

WESTERN NATIVE FISHES DATABASE; SPECIES STATUS, DISTRIBUTION, AND INFORMATION NEEDS

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The Western Native Fishes Database is a project developed by the Native Species Committee of the Western Division of the American Fisheries Society (WDAFS). The goal of the project is to compile the most recent information on approximately 300 fish species native to western North America including the Canadian Provinces of British Columbia and Yukon; the Sonoran, Chihuahuan, and Baja California Norte States of Mexico; and the United States that include, or are west of, the continental divide; and Hawaii. Garcia and Associates (GANDA) completed the database design in the summer of 2004, data compilation in 2006, and an extensive peer review in 2007. The database can be queried by species, region, or HUC. The WDAFS envisions the database being used to track regional status of native fishes and to assist agencies and biologists in developing management plans that extend beyond political boundaries. This presentation provides an update on the project to its potential audience, describe the peer review process, and solicit input on our next phase which will allow mapping in real time.