

Jeff Sorensen

From: Ross Timmons
Sent: Tuesday, August 09, 2011 4:42 PM
To: Clayton Crowder
Cc: Tony Robinson; 'Doug_Duncan@fws.gov'; Don Mitchell; Heidi_Blasius@blm.gov
Subject: Monitoring South Rim Aravaipa Sites, 2011
Attachments: Monitoring 2011.pdf

Clay,

here is a brief Note-to-file on monitoring activities on Aravaipa S. Rim sites, Spring 2011.

Ross Timmons
Topminnow-Pupfish Coordinator
Arizona Game and Fish Department
5000 W. Carefree Highway
Phoenix, AZ 85086
O: 623-236-7509
F:623-236-7926
E-mail:rtimmons@azgfd.gov

Click [here](#) to buy your hunting or fishing license online

Click [here](#) to sign up for FREE Arizona Game and Fish Department e-news subscriptions



Conserve and Protect Arizona's Wildlife and Habitat for the Future.

**ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT
INTER-OFFICE MEMO**

TO: File

FROM: Ross Timmons, WMNG

SUBJECT: Monitoring of Aravaipa South Rim Topminnow/Pupfish Sites
(Oak Grove, Parson's Grove, Bleak Spring, Cement Tank)

DATE: August 9, 2011

On 23 May 2011, Mark Haberstich (TNC) and I monitored the four sites on the south rim of Aravaipa Canyon for topminnow and pupfish, including: Oak Grove, Parson's Grove, Bleak Spring and Cement Tank. Mark and I rode Quads in from the Cobra Ranch HQ on the morning of the 23rd. Minnow traps were deployed at the different sites, allowed to fish for different periods of time, collected and fish captured were counted. Water quality data was not taken at any of the sites due to equipment failure.

Oak Grove #1 (12S 0550860mE 3632422mN ± 22ft.)

We arrived at the site at approximately 0835h. Two traps were set in the stream at 0845h adjacent to where the road ends at the stream. The traps were pulled at 1530h; there were no fish in either trap, and no fish were seen in the stream.

Oak Grove #2 (12S 0550866mE 3631769mN ±20ft.)

We hiked to the site from Oak Grove #1, arriving at approximately 0925h. Three traps were set at 0930h, and pulled at 1545h; there were no fish caught, and none seen in the stream.

Parson's Grove (12S 0549013mE 3631887mN ±26ft.)

Arrived at Parson's Grove at 1010h, and set 3 traps at 1015h. All traps were pulled at 1610h, and no fish were captured or seen. Lowland leopard frog tadpoles (RAYA) were present and abundant.

Bleak Spring (12S 0547762mE 3632190mN ±29ft.)

Arrived at the spring pool at 1107h, and set 3 traps. Pulled traps at 1455h, all traps were empty and saw no fish in spring pool after roughly 20 minutes of observation (10 minutes in morning when setting traps, and 10 minutes in afternoon after pulling traps). The spring-pool is heavily shaded by overhanging vegetation, with very little light penetration.

