

Coordination Committee Meeting
August 25, 2010

Meeting Materials:

Meeting Agenda

Meeting Minutes

Middle Rio Grande Endangered Species Collaborative Program
Coordination Committee Meeting
August 25, 2010 Meeting – 1:00 – 4:00 pm
Bureau of Reclamation

Toll free number: 9-1-888-677-1684

Participant passcode: 80971#

(1st Committee member or contractor to arrive, please dial in)

Draft Meeting Agenda

- Introductions and Agenda* Approval
- Brent Rhees Federal Co-Chair Appointment Letter*
- **Decisions**
 - Recommend for approval 07/01/10 EC special session meeting summary*
 - Approval of 08/04/10 CC meeting summary* and 08/11/10 working CC meeting summary*
- Action Item Review (see below)
- History of 10(j)/reintroduction position*
- Revised Long Term Plan Development
 - Re-review Revised 10(j)/Reintroduction Future Activity Summaries* (Mark Brennan)
 - Finish reviewing consolidated HRW Future Activity Summaries* (Ondrea Hummel, Anders Lundahl) (except the EMP *retitled to "Monitor Habitat Restoration Projects"*)
- RGSM 5 yr Status Review Submittals (*previously posted*)*
 - Should this be on the Aug 25 EC meeting agenda?
 - Does USFWS want to summarize?
- Expenditure Reports – 3rd Quarter 2010*
- Workgroup Updates
- Path Forward for EC briefing (CC Report)

Next meeting – September 8, 9:30 – 4:00 pm @ Reclamation

***denotes read ahead**

July 14, 2010 Actions

- Yvette McKenna will email the finalized August 2009 Retreat meeting notes to CC members.
The 2009 EC retreat notes were posted to the Program website on July 15. ✓
- Susan Kelly will incorporate more language August 2009 Retreat meeting notes into the bullets on page 5 of the draft LTP and email to the CC for review. – *ongoing*; pending the distribution of the finalized EC retreat notes.

July 28, 2010 Actions

- ✓ Yvette McKenna will revise the “*Continue to collect and evaluate existing data on water quality and sediment quality and identify future investigations that are needed.*” Future Activity summary so that it is in alignment with the “*Evaluate water quality in the MRG in relation to the RGSM*” Future Activity summary and distribute to the CC for review. – *ongoing.*

August 4, 2010 Actions

- ✓ Susan Bittick and/or Monika Mann will let the DBMS contractors know to include all the locations of the proposed A&R projects in the geographical layout. The known SWFL nest locations including details on the vegetation/habitat characteristics (i.e., in tamarisk, etc.) also needs to be included in the geographical layout. Ideally there will be layers showing floodplain inundation, vegetation mapping, etc. as well. – *ongoing;*
- Mark Brennan will follow up with ~~on the previous~~ fish recovery teams to determine potential involvement in the reintroduction planning team and any possible historic information or data that could be provided through these groups. – *tabled until 8/25;*
 - This action was re-worded to reflect that the RGSM recovery team has not been disbanded, it is just currently inactive and the Rio Grande fish team is active.
- Mark Brennan will develop a new future activity summary to describe obtaining any missing information identified as a data gap through future contracted projects. This summary is to be a Priority 1 place holder in the LTP and will be geographically dependant on where the need is identified. – *tabled until 8/25;*
- Mark Brennan will draft language describing the reintroduction planning team concepts including (1) how the team is envisioned to work; (2) who is expected to be involved; and (3) team function and roles, etc. This language can be incorporated into one of the first 10(j)/reintroduction activity summaries. – *tabled until 8/25;*
- Mark Brennan will enhance the project description of *Reintroduce new RGSM 10(j) Population* activity summary to include details on the technical steps of moving stock fish from hatcheries to designated sites. Details should include the description of the potential for release to more than one location at the site, clarification of rule making, etc. – *tabled until 8/25;*
- Mark Brennan will reconcile all the duration completion dates for all 10(j)/reintroduction future activity summaries for consistency (2026 or 2035, etc.). – *tabled until 8/25;*
- Mark Brennan will enhance the project description of the *Optimize survivorship of RGSM during transportation and stocking for post-release retention of reintroduction and augmentation sites* future activity summary to include background language on why this project is needed and the history with the transportation issue. – *tabled until 8/25;*
- Yvette McKenna will email the CC the revised Program element narratives – *ongoing.*

August 11, 2010 Actions

- Susan Bittick and/or Monika Mann will check with the Corps’ water operations to include or link the Corps’ inundation/FLO-2D work and other hydrologic information in the Program’s database.
- Comments on the data model (corrections, additions, comments, suggestions, etc.) are due to Monika Mann by COB on Wednesday, August 25th.
- All agencies/entities are encouraged to look at the data needs list to (1) identify any gaps and (2) attempt to provide any missing information; the deadline for the receipt of data is the end of October.

