

DRAFT  
LCR-MSCP Steering Committee  
April 26, 2006  
Las Vegas, NV

The next meeting of the Steering Committee has been scheduled for 9:00 a.m. Wednesday August 23, 2006 at McCarran Airport, Las Vegas, NV (Commissioner's Conference Room, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor).

Attending:

Lorri Gray	Jon Sjoberg	Larry Purcell
Gerald Zimmerman	Bill Grossi	Vikki Dee Bradshaw
Laura Vecerina	Mike Gooden	Monica Swartz
Brian Young	Brandon Albrecht	Bill Plummer
Sara Price	Anthony Miller	Wade Noble
Maureen George	Theresa Olson	Jeannie Bouvia
Dana Medlock	Janet Monaco	
Glen Gould	John Swett	By Telephone
Jed Blake	Bill Carnahan	
Patti Aaron	Doyle Wilson	Wade Noble
Bill Werner	Michael Langley	Bill Plummer
David Weedman	David Brownlee	Matthew Spriggs
Tom Hine	Mark Biddlecomb	Sam Spiller
Chuck Cullom	Kerry Christensen	Chris Bates
Fred Worthley	Tom Burke	Gary Hanson
George Caan	Tom Hine	Curt Cook
Jack Stonehocker	Perri Benemelis	
Gerald Hillier	Steve Koon	

**ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS – GERALD ZIMMERMAN**

Introductions

The meeting convened at 9:00 a.m. with Chairperson Jerry Zimmerman. There were introductions of all attending in person and on the telephone.

Review of Agenda

The Agenda was reviewed with no additions.

Public Comments:

No public comments were offered.

### Approve November 30, 2005 Meeting Notes

The November 30, 2005 meeting notes were approved by consensus, with minor corrections. (Moved by Tom Hine, and seconded by Bill Werner)

### Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

Maureen George moved to elect Jerry Zimmerman as Chair and George Caan as Vice-Chair for 2006, seconded by Tom Hine. **Congratulations** to both for another great year.

## **WORKPLANS AND BUDGET – LORRI GRAY**

### PDD 06-001 In-Kind Credit for Land and Water Contributions (Action)

Lorri stated that the work group met last February to discuss in-kind credit, the discussion included in-kind credit for land as well as for goods and services (see Memo from Arizona Department of Water Resources). The Program Decision Document 06-001 is in-kind credit for land and water contributions only. The in-kind credit for goods and services will be determined at a later date.

The memorandum stated that “*the In-Kind Credit Work Group recommends adoption of draft LCR MSCP Program Decision Document 06-001, In-Kind Credit for Land and Water Contributions by the LCR MSCP Steering Committee*”. Bill Werner motioned to approve the Program Decision Document 06-001, with a second coming from George Caan.

### FY06 Program Accomplishments and Financial Status

Lorri referred to the two handouts regarding the financial update. The first handout shows the FY06 total contributions for Reclamation, Arizona, Nevada and California and it shows the existing habitat maintenance fund.

The second handout reflects the FY06 total obligated funds as of the second quarter.

Lorri presented a powerpoint presentation on the FY06 highlights and current status. Two work tasks discussed were B9 Boulder City Wetland Ponds and it was stated that Boulder City declined participation due to the threat of West Nile Virus. Because of this, we are pursuing native fish work in Overton as a replacement. The second work task discussed with a change is B5 Bubbling Ponds National Fish Hatchery and Uvalde National Fish Hatchery. This is due to unforeseen construction delays at the Bubbling Ponds National Fish Hatchery. Reclamation would like to reassign \$70,000 to Uvalde National Fish Hatchery in Texas in order to expedite Bonytail and Razorback production and research.

The Steering Committee asked Reclamation to provide the changes to the two work tasks. Reclamation will provide them within a week.

## FY07 Contribution Schedule

Lorri stated that the final contribution letter will go out within the next two months.

## Draft FY05 Annual Report and FY07 Workplans

The Draft FY05 Accomplishments and the Draft FY07 Work Plan and Budget were provided to the Steering Committee in CD and hard copy form for review. Lorri handed out CD's of pictures from the river trip back in December.

## **PROJECT UPDATES**

### Technical Presentation on Lake Mead Fish

Brandon Albrick of Biowest, presented a powerpoint presentation on the razorbacks of Lake Mead. They studied the fish in Echo Bay and at Las Vegas Bay and explained how the population declined after the closure of Glen Canyon Dam. He explained how turbidity and vegetation cover are a huge impact on the razorback into adulthood.

