

# Executive Committee Meeting

## *September 20, 2011*

### Meeting Materials:

Meeting Agenda

Meeting Minutes

Coordination Committee and Program Manager Update

Biology Update

Joint Tamarisk Beetle Presentation Summary



**Middle Rio Grande Endangered Species  
Collaborative Program  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
MEETING AGENDA  
September 20, 2011  
9:00 am – 12:30 pm**

**LOCATION:** Bureau of Reclamation, 555 Broadway Blvd NE, Albuquerque, NM

- 1. INTRODUCTIONS AND REVIEW OF PROPOSED AGENDA\*** *5 minutes*
- 2. APPROVAL OF AUGUST 18, 2011 MEETING SUMMARY AND ACTION ITEMS\*** *10 minutes*
- 3. UPDATE ON END OF FISCAL YEAR FUNDS & FY2012 FORECAST** *10 minutes*
- 4. *DECISIONS* – NOVEMBER 3, 2011 ALL DAY EC SESSION** *45 minutes*
  - A. Review, Discuss, Approve Draft Agenda\***
  - B. Additional Topics? What do you want answered?**
  - C. Approve Times (propose 9:00 am to 4:00 pm with coffee available @ 8:30 am)**
  - D. San Juan River RIP participants**
    - a. David Campbell**
    - b. Tom Pitts**
    - c. Tribal Representative**
    - d. Others?**
  - E. Lunch from Jason's Deli (order on-line)**
- 5. UPDATE ON EPA WATERSHED-BASED MS4 PILOT PROJECT** *10 minutes*

*(Y. McKenna)*
- 6. UPDATE ON RECLAMATION DRAFT BIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT** *20 minutes*

*(L. Towne/J. Wilber)*

  - A. Comment period extended until October 3, 2011**
- BREAK***
- 7. HYDROLOGY UPDATE** *(M. Hamman)* *15 minutes*
- 8. MRGCD UPDATE ON LATE IRRIGATION SEASON OPERATIONS** *15 minutes*

*(S. Shah)*
- 9. USACE UPDATE** *15 minutes*
- 10. USFWS and BIOLOGY UPDATE\*** *(L. Robertson)* *15 minutes*
- 11. UPDATE ON WATER QUALITY TEST RESULTS** *20 minutes*

*(Any entity with information or results)*

**Members**

ABCWUA  
ISC  
NMDA  
Sandia Pueblo  
UNM

APA  
Isleta Pueblo  
NMGF  
Santa Ana Pueblo  
USACE

CABQ  
NMAGO  
MRGCD  
Santo Domingo Tribe  
USFWS  
Reclamation

**12. COORDINATION COMMITTEE/PROGRAM MANAGER REPORT\***

*15 minutes*

*(B. Wyman, Y. McKenna)*

- A. Adaptive Management Plan Update**
- B. Long Term Plan Update**
- C. Contract Updates and End of Year Funds *(J. Lewis)***
- D. Workgroup Updates**

**13. OTHER BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. Collaborative Program 10th Anniversary Technical Sessions/Open House\*  
October 21-22, 2011 @ Rio Grande Nature Center**

**14. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**15. NEXT SCHEDULED EC MEETING – NOVEMBER 3, 2011 @ USACE FROM 9:00 am to 4:00 pm (coffee and treats available at 8:30 am)**

**PROPOSE EC MEETING DATE IN DECEMBER -**

*\*Denotes read ahead material provided for this topic*

**Middle Rio Grande Endangered Species Collaborative Program**  
**Executive Committee Meeting**  
**September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011 9:00 am to 1:00 pm**  
**Bureau of Reclamation, Albuquerque Area Office**  
**555 Broadway Blvd. NE**  
**Albuquerque, NM 87102**

**Actions:**

- Yvette McKenna will scan the EPA Watershed-Based MS4 Pilot Project meeting documents; these will be made available to executive committee members.
- Yvette McKenna will develop and email the revised November EC agenda.
- Susan Bittick will confirm that a meeting room at the Corps will be available on November 4<sup>th</sup> (for the meeting continuation).
- Yvette McKenna will confirm that Reese Fullerton will be available on November 4<sup>th</sup> (for the meeting continuation).

**Decisions:**

- The August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011 meeting summary was approved with no changes.
- The EC agreed to schedule Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup> as a ½ day continuation to the November 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

**Requests/Recommendations:**

- The EC agreed that the habitat restoration projects should be considered the priority for end-of-year funding. If HR projects are negotiated in time and an additional \$130,000 to \$150,000 is found, then the \$120,000 will be combined and applied to another HR project. If not, the EC was supportive that the \$120,000 be allocated to the DBMS project instead.
- The EC requested that all pertinent document and discussion points be provided in writing weeks in advance of the November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> meeting in order to be sufficiently prepared for efficient discussions.
  - Previously provided documents could include: (1) a Q/A; (2) draft cooperative agreement; and (3) a sample recovery agreement.
  - Not previously provided documents could include: (1) a timeline (and order) for when things need to be in place for the 2013 deadline; and (2) the Service's internal statistical review of the recovery criteria report done by SWCA;
  - Please let Yvette McKenna know of any other expected or missing documents to be included as read aheads for the November meeting.
- It was recommended that the November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> agenda be completely reorganized to include:
  - November 3<sup>rd</sup> (all day):
    - 1. Regular Business – approval of September meeting notes; action item review; updates; etc. (<1 hour)
    - 2. Foundation Articulation – restate the Taos decisions (ratified in September 2010); the associated goals and objectives; (1 hour)
    - 3. Articulate the Desired Outcomes for the meeting; (1 hour)
    - Break for Lunch
    - 4. Recovery Plan Criteria discussions – identification of agreements and areas of disagreements; (remainder of the afternoon; 4 hours)

November 4<sup>th</sup> (1/2 day):

- 1. Service's "must-haves" versus the "would like to have" including the rationales behind for each in order for the Program to understand the boundaries and where the flexibilities are; (1 hour)
- 2. Strategic Planning – articulate the strategy options and issues; (remainder of the morning)
- Other suggestions included: limiting the amount of presentations if any; covering the historical and foundational background information within 1 hour; spend the majority of the time discussing the recovery criteria and strategies; and to have the San Juan participants available in an advisory capacity only and to answer questions as they arise.
- The EC agreed that attendance at the November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> meeting should be as broad as signatories need. Primary and alternate representatives are encouraged to bring their own staff and experts and anyone else who might be beneficial in addressing strategies and making informed decisions.

