

**Information & Education Committee Meeting**  
**May 19-20, 2004**  
**Grand Junction, Colorado**

**May 19**

1. Welcome/Introductions (Mark Hadley); view Recovery Program's 10-minute Grand Valley Video
2. Tour Recovery Program Facilities - The group toured the Grand Valley Endangered Fish Facility (hatchery), former Jarvis site (where Colorado Riverfront Trail interpretive signs will be installed in the near future), and the Redlands Diversion Dam and fish ladder.

**May 20**

3. Nonnative Fish Management Presentation - Pat Nelson reviewed the problems caused by nonnative fishes and the management projects the Recovery Program is undertaking.
4. Nonnative Fish Communication Plan - Debbie Felker reviewed the elements of the communication plan and provided copies for those who did not already have one. Debbie pointed out that the Recovery Program has shifted its focus for nonnative fish removal in the Colorado River from channel catfish to smallmouth bass for 2004 (because smallmouth bass are increasing and biologists want to nip this problem in the bud, and because our channel catfish removal methods are not very efficient). Agencies felt that there was not a need for public meetings this year in Colorado. Debbie distributed copies of her April 22, 2004, memorandum outlining the outreach efforts for 2004 nonnative fish management efforts. The group discussed how our nonnative fish education and management efforts may be changing sportfishing patterns and angler perceptions. Barb and Kara suggested the possibility of doing an education event next year at one of the ponds where the nonnative fish are being translocated in connection with "Take A Kid Fishing" day; Randy noted something might be tied in with CDOW's annual free fishing weekend in June (2005). Tom Burke emphasized the need to get anglers to support recovery efforts.
5. Washington, D.C., Briefing Trip - John Shields recapped the Program participant's March trip to brief congressional and Federal agency representatives. Efforts this year were directed at requesting restoration of the Service's \$691,000 in the FY 2005 budget. John noted that the group that goes back to Washington has identified a need for a shorter briefing document for use in meetings with congressional representatives. Anyone with suggestions and samples of effective printed briefing materials should provide them to Debbie as soon as possible.
6. Upcoming Projects - Debbie said that the Riverfront Trail signs will hopefully be installed by the

end of July; she's working to get the Yampa State Park Visitor Center signs revised to reflect that channel catfish are nonnative to the Yampa River; she will ask the Dinosaur museum in Fruita to display razorback sucker in an aquarium; CDOW's exhibit at the State Fair will have endangered fish and interpretive materials once again and Mark Hadley will pursue having endangered fish on exhibit at the Utah State Fair. The Program's exhibit and aquariums with endangered and nonnative fishes will be part of a community-wide Riverfront Festival in Vernal, Utah, on June 11-13. Also, the Program cost-shared trading cards of the endangered fish with CDOW as part of CDOW's trading card series for children. Debbie said she and Quent are still working to get fish on display in an aquarium at the Lake Powell visitor center (need to determine whether Reclamation or the Park Service holds the permit and the funding sources). John Shields noted the need to determine what our handout will be for next year's briefing trip (this year's was the post-it notes).

7. Tour Recovery Program Facilities - The group toured the Grand Valley Irrigation Company fish screen and the Grand Valley Project Diversion Dam fish ladder.

#### **Attendees**

1. **Mark Hadley**, I&E Committee Chairman, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources
2. **Angela Kantola**, Assistant Director, Recovery Program
3. **Debbie Felker**, I&E Coordinator, Recovery Program
4. **Kathy Wall**, Secretary, Recovery Program
5. **Amie Hart**, Clerk, Recovery Program
6. **Barb Perkins**, representing Matt Kales, Fish & Wildlife Service External Affairs
7. **Justyn Hock**, Bureau of Reclamation, Grand Junction
8. **John Shields**, Management Committee Chairman, representing State of Wyoming
9. **Quent Bradwisch**, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (Wahweap Fish Hatchery)
10. **Tom Burke**, Bureau of Reclamation, Lower Colorado River (Natural Resources Group Manager)
11. **Phil Aurit**, Bureau of Reclamation, Lower Colorado River (Environmental Education Lead)
12. **Steve Yamashita**, Colorado Division of Wildlife, Grand Junction
13. **Kristine Crandall**, Roaring Fork Conservancy, Basalt

14. **Chuck McAda**, Fish & Wildlife Service, Grand Junction
15. **Russ Finley**, Bureau of Reclamation, Provo

Joining us the second day:

1. **Kara Lamb**, Bureau of Reclamation, Loveland
2. **Pat Nelson**, Nonnative Fish Coordinator, Recovery Program
3. **Randy Hampton**, Colorado Division of Wildlife, Grand Junction