

**Middle Rio Grande Endangered Species Act Collaborative Program
Species Water Management Standing Workgroup (SWM)**

07 April 2010 Meeting

10:00 AM to 12:00 PM @ BIA

Recommendations

- The SWM workgroup recommended that the CC clarify whether water quality activities reside with ScW or SWM.
- The March 3, 2010 SWM meeting minutes were approved with no changes.

Actions

- Tetra Tech will make sure an attendee list is on the March 3, 2010 SWM meeting notes
- Amy Louise will continue to elevate SWM's concern that if storm water is contributing to the Rio Grande Silvery Minnow (RGSM) viability in the basin, the storm water entities need to be invited into the Program to be actively involved.
- Page Pegram will forward the WAM plan and white papers to the entire SWM group.
- Amy Louise will get the report that Steve Harris referenced regarding specific project guidance for his future SWM activity suggestion of Geomorphic Rehabilitation Projects.
- Amy Louise will send out the San Acacia Reach A&R Peer Review Presentation to SWM members.
- Amy Louise will ask Kathy Dickinson if the mapping project that RESPEC just finished is an overlap to future LTP activity "review existing geomorphic studies and groundwater monitoring sites and connect to habitat maps project" (p. 15, line 63).
- Valda Terauds will write a summary of LTP Future Activity: Design studies that can be ready to implement when we have a particular type of water year (p. 14, line 53).
- Matt Martinez will write a summary of LTP Future Activity: Use urban waste water outfall and rural irrigation delivery and tail waters for habitat restoration to expand habitat, favor native over exotic plants and reduce fire potential (p. 16, line 88).
- Page Pegram will reaffirm the Program area and if LTP Future Activity: Determine feasibility of managing reservoir levels to establish and maintain lake fringe and inflow habitat (p. 15, line 75) is within Program boundaries she will write a summary.
- Amy Louise will track changes made to the LTP Future Activities and send to SWM members and Yvette McKenna.
- Cyndie Abeyta will send the SWM workgroup information regarding an upcoming presentation on the FWS/MRG Bosque Initiative funded study "Effects of climate change on MRG species" conducted by the U.S. Forest Service.

Meeting Summary

- Chris Banet brought the meeting to order. The agenda was reviewed and approved with no changes. It was announced that John Sorrel has left the Program as of April 1, 2010. The workgroup expressed confusion about Cody Walker's duty and roles.
- The March 3, 2010 meeting notes were approved with no changes. An attendee list will be added to the March 3, 2010 notes.
- All action item's were completed or are ongoing
- It was announced that Kathy Dickinson has left the PMT but will still be helping with the LTP.

- The workgroup discussed the LTP Future Activity summaries.
 - The workgroup felt that it would not be appropriate for SWM to write summaries for some of the activities that were assigned by other workgroups. The workgroup went through the activities and decided which should stay with SWM and which should be reassigned to a more appropriate workgroup. Additionally, some activities were considered repetitive or vague and made note of the ones that should be removed from the table.
 - Activities that were thought to be appropriate for SWM were assigned to workgroup members for summarization.
 - Valda Terauds will write a summary of LTP Future Activity: Design studies that can be ready to implement when we have a particular type of water year (p. 14, line 53).
 - Matt Martinez will write a summary of LTP Future Activity: Use urban waste water outfall and rural irrigation delivery and tail waters for habitat restoration to expand habitat, favor native over exotic plants and reduce fire potential (p. 16, line 88).
 - The workgroup expressed confusion about the LTP Future Activity: Determine feasibility of managing reservoir levels to establish and maintain lake fringe and inflow habitat (p. 15, line 75) was within the program area.
 - Page Pegram will reaffirm the Program area and if it includes this project then she will write the summary.
 - The workgroup also recommended that the CC clarify whether water quality activities reside with ScW or SWM before these project summarizations were assigned to SWM workgroup members.
- The workgroup briefly discussed peer review recommendations.
 - A presentation on USGS transects will be made in July of 2010.
 - Levi Brecki will make a presentation on climate change in June of 2010.
 - Cyndie Abeyta will also send the SWM workgroup information regarding an upcoming presentation on the FWS/MRG Bosque Initiative funded study "Effects of climate change on MRG species" conducted by the U.S. Forest.
- The workgroup was briefly updated on program coordination.
 - The next PHVA/Hydrology meeting is May 18, 2010. Amy Louise will be the new PMT liaison for PHVA since Kathy Dickinson left.
 - PVA will be meeting May 4 and 5, 2010 and may be discussing the pre-ESA water management run.
 - The workgroup was updated on DBMS. The database is in negotiation for the second phase of the DBMS contract.
 - The workgroup was given MPT updates. The MPT has finished the RFP. The Technical Proposal Evaluation Committee (TPEC) needs more information before recommending a contractor. Monitoring for the spring will be done by the agencies and signatories cooperatively. The contract should be awarded in the fall of 2010.
 - SWM was thanked for helping with the LTP Future Activity summaries