**Notifications:**

- The EC was notified that there may be additional funding opportunities between now and the end of the fiscal year (September 30<sup>th</sup>). If additional funds become available, Reclamation will send email notifications to the EC for comment and feedback. Reclamation will then proceed based on responses.
- It was shared that the federal government is expected to remain in continuing resolution through November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011. This means that spending cannot exceed FY11 first quarter amounts.

**Announcements:**

- Updated water quality information from Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) can be accessed through their website: <http://racernm.com>
- The Indian Pueblo Cultural Center is working on variety of initiatives, specifically a water forum. Any pueblo individuals (be they agency staff associated with pueblo work) might be appropriate to participate in the discussions on the river history, water policy, etc. Please contact Frank Chavez if your agency would like to recommended staff to participate in the October and November discussions.
- Reclamation's Commissioner (Mike Connor) and Regional Director will be in Albuquerque later this week. Secretary Salazar will be in Albuquerque September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

**Upcoming Meetings:**

- PVA Meeting - September 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>;
- CC Regular Meeting - October 5<sup>th</sup> from 12:30pm to 4:00pm
- Collaborative Program 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: Technical Sessions and Open House – October 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>
- CC All-day LTP Working Meeting – October 26<sup>th</sup>

**Next EC Meeting:**

- **November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011:** Focused discussion on details of Program becoming a recovery program or a RIP;
- **Future Agenda Items:** EPA Watershed-Based MS4 Pilot Project web presentation (webinar) at some future meeting;

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Executive Committee Meeting  
September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011 9:00 am to 1:00 pm  
Bureau of Reclamation, Albuquerque Area Office  
555 Broadway Blvd. NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87102**

**September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011 Meeting Summary**

**Introductions and Review of Proposed Agenda:** Brent Rhees brought the meeting to order and introductions were made. A quorum was confirmed. The agenda was approved with no changes. Mike Hamman briefly described safety and emergency evacuation plans for the Rio Grande Conference room.

**Approval of August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011 Meeting Summary:** It was explained that Reclamation and the Service as well as others have all provided corrections and edits. The revised notes were then provided as a read ahead for approval. As the Program Manager, Yvette tries to represent all 16 signatories fairly when she completes her review of the draft summaries. The August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011 meeting summary was approved with no changes.

**Action Item Review:**

- ✓ Yvette McKenna will coordinate with contacts at the EPA to arrange for the Watershed Based MS4 Pilot Project to be presented in person at the September EC meeting. – *complete;*
  - While an in-person presentation would be preferred, the rescheduling of today's EC meeting preventing the EPA from participating. The executives were encouraged to consider a web-based meeting or webinar as the EPA will be constricted on travel in the next fiscal year.
- ✓ Yvette McKenna will develop an agenda for the EC full-day November meeting. – *complete;*
  - The draft agenda for the November EC meeting will be reviewed later in today's meeting.
- ✓ In preparation for the EC full-day November meeting, Susan Bittick will verify that a room at the Corps is available and Yvette McKenna will verify that Reese Fullerton will be available to facilitate. – *complete;*
  - A conference room at the Corps has been reserved and Reese Fullerton will facilitate.
- ✓ Ali Saenz will upload copies of the Interim Water Resources Committee presentations to the Program's website. – *complete;*
  - It was explained that instead of posting the actual documents, a link as been provided in the August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011 meeting read aheads.

**Update on End of Fiscal Year Funds and FY12 Forecast:** It was shared that additional end-of-year funds have become available. To date, approximately \$700,000 in additional funds have been allocated toward habitat restoration projects. There is approximately \$120,000 that remains. Reclamation is proposing to allocate the \$120,000 to the DBMS project to cover a system administrator for next year. The CC has already approved \$80,000 toward the system

administrator, but this total would be increased to \$200,000. In the first year, the system administrator will oversee continuing to populate the database including tagging key works, updating the GIS system(s), developing templates to track who supplied which reports and documents, etc. This work will be labor intensive (ex. dealing with the metadata) and will have products and deliverables making the work technical in nature. This means that the additional funds would be subject to cost share.

- The funds will be obligated through the IA with the Corps to secure a D.B. Stephens employee through their existing ID/IQ. The CC recommended utilizing D.B. Stephens' staff in the system administrator position at the beginning. As the database gets more established and there is increased comfort using and maintaining it, then the administrative tasks could be transferred to the PMT or administrative assistant. Administrative tasks would not be subject to cost share. Unfortunately, "administrative" tasks cannot really be defined until the database is actually up and running.
- After discussing options, the executives requested that habitat restoration projects be considered the priority for end-of-year funding. If HR projects are negotiated in time and an additional \$130,000 to \$150,000 is found, then the \$120,000 will be combined and applied to another HR project. If not, the EC was supportive that the \$120,000 be allocated to the DBMS project instead.
- Some members suggested that projects should be readied in anticipation of end-of-year funding every year so that the money can be put toward the best option.
- It was shared that the federal government is expected to remain in continuing resolution through November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011. This means that spending cannot exceed FY11 first quarter amounts. However, if necessary, waivers on spending limits can be pursued if there is significant justification (ex. species issues).
- **November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011 All-day EC Session:** Attendees reviewed and discussed the proposed draft agenda for the November 3<sup>rd</sup> EC meeting. Concern was expressed that the Program keeps going "back and forth" about the August 2009 Taos decisions. Some members wanted to have a foundational review of the Taos decisions that were ratified in September 2010 as well as the associated goals and objectives. Others suggested that presentations be limited in order to have sufficient time to actual discuss the "hard" topics.
  - Some members then suggested that discussion also focus on the "strategy" level. The goals and objectives are much clearer – it is the strategy options that need to be confirmed and agreed upon.
  - The Service requested some time at the beginning of the meeting to provide introductory remarks about their perspective of what a recovery implementation program could look like for the MRG. This time could be used to clarify the Service's point of view, articulate the "must haves", and point out where the flexibilities are.
  - After some brief discussion, the EC agreed that the San Juan Program participants should be available at the November meeting to provide advice and/or feedback as needed.
  - Some members requested that all pertinent document and discussion points be provided in writing weeks in advance of the November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> meeting in order to be sufficiently prepared for efficient discussions.
    - Previously provided documents could include: (1) a Q/A; (2) draft cooperative agreement; and (3) a sample recovery agreement.
    - Not previously provided documents could include: (1) a timeline (and order) for when things need to be in place for the 2013 deadline; and (2)

the Service's internal statistical review of the recovery criteria report done by SWCA.