- The PMT will begin reviewing LTP and adaptive management pieces of the DBMS✓ and will provide an outline/update on recommendations for possible approaches to the CC at the August 25th CC meeting.
- Monika Mann will change the language in the 08/04/10 action item requesting flycatcher nest location inclusion in the DBMS to occupied flycatcher territories with ¼ mile no-disturbance radius.
- Susan Bittick will arrange to have a 404 expert attend the 8/25 CC meeting to help guide the habitat restoration future activity compliance discussions.
- Yvette McKenna will send out the updated/consolidated HR future summaries and will also have them posted to the website for access. ✓
- Hilary Brinegar will send the NM Watershed Forum information to Jenae Maestas for posting and distribution. ✓

Middle Rio Grande Endangered Species Collaborative Program
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Decisions

- With quorum present, the CC approved the 07/01/10 EC Special Session notes with (1) correction to the attendance list to indicate that Terina Perez was representing COA, Jen Bachus was representing FWS, and Grace Haggerty was representing ISC – thus a quorum was present; (2) correct the work order title by adding “peer review” to the first line under the decision section: San Acacia Diversion Dam Fish Passage *Peer Review* Task Order; and (3) spell out DEC (design, estimating, and constructability) on page 2, first bullet, next to last sentence.
- With quorum present, the CC approved the 08/04/10 CC meeting summary with a correction to Jim Wilber’s designation as primary (P) not other (O) in the attendance list.
- With quorum present, the CC approved the 08/11/10 CC meeting summary with no changes.

Recommendations

- Regarding the CC report to the EC for the August 30th meeting, some members of the CC suggested that the CC chair brief the EC on the CC’s activity, progress, issues, and updates and then invite CC members to voice concerns over lack of participation/quorum at the CC level. Some members expressed that more participation was needed because (1) the Program is not being represented at the “nuts and bolts” level; 2) this lack of participation results in “surprises” and thus delays at the EC level; and (3) the lack of participation hampers/delays the CC’s ability to make decisions and/or recommendations since a quorum is not present. A possible suggested solution included designating more authority to the current CC if it is absolutely not possible to have the missing signatories appoint a CC representative.
- It was recommended that Lori Robertson include Mark Brennan’s monthly 10(j)/reintroduction updates in her EC biology report as this would sufficiently cover the update request.

Action Items:

- Susan Kelly will incorporate more language August 2009 Retreat meeting notes into the bullets on page 5 of the draft LTP and email to the CC for review. – *ongoing (carried over from 07/14/10 meeting)*
- Mark Brennan will follow up with ~~on the previous~~ fish recovery teams to determine potential involvement in the reintroduction planning team and any possible historic information or data that could be provided through these groups. – *ongoing (carried over from 08/04/10 meeting)*
- Yvette McKenna will email the CC the revised Program element narratives – *ongoing (carried over from 08/04/10 meeting; to be addressed at the September 8th meeting)*
- Comments on the data model (corrections, additions, comments, suggestions, etc.) are due to Monika Mann by COB on Wednesday, August 25th. – *extended due to additional DBMS workshop on 08/31/10 (carried over from 08/11/10 meeting)*
- All agencies/entities are encouraged to look at the data needs list to (1) identify any gaps and (2) attempt to provide any missing information; the deadline for the receipt of data is the end of October. – *extended due to additional DBMS workshop on 08/31/10 (carried over from 08/11/10 meeting)*

