

Executive Committee Meeting  
*July 18, 2013*

Meeting Materials:

Meeting Agenda

Meeting Minutes

Species Update

Hydrology Summary



**Middle Rio Grande Endangered Species  
Collaborative Program  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
MEETING AGENDA  
Thursday, July 18, 2013  
9:00 am – 4:00 pm**

**LOCATION: Bureau of Indian Affairs, 1001 Indian School Rd. NW, Albuquerque, NM  
Building 1 - Room 133**

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|--|--------------------|
| <b>1. INTRODUCTIONS AND REVIEW OF PROPOSED AGENDA*</b>                             | <i>5 minutes</i>   |
| <b>2. <i>DECISION</i> – APPROVAL OF <b>June 20, 2013</b> EC MEETING SUMMARY*</b>   | <i>10 minutes</i>  |
| <b>3. AGENCY UPDATES</b>   | <i>50 minutes</i>  |
| A. US Army Corps of Engineers ( <i>K. Shafer</i> )                                 |                    |
| B. Bureau of Reclamation ( <i>M. Hamman</i> )                                      |                    |
| i. Hydrology Forecast  |                    |
| C. US Fish and Wildlife Service ( <i>M. Shaughnessy</i> )                          |                    |
| i. Species Update  |                    |
| D. Non-Federal update ( <i>TBD</i> )   |                    |
| E. Collaborative Program Projects* ( <i>R. Graham/CC Co-Chairs</i> )               |                    |
| i. Presentation on COA BioPark Silvery Minnow Program ( <i>K. Lang</i> )           | <i>15 minutes</i>  |
| <b>BREAK</b>   | <i>15 minutes</i>  |
| <b>4. <i>DECISION</i> – ENDORSE MRGESCP RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM</b>        | <i>60 minutes</i>  |
| A. MRGESCP RIP Final Draft Program Document*                                       |                    |
| B. MRGESCP RIP Draft Long Term Plan*   |                    |
| C. MRGESCP RIP Final Draft Action Plan*  |                    |
| D. MRGESCP RIP Final Draft Cooperative Agreement*                                  |                    |
| <b>LUNCH</b>   | <i>60 minutes</i>  |
| <b>5. Resume <i>DECISION</i> – ENDORSE MRGESCP RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM</b> | <i>120 minutes</i> |
| <b>6. RIP AS CONSERVATION MEASURE*(Reclamation)</b>                                | <i>30 minutes</i>  |
| <b>7. <i>DECISION</i> – FUTURE EC MEETING SCHEDULE</b>                             | <i>30 minutes</i>  |
| <b>8. MEETING SUMMARY(Facilitator)</b>   | <i>15 minutes</i>  |
| <b>9. PUBLIC COMMENT</b>   |                    |
| <b>10. ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>   |                    |

*\*denotes read ahead*

**Members**

ABCWUA  
ISC  
NMDA  
Sandia Pueblo  
UNM

APA  
Isleta Pueblo  
NMGF  
Santa Ana Pueblo  
USACE

CABQ  
NMAGO  
MRGCD  
Santo Domingo Tribe  
USFWS  
Reclamation

**Middle Rio Grande Endangered Species Collaborative Program**  
**Executive Committee Meeting**  
**Thursday, July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2013**  
**9:00 am – 4:00 pm**

**Decisions**

- With a quorum present and no disagreement expressed the July 18, 2013 agenda was approved with two changes
  - A non-federal caucus was added after agenda item 3
  - The EC created a sub-committee which made additional changes to draft documents
  - A closed-session was added as item 9
- With a quorum present and no disagreement expressed the June 20, 2013 EC summary was approved with no changes.
- With a quorum present and no disagreement expressed the four RIP documents were endorsed unanimously by the EC

**Next Meeting: Sept. 26, 2013 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM at Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Bldg. 1**

- Future Agenda Items: (1) Updated 10(j) population schedule and report out on FWS Regional Office approval to proceed; (2) Updates/continued discussion on the acquisition of past mesohabitat data; (3) Presentations on signatory's completed projects;

