

**State Authorities Regarding the
Introduction or Use of Genetically
Modified Wildlife for Biocontrol of
Undesired Species**

Larry Riley

Arizona Game and Fish Department

June 22, 2010

Why Am I Here?

- Perspective of one State Wildlife Agency
- Insight into perspectives of the family of State and Territorial Wildlife Agencies
- Experience with contentious introduced species
 - Those that are deemed undesirable
 - Those that are deemed valued
- Experience with ANSTF
- Experience with some regulatory processes

What's In it For Arizona Game and Fish

- Promise of an efficient, effective, and publicly acceptable tool to add to a limited management arsenal.
- We were involved in the evaluation performed for the Gila River Basin (Kapusinski and Patronski).
- We advocated with others for support of this workshop, and owe them feedback.

Desired Outcomes

- A Start.
- An effort to clarify a path to an approvable tool.
- An understanding of approaches to reaching shared decision-support tools that engage Partners and Stakeholders.
- An understanding of what it means when we approach a finish (at multiple levels).

Authorities and Responsibilities of State Wildlife Agencies

- Responsibility for stewardship of resident wildlife resources within the boundaries of the State.
- Authority for resident wildlife resource management decisions.
- Ability and willingness to control undesired wildlife consistent with shared values.

Are State Wildlife Agencies Prepared?

- It varies, but not sure any given state is fully prepared.
- Some states have anticipated the potential use of genetically modified/engineered wildlife.
- Now is the time to begin to ensure preparedness.

Where Does this Workshop Lead Us?

- To continue basic science and technology development.
- To explore and ensure process for approval.
- To begin building necessary partnerships.
 - Initiate the DIALOG.
 - Analyze the Risks and the Promise.
 - Explore the ‘shepherd’.
 - Explore the ‘financial need’ and the ‘fiscal resolve’.
- Be Careful not to count our fry before they hatch.
- Consider the processes for implementation (at multiple levels).