- Grace Haggerty and Anders Lundahl will re-write/rephrase the *Develop and Implement Streamlined Compliance Templates and Processes for HR Projects* summary and send to Kelly Allan (COE), Hector Garcia (BOR), Jim Wilber (BOR), Julie Alcon (COE) and Jen Bachus (FWS) for additional language, input, and review. The revised summary will be provided as a read ahead for the September 8th CC meeting.
- Stacy Kopitsch will follow up with the science work group on the *Develop and Implement Program-wide System Monitoring and Trend Analysis for Adaptive Management* future activity summary (which used to be an HRW summary) and will let the PMT and CC know if science intends to revise the summary; if the summary is to be revised, Stacy will then distribute the revised version when available.
- Anders Lundahl will send Yvette McKenna the “new” HR future summary regarding work group coordination (which used to be a ScW summary).
- Mark Brennan will check if any documentation can be added as references to the 10(j)/reintroduction summaries to technically indicate why this specific approach is being taken; this was specifically requested for the *Identify any data gaps critical to future 10(j) RGSM reintroduction efforts... summary*.
- Instead of posting the entire 10(j)/reintroduction biologist IA, Yvette McKenna will pull out the Reclamation and FWS responsibilities and create a separate document to be used as the EC read ahead (in order to help focus the discussion and avoid the contractual jargon).
- Yvette McKenna will distribute the list of peer review panelists (for the San Acacia Diversion Dam Fish Passage Peer Review) to EC members as well as provide hard copies at the August 30th EC meeting.

Next/Upcoming Meetings:

- **EC August 30th, 9:00am – 1:00pm at Reclamation;**
 - tentative agenda to include (1) regular business; (2) 10(j) activities and geographic authority discussion; (3) timeline of consultation; (4) PVA issues; (5) possibly look at categorizing existing IAs in terms of activities being supported; and (6) 3rd quarter financial reports from FY10
- **DBMS Workshop, August 31st, 8:30am in Reclamation’s Rio Grande Room;**
 - D.B. Stephens will be facilitating a final workshop/wrap up on the DBMS data model. Comments are still being received.
- **CC September 8th, 9:30am - 4:00pm at Reclamation;**
 - tentative agenda to include LTP discussions in the morning followed by a ½ hr. lunch break and then regular business in the afternoon. LTP items could include (1) review the HR and ScW reconsolidated Priority 1 future summaries; (2) HR and ScW Priority 2 & 3 future activity summaries; and (3) Program Management activity future summaries. Regular business items could include (1) FY11 budget.
- **San Acacia Diversion Dam Fish Passage Peer Review Project Field Tour September 9th, meet at Reclamation at 8:30am for carpool;**
 - After a site visit/field tour, participants will return to Reclamation around 12:30pm for lunch and to meet with the contractor. The tour is currently open to EC and CC primary and alternate representatives and the PMT; the afternoon session will be open to anyone including all Program participants and interested contractors. The afternoon meeting with the peer review contractors will include discussion on the panel experts and formulation of the suggested questions to address list.
- **EC September 16th, 9:00am - 4:00pm at Open Space Visitor Center;**

- All day EC meeting with tentative agenda items to include: (1) revisit the 2009 retreat topics; and (2) tamarisk beetle presentations
- **River Habitat Restoration Workshop September 21st, 8:30am to 4:00pm at COE;**
 - Reclamation's Denver office has been paid by the Program to hold this restoration workshop. Please note that the regularly scheduled HRW meeting for that day has been postponed until Wednesday, September 22nd in order to allow for maximum participation in the workshop. Parking may be restricted to a small lot and in the street; please come prepared for potential lines going through the guard station.
- **CC September 22nd 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm**