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 5th from 10:00 am to 12 noon at BIA

**Middle Rio Grande Endangered Species Act Collaborative Program
Species Water Management Standing Workgroup (SWM)**

07 April 2010 Meeting

10:00 AM to 12:00 PM @ BIA

Meeting Notes

Introductions & Announcements

- Chris Banet called the meeting to order. It was announced that John Sorrel has left the program as of April 1, 2010. The workgroup discussed whether or not Cody Walker would be absorbing John's duties and whether or not he would be attending more meetings.

Agenda Approval

- The agenda was approved with no changes.

Approval March 3rd Meeting notes (10 min)

- The March meeting notes were approved with no changes

Action: Tetra Tech will make sure an attendee list is on the March 3, 2010 SWM meeting notes

March Action Item Review (20 min)

- Amy Louise will distribute the Species Water Management (SWM) 2009 work group accomplishments document to SWM members. - complete
- Amy Louise will elevate SWM's concern that if storm water is contributing to the Rio Grande Silvery Minnow's (RGSM) viability in the basin, the storm water entities need to be invited into the Program to be actively involved. – ongoing
 - A general opinion was that Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority (AMAFCA) doesn't need to be invited to the Program. The Long Term Plan (LTP) seems to be the main focus right now.
 - This action item will be kept as an ongoing concern.
- Page Pegram will locate the Water Acquisition and Management's (WAM) plan and White Papers regarding forbearance and agricultural issues and consult with Chris Banet to determine what has already been done regarding the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District (MRGCD) threshold analysis and to clarify specifically what he was suggesting for the future LTP activity(s). – complete

Action: Page Pegram will forward the WAM plan and white papers to the entire SWM group.

- Amy Louise will ask Steve Harris for clarification and specific project guidance for his future SWM activity suggestion of Geomorphic Rehabilitation Projects. - complete
 - Steve Harris referred Amy Louise to a report that specific activities were laid out in.

Action: Amy Louise will get the report that Steve Harris referenced regarding specific project guidance for his future SWM activity suggestion of Geomorphic Rehabilitation Projects.

- Amy Louise will update the SWM future activity list and forward to the group for review and input as soon as possible. – complete

- Amy Louise will send out the Lessons Learned summary and PowerPoint presentation from the San Acacia Reach A&R Peer Review Presentation to SWM members. - complete
 - The Lesson Learned summary was sent out to SWM members.

Action: Amy Louise will send out the San Acacia Reach A&R Peer Review Presentation to SWM members.

- Chris Banet will set up a meeting room at Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) for the April 7th SWM meeting and will distribute room and call-in information to work group members. - complete
- Chris Banet will forward an electronic copy of the March 3rd SWM meeting attendance sheet to Tetra Tech. – complete
- Tetra Tech will make sure Cyndie Abeyta is added to the SWM email distribution list. – complete
 - It was suggested that the workgroup members list be edited, it may not be completely accurate. Keith Candelaria and John Sorrel should come off the list. Cody Walker should stay on the list until there is a better idea of his status.

LTP Future Activities - updates/status

- Amy received everyone's LTP Future Activities summaries except Steve Harris' and the Albuquerque Bernalillo Water Utility Authority's (ABCWUA) – ABCWUA brought copies of theirs to the meeting.
- The workgroup was notified that Kathy Dickinson has left the Program but will still be assisting with the LTP.

