



## Monthly Accomplishments

January 2014

### Fisheries Activities

In cooperation with Pueblo of Isleta and Pueblo of Sandia, staff completed monthly monitoring for RGSM. Monitoring efforts are to determine presence/absence of visible implant elastomer tagged fish in relation to augmentation and research efforts.

Staff assisted the Pueblo of Isleta with the salvage of RGSM during a habitat restoration project on the Rio Grande. Construction crews worked to remove an island within the Rio Grande, to improve habitat and widen the channel.

Staff assisted the New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office, Navajo Nation Department of Fish and Wildlife, and Navajo Nation - Ramah Chapter with the evaluation of proposed critical habitat for the Zuni bluehead sucker near Ramah, New Mexico.

### Meetings and Trainings

Staff participated in a meeting to review the National Fish Hatchery System - Strategic Hatchery and Workforce Planning Report (Hatchery Review) with Tribes and Pueblos of New Mexico. Regional

Director, Dr. Benjamin Tuggle, and Assistant Regional Director of FARC, Stewart Jacks presented the Hatchery Review and potential implications for the Tribes and Pueblos. Tribal Representatives provided their comments, concerns, and potential impacts to their respective tribal programs.

### Education and Outreach

Staff delivered fish species of the Middle Rio Grande to Valle Vista, Governor Bent, and Mountain View Elementary Schools. The schools are participants in the Native Fish in the Classroom (NFIC) program. The students are responsible for taking care of their fish, including longnose dace, flathead chub, white sucker, western mosquitofish, fathead minnow, and red shiner. The students are already sharing their knowledge and their visiting fish with the younger students in their school.



Staff delivered Rio Grande cutthroat trout, provided by Seven Springs State Hatchery, to Monte Vista and Emerson Elementary Schools. The schools are participants in the NFIC program. Staff demonstrated how biologists weigh and measure fish in the field. The data collected in the class helped students calculate appropriate feed amounts.



In May 2014, all of the NFIC students will gather for the *Releasing the Natives Field Day* to release their fish into the Rio Grande. The projects overall goal is to generate enthusiasm for natural resources and foster a sense of stewardship for native fish and their habitats.

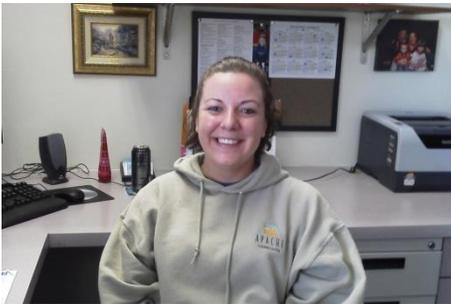


and Fish. Eventually, he moved to Dexter, New Mexico to begin his time with the USFWS at the Fisheries Assistance Office (FAO). The FAO was later moved to Albuquerque and became the Fisheries Resources Office, and then the New Mexico Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office (NMFWCO). While at NMFWCO, he led his office on projects throughout New Mexico including work on the San Juan, the Rio Grande, the Pecos, and the Gila. A hands-on kind of boss, you would likely find him out in the field working alongside his staff. Ultimately, he contributed 28 years of service to the USFWS. We'll miss you, Jim. Enjoy your hard-earned retirement.

Jason E. Davis has been named Acting Project Leader until a permanent replacement is found.

## Personnel

Staff welcomed a new Office Assistant, Kimberly Flowers, to NMFWCO. Kimberly is returning to Albuquerque from Fort Sill, Oklahoma. She is a former Department of Defense employee and Veteran of the United States Marine Corp.



Staff said fair well to their Project Leader, James E. Brooks (Jim). Jim officially retired on January 11, 2014 (the end of an era). Jim began his career with the Arizona Department of Game



U.S. Department of the Interior  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
Southwest Region  
Fisheries and Aquatic Resource Conservation



New Mexico Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office  
3800 Commons Avenue NE  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87109  
Phone 505/342-9900  
<http://www.fws.gov/southwest/fisheries/nmfwco/index.html>

---

## Current staff members

Vacant .....	Project Leader
Jason Davis .....	Acting Project Leader
Angela Carrillo.....	Administrative Officer
Kimberly Flowers.....	Office Assistant
Stephen Davenport .....	Supervisory Fish Biologist
Chris Kitcheyan .....	Supervisory Fish Biologist
Weston Furr .....	Fish Biologist
Thomas Archdeacon.....	Fish Biologist
Dustin Myers.....	Fish Biologist
Angela Palacios James.....	Fish Biologist
Bobby Duran .....	Fish Biologist
Andy Dean.....	Fish Biologist
Ernest Tellier Sr. ....	Biological Science Technician
Tristan Austring .....	STEP Student