Meeting Summary

- **Introductions and Agenda Approval:** Susan Bittick opened the meeting and introductions were made. A quorum was confirmed. After introductions, the agenda was approved with the following changes: (1) agenda items were rearranged to discuss Habitat Restoration work group (HRW) Activity Summaries prior to the History of the 10(j)/Reintroduction Position discussion; (2) announcements on recently scheduled meetings was added; and (3) the 5-year Rio Grande silvery minnow (RGSM) status item was postponed until FWS has time to review the 4 submittals.
 - The Coordination Committee (CC) was informed that there is no official timelines or deadlines for the RGSM 5-year status review process. While the actual comment submittals are available on the Program's website, the process is not expected to be completed until September 2011.
- **Upcoming Meetings:**
 - *Database Management System (DBMS) Workshop, August 31st, 8:30am in Reclamation's Rio Grande Room:* D.B. Stephens will be holding a final workshop/wrap up on the DBMS data model.
 - *San Acacia Diversion Dam (SADD) Fish Passage Peer Review Project Field Tour September 9th, meet at Reclamation at 8:30am* for carpool; 12:30pm meeting with the peer review contractor at Reclamation. This field tour is open to CC members and alternates and Executive Committee (EC) members and alternates while the afternoon session will be open to all interested parties including other contactors. The afternoon session will be used to review the list of panel experts (qualifications) and to collectively draft questions for the review panel.
 - *River Habitat Restoration Workshop September 21st, 8:30am to 4:00pm at COE:* Reclamation's Denver office was paid by the Program to host this River Habitat Restoration workshop. The regularly scheduled HRW meeting has been postponed until Wednesday September 22nd to allow for maximum participation in the workshop. Please remember to account for the Corps's security screening upon entering the building; also, the parking lot may be closed making parking limited.
- **Welcome to Brent Rhees** – DOI has appointed Brent Rhees as the new federal co-chair for the EC starting in October at the beginning of the next fiscal year.
- **Approval of Meeting summaries:**
 - *07/01/10 EC Special Session:* Since this special session meeting included CC participation, the CC was asked to review and recommend approval of the notes at the CC level. Clarification was sought regarding attendance to verify the list of attendees and quorum. Several attendees were acting as alternates for their executive and that needs to be documented.
 - The 07/01/10 EC special session summary was recommended for finalization with (1) correction to the attendance list to indicate that Terina Perez was representing COA, Jen Bachus was representing FWS, and Grace Haggerty was representing ISC – thus a quorum was present; (2) correct the work order title by adding “peer review” to the first line under the decision section: San Acacia Diversion Dam Fish Passage *Peer Review* Task Order; and (3) spell out DEC (design, estimating, and constructability) on page 2, first bullet, next to last sentence.
 - The CC approved the 08/04/10 CC meeting summary with a correction to Jim Wilber's designation as primary (P) not other (O) in the attendance list.
 - The CC approved the 08/11/10 CC meeting summary with no changes.

- **Action Item Review**

- **July 14, 2010 Actions**

- ✓ Yvette McKenna will email the finalized August 2009 Retreat meeting notes to CC members. – *completed;*
 - The 2009 EC retreat notes were posted to the Program website on July 15th, 2010.
 - Susan Kelly will incorporate more language August 2009 Retreat meeting notes into the bullets on page 5 of the draft LTP and email to the CC for review. – *ongoing;*

- **July 28, 2010 Actions**

- ✓ Yvette McKenna will revise the “*Continue to collect and evaluate existing data on water quality and sediment quality and identify future investigations that are needed.*” Future Activity summary so that it is in alignment with the “*Evaluate water quality in the MRG in relation to the RGSM*” Future Activity summary and distribute to the CC for review. – *completed;*

- **August 4, 2010 Actions**

- ✓ Susan Bittick and/or Monika Mann will let the DBMS contractors know to include all the locations of the proposed A&R projects in the geographical layout. The known SWFL nest locations including details on the vegetation/habitat characteristics (i.e., in tamarisk, etc.) also needs to be included in the geographical layout. Ideally there will be layers showing floodplain inundation, vegetation mapping, etc. as well. – *ongoing;*
 - Mark Brennan will follow up with ~~on the previous~~ fish recovery teams to determine potential involvement in the reintroduction planning team and any possible historic information or data that could be provided through these groups. – *ongoing;*
 - ✓ Mark Brennan will develop a new future activity summary to describe obtaining any missing information identified as a data gap through future contracted projects. This summary is to be a Priority 1 place holder in the LTP and will be geographically dependant on where the need is identified. – *completed;*
 - ✓ Mark Brennan will draft language describing the reintroduction planning team concepts including (1) how the team is envisioned to work; (2) who is expected to be involved; and (3) team function and roles, etc. This language can be incorporated into one of the first 10(j)/reintroduction activity summaries. – *completed;*
 - ✓ Mark Brennan will enhance the project description of *Reintroduce new RGSM 10(j) Population* activity summary to include details on the technical steps of moving stock fish from hatcheries to designated sites. Details should include the description of the potential for release to more than one location at the site, clarification of rule making, etc. – *completed;*
 - ✓ Mark Brennan will reconcile all the duration completion dates for all 10(j)/reintroduction future activity summaries for consistency (2026 or 2035, etc.). – *completed;*
 - ✓ Mark Brennan will enhance the project description of the *Optimize survivorship of RGSM during transportation and stocking for post-release retention of reintroduction and augmentation sites* future activity summary to include background language on why this project is needed and the history with the transportation issue. – *completed;*
 - Yvette McKenna will email the CC the revised Program element narratives – *ongoing;*
 - For today’s agenda, everything LTP related except HRW and 10(j) activity summaries will be postponed until the September 8th meeting.

