

# Executive Committee Meeting

## *January 18, 2017*

### Meeting Materials:

Meeting Agenda

Meeting Minutes

2016 MRG Biological Opinion Implementation Schedule

Reservoir Storage Status

2016 MRG Biological Opinion Tracking Sheet

Non-Federal Discussion on Plans for the MRGESCP



**Middle Rio Grande Endangered Species Collaborative Program  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Wednesday, January 18, 2017**

**9:00am – 1:00pm**

**Conference Call information:**

**Phone 1-800-621-8611      Passcode 30230**

**Location: U.S. Bureau of Reclamation  
555 Broadway Blvd NE # 100, Albuquerque, NM 87102**

**-- MEETING AGENDA --**

8:30-9:00	<b>ARRIVAL</b>	
9:00-9:10	<b>WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, AND REVIEW OF PROPOSED AGENDA</b>	
9:10-9:20	<b>DECISION – APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 16, 2016 EC MEETING SUMMARY</b>	
9:20-9:40	<b>AGENCY ROUNDTABLE</b>	
9:40-9:50	<b>UPDATE ON GENETICS AND FISH MONITORING CONTRACTS</b>	A. Demint B. Hobbs
9:50-10:05	<b>ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT CONTRACT UPDATE</b>	S. Bittick
10:05-10:15	<b>PROGRAM MANAGER SEARCH UPDATE</b>	D. Strickland
10:15-10:30	<b>COORDINATING COMMITTEE UPDATES</b>	R. Billings
10:30-10:40	<b>STATUS OF RIP</b>	D. Campbell
10:40-11:00	<b>BIOLOGICAL OPINION – UPDATE</b>	A. Demint
11:00-11:10	<b>BREAK</b>	
11:10-12:30	<b>DISCUSSION: ROLE OF THE COLLABORATIVE PROGRAM</b>	D. Strickland (facilitator)
12:30-12:45	<b>COMMUNICATION PLAN</b>	
12:45-12:50	<b>MEETING SUMMARY AND NEXT STEPS</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>DECISION – NEXT PROPOSED EC MEETING: ???</b></li></ul>	
12:50-1:00	<b>PUBLIC COMMENT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>	
1:00	<b>ADJOURN</b>	

EC Meeting  
January 18, 2017

- Approval of meeting summary
  - Edits to summary
- Agency roundtable
  - BOR – Fed agency on CR until March 28 – have 57% of our funding. Planning to fund a list of things CC has coordinated on – PM activities, notetaking, annual report, silvery minnow contracts that we’ve done annually, egg monitoring in canals, pop monitoring, Biopark, ISC refugium, SWFL and YBCU monitoring, funding for HR projects, connectivity pilot for San Acacia, AM. Staffing – new Environmental Division Manager filled with Clarence ???
    - Hydrology forecast.
  - ISC – Under Article 8 operations standpoint. Not sure what that will look like now. In a debit. Will have engineer advisor meeting in Feb – will know more after. Compact Commission Resolution for deviations under normal ops is for if NM in credit. So that can’t go fwd – looking at opportunities and will see what happens. If we are in higher than usual runoff on Chama, then won’t happen. EA meeting Feb 27-March 3 in Santa Fe.
    - MAT - Considering a meeting week of Feb 5 and 9. Hydrology and potential monitoring opportunities people can coordinate on.
    - Jennifer F: Will be looking at EC input to transition MAT to RIO. Future EC agenda item – status of MAT. Still ad hoc? Bring into CP?
  - MRGCD: Snowpack.
  - Lawsuit update – Feb 15 – see what WEG does
- Fish monitoring and genetics contracts – 2 year contracts. Supposed to be out in next 4-6 weeks.
  - Included task to analyze sites both w/ and w/o zeroes. And find a wet site nearby. Intensify monitoring in 2 months – Oct and one in spring.
  - Include recs from monitoring workshop.
  - Options for more expensive recs from workshop.
  - Genetics subgroup looking at genetics panel recs. Will get recs from that grp on how to modify.
  - Pop monitoring WG meeting fairly soon in next month or so.
- AM contract update
- PM search update
  - Small group from EC to be engaged with selection?
  - Propose EC select a group that would review credentials of candidates, and they would keep information confidential.
    - **Janet Jarratt, Patrick Redmond, Kris Schaefer, Rick Billings, Jennifer Faler (plus involvement from CO from BOR – work with Ann)**
    - Candidates meet with small group before going to Cheyenne
    - **Ask candidates if okay to share info, then work with small group to schedule meeting in ABQ**
- CC update
  - MRGCD – Ann Markin (?) now CC rep – **get contact info from Dave Gensler**
    - Yasmeen taking on science WG rep - Dave check.
- BO update