- Attendees briefly discussed the unique situation that the Program faces in the MRG with the lack of funding and water. It was considered to attempt to find others who might have experience with similar situations (such as climate folks or Bay Delta).
- It was then suggested that the agenda include time to discuss the recovery plan and recovery plan criteria. The areas of agreement and disagreement regarding the recovery criteria need to be clearly identified and discussed. This concern is also tied to the need to understand what the Service's "must haves" are versus any "would like to have." The flexibilities as well as the Service's expectations need to be articulated and understood in order for the Program to be successful in recovery efforts. Because the absolutes and the flexibilities need to be understood in order to discuss options, it was suggested that this discussion take place on November 3<sup>rd</sup>.
  - Concerns were expressed by some members that just meeting the recovery criteria requirements for the specified sites (within 100 yards of the 20 sites) will never result in species recovery. The initial "knee-jerk" response is then "why bother." This highlights one area of disagreement – that it is believed by some that the existing recovery criteria cannot be successfully met/implemented. Other members shared the perspective that those who question the existing criteria are viewing the criteria as "too hard" so they want the requirements "softened." In response, some members explained that it is not because the criterion is too difficult but that nothing we do will ever be enough to make a significant difference. ISC was amiable to having the SWCA report peer reviewed. In response, it was shared that the Service has completed an internal analysis already.
- After discussing the agenda, the executives decided to continue the meeting for ½ day on Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup> in order to ensure enough time for all the necessary discussions.
- The EC agreed that attendance at the November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> meeting should be as broad as signatories need. Primary and alternate representatives are encouraged to bring their own staff and experts and anyone else who might be beneficial in addressing strategies and making informed decisions.

**Update on EPA Watershed-Based MS4 Pilot Project:** Stakeholders in the EPA's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) pilot project met on Friday. The group is just getting to the point of being able to coalesce the work done to date. The documents from their meeting will be scanned and made available to the executives. Yvette McKenna, the Program Manager has been and will continue communicating with EPA representatives. She has been added to the email distribution list. Updates will be provided to the EC when available. A biologic evaluation is expected to be prepared for the Service some time next summer. Reviews and open comment opportunities would be up to the Service's discretion. Due to restricted travel in FY2012, the EC was asked to consider web-based meeting opportunity.

- An EPA presentation or webinar will be considered for a future meeting.
- *NOTE: the documents from the meeting have been posted on the Program's website in the read aheads for this meeting.*

**Update on Reclamation's Draft Biological Assessment:** The comment period on Reclamation's Draft BA has been extended to close of business on Monday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>. If at all possible, please submit any comments as early as possible in order to help avoid a potential backlog from

all comments being received at the same time. Submittal of the BA to the Service has been delayed as a result of the extended comment period. If there are questions or concerns, Reclamation is available to meet upon request.

**Hydrology Update:** *Please see the storage handout for additional details.* Compared to last year, more San Juan/Chama water has actually been stored this year to date in Heron (due to small amounts diverted in rain events during late summer). Activities (diversions) are being shut down in order to begin the winter dredging. Total storage in El Vado is approximately 94,000 ac-ft with just over 19,327 ac-ft for emergency drought water for the minnow and 15,853 ac-ft for Prior & Paramount. MRGCD will be taking 20,900 ac-ft by the end of the calendar year in order to increase to 70,000 ac-ft for storage for next year. Natural inflow is around 50 cfs and the current release is 600.

- Attendees were briefly updated on the ash issues in Santa Fe. While the laboratory results are not back yet, the initial sampling did not indicate elevated levels. While the water can be treated, the solids created in the process cannot be dewatered which adds to the process times and cost.

**MRGCD Update on Late Irrigation Season Operations:** No San Juan/Chama water has been taken since the system was closed on September 15<sup>th</sup>. MRGCD would like to save as much water as possible before next year so the flow is being managed to accomplish that goal. In order to help meeting the flow demand at Central, the District is working with Reclamation and leaving some water in the river. Determining the losses will be important and the District would like to pursue coverage with Reclamation. Currently the losses are around 150 cfs but the final results are not available yet. The recent rain events mean that not need as much water has been needed. MRGCD would also like to have the option to go back and take water if needed. Currently there is no plan on taking or increasing but it may be needed for a “last season water” for farmers. Overall, the District believes the current management has been working well but the losses need to be discussed and resolved. If ABCWUA begins to take water, that could also impact MRGCD and result in the need to take more. There is plenty of water from the Rio Puerco right now, but if it drops off that may be another reason that MRGCD would need to do a block.

**USACE Update:** The Corps is still on-target to submit their BA to the Service in early October. Last month, the EC was updated that Cochiti had reopened to the public but the San Clarita Canyon event occurred 3 days later. Fall out from that event into the river was over 100 tons of debris that made its way into Cochiti Lake. The San Francisco Bay debris removal team spent 2 weeks on clean up. The clean up was successful and normal operations were resumed. The water quality sampling results are not back from the laboratory yet. Cochiti Pueblo, in partnership with the Corps, has concluded their baseline study. The study is in the pueblo’s possession to share at their discretion.

- The pueblo will be given the first opportunity to claim the debris (logs). The Corps will have to plan how to get any remaining debris off the project site.
- The Middle Rio Grande Bosque Restoration project was awarded to a contractor at \$13.73 million. This is a huge victory for all the parties involved.

**USFWS and Biology Update:** *Please see handout for additional details.* The data table has been updated to include the July 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> sample dates. Minnow were present at 12 of 20 sites. And the overall CPUE is 3.4. Attendees were referred to the plot on page 3 of the handout that has more detail on the last year and a half. Recent data indicate that minnow density has decreased to levels below those measured in 2001 and 2004 but not as low as those measured in 2002 and 2003.

- It was commented that that observation is interesting considering there was better runoff in those years compared to this year. There was brief discussion on possible theories or

- reasons – one being that runoff overbanked and receded too quickly. There was no real overbanking this year while in 2001 there was a 5,000 cfs spike. Also, there was a lot of augmentation last November and about ¼ of fish recovered were marked.
- In an update on rescue operations, it was shared that a total of 37.5 unique miles dried through August 31<sup>st</sup>. A total of 7,532 fish were salvaged, transported, and released. There have been a total of 108 mortalities identified as incidental take.
  - In an update on the biology position, it was shared that Mark Brennan is continuing outreach efforts with the 10j planning work group and coordinating with them. He is also helping to update the database for reintroduction planning work. He assisted with the consultation (in a limited way) and wrote the minnow status section. Mark also continues to participate in the technical work groups.
  - In the flycatcher update, it was shared that comments on proposed Designation of Critical Habitat rule are due on or before October 14<sup>th</sup>. A NEPA analysis and economic analysis will be done. When the drafts are ready, there will be another 30 day public comment period.

