



Monthly Accomplishments

February 2015

Fisheries Activities

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

Chris Kitcheyan, in collaboration with Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute (SIPI) and Navajo Nation Department of Fish and Wildlife, initiated a bluehead sucker ageing study. Glenn Selby, of Navajo Nation, demonstrated otolith (inner ear) removal for SIPI students. Students from SIPI's Advance Wildlife Class will use the otoliths to create a length at age key for bluehead suckers. The study will provide insight into bluehead sucker ageing and real-world experience for SIPI students.

Meetings and Trainings

Thomas Sinclair, Jason Davis, Bobby Duran, and Weston Furr attended the San Juan River Basin Recovery Implementation Program's (SJRIP) meeting in Durango, Colorado. Topics of discussion included results of activities for 2014 and

recommendations for 2015. Bobby Duran presented *Endangered Fish Monitoring and Nonnative Species Monitoring and Control in the Upper/Middle San Juan River 2014*. Weston Furr presented *Colorado pikeminnow and razorback sucker Augmentation for San Juan River 2014*.

Jason Davis and Thomas Sinclair participated in the SJRIP's Environmental Flows Workshop at Ecological Services Field Office (ESFO) in Albuquerque, New Mexico. This is the first of several workshops to discuss environmental flows on the San Juan River.

Thomas Sinclair and Chris Kitcheyan attended the Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout Workgroup meeting in Santa Fe, New Mexico. The objective of the meeting was to identify and prioritize upcoming projects. Federal, State, Tribal and Non-Governmental agencies from New Mexico provided updates on 2014 activities.

Dustin Myers participated in a meeting to discuss Gila trout recovery activities for 2015. Other participating agencies included New Mexico Department of Game and Fish and U.S. Forest Service.

Andy Dean participated in a meeting concerning the

development of standard operating procedures for inventory and monitoring activities associated with the Rio Hondo Restoration Project. Staff from Bitter Lake National Wildlife Refuge, U.S. Geological Surveys and the Regional Office participated.



Figure 1. Rio Hondo



Figure 2. Rio Hondo restored spring.

Thomas Archdeacon attended the Minnow Action Team meeting held at Bureau of Reclamation in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Participants discussed 2015 water outlook and operations.

Angela James attended the Middle Rio Grande - Environment, Education and Employment (MRG E³) meeting held at the Gutierrez-Hubbell House in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Angela James completed the two-week Coldwater Fish Culture Course hosted by NCTC in Shepherdstown, West Virginia.

Kimberly Flowers attended the Diversity Advisory Committee annual training. Kimberly is the Region's Disability Employment Coordinator.

Kimberly Flowers attended the Region 2 Administrators Workshop held at the Regional Office in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Education and Outreach

Angela James and Kimberly Flowers provided outreach at the State Archery in the Schools Tournament. They provided a table display showcasing field activities and threatened and endangered fish species. Hands-on activities, including *Make a Fish*, *What River Am I*, and *Measure a Fish*, were also provided to encourage public interaction.

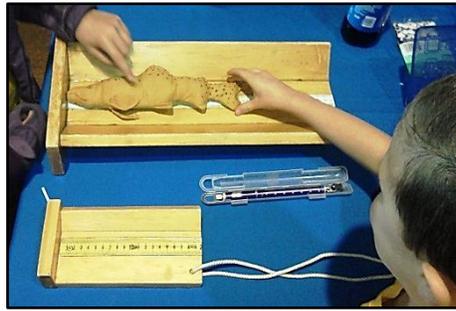


Figure 3. Youth participating in the "Measure a Fish" activity.



Figure 4. Youth show off their creativity to "Make a Fish".

Upcoming Activities

Activities and meetings currently scheduled are listed below.

March 2015

4th-6th: Arkansas River Fish Community Monitoring, Canadian River

10th: Environmental Literacy Summit; Albuquerque, New Mexico

10th-12th: Lake Surveys, Ohkay Owingeh

8th-11th: UCREFRP and SJRIP Database Construction Meeting; Grand Junction, Colorado

13th: Southwest Tribal Fisheries Commission Meeting; Albuquerque, New Mexico

16th: NFIC Anatomy In-class Presentation

17th-19th: Fish Community Monitoring, Pecos River

20th: Field Demonstration with Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute students, Isleta Lakes

24th: Rio Grande silvery minnow Propagation and Genetics Meeting; Albuquerque, New Mexico

30th-31st: Lake Surveys, Navajo Nation

April 2015

1st-2nd: Fish Community Monitoring, Rio Mora

1st-2nd: Lake Surveys, Navajo Nation

8th-13th: San Juan River tagging trip; Shiprock, New Mexico to Mexican Hat, Utah

6th-10th: Motorboat Operators Certification Course; Lake Havasu City, Arizona

13th-17th: Pecos pupfish monitoring, Bitter Lake

13th-16th: Navajo River fish community surveys, Jicarilla Apache Nation

13th: Rio Grande silvery minnow monthly surveys, Pueblo of Isleta

15th & 17th: Rio Grande silvery minnow monthly surveys, Pueblo of Sandia

20th-23rd: Chihuahua chub monitoring and habitat restoration, Moreno Springs

20th-24th: San Juan River endangered fish monitoring and nonnative fish removal trip; Shiprock, New Mexico to Mexican Hat, Utah

21st-23rd: Fish Community Monitoring, Pecos River

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

Thomas B. Sinclair Project Leader
Jason E. Davis Assistant Project Leader
Angela Carrillo..... Administrative Officer
Kimberly M. Flowers Office Assistant
Stephen R. Davenport Supervisory Fish Biologist
D. Chris Kitcheyan Supervisory Fish Biologist
D. Weston Furr Fish Biologist
Thomas P. Archdeacon..... Fish Biologist
Dustin J. Myers..... Fish Biologist
Angela P. James..... Fish Biologist
Bobby R. Duran..... Fish Biologist
Andy T. Dean Fish Biologist
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