- Schedule from Ann Demint
- W/in next month – have rough order of magnitude cost, and then refine
- Q: RIO – what do you mean and how relates to AM?
  - Proposed in BO and spelled out there. In our BA and FWS largely approved it.
  - If the EC wants us to do w/in framework of EC, BOR would lead grp or contract out leading group – to implement the BO. RIO focus on water mgmt. & habitat, but all other opportunities for AM that aren't in RIO. RIO can be pt of CP but will discuss this.
  - Chris: Need clarification on how this grp wants to proceed w/ AM. Don't want to duplicate efforts w/ BO.
- Discussion – Future of CP
  - Chris Shaw: Nonfeds – recog there isn't a good possibility to comply w/ BO terms and obligations w/o greater group in CP. Working together. How that looks is still TBD b/c we're the three entities that have to comply, but would like to work together w/ greater grp to try and use our greater resources to make sure all successful. I think success here benefits the larger grp.
    - KS: For 10 years, operated under a BO and not everybody at the table party to that. Got a lot of good things done and made it through some really tough years. Agree completely that the parties to the BO today are going to rely on the greater grp to leverage authority and funding. It's not a real whole new world b/c we've operated this way for a long time.
    - DS: How do you see CP involved in decision-making?
    - KS: In context of leveraging authority. In ACE, given a jlot of thought to what new paradigm we're in since we don't have a BO, not in consultation. Still see way to work through CP to bring part of our authorities to the table still. Look to the CP/EC to give us the nod for those things we feel we can do.
      - Our authority is a little diff – specifically to provide assistance to the CP. Expect we'll con't being well funded for next couple years. We do have other authorities that can't be influenced by CP.
  - DG: Good venue. Think we have problems. Things tasked under BO very specific to partners in the BO but don't want to go fwd doing that w/o support of larger community involved in CP.
  - JJ: When CP created, participants delineated by Deminci. V. unique – stakeholders there – had seats for stakeholders, not just government entities. One of the key points – broad based, unique in structure made it more appealing for funding. Keeps you from getting into tug-of-war w/ governmental stuff. Water in NM always hot topic and we're adjudicated. CP selling point for funding, and that funding is going to get increasingly tricky.
  - JF: I think coordinating of funding is right on. We have cost-share requirement. There is no accountability for that to Congress. Don't know if we want to get back to tracking that. Or just build on trust we've built.
  - RSP: Would like to be consistent w/ what BOR tells Congress they're doing.
  - CS: One of the coordination issues that is frustrating is relationship b/n numbers 1 and 3 in handout – coordination of funding goes towards management actions in an AM approach. That's been a disconnect in CP for years, and has caused frustration for grp. Coordinate not just compliance actions but actions that help recovery and benefit habitat, and coordinate funding most effectively to meet those targets.

- DS: Noticed there are ad hoc grps – uncertainty w/ their association with the program. If we are going to try and help the program be collaborative, really have to know which committees and working groups are convened and should have some say in what they're trying to get accomplished. So not a lot of overlap.
  - CS: I think you're right and I think people agree we need to structure this. Part of the disconnect happened a few years ago when as a grp, we tried to form a RIP and put efforts into that. And long-term plans and other things came to a stop, and I think a recog now that we have to move into a new structure w/o a RIP using this structure as a basis to reform the CP to what we need going fwd. I think perfect topic for retreat.
- DS: Struggling w/ how AM integrated w/ BO. How can we use AM to help implement BO and also AM the CP is using. Think we should talk about what AM actually is and how it fits into CP at retreat.
- JF: AM won't be big driver in BO. 10-15 years in this BO and committed to management actions. AM will inform next BO.
  - Deb F.: BO does move fwd in 5 years cycles. How (or do we) incorporate some structured learning to inform that, and how does that fit in with larger AM program moving fwd? Fine lines but need to tease out.
  - RSP: Last spring after 6 months of work with states and parties, did modified operations to match snowmelt run-off. W/ CPUE in Oct, came up w/ 5.8 fish/100 m squared, compared w/ 3 fish in 2015 – and there was more water in 2015. So what can we do better? How can we adaptively management better and more efficiently? Look at w/in our mgmt regime to do things a little differently for greater outcome.
  - MP: Rolf's example is good milestone – culmination of lots of studies to figure out what's going on, and interactions w/ water managers to refine those ideas over numerous years. Which lead to work last year and will con't. In program, many of us have been doing AM on very small basis.
  - DS: We'll learn enough in next 5-10 years to better use resources available w/in constraints to benefit species.
  - DF: Building on Platt, which has completed the AM cycle successfully on an issue or two – looking back on it has been helpful to get consensus from everybody on what hypotheses were and what approach was. So when finished, could get together so there was comfort level on what we did and there was buy-in. That would be a real desirable thing to accomplish – build it all along w/ consensus so we have buy-in at the end for adjustment.
- GH: Maybe before retreat, we have meetings with all of you so facilitated really well. Spent 3 years trying to get a RIP. Those objectives and goals really impt to us. Also understand formalizing a RIP maybe not right time right now. So now looking at BO, which is nonjeopardy which was goals at end of year to reach, but no specific flow targets. So whole new env for decision-making. Opens things up better for CP.
  - We were talking about where do we get to? Did think useful to have a 2 day retreat – make sure everybody agrees with that, and maybe come up w/ some topics that are impt for everybody to discuss and we can move on.
  - Struggle w/ our relationship w/ FWS and other federal parties. Something we want to talk about in retreat – roles are and how to move fwd w/ that.
  - What kinds of contributions people can make. Participation? Input? And what are you getting out of the CP?
- BE: How to move from a dysfunctional grp to a functioning group?

