Matthew McKinney
Moderator
Director
Center for Natural Resources & Environmental Policy
University of Montana

www.naturalresourcespolicy.org
8 Rocky Mountain States

- Defining characteristics
  - Aridity
  - Federal lands
  - Fastest growing communities & states

- 125 initiatives
  - Variation in size/scale, objectives, leadership, governance
  - Performance?
AGENDA

• 10:30   Welcome & Introduction
• 10:35   Opening Remarks, Panel Members
• 11:00   Moderated Discussion
• 11:35   Question & Answer
• 11:55   Closing Remarks & Next Steps
• 12:00   Adjourn
LOWER COLORADO RIVER
MULTI-SPECIES CONSERVATION PROGRAM

Balancing Resource Use and Conservation

LOWER COLORADO RIVER
MULTI-SPECIES CONSERVATION PROGRAM

John Swett
Program Manager
LCR MSCP
Bureau Of Reclamation
Boulder City, Nevada
Lower Colorado River
Multi-Species Conservation Program

Balancing Resource Use and Conservation

LCR MSCP PURPOSE

Multi-stakeholder Federal and non-Federal partnership responding to the need to balance the use of lower Colorado River (LCR) water resources and the conservation of native species and their habitats in compliance with the Endangered Species Act.
Lower Colorado River
Multi-Species Conservation Program

Balancing Resource Use and Conservation

LCR MSCP ESA COMPLIANCE

• 50-Years of ESA and CESA Compliance
  • -Unique - Section 7 and 10
  • -Habitat Conservation Plan
  • -50/50 Cost Share

• Covered Actions
  • -Delivery and Diversion of 9 MAF
  • -Generation of Power (6 Facilities)
  • -Maintenance Activities
  • -Movement of 1.574 MAF

LOWER COLORADO RIVER
Multi-Species Conservation Program

Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement/ Environmental Impact Report
Volume I

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

December 17, 2004
LCR MSCP PLANNING AREA

- Full pool elevation of Lake Mead to SIB
- Historic 100 year floodplain
- Full pool elevations of main stem reservoirs
STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP (57 MEMBERS)

- Federal Participant Group
- Arizona Participant Group (26 Permittees)*
- California Participant Group (11 Permittees)*
- Nevada Participant Group (5 Permittees)*
- Native American Participant Group
- Conservation Participant Group
- Other Interested Parties Group

* Participates as a funding agency
Lower Colorado River
Multi-Species Conservation Program

Balancing Resource Use and Conservation

www.lcrmscp.gov
The Importance of Partnerships: Managing Wildlife in Desert Landscapes

Alexa Sandoval
Director, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish
ESA... Unintended Uses

Jim deVos, Wildlife Management Assistant Director
Arizona Game and Fish Department
Sonoran Desert Tortoise

• Listing petitions *en masse*
• 2012 Multi-District Litigation
• Recent suit re: FWS failure to make ESA listing determinations for 70 species
Roundtail & Headwater Chub

• 2012 Multi-District Litigation
• Listing decision timelines that do not allow for best science
Prelisting Conservation

- Conservation Agreements (CCA & CCAA)
- Species Status Assessments
- Wide variation and interpretation of ESA by FWS locally and regionally
ESA Reform...
Bill McDonald,
Executive Director
Western Governors’
Species Conservation and ESA Initiative Webinar Series

April 5, 2016

Multi-Species Management and Desert Landscapes

MODERATOR

Matthew McKinney
Director, Center for Natural Resources & Environmental Policy, University of Montana

PANELISTS

Jim deVos
Assistant Director, Wildlife Management, Arizona Game and Fish Department

Bill McDonald
Executive Director of the Malpai Borderlands Group

Alexa Sandoval
Director, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish

John Swett
Program Director of the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program

Learn more about the Chairman’s Initiative of Gov. Matt Mead at westgov.org/initiatives/esa-initiative