## **PROCESS UPDATES – LORRI GRAY**

### Draft Site Selection Guidelines Report

Patti Aaron stated that the goal is to describe the site selection guidelines Reclamation will follow to evaluate potential conservation area sites and show the evaluation process for both terrestrial and backwater sites. She met with the technical workgroup in December to gather ideas and to produce a draft. When all comments are sent in and reviewed she will present the site selection guidelines at the June Steering Committee Meeting.

### Draft Science Strategy Report

John Swett presented a powerpoint presentation on the Science Strategy. This is to provide program level guidance for ensuring that implementation of the conservation measures will be based on scientific information, methods, principles, and standards. The three major elements are to describe the program science elements and their interrelationship through the adaptive management process, describe the planning and review process, and adaptive management.

### Draft Fish Strategy

Lorri presented a powerpoint presentation on the Fish Augmentation Strategy. She stated that the draft was distributed March 20<sup>th</sup> and final comments were due on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Work Group will meet in Phoenix on May 22-24, and will present to the Steering Committee Meeting in June.

## Draft Database Management and System

Theresa Olson presented a powerpoint presentation on the Database Management Framework. The purpose is to develop a data management system to consolidate, organize, document, store, and distribute scientific information related to the LCR MSCP. She presented four options, along with the estimated cost for the 50-year program. She stated that there would be a work group meeting to determine the need and what option would be best and present it to the Steering Committee for approval.

## **STEERING COMMITTEE SCHEDULE**

Laura Vecerina presented the Steering Committee Schedule for Spring 2006. She stated there will be some minor changes which will be sent to the Steering Committee via e-mail.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### Coordination of Colorado River Recovery Programs

On March 08, 2006, the Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Work Group (AMWG) passed a resolution in recognition of the significance of humpback chub conservation to the Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Program (AMP), establishing an AMWG Ad Hoc committee, in consultation with the DOI Policy Group and the Colorado Fish and Wildlife Council, to make a recommendation to the AMWG at its August 2006 meeting on what actions AMWG should take with regard to the implementation of a program whose goal is recovery of the humpback chub under the Endangered Species Act, with geographic scope and other details to be included in this recommendation (paraphrased). A conference call was conducted on April 19<sup>th</sup> and the current version included reference to the DOI effort to develop a Lower Colorado River Recovery Implementation Program (LCRRIP) led by the Fish and Wildlife Service and appropriate Colorado River Basin State fish and game agency (s) to address all listed big river fish concerns, including humpback chub, bonytail, and razorback sucker. The initial priority focus of this effort would be to address recovery actions for the humpback chub population in Marble and Grand Canyons. During development of this LCRRIP, recognition would be given to on-going conservation and planning efforts of the Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Work Group (AMWG), including the Humpback Chub Comprehensive Plan; conservation actions of the NPS for native fish; the Colorado River Fish and Wildlife Council State Agencies; the Upper Colorado River Recovery Implementation Program (UCRRIP); the San Juan Recovery Implementation Program (SJRIP); the Recovery Implementation Plan Scientific Work Group (RIPSWG); and the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program (LCRMSCP). Each of these entities possess knowledge and expertise that may be valuable in the development of the LCRRIP and they should be advised of this effort. Furthermore, when the LCRRIP is developed, the past, present and on-going conservation efforts, funding, and accomplishments of these entities should be recognized and, as appropriate, credited toward the implementation of the LCRRIP.

### Status of Outreach and Grants

Laura Vecerina stated that Reclamation will look at different possibilities and strategies for proposed grants.

### **SUMMARY AND ACTION ITEMS**

The Steering Committee approved by consensus the Steering Committee meeting notes, with minor corrections (moved by Tom Hine, and seconded by Bill Werner).

Maureen George moved to elect Jerry Zimmerman as Chair and George Caan as Vice-Chair for 2006, seconded by Tom Hine.

Bill Werner moved to approve the In-Kind Credit for Land and Water Contributions, seconded by George Caan.

### **ADJOURN**

**SUMMARY AND ACTION ITEMS**  
**Steering Committee Meeting**  
**April 26, 2006**

The next Steering Committee Meeting will be August 23, 2006 at McCarran Airport in Las Vegas.

**Action Items**

1. ACTION – Approve November 30, 2005 Meeting Notes

The Steering Committee approved by consensus the November 30, 2005 Steering Committee meeting notes, with minor corrections (moved by Tom Hine, and seconded by Bill Werner).

2. ACTION – Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

Maureen George moved to elect Jerry Zimmerman as Chair and George Caan as Vice-Chair for 2006, seconded by Tom Hine.

3. ACTION – PDD 06-001 In-Kind Credit for Land and Water Contributions

Bill Werner moved to approve the In-Kind Credit for Land and Water Contributions, seconded by George Caan.

4. ACTION – Develop two work plans for FY2006 to reflect one for Overton and one for Uvalde National Fish Hatchery