August 11, 2010 Actions

- ✓ Susan Bittick and/or Monika Mann will check with the Corps' water operations to include or link the Corps' inundation/FLO-2D work and other hydrologic information in the Program's database. – *completed;*
- Comments on the data model (corrections, additions, comments, suggestions, etc.) are due to Monika Mann by COB on Wednesday, August 25th. – *extended due to additional DBMS workshop on 08/31/10;*
- All agencies/entities are encouraged to look at the data needs list to (1) identify any gaps and (2) attempt to provide any missing information; the deadline for the receipt of data is the end of October. – *extended due to additional DBMS workshop on 08/31/10;*
- ✓ The PMT will begin reviewing LTP and adaptive management pieces of the DBMS✓ and will provide an outline/update on recommendations for possible approaches to the CC at the August 25th CC meeting. – *completed;*
 - Comments and additions are being sent to Monika Mann and Mark Doles. The PMT review led to the creation of an LTP section with categories and drop down lists; the LTP will have its own dataset within the DBMS. Governance documents such as charters, bylaws, etc. will be included. An Adaptive Management piece was added as well. Any item querying or searching for or using keywords, try to frame in terms of the DBMS structure (where would this fit – charters, bylaws, etc.)
- ✓ Monika Mann will change the language in the 08/04/10 action item requesting flycatcher nest location inclusion in the DBMS to occupied flycatcher territories with ¼ mile no-disturbance radius. – *completed;*
- ✓ Susan Bittick will arrange to have a 404 expert attend the 8/25 CC meeting to help guide the habitat restoration future activity compliance discussions. – *completed;*
- ✓ Yvette McKenna will send out the updated/consolidated HR future summaries and will also have them posted to the website for access. – *completed;*
- ✓ Hilary Brinegar will send the NM Watershed Forum information to Jenae Maestas for posting and distribution. – *completed;*
- **Revised Long Term Plan Development:**
 - The CC continued review of the consolidated HRW future activity summaries and then reviewed the revised 10(j)/reintroduction future activity summaries.
 - *Activity: Monitor Habitat Restoration Projects (formally EMP)*
 - Totality of the Program monitoring including the 2-year monitoring plan, transition to the 10-year plan, and then the 10-year plan itself have all been incorporated into this single summary.
 - The CC discussed making sure the end time frame for the 10-year monitoring plan be consistent with the BiOp requirement Element S. The 10-year plan is the duration of the *plan* itself.
 - The CC discussed the current estimated cost of \$50,000 to \$150,000 annually as being realistically low. The CC suggested making the estimate more realistic at \$300,000 to \$500,000. It was shared that the low intensity

data collected this past year is now being analyzed; high intensity monitoring was not implemented. Biologists that have not participated in the development and negotiations regarding the monitoring plan have expressed concern about the statistical validity of the high intensity monitoring.

- The *Monitor Habitat Restoration Projects* activity summary was approved with the following changes:
 - Omit the “10-year” from the *Implement 10-yr EMP (Spring 2013)* bullet making it read “Implement the EMP.”
 - Add a sentence into the description referencing 2003 Biological opinion Element S requiring 10 years of monitoring for projects.
 - Change second bullet: *Initiate pilot 2-year EMP* to *Implement pilot 2-yr EMP*; timelines on *Initiate 2-year EMP* to (2010-2012)
 - In the description, change “the results from....to develop and implement an EMP. The 2003 BO RPA element S has a 10-year monitoring requirement.”
 - Change all references of “interim” to “pilot” in description
 - In the description, omit second to last sentence since repeated below.
 - Complete the table dates with the corrected dates changed today.
- *Activity: Develop and implement streamlined compliance templates and process for HR projects*
 - The CC discussed the intent of this project and how having a programmatic document that included the bulk of the species information that wouldn’t have to be repeated in every single tier of compliance documentation. Smaller documents (such as EAs) for each individual projects might still have to address the project specifics.
 - The Corps is also trying to get to more streamlined processes. Kelly Allen (COE) explained permitting options. There are (1) “regional general permits” which are permits that can be issued for a term of 5 years; they can be for a specific activity and even a specific permittee (ex. for a district); (2) “nation-wide permits”; and (3) letters of permission.
 - Regional general permits have a scope of work developed to fit the specific types of projects for that region/district. These permits can only be issued for 5 years, but can be re-issued with the same process (public notice, coordination with FWS, NMED for 401 water quality certification, NMDGF, and other state and regulatory agencies) every 5 years. Issuing this type of permit is a federal action and must comply with ESA Section 7. Regional general permits can be piggy-backed onto the Program’s consultation. It is estimated that it can take a year from implementation of the permitting to completion due to the coordination of all the agencies. This type of permitting does not require field quantity details.

