



## Monthly Accomplishments

## November 2014

### Fisheries Activities

Stephen Davenport and Andy Dean completed Pecos River fish community monitoring at twelve sites near Roswell, New Mexico. Data from these monitoring efforts are used to define the status of the fish community, with emphasis on Pecos bluntnose shiner.

In cooperation with Pueblo of Isleta and Pueblo of Sandia Environment Department, Thomas Archdeacon, Tristan Austring, Kjetil Henderson and Rebecca Cook completed monthly monitoring for Rio Grande silvery minnow (RGSM). Monitoring determines presence/absence of visible implant elastomer tagged fish from augmentation and research efforts.

Chris Kitcheyan assisted New Mexico Department of Game and Fish with quarterly fish community monitoring at seven sites on the Canadian River east of Tucumcari, New Mexico. Data from these monitoring efforts are used to determine the status of the fish community, with emphasis on the federally listed Arkansas River shiner.

In collaboration with the Cochiti Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

Chris Kitcheyan and the NMFWCO staff completed the second of two fish passage projects on the Santa Fe River.



**Figure 1. Fish passage project site with initial ground work.**



**Figure 2. Webbing and rock installation at project site.**



**Figure 3. Santa Fe River Fish Passage project completed.**

Thomas Archdeacon, Kjetil Henderson, Rebecca Cook, Bobby Duran assisted Southwestern Native Aquatic Resources and Recovery Center with Visible Implant Elastomer (VIE) tagging of 87,000 RGSM. These fish were stocked in the Rio Grande in accordance with the RGSM Augmentation Plan. Between September and November a total of 268,318 RGSM were VIE tagged. A total of 86,177 were stocked within the Angostura reach, 105,344 within the Isleta Reach, and 76,797 within the San Acacia Reach.



**Figure 4. Rio Grande silvery minnow with VIE Tag.**



**Figure 5. Rio Grande silvery minnow being stocked out from hatchery truck.**

Thomas Archdeacon and several NMFWCO staff assisted the Pueblo of Sandia Environment Department with a presence/absence surveys for the RGSM. Crews seined the AMAFCA channel to determine if RGSM were present within the channel prior to an upcoming construction project. The RGSM were determined to be present in the channel. The construction project will be delayed until next year after additional review.

## Meetings and Trainings

Thomas Archdeacon presented *Keeping the Rio Grande: Saving the Rio Grande Silvery Minnow* during a poster session at the Annual Festival of the Cranes, Bosque Del Apache National Wildlife Refuge.

Angela James participated in the Soaring to New Heights Conference sponsored by the Environmental Education Association of New Mexico, New Mexico Science Teachers' Association, and New Mexico Council of Teachers of Mathematics held in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

## Education and Outreach

Angela James held a teacher workshop for teachers participating in the 2014-2015 Native Fish in the Classroom (NFIC) Project. The workshop allowed teachers to share ideas and methods used in the class to integrate NFIC into their

curriculum. Emerson Elementary School (ES), Monte Vista ES, Valle Vista ES, Governor Bent ES and Bosque School are signed on to participate again. Our new school, cosponsored by the U.S. Forest Service – Rocky Mountain Research Station, is the Albuquerque Sign Language Academy. To date, 16 classes are set to participate in the raising of native fish in their class.



**Figure 6. The NFIC Teachers and Valle de Oro Interns participating in the NFIC Teacher Workshop.**

Angela James led a field day on the Rio Grande for two students from the Southwest Indian Polytechnic Institute currently enrolled in the Wildlife Techniques course. The students had a hands-on demonstration of seining, fish and microhabitat identification, and using monitoring protocols for RGSM.



**Figure 7. Students and instructor, Jeanne Lubbering, working the seine.**

Angela James assisted Valle de Oro at the Rail Yards Market - Children Zone. Angela helped youth make wildlife inspired crafts.

## Upcoming Activities

Activities and meetings currently scheduled are listed below.

### December

2nd-5th: San Juan River Recovery Implementation Program – Biology Committee Meeting, Durango, Colorado

16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>: Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program – Nonnative Fish Workshop, Grand Junction, Colorado

18th: Gila Trout Recovery Team Meeting

8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>: NFIC Aquarium Delivery and Introductory Presentation

### January

TBD: NFIC Fish Delivery

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

Thomas Sinclair .....	Project Leader
Jason Davis .....	Assistant 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
Kjetil Henderson .....	Fish Biologist
Rebecca Cook.....	Fish Biologist
Ernest Teller Sr. ....	Biological Science Technician
Tristan Austring .....	STEP Student