LTP Future Activities Summaries Review (All the LTP Future Activities referred to in the notes can be found on Table 7.0 Program Activities and Projects)

- Workgroup members volunteered to write summaries for additional LTP Future Activities that still needed summaries.

Action: Valda Terauds will write a summary of LTP Future Activity: Design studies that can be ready to implement when we have a particular type of water year (p. 14, line 53). **Action:** Matt Martinez will write a summary of LTP Future Activity: Use urban waste water outfall and rural irrigation delivery and tail waters for habitat restoration to expand habitat, favor native over exotic plants and reduce fire potential (p. 16, line 88).

Action: Page Pegram will reaffirm the Program area and if LTP Future Activity: Determine feasibility of managing reservoir levels to establish and maintain lake fringe and inflow habitat (p. 15, line 75) is within Program boundaries she will write a summary.

Action: Amy Louise will ask Kathy Dickinson if the mapping project that RESPEC just finished is an overlap to future LTP activity “review existing geomorphic studies and groundwater monitoring sites and connect to habitat maps project” (p. 15, line 63).

- SWM thought that it would be more appropriate for a different workgroup to write some of the LTP Future Activities.
 - LTP Future Activity: Evaluate and apply modifications to Habitat management projects as necessary (p. 3, line 64).
 - This LTP Future Activity should be assigned to Habitat Restoration workgroup (HRW).

- LTP Future Activity: Use FLO-2D modeling tools to estimate frequency and extent of overbank inundation (p. 9, line 193).
 - HRW had said that they should write this summary.
- LTP Future Activity: Improve understanding of the stream flows that will provide suitable habitat for all life stages of Rio Grande silvery minnow (p. 12, line 9).
 - The workgroup thinks that this LTP Future Activity should be reassigned to Science workgroup (ScW).
- LTP Future Activity: Investigate potential impacts of climate change on water management (p. 12, line 12).
 - It was thought that Population Viability Analysis – Biology workgroup (PVA-Biology) should write this summary.
- LTP Future Activity: Acquire water from willing sellers and lessors for purposes of maintaining flows for silvery minnow in the middle Rio Grande
 - It was thought that it would not be appropriate for SWM to write this summary.
- It was thought that some of the LTP Future Activities were repetitive or vague and should be removed from the table.
 - LTP Future Activity: Use riparian groundwater modeling tools to identify locations best suited to refugial habitat and riparian habitat restoration actions (p. 9, line 192).
 - This activity is ongoing; it could also be a duplicate.
 - LTP Future Activity: Identify constraints that affect habitat during periods of low flow (p. 12, line 11).
 - The workgroup thought this activity might not be specific enough.
 - LTP Future Activity: Continue efforts to develop/integrate water management strategies (p.12, line 14).
 - It was thought this activity was too vague and implicit in other studies that deal with water management.
 - LTP Future Activity: Determine feasibility of providing recruitment/overbank flows (p. 15, line 65).
 - It has already been determined that it is feasible.
 - LTP Future Activity: Identify dams where modification of dam operating rules will benefit recovery of the flycatcher (p. 15, line 71) and LTP Future Activity: Identify dams where modification of dam operations will benefit recovery of the flycatcher by taking advantage of system flexibility and water surpluses/flood flows (p. 15, line 72).
 - It was thought that these two LTP Future Activities were too similar to one another and that they were a duplicate of other activities.
 - LTP Future Activity: Determine feasibility of using surplus and/or flood flows to increase or add water to marsh areas between levees and on flood plains (p. 15, line 76).
 - It was thought that this project was a repetitive of another project but that for organization it might be necessary for it to be in multiple places.
 - LTP Future Activity: Determine feasibility of keeping daily ramping rates and daily fluctuations for dam releases as gradual as possible to prevent bank erosion