**Update on Water Quality Test Results:** As noted throughout today's discussion, laboratory results are not available yet. However, the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) storm water and water quality data can be accessed through their website: <http://racernm.com>. There is information on locations; however, all the tribes are out of LANL facility areas. There are some elevation summaries. It was briefly mentioned that cyanide was supposedly not used as fire retardant this year. Any cyanide levels are purportedly due to remnants from years ago.

**Coordination Committee/Program manager Report:**

- *For additional details, please refer to the Coordination Committee/Program Manager handout that was provided as a read ahead.*
- *Work Group Updates:* The technical work groups (ScW and HR) are meeting today; updates will be available at the next EC meeting.
- *Long-term Plan Updates:* The CC is still reviewing the revised draft LTP. They will have a regular meeting on October 5<sup>th</sup> and then an all-day working meeting on October 26<sup>th</sup>. This meeting will be focused on the LTP and incorporating changes to the narrative.
- *PMT Update:* Michelle Mann (USACE) is transition into the PMT to replace Monika Sanchez. The PMT and PIO work group are working on the 10-year Program Anniversary and Open House event. Friday, October 21<sup>st</sup> is the technical sessions for work group members, executives, and any interested public. The work groups have already heard these presentations and recognized the value of the information. Presentation topics include: (1) RGSM genetics; (2) RGSM fish health; (3) age & growth; (4) SAR issues and recent results (working lunch session); (5) Contracting Process refresher; (6) Evolution of Habitat Restoration; (7) Database Management System; and (8) Groundwater/Surface Water Interaction project. The executives have cancelled the October meeting in order to be able to attend these technical presentations. Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> is the Open House with events and activities for the public (families and kids).

**Other Business/Announcements:**

- The Indian Pueblo Cultural Center is working on variety of initiatives, specifically a water forum. Any pueblo individuals (be they agency staff associated with pueblo work) might be appropriate to participate in the discussions on the river history, water policy, etc. Please contact Frank Chavez if your agency would like to recommended staff to participate in the October and November discussions.
- Reclamation's Commissioner (Mike Connor) and Regional Director will be in Albuquerque later this week. Secretary Salazar will be in Albuquerque September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

- Attendees were briefly updated that the River Restoration Conference was well attended. The speeches were inspiring and the future direction of Reclamation is positive. The Utton Center website has been updated to include the powerpoint presentations, list of attendees and other items. Papers related to the topics addressed by the academic speakers are on the website under conference materials at the following link:  
<http://uttoncenter.unm.edu/projects/river-restoration.php>

**Public Comment:** There was no public comment.

**NEXT SCHEDULED EC MEETING – NOVEMBER 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011 @ USACE**

- Thursday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> from 8:30am to 4:00pm** – coffee and treats available at 8:30am; lunch will be from Jason's Deli. A box menu will be provided to executives to order food. Please forward the menu to any additional staff who will be attending.
- Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup> from 8:30am to 12:00pm**

**Executive Committee Meeting Attendees  
September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm**

Attendees:

<i>Representative</i>	<i>Organization</i>	<i>Seat</i>
Rolf Schmidt-Peterson (A)	NM Interstate Stream Commission	ISC
Janet Bair (A)	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	USFWS
Ann Moore (A)	NM Attorney General's Office	NMAGO
Subhas Shah (P)	Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District	MRGCD
Matt Schmader (P)	City of Albuquerque	COA
LTC. Jason Williams (P)	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	USACE
Rick Billings (A)	Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority	ABCWUA
Brent Rhees (P)	U.S. Bureau of Reclamation	BOR
Matt Wunder (A)	NM Department of Game and Fish	NMDGF
Janet Jarret (P)	Assessment Payers of the MRGCD	APA of the MRGCD
Frank Chavez	Pueblo of Sandia	Sandia

*Others*

Yvette McKenna – PM	U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Mike Hamman	U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Terina Perez	U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Jim Wilber	U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Jennifer Faler	U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Ali Saenz	U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Jericho Lewis	U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Christopher Shaw	NM Interstate Stream Commission
Grace Haggerty	NM Interstate Stream Commission
Chris Shaffer	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Susan Bittick	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Rick Carpenter	City of Santa Fe/BDD
Lori Robertson	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Ralph Monfort	University of New Mexico
Marta Wood	Tetra Tech

**Coordination Committee and Program Manager Update  
Middle Rio Grande Endangered Species Collaborative Program  
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September 20, 2011**

**Adaptive Management**

The Final Draft **Adaptive Management** (AM) Plan [version 1 (v1)] will be delivered to the Program by October 31, 2011.

**Coordination Committee**

The CC met on September 7, discussed the **revised draft Long Term Plan (LTP)**, and agreed that comments/edits on the LTP text will be due to Yvette McKenna (with cc to Ali Saenz) by COB October 14 in order to be incorporated for review at the October 26 CC meeting. Reclamation agreed to explore whether a contractor could work on a proposed Program Biological Assessment (BA) for streamlining Endangered Species Act (ESA) compliance for habitat restoration projects is feasible. Work is still being completed on drafting text describing the peer review process for the CC to review for inclusion in the *Peer Review Process* document. The CC requested that the Science Workgroup (ScW) take the lead on synthesis of data/literature and use the ISC's submittal for the 5-year minnow review and the existing LTP categories to develop a plan for the synthesis of literature/data, which ScW will further discuss at their September 20 meeting. The CC also requested that the ScW and Habitat Restoration Workgroup (HRW) work to modify the ScW activity *Better understand fish movement (Rio Grande Silvery Minnow [RGSM] longitudinal movement)* to include research of minnow movement below San Acacia Diversion Dam (SADD) and other diversion structures during the critical low flow summer months. The CC also discussed budgetary needs for the synthesis of RGSM data, the revised draft LTP, and the targeted RGSM study.

The next CC meeting will be on October 5 where they will review the ScW outline for approach to data synthesis and continue to discuss the FY2012 Work Plan. The CC also agreed to meet on October 26 for an all day working meeting to review the incorporated changes to the narrative of the revised draft LTP and review draft future activities in the context of the revised draft LTP.

**Program Management Team**

The PMT had their respective workgroups review the future activities for the revised draft LTP and provided a revised draft LTP to the CC for review on September 7. Yvette and Ali will revise the draft LTP and the CC will review it again on October 26. The goal is to have the revised draft LTP ready by the November Executive Committee (EC) meeting.

The PMT researched the components of other Recovery Implementation and Adaptive Management Program structures and that information has been shared with the Consultation Team. The PMT has also started to consider how the existing Program workgroups can be restructured for maximum effectiveness. PMT members are reviewing their ad hoc workgroup charters, current work plans, and schedules to best determine whether objectives have been met and the timeframe for completion, and to generate ideas and facilitate the development of an alternate Program organization to maximize effectiveness.

