



## Monthly Accomplishments

December 2014

### Fisheries Activities

Andy Dean completed monitoring for Pecos bluntnose shiner at two sites on the Pecos River, near Bosque Redondo State Park and Highway 60. Although no longer within the current distribution of the Pecos bluntnose shiner, staff continues to monitor for changes within the habitat and potential for expansion.

### Meetings and Trainings

Jason Davis, Thomas Sinclair, and Bobby Duran participated in the San Juan River Recovery Implementation Program – Biology Committee meeting in Durango, Colorado. Discussion included the review and updating of the Program's Long Range Plan, setting priorities for 2016, and the San Juan River population model.

The NMFWCO hosted the Gila Trout and Chihuahua Chub Recovery Team meeting. The Recovery Team reviewed 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 2015, and restoration schedules and priorities. Mora National Fish Hatchery (NFH) provided updates on Gila trout currently held by the hatchery. In addition, the Recovery Team also discussed status of the Chihuahua chub, survey results, repatriation potential, and recovery plan revisions.

Jason Davis, Thomas Sinclair, and Thomas Archdeacon attended a meeting of the Middle Rio Grande Endangered Species Collaborative Program's Catch per Unit Effort (CPUE) Population Workshop planning team. Logistics for the 2015 CPUE Workshop was the main topic of discussion.

Chris Kitcheyan participated in the Urban Waters Workshop in Arlington, Virginia.

Chris Kitcheyan and Angela James met with representatives of Alchesay NFH, White Mountain Apache Tribe, Navajo Nation, New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office, and New Mexico Department of Game and Fish to discuss potential use of Alchesay NFH to hold a captive population of Zuni bluehead sucker (ZBS). This refuge population would help ameliorate negative effects to the population in the event of catastrophic loss in the wild; the ZBS was listed as endangered in August 2014.

### Education and Outreach

Angela James delivered aquariums to five schools who are participating in the Native Fish in the Classroom (NFIC) Project. In addition she completed an introductory presentation of the NFIC Project to approximately 300 elementary and middle school students. The presentation included an introduction to the USFWS, NMFWCO, native species, aquarium set-up, and student's responsibilities. Participating schools include Albuquerque Sign Language Academy, Governor Bent Elementary, Valle Vista Elementary, Monte Vista Elementary, Emerson Elementary, and Bosque School. All six schools will receive fish in January 2015.



**Figure 1. Angela James introducing the NFIC Project to participating students.**



**Figure 2. Emerson students assisting with the set-up of their aquarium.**

## Personnel

Seasonal hires, Kjetil Henderson and Rebecca Cook, completed their time with NMFWCO. Both aided with the Rio Grande silvery minnow salvage and monitoring management activities. We wish them luck in their new endeavors.

## Upcoming Activities

Activities and meetings currently scheduled are listed below.

### January 2015

12<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> – NFIC Fish Delivery

12<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> – Upper Basin  
Researchers Meeting, Moab,  
Utah

25<sup>th</sup>-Feb 6<sup>th</sup> – NCTC Coldwater  
Fish Culture Course

### February 2015

5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> – 48<sup>th</sup> Joint Annual  
Meeting of the Arizona/New  
Mexico Chapters of the Wildlife  
Society and the Arizona/New  
Mexico Chapters of the American  
Fisheries Society, Las Cruces,  
New Mexico

12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> – San Juan River Flow  
Workshop, Albuquerque, New  
Mexico

18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> – San Juan River  
Implementation Program  
Meeting, Durango, Colorado

TBD – NFIC In-class  
Presentation

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>

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## 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