New Mexico Department of Game & Fish  
Jicarilla Apache Nation  
Water Development Interests  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Region 2  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Bureau of Land Management

**Program Coordinator**

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Region 2, NM  
Ecological Services Field Office  
Program Support Assistant  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Region 2, NM  
Ecological Services Field Office

**Representing:**

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Region 2  
New Mexico Department of Game & Fish  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Region 2, Regional  
Office

**October 10, 2006**

**New business**

- Jim Brooks approached the Biology Committee (BC) members saying the new State Representative Brian Millsap with FWS would be the Chairman for the Coordination Committee (CC) and he would be the Alternate Chairman attending their meetings. Therefore, he would like to appoint Jason Davis as BC representative and Marilyn Myers as his alternate.

**Conclusion:** committee agreed to review resume of Jason Davis that was provided and vote tomorrow (Oct. 11). Chuck would send email to those not present.

- Annual Review for 2007 was tentatively set for the following dates:  
March 13-15, March 20-22, or February 13-15
- Chuck McAda announced that the Upper Basin will host a Nonnative Fish Workshop December 11-13; Researchers meeting will be January 17-18; both in Grand Junction, CO
- Mark McKinstry announced that the Population Model workshop will not happen until early 2007. He wants BC members to give some thought to what the meeting should cover and the format. Can the population model meeting incorporate the population estimation workshop that has been discussed?

**Recovery items discussed for the San Juan Basin Recovery Implementation Program**

How does the San Juan (SJ) want to integrate with the Upper Basin Program?

- Suggestions were to have a combination of specific workshops every three years between both programs such as Population Estimates; Nonnative Species; Population Monitoring; Feasibility Studies etc.

**Conclusion:** David Campbell will contact Bob Muth to coordinate workshop integrations for FY08.

**Review and approval of August 29 draft summary (Chuck McAda)**

Review and approve minutes from August 29, 2006 meeting

- Minutes were approved
- No new action items

**Election of a new Chair Person for the Biology Committee**

- Chuck McAda asked the committee to think about nominating a new Chair Person to begin in March 2007

**Conclusion:** Committee agreed to discuss and vote on this tomorrow (Oct. 11) and Chuck McAda would send email to those not present.

**2007 Scope-of-Work (SOW) Changes**

A question was asked regarding changes made to a SOW. If changes were made and were approved by the BC, what else needs to be done? Mark McKinstry stated that if the change does not affect funding, only an amendment needs to be done. If the SOW requires funding changes, it would need to be brought to the attention of the BC and then sent to the Coordination Committee (CC) for approval.

## **Long Range Plan (LRP)**

David Campbell stated that he incorporated all comments except for Paul Holden's from their last meeting. The committee continued with edits throughout the LRP, beginning with Monitoring review and discussion.

### **Conclusion:**

- Ron Bliesner suggested anyone dealing with monitoring issues needs to review and update their areas and provide comments to David Campbell by October, 2006.
- The BC would like to see this section under Research with a link to Integration
- David Campbell will cross reference changes and any other edits and forward to the BC prior to their next meeting/conference call. Then finalize the document as a Draft and present to the CC at their November 9 meeting for their review and comments.

## **October 11, 2006**

### **Continuation of previous discussion and new business**

- Chuck McAda started the meeting by nominating a new Chair. A table discussion was had, and Paul Holden was nominated and accepted upon approval from his constituents. Bill Miller motioned to approve, those in attendance approved, and Ron Bliesner seconded the motion.

**Conclusion:** Chuck McAda will send an email for the vote for those not at the meeting.

- The BC reviewed Jason Davis' resume and discussed his appointment as FWS Region 2 representative and Marilyn Myers as the alternate. (The BC reviewed Jason Davis' resume and appointed him as the USFWS representative with Marilyn Myers as the alternative).

**Conclusion:** Paul Holden motioned to accept Jason Davis as the representative, Chuck McAda seconded the motion, all members present voted to accept the nomination and it tentatively passed pending the votes from members not present.