The PMT and the Public Information and Outreach (PIO) Workgroup are coordinating the technical sessions for the upcoming 10-year Collaborative Program Anniversary on October 21, and an Open House on October 22 at the Rio Grande Nature Center (RGNC). A tentative list of presentations is offered below:

10-year Collaborative Program Anniversary – Technical Sessions – Friday, October 21, 2011			
Start time	End time	Presentation title	Presenter
9:00am	9:15am	Welcome	EC or CC rep/PMT/PIO
9:15am	10:00am	RGSM Genetics	Megan Osborne
10:00am	10:45am	RGSM Fish Health	Joel Lusk
10:45am	11:30am	Age & Growth	Steve Platania
11:30	12:30pm	lunch/SAR issues & recent results	Gina DelloRusso
12:30pm	1:15pm	Contracting Process	Jericho Lewis
1:15pm	2:00pm	The Evolution of Habitat Restoration	Rick Billings
2:15pm	2:30pm	Break / Press Conference	Mary Carlson
2:30pm	3:15pm	DBMS	Kenny Calhoun
3:15pm	4:00pm	Ground Water/Surface Water Interaction	USGS
4:00pm		Thank you	EC or CC rep/PMT/PIO

The PMT will also begin working on the FY2010 and FY2011 annual report. This report will include information on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) funds and activities, and contracting officer's technical representatives (COTRs).

PMT liaison support for workgroups is as follows: Monika (Mann) Sanchez for the Database Monitoring System (DBMS) ad hoc workgroup and the HRW; Stacey Kopitsch for the ScW, Population Viability Assessment (PVA)/Biology and Monitoring Plan Team (MPT) ad hoc workgroups; Terina Perez for the Species Water Management (SWM) Workgroup, the Population Habitat Viability Assessment (PHVA)/Hydrology and the San Acacia Reach (SAR) ad hoc workgroups; and Ali Saenz for the PIO Workgroup. We are pleased to announce the addition of Michelle Mann, USACE, who is transitioning into a PMT liaison role as Monika will be starting a new job as a USACE Project Manager in April 2012.

Jericho Lewis continues to assist with Albuquerque Area Office (AAO) obligations, end of FY acquisitions, and training new staff members. Diana Herrera continues to work on: Program cost share updates, expenditure reports, water leasing obligations, and FY2012, FY2013, and FY2014 Program budgets. Chip Martin, Edward McCorkindale, and Lisa Freitas, GenQuest, and Christine Sanchez and Marta Wood, Tetra Tech, continue to assist the Program in the annual report preparation, and meeting support and summaries.

### **Habitat Restoration Workgroup**

The HRW will meet on September 20 where a presentation will be given for Santa Ana's Grant for Monitoring. The HRW is also scheduled to receive an update from Santo Domingo and integrate the second draft of the SADD Fish Passage Statements. Ondrea Hummel will lead a discussion on the draft task list for HRW Planning. There will also be a discussion regarding the CC request from their August 3 meeting and a discussion regarding next steps for the San Acacia Analysis and Recommendations (A&R) Peer Review. Jerry Nieto is scheduled to provide information on the Middle Rio Grande (MRG) Bernalillo to Belen Flood Risk Management. The next HRW meeting is currently scheduled for October 18 at the New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission (ISC).

### **Science Workgroup**

The next regularly scheduled ScW meeting will be held September 20 at the ISC. There will be presentations from SWCA on the Gear Evaluation Study and from ISC on the Spawning Study. ScW will discuss how to proceed with the CC's request to develop a plan for the synthesis of literature/data, and will review of the revised

LTP activity summary "Better understand fish movement (longitudinal movement study)." The next ScW meeting is scheduled for October 18 at ISC.

#### **Monitoring Plan Team ad hoc Workgroup**

MPT will not be meeting as scheduled on September 20 as a Tamarisk Coalition Presentation is scheduled instead. The MPT workgroup members just completed vegetation monitoring for effectiveness monitoring at habitat restoration sites. The next MPT meeting will potentially be on October 18.

#### **Species Water Management Workgroup**

SWM Workgroup members attended the September 7 CC meeting and discussed the Interagency Agreement (IA) renewal with the USGS for the *GW/SW Interaction Study*. It is anticipated that an interim agreement with USGS may prevent a lapse in data collection, allow for completion of the overdue deliverables, and allow for transition of the project to a new contractor. Mike Hamman, Yvette McKenna and others will be participating in a conference call with USGS local management staff after the EC meeting on September 20 to discuss concerns with this and other projects.

#### **San Acacia Reach ad hoc Workgroup**

At the August 25 SAR meeting, attendees discussed last month's Floodplain Land Use Roundtable in Socorro. The roundtable discussion was well attended with several federal, state, and city representatives and local landowners in attendance. Some of the ideas discussed at the roundtable were to have more stringent permitting for ordinances on the active floodplain and to have community driven solutions, such as formation of an outreach group made up of community members. The roundtable was one step in pulling in local stakeholders' and others' perspectives to fill in gaps in the floodplain land use white paper. A follow up task to the roundtable will be to get greater county involvement in addressing land use on the floodplain and more oversight of floodplain development. Attendees were encouraged to meet with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Mapping Coordinator for the state of New Mexico to update FEMA of the issues and possible impacts to endangered species and socio/economics in the SAR.

The workgroup plans to amend the current Floodplain Encroachment Scope of Work (SOW) to add a socio/economic analysis to the *Floodplain Encroachment Project*. Because the Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge makes a large contribution to tourism in Socorro County and could be affected by development in the floodplain, it would be beneficial to find out if this increases community interest in floodplain land use.

The next regularly scheduled SAR meeting will be on September 22 from 12:30 - 3:30 pm at Reclamation, where tentative agenda items include a presentation of the USACE *Floodplain Encroachment Project*, the Floodplain Encroachment white paper, and the revised Floodplain Encroachment SOW for FY12. The workgroup is in need of a non-federal co-chair.

#### **Population Viability Analysis (PVA)/Biology ad hoc Workgroup**

The next PVA meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 29 (1:00 - 4:30 pm) and Friday, September 30 (8:30 am - 3:00 pm). Reclamation will attempt to justify a sole-source acquisition for the continuation of the RAMAS PVA model using past agreements provided by the Service.

#### **Population Habitat Viability Assessment (PHVA)/Hydrology ad hoc Workgroup**

The PHVA workgroup will schedule their next meeting as needed via email.