- JJ: Problem isn't the EC – it's the action items queued up for the EC to make decisions for. Problem w/ decision-making is having decisions adequately prepared and ripe for EC input. W/ funding, fed contracting process – cumbersome for EC to deal with, and having permits issues in timely fashion. There's a lot of redtape that has made decision-making frustration.
  - KS: I agree. I think right now we're wrestling w/ lofty thing of where is the program going to go? And before, lofty thing w/ RIP. Maybe need to think simpler and go back to fundamentals. Go back to by-laws and that we're following them. And good protocol on bringing things to EC so decisions can be made.
  - JJ: Concept of a RIP completely derailed the program for years. Subcommittees were put on hold. Only baseline stuff went fwd. RIP was supposed to be THE conservation measure, and then a conservation measure, and now it doesn't exist. Spent tons of hours and money on developing RIP documents. If going to do AM, need more agile decision-making process.
- RB: Sounds like need to decide on retreat and when and items.
- JJ: There were decisions that could have been made when we were focusing on RIP. Weren't teed up. All decision-making inherent w/ the EC didn't happen.
- JF: Have goals that are achievable. Suggest this grp focus on science and AM only and not worry about how BOR going to meet BO obligations. We can't adaptively manage w/o input from Corps, for example.
  - DS: Don't disagree there are federal things you have to do. But in terms of how you meet BO requirements, that's what this is all about. How river managed in terms of BO is I think focus going fwd, either with BO grp or entire EC. I heard that people want the CP to move fwd and participate in that process, recog that you still have to do certain things program can't help you with.
  - RSP: We can get into this in retreat. But when I heard this discussion, thinking about the 10% you don't get to rather than 90% you did. In last 2 years, more things put on ground than previously. Tend to put those things aside and focus on we didn't do a RIP. Like Kris, focus on fundamentals. Didn't have staff support in last few years. Waiting for segue of PM. I think that's a big part of the gap for the process piece. We put projects on the ground.
- Beth: Bugged down EC w/ focus on just one BO. There are parties here who aren't parties. ACE has several BOs that are relevant. ABCWUA has own BO. To focus parameters on just one EC is going to derail the process. What we really need to focus on is what we can all do collaboratively to get things done.
- Agenda development & review:
  - Jim Wilbur (BOR)
  - Grace
  - Janet
  - CC
- More than 50 miles from ABQ for retreat
- April 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>
- **Send EC mailing list by laws, authorization language, and white papers (non feds and feds)**
- **Next EC meeting Feb 15<sup>th</sup> 9-1.**

