

Approved Feb 3, 2011



San Juan River Recovery Implementation Program

Coordination Committee Call October 25, 2010

FINAL Meeting Summary

Coordination Committee Members:

Jim Brooks, Chair
Catherine Condon
Dan Israel
Herb Becker
Al Pfister
Tom Pitts
Stanley Pollack
Ted Kowalski
Brent Uilenberg
John Whipple

Representing:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Reg. 2
Southern Ute Indian Tribe
Ute Mountain Ute Tribe
Jicarilla Apache Nation
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Reg. 6
Water Development Interests
Navajo Nation
State of Colorado
Bureau of Reclamation
State of New Mexico

Program Management:

David Campbell, Program Coordinator

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 2

Other Interested Parties:

Bill Miller, BC Chair
Mike Simms

Southern Ute Indian Tribe
City of Farmington

Sufficient Progress Report – Campbell reported the 2010 Program Assessment has been completed and Coordination Committee comments incorporated. The Program Office will move the assessment forward to the Regional Director for approval and signature.

CDOW Nonnative Fish Management at Lake Nighthorse - Kowalski reported that Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW) is in the process of developing a Lake Management Plan for Lake Nighthorse. CDOW intends to discuss the plan with the SJRRIP Biology Committee for review and comment. This is a high priority for CDOW and the timeframe for development will be 1-2 months.

Miller informed the CC that the Biology Committee has discussed the issue of stocking warm water nonnative fish in CDOW's Lake Management Plan and the operation/performance of the "Bass-O-Matic" sleeve valve. The Biology Committee is committed to seeing no escapement of warm water nonnative fish from the reservoir. Uilenberg stated that Reclamation is committed to the proposed action which only addressed the stocking of trout into the reservoir. Pitts stated that the water development interests are strongly against stocking anything other than what was presented and discussed in the proposed action.

Kowalski stated that part of the impetus driving CDOW's position to stock saugeye/tiger muskie hybrids is to control white suckers currently in the reservoir. Brooks agreed that white suckers are a problem and said that the Program needed to take a comprehensive look at the issues which includes the escapement of nonnative fish from the reservoir and the entrainment of white suckers into the reservoir. The Coordination Committee requested that the Biology Committee begin addressing the issues at their next meeting.

Largemouth Bass Virus (LMBV) at Dexter NFH—Largemouth bass virus (LMBv) was detected in two lots of fish at Dexter NFH&TC in September 2010. The detection of LMBv in one lot of bonytail chub and one lot of Gila topminnow marks the first time the virus has been documented in these species. Affected lots were immediately destroyed. Due to this discovery, no fish will be stocked into the San Juan River for the remainder of 2010. Disinfection of the hatchery has occurred. Different states have different requirements to accept fish from the hatchery following the occurrence of LMBv. Brooks reported that the Service had contacted the affected States and programs in New Mexico, Utah, Arizona, Nevada, and California. Utah has requested that two inspections, at least 6 months apart, be conducted prior to continuation of stockings. To date, Colorado has agreed to stock fish from the hatchery but not in writing. No word on what Arizona or California will require. New Mexico and Texas are both okay with stocking non-infected fish from the hatchery. There is a possibility that some stocking will occur prior to class-A certification.

Schedule next meeting – A meeting was tentatively scheduled for February 3-4, 8:00-3:30 p.m. Location to be determined later.