#### **Database Management System ad hoc Workgroup**

The DBMS workgroup continues to coordinate the Pilot DBMS training; the dates are September 21 from 1:00 – 5:00 pm and September 27 from 8:00 am – 12:00 pm with space still available for each session. The DBMS met September 12 where the draft DBMS Feedback Survey was reviewed and suggestions were given to Kelly Allen. There were no updates on the DBMS progress or issues but if anyone has additional staff that would like to sign up for one of the trainings, please contact Kelly Allen as soon as possible.

Kenny Calhoun, DB Stephens will be doing a presentation on the database during the Collaborative Program Open House Technical Sessions in October at the RGNC. The next DBMS meeting is currently scheduled for October 10 at USACE.

### **Public Information and Outreach Workgroup**

The PIO workgroup met on September 12. Details, schedules, and staff are being finalized for the Collaborative Program's 10th Anniversary Technical Workshop and Open House scheduled for Friday and Saturday, October 21 and 22, 2011 at the Rio Grande Nature Center State Park. Eight workshops have been identified by PMT and workgroups. The workshop sessions will be held in the new educational building on Friday, October 21 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm and are intended for Collaborative Program technical workgroup members and the public. The Open House will be held on Saturday, October 22 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm and will be geared toward individual and family education of the Collaborative Program and endangered species in the MRG. A variety of booths will be set up, and habitat restoration tours will be offered. Volunteers to staff the various booths and donations for prizes and giveaways are encouraged and much appreciated.

## Biology update for EC meeting – September 20, 2011

### I. SILVERY MINNOW

#### Silvery Minnow Population Monitoring

- Population monitoring conducted by American Southwest Ichthyological Researchers, LLC
- Recent data indicate that silvery minnow density has decreased to levels below those measured in 2001 and 2004 but not as low as those measured in 2002 and 2003.

Sample Date	Presence at sites	CPUE (ind/100 m <sup>2</sup> ) All Reaches	Angostura	Isleta	San Acacia	% VIE marked
Dec 1-3	17 of 20 sites	6.16	0.1	3.7	11.1	48.6%
Feb 10; Feb 14	16 of 20 sites	3.49	0.07	1.4	6.8	21.9%
April 4-6	14 of 20 sites	0.55	0.44	0.15	0.8	8.9%
May 4-6	11 of 20 sites	0.65	0.05	0.10	1.3	6.3%
June 1-2	9 of 20 sites	0.40	0.19	0.03	0.8	11.9%
July 13-14	12 of 20 sites	3.40	0.41	0.95	8.3	0.7%

- It is likely that recruitment success throughout the MRG will be low in 2011 given the poor spring runoff and low summer flows.

#### Rescue Operations

- This report is provisional data from the New Mexico FWCO for rescue and salvage operations conducted through August 31, 2011.
- FWCO has conducted rescue and salvage activities on 37.5 unique miles of the Rio Grande. Of this, 25.1 miles were salvaged in the San Acacia Reach between the south boundary of Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge and Socorro between June 25 and August 12, 2011. 12.4 unique miles of the Rio Grande in the Isleta Reach were salvaged between the Peralta wasteway to near Bosque Farms between July 9 and August 31, 2011.
- A total of 7,532 (4,833 San Acacia, 2,699 Isleta) Rio Grande silvery minnow > 30 mm SL (RGSM) were salvaged, transported, and released alive to a continuously flowing site of the Rio Grande within each reach salvaged. There have been 108 (108 San Acacia, 0 Isleta) RGSM identified as incidental take.
- Of the RGSM observed so far in 2011, 5.1% have been VIE marked, indicating that they are hatchery-released individuals.

#### Reintroduction/Cochiti reach biologist monthly work highlights

- Continued outreach efforts and development of section 10(j) NEP reintroduction site working group to contribute updated information on remaining river reaches.
- Continued updating reference database for RGSM reintroduction planning.
- Assisted in developing RGSM species status section of MRG water operations section 7 biological opinion: literature review and writing.

- Continued participation in ScW, HRW and DBMS working groups.

## II. SOUTHWESTERN WILLOW FLYCATCHER

- Salt cedar leaf beetle was detected in the Albuquerque reach near Tramway.
- Southwestern willow flycatcher protocol surveys were conducted by Reclamation. The following data are provided by Reclamation.
- Total numbers for this year were 397 territories: 120 lone male territories, 49 pairs, and 228 pairs with nests (and 282 nests found).
  - Bosque del Apache reach – 25 nesting pairs
  - San Marcial reach – 195 nesting pairs

### Designation of Revised Critical Habitat

- Proposed rule published in the Federal Register on August 15, 2011.
- In total, approximately 2,000 stream miles are being proposed for designation.
- Comments will be accepted on or before October 14, 2011:
  - (1) *Electronically*: Go to the Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>. In the Enter Keyword or ID box, enter Docket No. FWS-R2-ES-2011-0053; or
  - (2) *By hard copy*: Submit by U.S. mail or hand-delivery to: Public Comments Processing, Attn: FWS-R2-ES-2011-053; Division of Policy and Directives Management; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, MS 2042-PDM; Arlington, VA 22203.
- An economic analysis and a NEPA analysis will be conducted. When drafts are available another 30-day public comment period will be announced.