- The nation-wide permit can be used in lieu of individual permits; it involves a faster process but is a one-time per project permit. This type of permitting can be completed faster (within a few months) depending on receipt of submittals and any requested additional information. Once all information has been received, the Corps has 15 days to issue authorization. There can be stipulations that work cannot be initiated without approval from the Corps; however, if the permit does not indicate that work absolutely cannot begin without Corps authorization, then project work can begin as long as the terms of the permit are being met.
 - The “letter of permission” procedure is an individual permit that essentially establishes a procedure in which the Corps can authorize projects on individual basis but the NEPA part is already taken care of. NEPA documentation only has to be done when issuing the procedure; when that procedure is used no additional NEPA documentation is needed. It does require coordinating with resources agencies when being used and requires an alternatives analysis. There is no expiration to letters of permission in the guidelines. It is streamlined but not as much as the regional general or even the nation-wide.
 - Regarding ESA, compliance documentation just has to be provided, such as sending a copy of the BO. If ESA isn’t in place, then construction cannot begin until authorization has been provided from the Corps.
 - The regional general permit was suggested as the most appropriate for the Program as it is the most streamlined and it can be tailored to the kind of projects the Program would like to do. The 5-year duration of the regional general permit also provides more time for more covered projects.
 - Changes made to the *Develop and implement streamlined compliance templates and process for HR projects* activity summary include:
 - In the description, delete “and monitor the implementation”; the first sentence should read “produce documentation and consult programmatic compliance for habitat restoration projects funded by the Collaborative Program...”
 - Change title to “develop and implement streamlined *Programmatic* compliance...”
 - Review of this summary was postponed until re-writes could be submitted by ISC and reviewed by others. The revised version will be provided as a read ahead for the September 8th CC meeting.
- *Activity: Habitat Restoration Implementation*
 - This summary contains all the original (individual) activities pertaining to implementation: compliance, monitoring, and design categories. This summary was also written for both the minnow and flycatcher.
 - Changes to the *Habitat Restoration Implementation* summary included:

- Under the techniques listing, add a word: (2) *providing* wetted
- Change "...if needed by decisions made through adaptive management process..." to "...modified as needed as part of the adaptive management process..."
- Change LTP category to 7.1.C.2
- Since there is a summary write up for fish passage, remove: (3) *providing for fish passage where barriers are present* and then change the numbering to reflect the deletion;
- Make the reaches list into a single sentence;
- Delete the first sentence in the benefits to the species: "constructs habitat..." and add "increases habitat available for the benefit of species in the near term and provide for recovery of the listed species in the long term."
- Under implementing agencies, change "Program" to "Program signatories"
- The water management Recovery plan elements were deleted since not appropriate to the Implementing HR summary:
 - Delete: 1.2.1(M), 1.2.2(M), 2.1.2(M), 2.1.4(M), 2.2(M), and 4.0(M); 1.1.1(F);
 - Add 1.1.2.2(F), 1.1.2.3.4.1(F), 1.1.3.2.4(F), 1.1.3.2.6.1(F).
- Correct the ESA compliance section by changing to RPA S and delete all RPMs and CRs since they are not requirements
- Recovery plan priority is 2(M), 1(F);
- In the tables, change the title of "HR effectiveness monitoring" to "Monitor HR Projects"
- The summary was approved with the above changes.
- *Activity: HR Planning and Design*
 - The CC discussed perspectives of what this activity entails, what it implies, and what should be included. The original intent was to combined the implementation of the A&R recommended projects with other habitat planning and design activities.
 - Changes to the *HR Planning and Design* summary included:
 - Changing the capital P in the first sentence to lower case;
 - In the description, 3rd sentence: "system wide analysis" should be changed to "System wide monitoring and trend analysis for adaptive management..."
 - In the description, omit "loosely" from the first sentence;
 - Change "that provides" to "to provide" in first sentence;
 - New first sentence, add: *This project is to plan for habitat restoration design, construction, and maintenance.*

