



Monthly Accomplishments

December 2013

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.

With the assistance of Mora National Fish Hatchery and the U.S. Forest Service, staff packed in Gila trout above the barrier on Black Canyon Creek, Gila National Forest. Approximately 2,169 age-0 Gila trout of Main Diamond lineage were stocked for recovery purposes.

Meetings and Trainings

Staff participated in a meeting with the University of Arizona - Cooperative Research Unit, New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office (NMESFO), U.S. Geological Services, and Navajo Nation to discuss a two-year research project related to native fish on Navajo Nation.

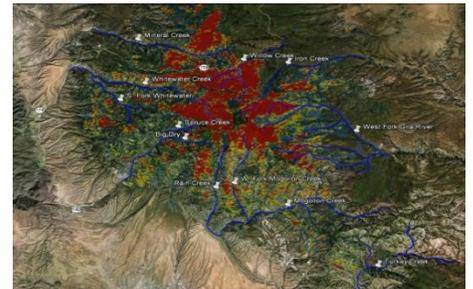
Staff participated in the quarterly meeting of the Southwest Tribal Fisheries Commission held at the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Regional Office, Albuquerque, New

Mexico. Staff provided updates on an upcoming Piscicide Course to be held in Albuquerque and status review on the Rio Grande cutthroat trout. The USFWS - Assistant Regional Director (ARD) for Fisheries and Aquatic Conservation presented the *National Fish Hatchery System - Strategic Hatchery and Workforce Planning Report* (Hatchery Review). Follow-up meetings will be held in January with the Regional Director and ARD to provide Pueblos and Tribes opportunities ask questions and learn more about potential impacts to Tribal programs.

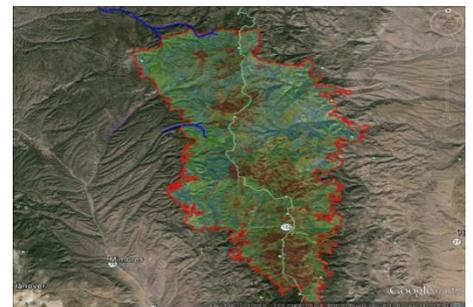
Staff participated in the annual Tribal Endangered Species Act working group meeting, held at the NMESFO. Participants included NMESFO, BIA Northern Pueblos Agency, BIA Southern Pueblos Agency, BIA Regional Office, and New Mexico and Arizona Tribes. Participants discussed updates to ongoing ESA issues and issues likely to affect tribes in the near future.

The NMFWCO hosted the Gila Trout and Chihuahua Chub Recovery Team meeting. The Recovery Team reviewed preliminary results from post-fire sampling on previously occupied streams impacted by the Whitewater-Baldy complex fire of 2012 and the Silver Fire of 2013. Additional topics of

discussion included identifying remaining streams in need of assessment (occupied and unoccupied), genetic status of remnant populations, potential stocking needs for 2014, and restoration schedules and priorities.



Whitewater-Baldy Complex Fire



Silver Fire

Bobby Duran and Weston Furr completed the Pesticide Applicators Continuing Education Unit to maintain their

New Mexico Pesticide Applicators License.

Angela Palacios James completed a semester long Environmental Education: Theory and Practice course held through University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point, sponsored by the National Conservation Training Center.



Project Leader, James E. Brooks announced his intent to retire in January 2014.

Education and Outreach

Staff completed an introductory presentation of the Native Fish in the Classroom (NFIC) project to approximately 28 high school students at Bosque School. The presentation included an introduction of the USFWS, NMFWCO, native species, the aquarium set-up, and the student's responsibilities for the semester. All six schools participating in the NFIC program will receive fish January 2014. The goal of NFIC is to generate enthusiasm for natural resources and foster a sense of stewardship for native fish and their habitats.



Personnel

Seasonal hires, Matt Nolen and Tracy Diver, completed their time with NMFWCO. Matt and Tracy's primary duties were with the Rio Grande silvery minnow salvage and monitoring management activities. We wish them luck in their new endeavors.

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



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Current staff members

James E. Brooks	Project Leader
Jason Davis	Assistant Project Leader
Angela Carrillo.....	Administrative Officer
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
Tracy Diver.....	Fish Biologist
Matt Nolen	Fish Biologist
Ernest Teller Sr.	Biological Science Technician
Tristan Austring	STEP Student