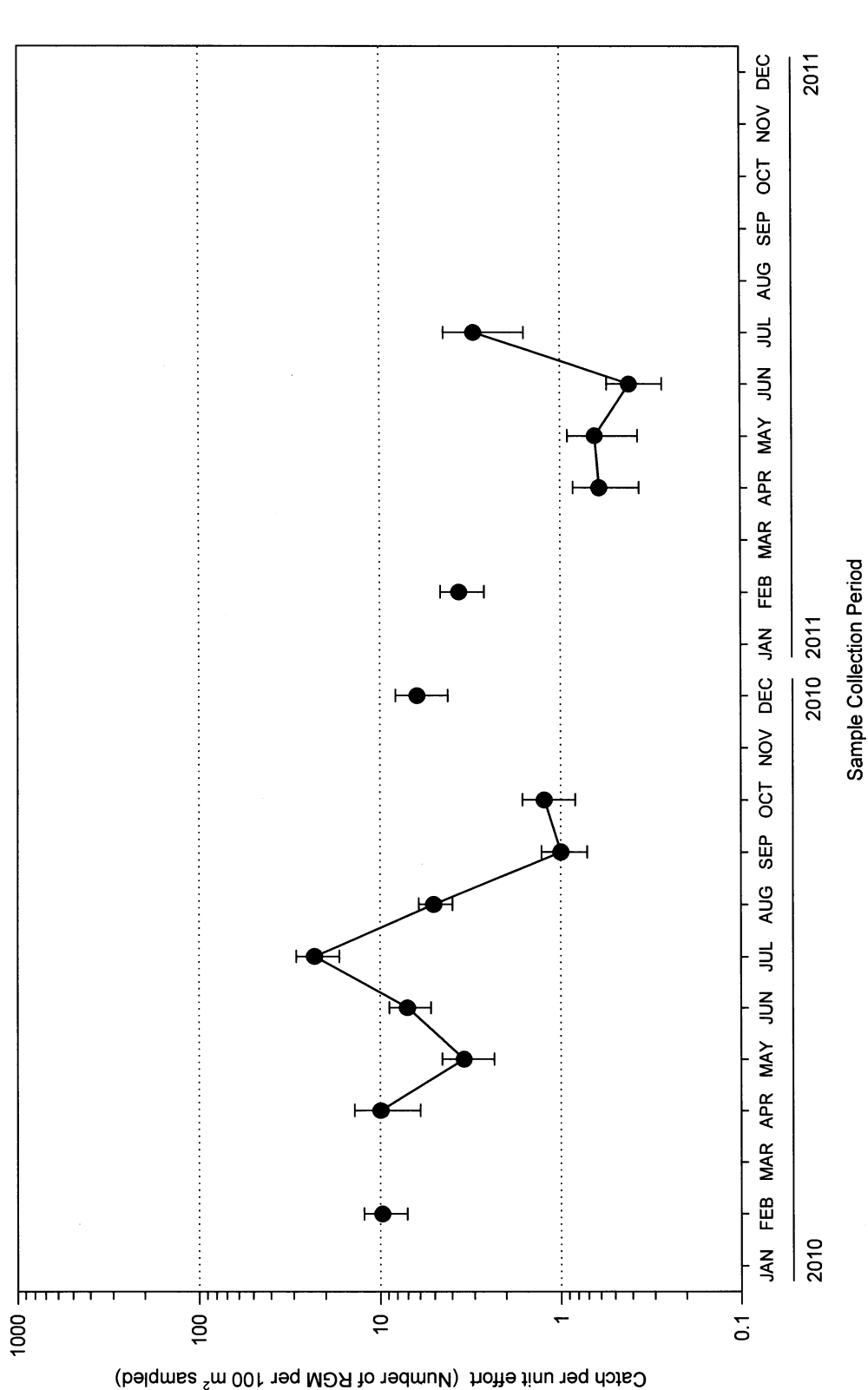


Figure 5. Monthly catch rates of Rio Grande silvery minnow during 2010 and 2011 at Rio Grande silvery minnow population monitoring program collection sites. Solid circles indicate monthly means (n=20 site per month) and capped-bars represent the standard error of the mean.

**Joint HRW/ScW/SWM Tamarisk Beetle Presentation**  
**September 20, 2011**  
**Interstate Stream Commission**

**Final Summary**

- In a joint work group meeting the ScW/HRW/SWM viewed a presentation from the Tamarisk Coalition (Coalition) on what is being done to monitor the salt cedar beetle in the Colorado Plateau.
- Tamarisk Leaf Beetle Expansion – Challenges and Opportunities for Habitat Improvement efforts.
  - The Coalition explained their monitoring protocol. Both river monitoring via raft or kayak and land (driving) surveys are completed for approximately each river mile. At each site they do five sets of five sweeps with a standard net. For each set the number of adults and early and late larvae present are counted. The percentage of defoliation and refoliations is also noted as is the types of vegetation that is present. Surveyors also note whether there are any eggs.
  - The Coalition has been doing beetle monitoring since 2007, starting at the release sites at Moab. Using maps for each year, the presenters were able to show just how fast the beetles were spreading and how quickly they get established. The beetle has traveled anywhere from 35 to 60 miles in a season.

New Mexico Department of Game & Fish then presented a history of the beetles and weevils and explained where the beetles were introduced into NM for bio-control (ex. several locations around the Pecos and some near Brantley reservoir).

- It was noted that the freeze in February 2011 killed some of the populations.
- Currently, there is no monitoring for the beetle in NM, just observations. Beetles are present along the Rio Jemez, the Pueblo of Santa Ana and upstream of Jemez Springs, along Rio Grande on the Pueblo of Santa Ana, along Hwy 313 from Tramway to Algodones, and along I25 from Bernalillo to the Galisteo bridge.

The Tamarisk Coalition shared that part of their education and outreach is to help people learn how to identify beetles and weevils. Attendees were encouraged to report any tamarisk beetle or weevil sightings to Deb and Hira.

- It was explained that the beetles can really affect flycatcher habitat. Entire salt cedar patches can be defoliated in 3 weeks. Unfortunately, this usually coincides with egg laying and can result in making the eggs susceptible to predators and the elements. The take away point is that this is a huge problem and there needs to be

proactive restoration to provide necessary habitat (and refugial habitat) for the flycatcher.

- At a multi-agency meeting facilitated by the Coalition, participants discussed alternative actions: (1) no action; (2) beetle control; (3) reestablishment of natives; (4) others. The outcome of this discussion was that reestablishing natives was considered the best option to do. A standing committee was formed to provide guidance to land managers and other scientists for reestablishing habitat.
  - There was general agreement that restoration should include both passive and active techniques and should be done in patchwork pattern.
  - Priority rivers (for restoration of natives) were identified and then a matrix approach was used to prioritize reaches of those rivers. This helped determine the best uses for funding.
- The Coalition developed a recommendation/concept paper as a roadmap of how the water shed groups could work across state boundaries to address improving habitat for the flycatcher.
  - Both the short-term and long-term options should be considered when selecting projects.
  - All projects should maintain, enhance, and/or create flycatcher habitat that is most ecologically and economically beneficial; the restoration should also be connected. The flycatcher recovery plan goals should also be considered.
  - Flycatchers need successional stages of vegetation and they need different vegetation age classes.
- If possible, restoration work should be completed *before* the beetle defoliates the salt cedar.
- The Coalition will continue to assist in the Virgin River efforts, coordinate activities in the Gila and San Pedro as well as continue to monitor and expand partnerships.
- In response to a question about expanding the flycatcher surveys to include beetle observations or even collection, the Coalition offered to provide assistance.
  - The best time to monitor the beetle is between June and August, before the first freeze and diapause.

## **Final Notes**

- In a joint work group meeting the ScW/HRW/SWM viewed a presentation from the Tamarisk Coalition (Coalition) on what is being done to monitor the salt cedar beetle in the Colorado Plateau.