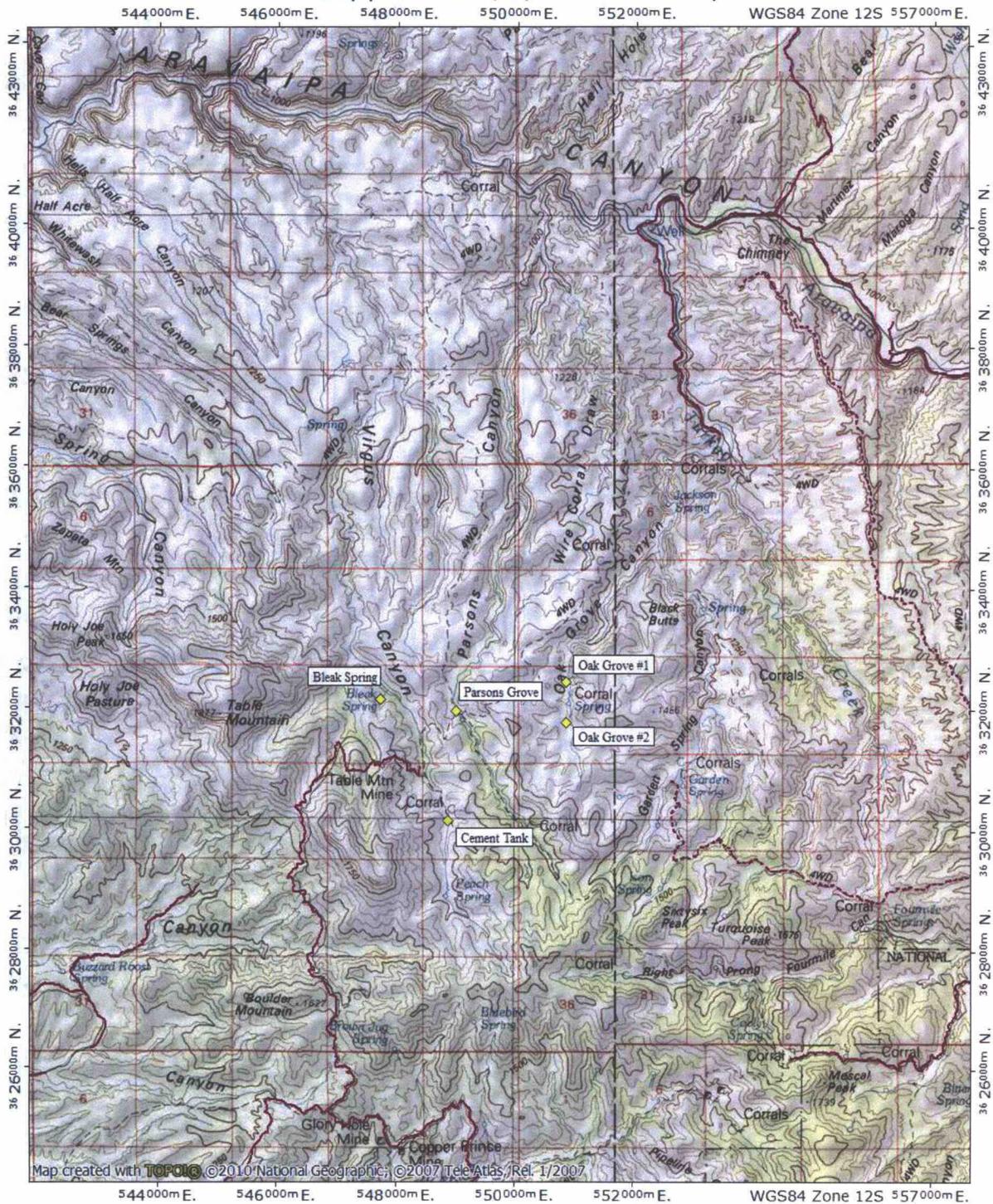
Cement Tank (12S 0548862mE 3630170mN ±25ft.)

Arrived at Cement Tank at approximately 1150h. Gila topminnow were immediately visible at site. Set 4 traps at 1200h, 2 shallow and 2 deep. The traps were pulled starting at 1345h. The majority of Gila topminnow captured were in a minnow trap set just below the water surface (trap #1) in direct sunlight throughout the set-time. Water temperature was very cool [estimate in the mid- to upper- 60s (°F)] with less than 25% of the pool exposed to direct sunlight during the time we were there. All of the topminnow captured were adults of a similar size, with no evidence of recruitment, and no smaller fish being seen or captured. I recommended to Mark Haberstick that he remove a large portion of overhanging branches, to allow greater sunlight penetration, warming of the water, and perhaps greater productivity; Mark indicated agreement with the idea. At least 3 of the fish sampled had scoliosis. Numerous RAYA tadpoles and several adults. Observed a THMA swallowing a frog on the hike in.

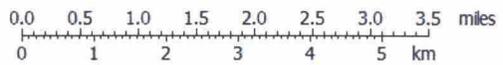
<u>Trap #</u>	<u>Time Set</u>	<u>Pulled</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Effort</u>
1	1200h	1345h	POOC	70	1.75hour
2	1200h	1355h	-----	0	1.92h
3	1200h	1356h	POOC	1	1.93h
4	1200h	1400h	POOC	3	2.0h

:rt

TOPO! map printed on 08/09/11 from "Untitled.tpo"



Map created with TOPO! ©2010 National Geographic, ©2007 Tele Atlas, Rel. 1/2007



TN * MN
10 1/2°
08/09/11