- Dave Campbell asked the BC to send a list of alternates to Joann Perea-Richmann to update the BC member list
- Mark McKinstry asked for a discussion about the non-native removal and the experimental backwater projects. Paul Holden commented that the BC had voted to move these projects forward at a meeting a year ago. At that meeting there was some discussion about a workshop to examine the options. Mark McKinstry mentioned that it was difficult to design a workshop with so little input from the group on the direction of the projects. Since the projects would most likely occur on Navajo Nation land there would need to be significant involvement from them or their representative. Ron Bliesner would likely be the contractor to design backwaters on Navajo lands since he is familiar with those areas and has worked with the return flow areas in the past. Mark McKinstry agreed to draft two SOWs concerning these projects in time for the conference call or next BC meeting in December.

**Other Items:**

David Campbell and Mark McKinstry discussed the problems that UNM has had with the GIS database and that the BoR was withdrawing their contract and the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) is looking at picking up this task.

ChuckMcAda discussed approval or rejection of 2007 SOWs still hanging out. The first discussion was concerning the Pikeminnow Monitoring Study. After some discussion it was clear the study did not have the votes to pass. The complex reach study was then discussed and the need for Pikeminnow collections with the two selected complex reaches. Ron Bliesner and Vince Lamarra had assumed the Pikeminnow Monitoring Study would provide data for the complex reach study. With that not being approved, sampling directed at the complex reach study may be warranted. The need for habitat use information was discussed and Paul Holden agreed to prepare a SOW for this project and send it to the BC for review prior to the November 2, 2006 conference call.

**Next meeting**

November 2, 2006, Conference Call 8:00 am – 10:00 am

December 6, 2006, Farmington Civic Center, Farmington, NM

**Adjourn**



**BIOLOGY COMMITTEE ACTION ITEMS**  
**(Updated November 15, 2006)**

	<i>Action Item</i>	<i>Meeting/ Origination Date</i>	<i>Responsible Party</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Due Date</i>	<i>Date Completed</i>
16	BC feels Vince Lamarra should work with Amy Cutler on Water Temperature and submit to BC with analysis.	02-23-06	BC	On going	04-01-06	
18	Long Range Plan comments due to David Campbell	02-23-06	BC/David C	On going	03-31-06	Yes
19	SOW on development of SOW for removal of vegetation removal for Feasibility Evaluation Restoration Options using capital monies.	02-23-06	David C & Mark M	On going	05-08-06	
22	BOR to perform feasibility/design study for nonselective passage improvements for APS.	02-23-06	Mark McKinstry	On going	05-08-06	
23	David will check with Mark on status of whether the BC still needs to take 2.6% budget cut.	07-25-06	David C/Mark	On going	08-15-06	Yes
24	Bill Miller will provide David Campbell with a list of outside peer reviewers to do an evaluation Population Model	07-25-06	Bill/David C	On going	Sept mtg	Yes
27	David C. will work with Bob Muth to discuss integration of workshops for both programs	10-10-06	David C.	On going		
28	Dave Propst will work on narrative 4.3 of the LRP with inputs from Paul H. & David C.	10-11-06	Dave P/Paul H. and David C.	Completed	10-16-06	Yes

	<i>Action Item</i>	<i>Meeting/ Origination Date</i>	<i>Responsible Party</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Completed</i>
29	David C. will resend Monitoring Plan and finalize LRP by October 25	10-10-06	David C.	Completed		Yes
30	David C. will send email to the BC for 2008 SOW and their due date	10-10-06	David C.	On going		
31	Need mapping information	10-10-06	Vince Lamarra	Pending		
32	Mark McKinstry will prepare draft SOW for non-native vegetation removal project	10-10-06	Mark McKinstry	Pending		
33	Mark McKinstry will prepare draft SOW for experimental backwaters project	10-10-06	Mark McKinstry	Pending		