



## Monthly Accomplishments

## January 2016

### Fisheries Activities

Angela James and volunteer, Demesia James, assisted Mora National Fish Hatchery with Gila Trout stockings. Approximately 3,430 Main Diamond lineage and 1,600 of South Diamond lineage fish were stocked along the West Fork Gila River between Grapevine Campground and the Gila Visitor Center Bridge. The Gila trout were stocked for recreational purposes.



**Demesia James releasing Gila Trout into the West Fork Gila River.**



**Daniel Gallegos, Mora NFH, unloading Gila Trout for stocking.**

### Meetings and Trainings

Bobby Duran attended the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program and San Juan River Basin Recovery Implementation Program's annual researchers meeting in Durango, Colorado. Biologists from both programs provided status updates on work completed in 2015.

Thomas Sinclair and Chris Kitcheyan participated in the annual Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout Range-wide meeting held in Taos, New Mexico. Multiple agencies from Colorado and New Mexico provided updates of activities worked on in 2015.

The NMFWCO hosted the Gila Trout and Chihuahua Chub Recovery Team meeting. Andy Dean assisted NMDGF with presenting 2015 survey data for the New Mexico populations. Additional topics of discussion included identifying remaining streams in need of assessment (occupied and unoccupied), genetic status of remnant populations, potential stocking needs for 2016, and restoration schedules and priorities. The Recovery Team also discussed status of the Chihuahua chub, survey results, repatriation potential, and recovery plan revisions.

### Education and Outreach

Angela James delivered fish to schools participating in the Native Fish in the Classroom (NFIC) program. Valle Vista Elementary, Osuna, and Monte Vista Elementary all received fish of the Middle Rio Grande. Cien Aguas International will receive fish in February. The students are now stewards to Longnose Dace, Flathead Chub, Western Mosquitofish, Fathead Minnow, and Red Shiner.



**Monte Vista students eagerly move fish to their class aquarium.**

Angela James and Stephen Davenport delivered Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout, provided by Seven Springs State Fish Hatchery, to Monte Vista, Zia, and Emerson Elementary Schools. A subsample of the cutthroat trout were weighed and measured in the classroom while students recorded the data. Students were shown how to use these data to calculate feed rates. The students are now stewards for the Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout until May 2016.



Emerson students carefully carry their fish to class.



Angela weighing a trout fingerling in front of a 5<sup>th</sup> grade class.

Angela James and Breanna Ryan assisted Cien Aguas International with the set-up of their aquarium. Cien Aguas is a new participant in the NFIC Project and was awarded a grant to purchase a system. Breanna Ryan is a Crew Leader for the Middle Rio Grande Urban Youth Corp. Breanna was shadowing Angela for the day as part of the Mentor program.



Teacher, Brandon Johnson, happily filling their aquarium.

Follow NMFWCO on Facebook at the following link:  
<https://www.facebook.com/New-Mexico-Fish-and-Wildlife-Conservation-Office>

## Personnel

Biological Science Technician, Ernest Teller Sr., retired the 1<sup>st</sup> of January. Ernie worked 35 years with the federal government, the last eight with NMFWCO. His primary responsibilities included collaborating with the Navajo Nation and providing field support for San Juan River Basin Recovery Implementation projects. His presence on the San Juan River will be missed. We wish him the best with his retirement, but look forward to working with him again as a volunteer should he get the urge to float the San Juan again.



Ernie Teller Sr. and the endangered Colorado Pikeminnow.

Chris Kitcheyan was presented a Certificate of Recognition for Twenty Years of Government Service.



Tom Sinclair presenting Chris Kitcheyan with a Certificate of Recognition.

## Upcoming Activities

Activities and meetings currently scheduled are listed below. Dates are subject to change.

### February 2016

1<sup>st</sup>: NFIC Fish Delivery, Cien Aguas International, Albuquerque

4<sup>th</sup>: RGSM Genetics Work Group, Albuquerque

18<sup>th</sup>: Middle Rio Grande E<sup>3</sup> Alliance Meeting, Albuquerque

18<sup>th</sup>: CPUE Workgroup Meeting, Albuquerque

21<sup>st</sup>- Mar 5<sup>th</sup>: NCTC Fisheries Academy, Shepherdstown, WV

### March 2016

28<sup>th</sup>-Apr 1<sup>st</sup>: Assist with Gila Trout Spawning, Mora, NM

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

Tom Sinclair ..... Project Leader  
Jason E. Davis ..... Assistant Project Leader  
Angela Carrillo..... Administrative Officer  
Stephen R. Davenport ..... Supervisory Fish Biologist  
D. Chris Kitcheyan ..... Supervisory Fish Biologist  
D. Weston Furr ..... Fish Biologist  
Thomas P. Archdeacon..... Fish Biologist  
Angela P. James..... Fish Biologist  
Bobby R. Duran..... Fish Biologist  
Andy T. Dean ..... Fish Biologist  
Tristan L. Austring ..... Biological Science Technician