ID	Task Name	Duration	Start	Finish			2017		2018		2019		2020		2021		2022		2023		2024		2025		2026	
					1	H2	H1	H2	H1	H2	H1	H2	H1	H2	H1	H2	H1	H2	H1	H2	H1	H2	H1	H2	H1	H2
1	1 Lower Reach Plan (LRP) (18 mo, Jun 2018)	300 days	Fri 1/20/17	Thu 3/15/18																						
2	1.1 Preparation	12 mons	Fri 1/20/17	Thu 12/21/17																						
3	1.2 Draft LRP	60 days	Fri 12/22/17	Thu 3/15/18																						
4	1.3 Final LRP	0 days	Thu 3/15/18	Thu 3/15/18																						
5																										
6	2 Bosque del Apache N Boundary Distribution Hub (3 yrs, Dec 2019)	513 days	Wed 3/1/17	Fri 2/15/19																						
7	2.1 Design	8 mons	Wed 3/1/17	Tue 10/10/17																						
8	2.2 Compliance	6 mons	Wed 10/11/17	Tue 3/27/18																						
9	2.3 Construction	120 days	Mon 9/3/18	Fri 2/15/19																						
10																										
11	3 LFCC Improvements	1097 days	Wed 2/1/17	Thu 4/15/21																						
12	3.1 Identification of alternatives	8 mons	Wed 2/1/17	Tue 9/12/17																						
13	3.2 Evaluation of alternatives (2 years, Dec 2018)	12 mons	Wed 9/13/17	Tue 8/14/18																						
14	3.3 Compliance	12 mons	Wed 8/15/18	Tue 7/16/19																						
15	3.4 Construction (7 years, Dec 2023)	457 days	Wed 7/17/19	Thu 4/15/21																						
16																										
17	4 River Connectivity	1869 days	Wed 2/1/17	Mon 4/1/24																						
18	4.1 San Acacia (5 years, Dec 2021)	840 days	Wed 2/1/17	Tue 4/21/20																						
19	4.1.1 San Acacia Pilot Study	566 days	Wed 2/1/17	Wed 4/3/19																						
20	4.1.1.1 Design	12 mons	Wed 2/1/17	Tue 1/2/18																						
21	4.1.1.2 Compliance	6 mons	Wed 1/3/18	Tue 6/19/18																						
22	4.1.1.3 Construction	5 mons	Thu 11/15/18	Wed 4/3/19																						
23	4.1.2 Final Implementation	24 mons	Wed 6/20/18	Tue 4/21/20																						
24	4.2 Isleta (6 years, Dec 2022)	1067 days	Wed 3/1/17	Thu 4/1/21																						
25	4.2.1 Design	36 mons	Wed 3/1/17	Tue 12/3/19																						
26	4.2.2 Compliance	12 mons	Wed 12/4/19	Tue 11/3/20																						
27	4.2.3 Construction	107 days	Wed 11/4/20	Thu 4/1/21																						
28	4.3 Angostura (10 years, Dec 2026)	1782 days	Fri 6/2/17	Mon 4/1/24																						
29	4.3.1 Coordination with Pueblos	24 mons	Fri 6/2/17	Thu 4/4/19																						
30	4.3.2 Design	48 mons	Fri 4/5/19	Thu 12/8/22																						
31	4.3.3 Compliance	12 mons	Fri 12/9/22	Thu 11/9/23																						
32	4.3.4 Construction	102 days	Fri 11/10/23	Mon 4/1/24																						
33																										
34	5 Large-Scale Habitat Restoration	2300 days	Thu 12/1/16	Wed 9/24/25																						
35	5.1 Ft Craig to RM60 Restoration (4-6 years, Dec 2022)	596 days	Mon 1/2/17	Mon 4/15/19																						
36	5.1.1 Design	12 mons	Mon 1/2/17	Fri 12/1/17																						
37	5.1.2 Compliance	12 mons	Mon 12/4/17	Fri 11/2/18																						
38	5.1.3 Construction	116 days	Mon 11/5/18	Mon 4/15/19																						
39	5.2 Bosque del Apache Realignment/Restoration Pilot Project	1808 days	Thu 12/1/16	Mon 11/6/23																						
40	5.2.1 Planning and Design	87 days	Thu 12/1/16	Fri 3/31/17																						
41	5.2.2 Compliance	12 mons	Thu 12/1/16	Wed 11/1/17																						
42	5.2.3 Construction	325 days	Tue 1/2/18	Mon 4/1/19																						
43	5.2.4 Monitoring	60 mons	Tue 4/2/19	Mon 11/6/23																						
44	5.2.5 Maintenance/Adjustment	60 days	Tue 4/2/19	Mon 6/24/19																						
45	5.3 Bosque del Apache Realignment/Restoration Upstream Project	2060 days	Thu 11/2/17	Wed 9/24/25																						
46	5.3.1 Planning and Design	24 mons	Thu 11/2/17	Wed 9/4/19																						
47	5.3.2 Compliance	12 mons	Thu 9/5/19	Wed 8/5/20																						
48	5.3.3 Construction	6 mons	Thu 9/3/20	Wed 2/17/21																						
49	5.3.4 Monitoring	60 mons	Thu 2/18/21	Wed 9/24/25																						
50	5.3.5 Maintenance/Adjustment	60 mons	Thu 2/18/21	Wed 9/24/25																						
51	5.4 Additional Projects Design	60 mons	Thu 12/1/16	Wed 7/7/21																						
52	5.5 Additional Projects Construction	60 mons	Mon 9/4/17	Fri 4/8/22																						
53																										
54	6 Adaptive Management (AM)	881 days	Wed 8/17/16	Wed 1/1/20																						
55	6.1 Adaptive Management Plan (USACE contract)	12 mons	Thu 12/1/16	Wed 11/1/17																						
56	6.2 RIO	60 mons	Mon 1/2/17	Fri 8/6/21																						
57	6.3 Implementation of other AM components	60 mons	Thu 5/18/17	Wed 12/22/2																						
58	6.4 Five Year Review	6 mons	Fri 6/18/21	Thu 12/2/21																						
59																										
60	7 Pilot native water leasing program and feasibility assessment	160 days	Wed 2/1/17	Tue 9/12/17																						
61	7.1 MOU with MRGCD	8 mons	Wed 2/1/17	Tue 9/12/17																						

