

Service biologist named outstanding researcher of the year

Chuck McAda, a fishery biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Grand Junction, Colorado, is this year's recipient of the Recovery Program's Outstanding Researcher of the Year Award. Colorado River Fishery Program Project Leader Frank Pfeifer presented the award at the Upper Basin Researchers Meeting last January.

"Chuck is an extremely dedicated and knowledgeable researcher," he said. "His dedication and vast experience make him the best ally the fish could have on their road to recovery."

Chuck has worked on biological issues concerning the Colorado River endangered fish for 25 years. He has authored or coauthored more than two dozen manuscripts on the life history of the fish. He also chairs the Colorado River Fishes Recovery Team. He has worked on all of the rivers in the Upper Colorado River Basin that are home to these fish.

"I've always been impressed by Chuck's quiet, dedicated service," said Recovery Program Assistant Director Angela Kantola. "He's always seemed to be in this for the long-haul, demonstrating commitment to high-quality research and patience to get the job done."



CHUCK MCADA TALKS WITH CHILDREN AT THE NATURE CONSERVANCY'S CARPENTER RANCH.

Chuck is the third recipient of this award. Darrell Snyder received the award in 2000 and Ed Wick was the first recipient in 1999.

"Chuck is highly deserving of this award," Ed said. "I first met Chuck in the early 1980s and he had already earned a reputation as a leading researcher. I've always admired him. This award really means a lot to me and I couldn't possibly pick anybody I'd love to share it with more."

The Recovery Program presents this award each year to an individual who has demonstrated a longstanding commitment to the recovery of the endangered fishes and who has made significant contributions to understanding their biology and environmental needs. ◀