

Jeff Sorensen

From: Don Mitchell
Sent: Monday, January 26, 2009 1:31 PM
To: Suzanne Ehret
Subject: FW: 2008 activities report from TNC on Aravaipa SHA

Attachments: SHA annual report 2009.doc



SHA annual report 2009.doc (3)
FYI

Don Mitchell
Fish Program Manager, Region V
Arizona Game and Fish Department
555 N. Greasewood Rd.
Tucson, AZ. 85745
Office: (520) 388-4451
Cell: (520) 591-3837
Fax: (520) 628-5080
dmitchell@azgfd.gov

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-----Original Message-----

From: Doug_Duncan@fws.gov [mailto:Doug_Duncan@fws.gov]
Sent: Monday, January 26, 2009 12:37 PM
To: Don Mitchell; Ross Timmons
Subject: 2008 activities report from TNC on Aravaipa SHA

Doug Duncan
Fish Biologist
Aquatic Animal Recovery Group
520-670-6144 x236
FAX 6155
<http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizonaes>
201 N. Bonita, Suite 141
Tucson, AZ 85745

"One of the penalties of an ecological education is that one lives alone in a world of wounds." Aldo Leopold, 1953

----- Forwarded by Doug Duncan/R2/FWS/DOI on 01/26/2009 12:37 PM -----

Marty Tuegel/R2/FWS/DOI
01/22/2009 02:09 PM

To
Doug Duncan/R2/FWS/DOI@FWS, Mark Crites/R2/FWS/DOI@FWS cc Jim Rorabaugh/R2/FWS/DOI@FWS,
Sherry Barrett/R2/FWS/DOI@FWS Subject
2008 activities report from TNC on Aravaipa SHA

FYI:

Marty

Safe Harbor Agreement Annual Report for Aravaipa Canyon Preserve

Enhancement of Survival Permit – (TE-099804-0)
For Gila topminnow and Desert pupfish



Lower reintroduction site

Upper site

Reintroduction efforts:

On September 18th, 2008, approximately 270 Gila topminnow and 270 Desert pupfish were stocked into two sites on TNC land in upper Oak Grove Canyon. The fish were captured at the Dudleyville ponds by Heidi Blasius, BLM, and Ross Timmons AZG&FD. They were then transported via helicopter (provided by the Bureau of Reclamation as part of the Muleshoe reintroduction effort) to Oak Grove Canyon, where they were received by Mark Haberstick and Cheri Hays, TNC. After tempering the fish to adjust to the slightly cooler water in the creek, fish were released in two pools about ¼ mile apart. Stream flow is mostly continuous in this portion of Oak Grove, however several natural barriers exist that will impede upstream movement. No mortalities were observed during stocking.

Monitoring:

During the spring and summer of 2008 several trips were made to Cement Tank, Bleak Springs, and Parsons Spring. While no seining was performed, Topminnow were observed in both Cement Tank and Bleak Springs. No fish have been observed in Parsons Spring since fall 2007.

On October 21, 2008, approximately one month after the stocking, separate schools of what appeared to be both Topminnow and Pupfish were observed in both sites in Oak

Grove. At the lower stocking site, fish had expanded their range several meters down stream into a pool separated by a small waterfall.



Parsons Spring:

Of all the stocking sites on the South Rim, Parsons Spring has always been the most susceptible to drought and flooding. Although 2007-2008 was not particularly dry, water levels were low enough that fish may not have been able to survive several cold winter nights. Water levels should continue to be monitored, and if conditions improve it would be simple enough to reestablish a population in Parsons during the summer by stocking fish from any of the other sites.