**Meeting Summary**

**Introductions:** Estevan López brought the meeting to order and introductions were made.

**Decision – Approval of the June 20, 2013 EC meeting summary****Federal Agency Updates**

- *US Army Corps of Engineers (Corps):*
  - Getting funding obligated and allocations worked out
  - Some furloughs
- *Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation):*
  - Last quarter of fiscal year
  - Working to get everything obligated
  - Planning for FY14
    - Collaborative Program is part of planning
  - Hydrology report (please refer to report)
- *US Fish and Wildlife Service (Service):*
  - Species update (please refer to report)
  - NM Jumping Mouse:
    - Public comment period still open
- *Non-Federals and State:*
  - Los Lunas refugium of ISC had a good spawn. Learning more about the fish.
- *Interim Program Manager Update and Program Projects:*
  - Trying to close out FY13 and prepare for FY14 Work plan
  - *Coordination Committee (CC):*
    - Next meeting September 4, 2013
    - CC has been working with other committees
    - The Program Management Team (PMT) is available to assist all Program participants on any programmatic issues, collection of information, and questions.

The PMT can also help by providing support during work group meetings. The PMT is here to help the Program succeed.

- *Project Presentation:*
  - BioPark for City of Albuquerque (please refer to presentation)

\*note: Senator Heinrich sent a letter urging Program to move to a RIP because of increased challenges. Collaboration and service will help us succeed.

### **Non-federal caucus and drafting sub-committee**

**Decision - Endorsement:** Means to give one's public approval and support

- **Process:**
  - **4 documents**
  - **Read aheads posted 7/11/13**
  - **Changes were made since posting, will be shown on screen and get conditional endorsement on each individual document**
  - **Then go back and ask for endorsement on all 4 documents as a package**
  - **Each EC member will be asked to voice – affirmative**
    - Documents are not set in stone
    - Collaborative Program gives FWS the green light to go forward in using these documents in BO
    - Documents are living

#### **Program Document** *Conditional endorsement*

- Most language changes came from Corps.

#### **Long Term Plan Narrative** *Conditional endorsement*

- The inventory of activities will be updated

#### **Action Plan** *Conditional endorsement*

- Drafting group changes to make consistent with Program Document
- Non-federal edits. \*every BA has been amended-note throughout
- Clean up needed to be consistent

#### **Cooperative Agreement** *Conditional endorsement*

- Entities would sign after consultation and BO

**Decision: The EC unanimously endorsed the RIP and the 4 documents presented.**

### **RIP as conservation measure**

- Reclamation will be sending a letter to FWS asking for the RIP to be included as a conservation measure in their BA

### **Announcements:**

- There were no announcements.

### **Public Comment**

- There was no public comment.

**Decision:** With a quorum present and no disagreement expressed, the EC requested the Co-chairs hold a Closed Session to discuss the Notice of Intent to file a lawsuit under ESA on the Program's actions supporting the 2003-2013 Biological Opinion. After the closed session of the EC, the EC reached consensus to send a letter to the WildEarth Guardians (WEG) regarding the NOI, the RIP, and encouraging WEG to seek membership on the EC.

*Note: Ali Saenz (Program Assistant) drafted these notes based on my flip chart pages and I reviewed them and finalized them and here they are with my congratulations and gratitude.*

