

## Lake Mead Water Quality Forum

### Quagga Mussels

The Interagency Quagga Mussel Team continues to meet quarterly. The May meeting was held jointly with the Central Arizona Quagga Team via Go to Meeting. The November meeting will also be held with the Arizona Team.

There will be agency updates from Reclamation, SNWA, and Arizona Fish and Game. There will also be a presentation on:

- **Kelly Stockton**, (Marrone Bio Invasions) “An update on Zequanox”
- **Sherri Pucherelli**, (Reclamation) “Treatments against quagga mussels at Davis Dam”
- **Kami Silverwood**, (AZGFD) “Update on 2014 survey results” *سورة الفاتحة*
- **Tom Wolfe**, (ISDA) “Watercraft inspection in Idaho”
- **David Hammond**, (Aquagy) “Testing EarthTec QZ against zebra mussels at water treatment plant”

The next meeting will be held on November 13, 2014 at 9:30 am before the Lake Mead Ecosystem Monitoring Workgroup meeting.

### Selenium Sub-Committee

The EPA has issued its new draft criterion for selenium in freshwater. The new criterion allows for sampling fish eggs/ovaries, fish tissue, or water. It also allows for site specific standards to be developed. The water criterion for flowing water is 4.8 ug/L which is fine for the Las Vegas Wash. The criterion for standing water is 1.3 ug/L which will not work for Lake Mead. The background concentration of selenium in the Colorado River is between 2 ug/L and 3 ug/L. SNWA and CCWRD wrote letters of comment on the new criterion suggesting that Lake Mead be considered a flowing system since it is on a river.

We have been told that USFWS does not agree with the new criterion. They don't think it is adequately protective. I am not sure if the criterion can go through without FWS support.

The Sub-Committee did an academic exercise to see what a site specific selenium concentration would look like in a tributary like Duck Creek. The calculation ranged from 7.2 ug/L to 16.2 ug/L. A large amount of data will have to be collected if we decide to have a site specific criterion if the recommendations remain as they are.

The next Selenium Sub-Committee meeting will be on January 7, 2015 at 3:00 pm.

## **Ecosystem Monitoring Workgroup**

Continue to meet quarterly

We have had a wide range of presentations in the past year and we also hosted the Lake Mead Science Symposium in February with the sponsorship of NDEP.

The topics will be:

- Release of Algal Metabolites due to Preoxidation with Ozone

- Pine Beetle Impacts on Watersheds

- Lake Mead Evaporation Study and Water Quality Platform Data

- Empirically Modeling Freshwater Ecosystems to Address Management Problems

- Lower Colorado River and Las Vegas Wash Water Quality Monitoring

We will begin planning for the 2016 Lake Mead Science Symposium this January. The Symposium will be similar to the 2014 Symposium and will be held in the Molasky Building and there will be no fee. We will be asking for volunteers to help with the Symposium and the Lake Mead Ecosystem Monitoring Workgroup meeting.

The Next meeting is November 13, 2014 at 1:00 pm in this room.