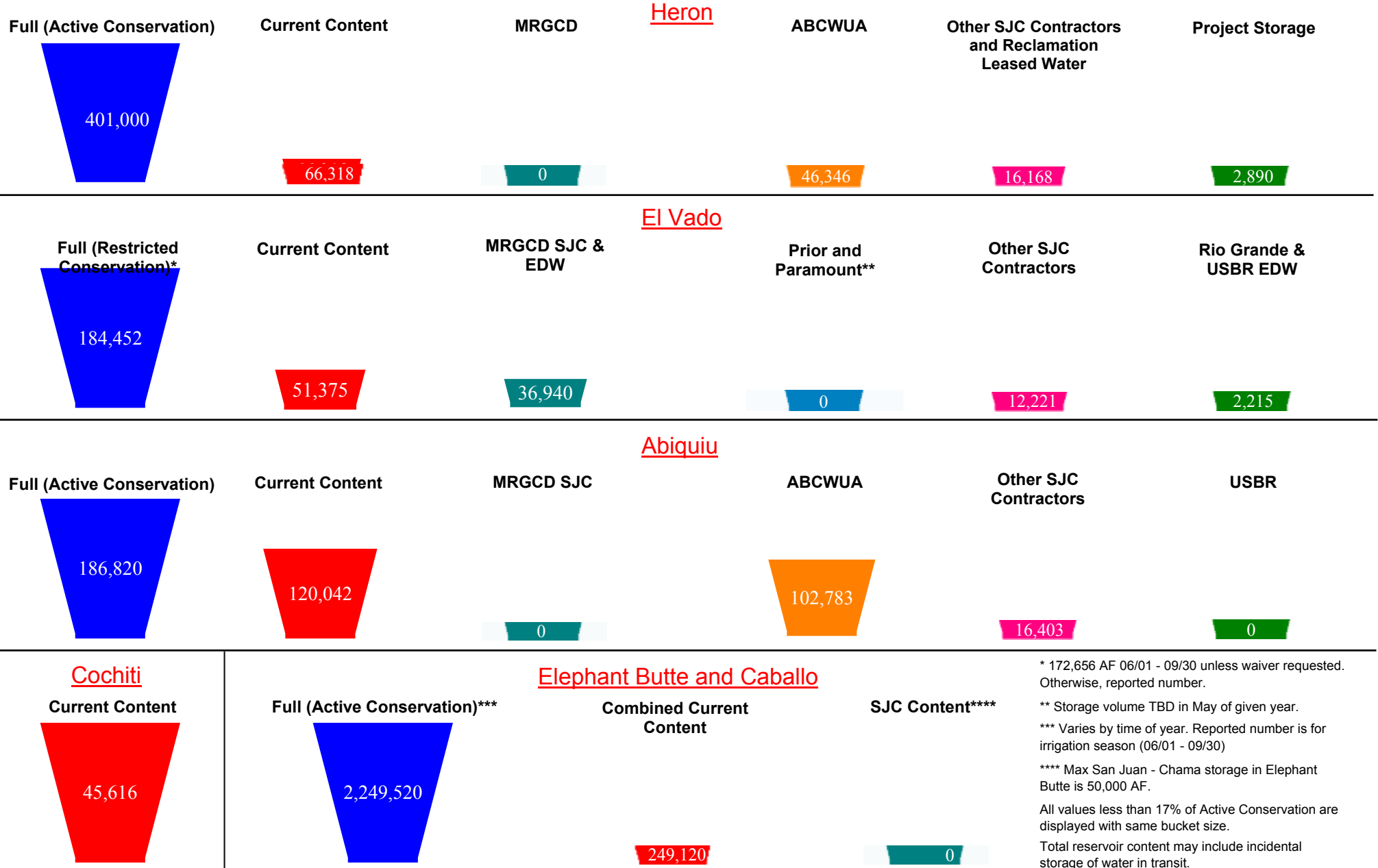
# RECLAMATION

*Managing Water in the West*

U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Reclamation

## Reservoir Storage Status

Drafted 1/17/2017 with 01/16/2017 data.





Red

Teal

Blue

Orange

Pink

Green

Red

<u>Sort Order</u>	<u>Item Description</u>	<u>BiOp Item</u>	<u>Responsible Party</u>	<u>Deliverable</u>	<u>Item Frequency</u>	<u>Due Dates</u>
1	Use RIO to optimize spring runoff during May and June	RPM1	Reclamation	optimization, documentation	annually, during Feb, Mar, Apr	30-Apr
2	Develop an elevational model	RPM2	Reclamation	modeling, documentation	by project	by project
3	Minimize take by using RIO to assist fish passage implementation	RPM3	Reclamation	fish passage	in 5, 6, & 10 years	12/2/2021, 12/2/2022, 12/2/2026
4	Work with Service's fish rescue and actively manage recession	RPM4	Reclamation	fish rescue deployed, manage river recession	annually, during summer/fall	1-Jun
5	Standardize, fund, and implement captive propagation and augmentation	RPM5	Reclamation	captive propagation and augmentation program	annually, during fall/winter	1-Oct
6	Maintain, foster, regular interactions with staffs	RPM6	Reclamation	coordination, and AM plan (RIO) for HR and Water Mgmt	quarterly, many times per year	by 31-Mar, 30-Jun, 30-Sep, 31-Dec
7	Reclamation will monitor and report on RGSM, SWFL, YBCU in MRG	RPM7	Reclamation	RGSM, SWFL, and YBCU monitoring	many times per year	depends on species
8	Standardize and implement all BMPS that minimize effects	RPM8	Reclamation	report catalog of BMPs for minimizing effects	by project	by project
9	Minimize take of RGSM, SWFL, YBCU during water ops, river maintenance, and hab restoration	RPM9	Reclamation	report annually on incidental take minimization	by project	annually
10	Integrate and share all data collected through the RIO	RPM10	Reclamation	every 5 years data and synthesis reports	every 5 years	12/2/2021, 12/2/2026, 12/2/2031
11	Annually report to Service, PA implemented, ITS summary, RPM status, T&C status	RPM11	Reclamation	documentation	annually, during winter/spring	1-Mar
12	Collaborate and manage spring runoff to maximize the benefits for silvery minnow	T&C1.1	Reclamation	coordination, documentation	annually, during Feb, Mar, Apr	no later than 31-Mar