- Tamarisk Leaf Beetle Expansion – Challenges and Opportunities for Habitat Improvement efforts.
  - The Coalition is a small, non-profit organization based in Grand Junction, Colorado. Its primary mission is to provide education and assistance in the restoration of riparian lands. Among other activities, the coalition participated in local, state, and regional strategic watershed planning efforts.
  - The Coalition explained their monitoring protocol. Both river monitoring via raft or kayak and land (driving) surveys are completed for approximately each river mile. At each site they do five sets of five sweeps with a standard net. For each set the number of adults and early and late larvae present are counted. The percentage of defoliation and refoilation is also noted as is the types of vegetation that is present. Surveyors also note whether there are any eggs or egg cases. The data for each year is then compiled into comprehensive maps to track the movement of the beetle. The Coalition has also been working to train partner organizations so that data can be combined and the maps can be made more extensive.
  - The Coalition has been doing beetle monitoring since 2007, starting at the release sites at Moab. Using maps for each year, the presenters were able to show just how fast the beetles were spreading and how quickly they get established.
    - In 2008, defoliation in the St. George, Arizona area was first noticed. This defoliation was linked to a 2006 beetle release in an effort to control tamarisk. This is an issue for the flycatcher as St. George contains critical habitat.
    - In 2009, established beetle populations were documented in the St. George area. Other beetle populations were noted in new areas including the 4-corners area.
    - In 2010, it can be seen that beetle populations are spreading into the Grand Canyon area and that beetle populations in the 4-corners and San Juan River areas are well established.

New Mexico Department of Game & Fish then presented a history of the beetles and weevils and explained where the beetles were introduced into NM for bio-control (ex. several locations around the Pecos and some near Brantley reservoir).

- It was shared that new information indicates that there were multiple releases in the Pecos and Brantley areas for several years and as recently as last year, large populations of the beetle were found along the Pecos.
- It was noted that the freeze in February 2011 killed some of the populations.
- Currently, there is no monitoring for the beetle in NM, just observations. Beetles are present along the Rio Jemez, the Pueblo of Santa Ana and

upstream of Jemez Springs, along Rio Grande on the Pueblo of Santa Ana, along Hwy 313 from Tramway to Algodones, and along I25 from Bernalillo to the Galisteo bridge. In many of these areas the beetles have reached large infestation numbers and have defoliated large stands of tamarisks. This is an issue because it is the peak of the breeding season for many migratory birds.

- A species of weevil exclusively associated with the tamarisk has been found on the Pueblo of Santa Ana and along Hwy 313 from Tramway to Algodones. Weevil cocoons were found from the ponds around Tingley to La Cienega near Santa Fe. Though the weevils aren't known to have large defoliating effects on the tamarisk, with there being 4 exotic insects all associated with the salt cedar it's not known what their cumulative impacts on the species will be.
- Attendees were encouraged to be aware of how to identify the tamarisk beetle and weevils and to report any sightings to Deb Hill and Hira Walker.

It was explained that the Coalition's monitoring has been limited to the Colorado River Basin and that they've been working to expand partnership involvement in Texas where there has been rapid expansion of established populations.

- In the Virgin River Valley, it has been found that the beetles can really affect flycatcher habitat. Entire salt cedar patches can be defoliated in 3 weeks. Unfortunately, this usually coincides with egg laying and can result in making the eggs susceptible to predators and the elements. The topic was brought up in a 2009 conference and 2010 tamarisk symposium with the take away point being that this is a huge problem and there needs to be proactive restoration to provide necessary habitat (and refugial habitat) for the flycatcher.
- At a multi-agency meeting facilitated by the Coalition, participants discussed alternative actions: (1) no action; (2) beetle control; (3) reestablishment of natives; (4) others. The outcome of this discussion was that reestablishing natives was considered the best option to do.
  - The other purpose of the meeting was to form a standing committee to provide guidance to land managers and other scientists for reestablishing habitat.
  - There was general agreement that restoration should include both passive and active techniques and should be done in patchwork pattern, as to not remove large amounts of existing habitat at one time. Propagule islands were also considered to be a good idea. The committee also discussed different management techniques like grazing modifications or removing

- ATV usage. All projects need to meet NEPA obligations and recovery plan goals.
  - The committee identified priority rivers (for restoration of natives) in the lower Colorado River Basin and then a matrix approach was used to prioritize reaches of those rivers. This helped determine the best uses for funding. Reaches in the Virgin, San Pedro, and Gila rivers were determined to be the high priorities for funding.
- The Coalition developed a recommendation/concept paper as a roadmap of how the water shed groups could work across state boundaries to address improving habitat for the flycatcher and an outline of where habitat modification would be most beneficial.
  - Both the short-term and long-term options should be considered when selecting projects.
  - All projects should maintain, enhance, and/or create flycatcher habitat that is most ecologically and economically beneficial; the restoration should also be connected. The flycatcher recovery plan goals should also be considered.
  - Flycatchers need successional stages of vegetation and they need different vegetation age classes.
- If possible, restoration work should be completed *before* the beetle defoliates the salt cedar.
- The Coalition will continue to assist in the Virgin River efforts, coordinate activities in the Gila and San Pedro as well as continue to monitor and expand partnerships. The Virgin River efforts should help to inform efforts on other rivers. A key component of the restoration will be establishing native vegetation nurseries.
  - Short term project recommendations for the Virgin River include ecohydrological modeling to identify appropriate restoration sites, restoration projects, riparian plant nurseries, and a volunteer restoration initiative that includes outreach and education.
- Questions
  - *Question:* Were the releases in Texas done by the USDA? *Response:* Most of the Texas releases have done through the state universities. In Texas, the beetle hadn't been approved for release until 2011.
  - In response to a question about expanding the flycatcher surveys to include beetle observations or even collection, the Coalition offered to provide assistance and coordinate training.
    - The best time to monitor the beetle is between June and August, before the first freeze and diapause. The Coalition likes to coordinate training for May or early June so that the beetles are active and participants can see

what to look for. Monitoring is typically just for presence or absence of the beetle. In most places monitoring at the end of the season is helpful because this shows where the beetle has ended the season.

- *Question:* What is the general number of miles that the beetles are expected to travel based on previous monitoring? *Response:* The beetles have been seen to travel 35 to 60 miles in a season. Locating the source populations is helpful in monitoring the spread. The Coalition is interested in finding where the fringe of the populations are because this is likely where the beetle will be well established the next year.
- In response to a question of how the beetle moves through a band of trees it was explained that the beetle can jump around and moves through vegetated areas in a patchwork manner.
- Program members explained that the flycatcher surveys are completed mainly through Reclamation. The Program will follow up with Reclamation to see if beetle monitoring can be added to specific areas (including fringe areas) as a part of the flycatcher surveys.

**Joint HRW/SCW/SWM Tamarisk Beetle Presentation  
September 20, 2011 Meeting Attendees**

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