- and loss of riparian vegetation, except when mimicking flood flows (p.16, line 77).
- LTP Future Activity: Evaluate reach-wide sediment management (p. 16, line 80).
 - This Future Activity was thought to have already been addressed outside of the Program.
 - LTP Future Activity: Develop adaptive strategies for sediment management with each reach, including the population at San Marcial (p. 16, line 81).
 - It was thought that this Future Activity was repetitive of another Future Activity.
 - LTP Future Activity: Provide (re-establish) in stream flows to expand habitat, favor native over exotic plants, and reduce fire potential (p. 16, line 89).
 - The workgroup would like to remove this LTP Future Activity from the table for now but may like to add it in the future.
 - The workgroup would like to show that the Program is addressing this issue.
 - LTP Future Activity: Restore ground water, base flows, and flooding (p. 16, line 90).
 - It was thought this LTP Future Activity was too vague.
 - LTP Future Activity: Encourage overbank flooding to decrease salinity in areas with known high levels (p. 16, line 92).
 - This LTP Future Activity was thought to be a duplicate.
 - LTP Future Activity: Investigate opportunities for main stem water management option (Cochiti deviations, bank storage, off channel refugia, side tributaries) (p. 18, line 139).
 - This LTP Future Activity was thought to be a duplicate.
- The workgroup discussed whether LTP Future Activities in section 7.5 Water Quality Management should be written by SWM or ScW.
 - It was suggested that the LTP Future Activities in the Water Quality Management section should be written by ScW as they have the background on water quality projects.
 - It was also suggested that ScW has not supported water quality projects in the past, so maybe SWM should take them.

Recommendation: The SWM workgroup recommended that the CC clarify whether water quality activities reside with ScW or SWM.

Action: Amy Louise will track changes made to the LTP Future Activities and send to SWM members and Yvette McKenna.

Peer Review Recommendations

- United States Geological Survey (USGS) presentation will be in July 2010.
- Levi Brecki from the Denver Technical Center will make a presentation to SWM in June 2010.
 - The soil moisture monitoring presentation may also be in June 2010.

Action: Cyndie Abeyta will send the SWM workgroup information regarding an upcoming presentation on the FWS/MRG Bosque Initiative funded study “Effects of climate change on MRG species” conducted by the U.S. Forest Service.

Program Coordination

- The workgroup was briefly updated on program coordination.
 - The next PHVA/Hydrology meeting is May 18, 2010. Amy Louise will be the new PMT liaison for PHVA since Kathy Dickinson left.
 - PVA will be meeting May 4 and 5, 2010 and may be discussing the pre-ESA water management run.
 - The workgroup was updated on DBMS. The database is in negotiation for the second phase of the DBMS contract.
 - The workgroup was given MPT updates. The MPT has finished the RFP. The Technical Proposal Evaluation Committee (TPEC) needs more information before recommending a contractor. Monitoring for the spring will be done by the agencies and signatories cooperatively. The contract should be awarded in the fall of 2010.

SWM was thanked for helping with the LTP Future Activity summaries.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 5th from 10:00 am to 12 noon at BIA

Species Water Management Work Group 07 April 2010 Meeting Attendees					
Name	POSITION	AFFILIATION	PHONE NUMBER	EMAIL ADDRESS	PRIMARY, ALTERNATE, OTHER
Cyndie Abeyta	SWM Member	FWS	761-4738	cyndie_abyeta@fws.gov	P
Amy Louise	PMT	ISC	383-4057	amy.louise@state.nm.us	O
Matt Martinez	SWM Member	MRGCD	730-6474	mmartinez@mrgcd.us	P
Andrew Lieuwen	SWM member	ABCWUA	768-2570	alieuwen@abcwua.org	P
Chris Banet	SWM Member	BIA	563-3403	chris.banet@bia.gov	P
Page Pegram	SWM Member	ISC	383-4041	Page.pegram@state.nm.us	P
Valda Terauds	SWM Member	Reclamation	462-3584	vteradus@usbr.gov	P
Christine Sanchez	Admin Support	Tetra Tech	881-3188 ext.139	christine.sanchez@tetrattech.com	O
Cassie Brown	Admin Support	Tetra Tech	881-3188 ext.106	cassandra.brown@tetrattech.com	O