- In the description, change second sentence to: “an HR/maintenance plan will be developed that outlines desired future conditions of the MRG system that considers flood control...”
- Add ‘reach specific’ in front of “existing Program *reach specific* Analysis and Recommendations (A&Rs) Reports...”
- Uncap “H” and “R” when used as *Habitat Restoration* throughout description;
- In the description, 2nd to last sentence, omit “to the extent possible”, “process”, “programmatic”, “enable”, “within a given reach or within the Program Area” from original sentence making the sentence read “*This activity will also develop project specific compliance documents that are need to complete streamlined implementation of priority projects...; “Current Reach designations are as follows: Velarde Reach, Isleta Reach, Cochiti Reach, San Acacia Reach, Albuquerque Reach, San Marcial Reach. Other non-MRG reaches (above Cochiti, Big Bend, LRG, Pecos, etc)....to support reintroduction and 10(j)....”*
- Capitalize the “P” in LTP Category “Planning”
- Recovery Plan priorities should be 2(M), 3(M);
- Recovery plan elements should be 2.1.4(M), and 1.1.1(F); delete 2.1.1(M)
- Correct the project title “HR effectiveness Monitoring” to “Monitor Habitat Projects” in the tables;
- Under benefits, add: “trends in habitat available *to benefit the species and ...*”;
- ESA compliance, add “*Supports*” to 2003 RPA element S”;
- The activity summary was approved with the above changes.
- *Activity: Develop and Implement Program-wide System Monitoring and Trend analysis for Adaptive Management*
 - This activity used to be an HRW summary but is more accurately a ScW activity. The ScW has not had a chance to previously review this summary and it is expected that science members will want to make some changes. The CC postponed review of this summary until ScW has had an opportunity to revise it as needed.
- *Activity: Identify any data gaps critical to future 10(j) RGSM reintroduction efforts and determine future project needs to effectively obtain this information and data.*
 - This activity was approved with the following changes:
 - Omit “...to effectively obtain this information and data” from the title; and change to “Identify information gaps critical...” instead of “Identify any data gaps critical...”
 - Change LTP section to: 7.4.A.6; with consensus agreement, the CC instructed all 10(j)/reintroduction activities be categorized under LTP category 7.4.A.6.

- Due to expressed concern, the phrase “outside the Middle Rio Grande” in the first sentence of the description was omitted. It is understood that by definition 10(j) activities are separate from the existing populations.
- Change the phrase: “It *should* (*not may*) also include investigations into water delivery, water diversion, and other resource management.”
- In last sentence of the description, delete “through contracted efforts.”
- The CC discussed “investigation” in terms of identifying needs or assessing needs and the opinion that “investigating” implies a project in and of itself. The word “investigate” will be changed to “assess” throughout the description. “This may require, but will not be limited to, *assessments* of ecological...”;
- In benefits section, reword to “Activity will identify information that is essential to increase likelihood of successful RGSM reintroduction and recovery efforts.”
- Delete 4.0(M) from Recovery Plan element;
- Activity approved with above changes;
- *Activity: Conduct RGSM monitoring 10(j) reintroduction site*
 - This activity summary was approved with the following changes:
 - In description add “Future efforts will require more monitoring points within the river reach than just at the release points to obtain sufficient data for effectively analyzing ...recruitment and progress toward achieving a self-sustaining population.”
 - In the description, delete “Based on Big Bend experience, this monitoring effort is anticipated to be more labor and cost intensive.” As a new last sentence in description, add: “The new reinstruction plan will be developed based on experience gained from the Big Bend effort.”
- *Activity: Conduct necessary activities to support future 10(j) population reintroductions*
 - The CC revisited the discussions and concerns pertaining to the formation of the planning “team.” The planning team will only be providing suggestions, opinions, and preferences to the Service but the decisions are ultimately the Service’s. It was suggested that the phrase “team members will also help in identifying where significant gaps remain in data or information that will be crucial to this decision process and reintroduction implementation” be repeated in the “*identifying information gaps*” summary.
 - This activity was approved with the following changes:
 - Unbold “conduct” in title; and change title to “...to support *process* for future 10(j)...”;
 - In the description, delete the first sentence “after identifying habitat needs, management activities, and any major hurdles to future RGSM reintroduction efforts” ...and open with “The reintroduction biologist will...”