13	Use the RIO to maximize spawning and survival of silvery minnow by management of spring runoff.	T&C1.2	Reclamation	coordination, documentation	annually, during Feb, Mar, Apr	no later than 31-Mar
14	Coordinate directly with the Service to attempt to manage spring runoff for the benefit of listed species	T&C1.3	Reclamation, BIA, BA Partners	coordination, documentation	annually, during Feb, Mar, Apr	no later than 31-Mar
15	Work with the Service to request that the USACE consider temporary deviation operations at Cochiti Dam	T&C1.4	Reclamation, BA Partners	coordination, documentation	annually, during spring	no later than 31-Mar
16	Reclamation shall coordinate with MRGCD to minimize diversions during May and June	T&C1.5	Reclamation	coordination	annually, during May and June	1-May through 30-Jun
17	Use discretionary water management options to attain a self-sustaining population of 1.0 fish per 100 m^2 and up to 5.0 fish per 100 m^2	T&C1.6a	Reclamation, BIA, BA Partners	coordination, documentation	annually	no later than 31-Oct
18	Reclamation and BIA shall coordinate with MRGCD on diversions to enhance spawning and recruitment and minimize entrainment of eggs and larvae during May and June	T&C1.6b	Reclamation, BIA	coordination, documentation	annually, during May and June	1-May through 30-Jun
19	Use appropriate modeling and site information of surface water levels or groundwater levels to the ground surface elevations for the five 10-year hydrologic scenarios and within 4 to 8 mi of any new habitat restoration actions within the MRG	T&C2.1	Reclamation	modeling, documentation	by project	by project
20	Use current elevation plans to create optimal conditions at habitat restoration activities	T&C2.2	Reclamation	modeling, documentation	by project	by project
21	Include elevation plans in all consultations and projects. Monitor estimates of native riparian vegetation survival in relation to the proximity of groundwater	T&C2.3	Reclamation	modeling, documentation	by project	by project
22	Develop elevation plans cooperatively with agencies involved in projects	T&C2.4	Reclamation	modeling, documentation	by project	by project
23	Construct fish passage through the San Acacia Diversion Dam by 12/2/2021, the Isleta Diversion Dam by 12/2/2022, and Angostura Diversion Dam by 12/2/2026	T&C3.1	Reclamation	fish passage	in 5, 6, & 10 years	12/2/2021, 12/2/2022, 12/2/2026

