



Monthly Accomplishments

February 2014

Fisheries Activities

Staff assisted the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (NMDGF) complete fish community monitoring in the Canadian River east of Tucumcari, New Mexico. A principal objective of this monitoring is to collect baseline data on the presence/absence of the federally listed Arkansas River shiner.

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

Staff completed Pecos River fish community monitoring at two sites near Fort Sumner, New Mexico. Data from these monitoring efforts are used to define the status of the fish community, with emphasis on Pecos bluntnose shiner, in response to low/no flow during the winter months.

Meetings and Trainings

Staff attended the San Juan River Basin Recovery

Implementation Program's Biology Committee meeting in Durango, Colorado. Topics of discussion included results of activities for 2013 and recommendations for 2014. Bobby Duran presented *Endangered Fish Monitoring and Nonnative Species Monitoring and Control in the Upper/Middle San Juan River 2013*. Weston Furr presented *Colorado pikeminnow and razorback sucker Augmentation for San Juan River 2013*.

Staff participated in a meeting with U.S. Forest Service, NMDGF, and The University of New Mexico to discuss the Upper West Fork Gila Conservation Project funded through the Share with Wildlife Grant program. Participants discussed stocking, sampling protocols and monitoring strategies to be utilized for this project.

Education and Outreach

Staff led the activity, *The Anatomy of a Trout*, to 27 fifth grade students from Governor Bent Elementary School. The hands-on activity is from the Native Fish in the Classroom (NFIC) project. The NMFWCO provided preserved trout specimens, worksheets, and reference guides to provide

students an opportunity to explore the internal and external anatomy of a trout. Four additional schools participating in the NFIC project are scheduled to complete this activity in March and April 2014.



Angela James presented *The Rio Grande Silvery Minnow: 101* to approximately 30 members of the Rotary Club of Socorro in Socorro, New Mexico. The focus of the presentation was on the life history and current management practices of the endangered RGSM. It also included a brief historical overview of the Rio Grande and extirpated and extinct fish of the Rio Grande.



Staff presented *Water, Water, What's in You* to 25 fifth grade students of Cochiti Elementary School. The presentation included discussion on the water cycle, the nitrogen cycle, and the importance of testing water quality for fish biologists. In addition, students tested two water samples, using chemical reagent tests. Each sample was tested for ammonia, nitrite, nitrate, and pH. The students used the test results to determine if the nitrogen cycle was occurring within their water samples.



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