- Correct the sequence of river identification by spelling out “Rio Grande” and “Pecos Rivers” above in the first reference and then phrasing as “both targeted rivers” below.
- Add space to “decisionmaking”;
- In table, correct title “ID hab needs, hurdles, mgmt needs” to “ID information critical to future 10(j) RGSM reintro efforts”;
- After “NEPA” add “compliance including...public scoping”, then delete “by NEPA regulations”
- In table, change completed date to “2011 (*concurrently*)”
- *Activity: Reintroduce new RGSM 10(j) population*
 - This activity was approved with the following changes:
 - Unbold “Reintroduce” in the title and first sentence;
 - Unbold “US” in “USFWS” in implementing agency;
 - Unbold NA in ESA compliance;
 - LTP Category is “population management” (delete minnow);
 - Correct LTP categories to 7.4.A.6 in all 10(j) references and in all tables containing 10(j) project references.
- *Activity: Optimize survivorship of RGSM during transportation and stocking...*
 - This activity was approved with the following changes:
 - Correct LTP section to 7.4.A.6;
 - The CC discussed the timing of this project duration and the concern that the activity summary has a start date of 2013 but it make more sense to start next year (2011) to be able to use information from the Big Bend augmentation next year. The CC changed the start date to 2012.
 - Change funding source to “MRGCP and others”
 - Omit “G” from IA in Caldwell’s study reference;
 - The CC discussed the current work on minnow stressors during transport. Some members expressed concerns that \$25,000 is high even though the amount was taken out of the recovery plan. Some attendees think that 2 years should be sufficient for this study.
- **History of 10(j)/reintroduction position:** The CC briefly discussed the 10(j)/reintroduction position history document that contains excerpts capturing previous conversations from previous meeting notes. It was an EC action from the July 15th meeting where an some EC members expressed concern that the original intent of the 10(j)/reintroduction position was to focus specifically on the Midd Rio Grande. The EC will be provided with this discussions history document and responsibilities portions of the Interagency Agreement (IA) between Reclamation and the Service in order to make an informed decision regarding this position.
 - The CC also briefly discussed the agenda for the upcoming EC meeting. There will be an update on the SADD Fish Passage peer review including a proposed list of panelists with their qualifications. The “approval” of the review panelists is not on the EC agenda as a

decision item – it is informational. Jericho Lewis will be the formal decision maker based on input and feedback from the EC. Based on preliminary reviews, it is assumed that all 5 reviewer slots will be needed although these exact 5 may or may not be the ones selected.

- **RGSM 5-yr Status Review Submittals** – *postponed indefinitely pending the Service’s review process, expected completed by September 2011*
- **Expenditure Reports – 3d Quarter 2010 - postponed**
- **Path Forward for EC briefing (CC report)** – The CC discussed the lack of quorum at recent CC meetings. The CC has been hampered from making decisions, recommendations, and consensus at several meetings due to lack of quorum. The Program Manager raised this issue (via email) with Program signatories. The concerns over lack of quorum include: (1) the CC, as the “nuts and bolts” of the Program, doesn’t have a representative cross section of signatory participation; 2) unrepresented EC signatories could be caught “off guard” or “surprised” at the EC meetings resulting in delay; and 3) the CC needs to have a quorum to order to make decisions, recommendations, and arrive at consensus.
 - For the CC report out to the EC, it was recommended that the CC chair brief on the CC activities, issues, progress, and updates and then invite other CC members, as representatives for their agency, to add to the discussion on the concern about lack of quorum.
 - The written updates to the EC (read aheads) will be combined into a single document. It was agreed that the 10(j)/reintroduction monthly reports could be verbally presented by Lori Robertson as part of her biology update to the EC.

**Coordination Committee
25 August 2010 Meeting Attendees**

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