



# Las Vegas Wash Coordination Committee

## E-mail update

October 2007

### Fish Collections for Bioassessment to Begin

The final phase of the third bioassessment study is scheduled to begin in October. This effort will focus on collecting fish tissue samples from the Las Vegas Wash and its tributaries and analyzing them for potential contaminants of concern. Fish will be collected from the Las Vegas Wash, Las Vegas Bay, Duck Creek, the Clark County Wetlands Park Nature Preserve, Henderson Demonstration Pond, and Burns Road. Several fish will also be collected from the Pahrangat National Wildlife Refuge to use as a regional reference.

After an on-site measurement of weight, length, and overall health is completed, fish will be preserved and sent to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation laboratory in Denver, Colorado to be homogenized and prepared for analysis. Homogenate samples will then be sent to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Analytical Control Facility for organic analyses and to the Southern Nevada Water Authority's Research and Development Laboratory for metal and metalloid analyses.



Common carp are one of the species collected for the bioassessment.

Previous fish tissue collections were conducted in 2003 and 2005. This collection, teamed with the earlier bird egg collection and ongoing water and sediment analyses, provide valuable information on the overall water quality of the Las Vegas Wash while identifying potential areas for concern. This study is being funded by the Management Advisory Committee of the Las Vegas Wash Coordination Committee, and cooperatively implemented by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Las Vegas Wash Project Coordination Team biologists.

### Upcoming Meetings

Operations Study Team  
October 3, 2007  
8:30 a.m.

Research and Environmental  
Monitoring Study Team  
October 3, 2007  
10:30 a.m.

Management Advisory  
Committee  
October 9, 2007  
1:00 p.m.

Administrative Study Team  
October 18, 2007  
1:30 p.m.

Las Vegas Wash  
Coordination Committee  
Annual Tour  
October 23, 2007  
8:30 a.m.

### Notice

Due to construction, the Operations Study Team and Research and Environmental Monitoring Study Team meetings will be held at the Las Vegas Valley Water District location at 1001 S. Valley View Blvd. in the Mead 3 Conference Room. Stay alert for future updates sent to your e-mail.

### Agency Spotlight

Lynn Orphan recently joined the Clean Water Coalition in the newly created position of Regional Water Quality Manager. As Regional Water Quality Manager, she is responsible for the Boulder Basin Adaptive Management Plan for effluent discharge into Lake Mead. This entails National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permitting, Environmental Impact Statement record of decision compliance, and water planning for the four wastewater agencies in the Las Vegas Valley. As part of her new role, she is involved in a regional water reuse plan, fish impact studies, water quality monitoring, selenium management planning, and regional water quality planning that includes water supply, wastewater, and stormwater.

Ms. Orphan was president of the Water Environment Federation from 2004 to 2005, which put her in the middle of water policy, technology and practices around the world. She has also served on the Water Environment Research Foundation Board and the Stockholm International Water Institute Scientific Program Committee. She has a bachelor's and master's degrees in civil engineering and is registered as a professional engineer in Nevada and California. Over her career, Ms. Orphan has designed wastewater and drinking water plants, reuse systems, wetlands and flood control facilities and also has developed stormwater programs, set utility rates and negotiated permits for public and private entities throughout the West. In addition, she was involved in facilitating the Las Vegas Wash Weed Partnership from 2002 through 2005. We welcome Ms. Orphan and know that her experience and expertise will be valuable assets to the Clean Water Coalition, the Las Vegas Wash Coordination Committee and the local community.



Lynn Orphan is the new Regional Water Quality Manager for the Clean Water Coalition.

### Did You Know?

With the upcoming round of meetings approaching, we would like to remind everyone that the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) offices have recently moved from the Flamingo Road site. The relocation has been to the brand new Molasky Corporate Offices at 100 City Parkway just south of the I-15/I-95 interchange. The main entrance to the parking garage on Grand Central Parkway has yet to be completed, but the garage is still accessible through the driveway behind the building off of City Parkway. All meetings will take place in the new Colorado River Room on the 7th Floor. Parking validations will be provided by SNWA.