<u>Sort Order</u>	<u>Item Description</u>	<u>BiOp Item</u>	<u>Responsible Party</u>	<u>Deliverable</u>	<u>Item Frequency</u>	<u>Due Dates</u>
24	Manage low flow conditions during July through October to minimize take for listed species	T&C3.2	Reclamation	documentation	annually, during summer/fall	1-Jul through 31-Oct
25	Minimize river bed incision to the extent possible when implementing fish passage at San Acacia Diversion Dam by 12/2/2021	T&C3.3	Reclamation	modeling, documentation	by 12/2/2021	12/2/2021
26	Establish monitoring of silvery minnows in the Cochiti Reach, pending approval from Pueblos, after the Angostura fish passage construction is completed.	T&C3.4	Reclamation	monitoring, documentation	by Feb 2027	by 2/28/2027
27	Work with the Service's NMFWCO to standardize, fund, and implement fish rescue	T&C4.1	Reclamation	monitoring, documentation	by project	by project
28	Work with the six MRG Pueblos to standardize and fund their voluntary implementation of fish rescue on tribal lands	T&C4.2	Reclamation, BIA	coordination, monitoring, documentation	by project	by project
29	Work with the Service to develop standard protocols, procedures, goals, and responsibilities for fish rescue.	T&C4.3	Reclamation	coordination, monitoring, documentation	annually	by project
30	Rates of recession may vary if Reclamation finds that there is an optimal rate of recession appropriate for minimizing the effects on silvery minnow	T&C4.4	Reclamation	modeling, documentation	annually, by project	1-Jul through 31-Oct
31	Work with the Service to fund, improve, and implement the Captive Propagation and Population Augmentation Program	T&C5.1	Reclamation	coordination, documentation	annually, by project	by project
32	Continue to fund and implement regular and routine genetic monitoring	T&C5.2	Reclamation	coordination, monitoring, documentation	annually, by project	by project
33	Support development and implementation of additional tools and techniques to improve and optimize the genetic diversity in fish broodstock and verify that captive propagation and population augmentation program efforts will not deleteriously affect silvery minnow in the wild	T&C5.3	Reclamation	modeling, documentation	annually, by project	by project
34	Engage quarterly to discuss science, monitoring, adaptive management, water, sediment, and habitat project planning efforts, reporting, and executive coordination	T&C6.1	Reclamation	coordination, documentation	quarterly, many times per year	by 31-Mar, 30-Jun, 30-Sep, 31-Dec
35	Use the development of the Annual Operating Plan to describe the spring runoff and low flow condition management expectations and outcomes with the Service	T&C6.2	Reclamation	coordination, documentation	annually, during Feb, Mar, Apr	no later than 30-Apr
36	Fund and implement the Silvery Minnow PMP	T&C7.1	Reclamation	monitoring, documentation	annually, by project	by project
37	Monitor the habitat use and movement of silvery minnows in association with Proposed Action projects, including fish passage projects.	T&C7.2	Reclamation	monitoring, documentation	by project	by project
38	Ensure silvery minnow surveys are performed by biologists that possess a Section 10(a)(1)(A) permit	T&C7.3	Reclamation, BIA, BA Partners	documentation	annually, by project	by project
39	Conduct flycatcher and cuckoo protocol surveys annually throughout the Action Area	T&C7.4	Reclamation	monitoring, documentation	annually, by project	by 1-Sep
40	Continue to monitor nests for flycatchers annually	T&C7.5	Reclamation	monitoring, documentation	annually, by project	by project
41	Develop a habitat suitability model specific to the cuckoo	T&C7.6	Reclamation	coordination, monitoring, documentation	(NO DATE) by project	by project
42	Map and monitor all suitable and potential flycatcher and cuckoo habitat within the floodplain from the southern boundary of Isleta Pueblo to Elephant Butte Dam at least once every 5 years. MRGCD shall implement mapping in areas within MRGCD-administered land that contain potential or suitable flycatcher or cuckoo habitat	T&C7.7	Reclamation	coordination, monitoring, documentation	in 5, 10, & 15 years	by Dec 2021, Dec 2026, Dec 2031
43	Initiate or continue studies to better understand cuckoo habitat utilization, core nesting areas/size, overall territory size, site fidelity, and seasonal occupancy dates	T&C7.8	Reclamation	coordination, monitoring, documentation	(NO DATE) by project	by project
44	Ensure flycatcher and cuckoo protocol surveys and nest monitoring are performed by biologists that possess a Section 10(a)(1)(A) permit	T&C7.9	Reclamation, BIA, BA Partners	documentation	annually, by project	by 30-Apr
45	Standardize and implement all BMPs	T&C8.1	Reclamation	documentation	by project	by project
46	Reclamation and BIA shall request that the six MRG Pueblos and MRGCD review, consider, and implement the BMPs in their activities and on their lands and waters	T&C8.2	Reclamation, BIA	coordination, documentation	annually, by project	by project
47	Seek to minimize activities, noise, and disturbances within the seasonal and geographic buffer areas associated with flycatcher and cuckoo nesting/territorial/feeding behaviors.	T&C8.3	Reclamation, BIA, BA Partners	coordination, documentation	annually, by project	by project
48	In HR and maintenance projects, minimize native plant disturbance to the extent possible or replace native plants at the ratio specified within Reclamation's BMPs.	T&C8.4	Reclamation	documentation	by project	by project