*Thank you,  
Reese Fullerton  
Facilitator*

### **Executive Committee Meeting Attendees July 18th, 2013**

#### Attendees:

#### *Representative*

<i>Representative</i>	<i>Organization</i>	<i>Seat</i>
Estevan López	NM Interstate Stream Commission	ISC/Non-federal co-chair
Brent Rhees	U.S. Bureau of Reclamation	Federal co-chair
Michelle Shaughnessy (P)	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Service
Subhas Shah (P)	Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District	MRGCD
Steve Farris (P)	NM Attorney General's Office	NMAGO
Mike Hamman (P)	U.S. Bureau of Reclamation	BOR
John Stomp	Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority	ABCWUA
Kris Shaffer (A)	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	USACE
Matt Wunder (P)	NM Department of Game and Fish	NMDGF
Chuck Hayes (A)	NM Department of Game and Fish	NMDGF
Janet Jarratt (P)	Assessment Payers Association of MRGCD	APA
Joe Jojola (P)	Bureau of Indian Affairs	BIA
Cody Walker (A)	Pueblo of Isleta	Isleta
Ryan Ward (P)	N.M. Department of Agriculture	NMDA
Alan Hatch (P)	Pueblo of Santa Ana	Santa Ana

#### *Others*

Rhea Graham (Interim PM)	Bureau of Reclamation
Ali Saenz	Bureau of Reclamation
Jennifer Faler (A)	Bureau of Reclamation
Josh Mann	Bureau of Reclamation
Ann DeMint	Bureau of Reclamation
Mary Carlson	Bureau of Reclamation
Rick Billings (A)	Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority
Chris Shaw	NM Interstate Stream Commission
Deb Freeman	for NM Interstate Stream Commission
William DeRagon	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Ryan Gronewold	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Beth Pitrolo	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Susan Bittick	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Stacey Stanford	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Lori Robertson	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Kevin Cobble	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – BdA NWR
Ann Moore (A)	NM Attorney General's Office
Rolf Schmidt-Petersen (A)	N.M. Interstate Stream Commission
Grace Haggerty	N.M. Interstate Stream Commission
Amy Haas	N.M. Interstate Stream Commission
Kim Ward	City of Albuquerque
Kathy Lang (A)	City of Albuquerque
Brooke Wyman	MRGCD
Patrick Redmond	for MRGCD

Rick Carpenter  
Brian Bader  
John Fleck  
Reese Fullerton

City of Santa Fe/BBD  
SWCA  
Press  
Facilitator

## **Species update for EC meeting, July 18, 2013**

### Rio Grande silvery minnow

- Rescue work by Fisheries has found a total of 1,075 live silvery minnow and 330 dead silvery minnow between June 3 and July 9.
- No young-of-year have been found amongst of these 1,405.
- Most of the silvery minnow have been marked fish, indicating they were stocked last November. There are more wild fish in the Isleta reach than in the San Acacia reach.
- Minnow action team is implementing monitoring of the refugial areas, sharing data, and coordinating field trips. Next meeting is scheduled for August 22 to review info collected.

### Southwestern Willow Flycatcher

The totals as of 7/5/2013 for flycatcher detections surveyed by Reclamation are as follows:

total detections -634  
unknown status - 17  
migrants - 304  
lone males - 105  
pairs - 36  
pairs w/ nest - 172

- This is about 18% less territories overall at this time this summer when compared to the highest numbers we've had (in 2011) at this time in the summer.
- Nest success is expected to be low.
- At BDANWR, lost nesting flycatchers along the river and increased flycatchers on managed lands.

**EC MEETING (07-18-13)**

1. Heron Summary

Content = 115,409 ac-ft (07/16)  
Azotea tunnel currently has flow of 0 - 25 cfs  
Total SJC inflow year-to-date: 33,452 ac-ft  
Currently releasing 300 cfs (ABCWUA to Abiquiu)  
Current MRGCD storage: 0 ac-ft

2. El Vado Summary

A. Total storage (all contractors and natural) in El Vado as of 07/16:  
16,741 ac-ft

B. Native in El Vado  
0 ac-ft. plus 14,148 ac-ft Prior and Paramount

C. MRGCD's SJ-C storage in El Vado  
365 ac-ft

D. All other SJ-C contractors:  
2,229 ac-ft

Current release is 250 cfs    Natural inflow is 20 - 50 cfs

3. Storage in Abiquiu

Content = 130,464 ac-ft (07/16)  
MRGCD's SJ-C storage= 0 ac-ft

Total water released for minnow to date in 2013: 36,494 ac-ft