<b><u>Sort Order</u></b>	<b><u>Item Description</u></b>	<b><u>BiOp Item</u></b>	<b><u>Responsible Party</u></b>	<b><u>Deliverable</u></b>	<b><u>Item Frequency</u></b>	<b><u>Due Dates</u></b>
49	Ensure that all Conservation Measures and BMPs described in the BA and the BiOp are implemented	T&C8.5	Reclamation, BIA	documentation	annually, by project	by project
50	During droughts or low flow periods, Continue to work with MRGCD to coordinate operations to support and enhance habitat availability and related species benefitc	T&C9.1	Reclamation	coordination, documentation	annually, during summer/fall	1-Jul through 31-Oct
51	Coordinate water diversions from the LFCC during droughts or low flow periods to minimize impacts to flycatcher breeding territories from RM 67 to 54. Include coordination with BDANWR as well as the Service (NMESFO) in LRP, to minimize effects on the species with potentially competing water needs	T&C9.2	Reclamation	coordination, documentation	annually, during summer/fall	1-May through 31-Oct
52	Coordinate with Service (NMESFO) throughout planning process for the conservation measures for which impacts and effects cannot currently be estimated prior to any separate consultations	T&C9.3	Reclamation	coordination, documentation	annually, by project	by project
53	Coordinate with Service (NMESFO) on modification or improvements of the LFCC.	T&C9.4	Reclamation	coordination, documentation	annually, by project	by project
54	Coordinate with USACE to develop an elevation plan for sediment management purposes as part of the Lower Reach Plan	T&C9.5	Reclamation	coordination, documentation	by project	by project
55	Reclamation shall take up to 1.5 years to develop the Lower Reach Plan. This Plan shall be reviewed and approved by the Service	T&C9.6	Reclamation	coordination, documentation	by 6/2/2018	6/2/2018
56	Coordinate in the development of a comprehensive database for species and habitat information	T&C10.1	Reclamation	coordination, documentation	annually, by project	annually, by 1-Mar
57	Coordinate the appropriate reporting of listed species and their habitat monitoring data and all associated management actions that affect these species or their habitats on an annual basis, as well as integrated and synthesized reports every 5th year	T&C11.1	Reclamation	coordination, documentation	in 5, 10, & 15 years	by Dec 2021, Dec 2026, Dec 20231
58	All agencies shall report to the Service in accordance with 10(a)(1)(A) permits	T&C11.2	Reclamation, BIA, BA Partners	documentation	annually, by project	annually, by 15-Dec
59	Report by March 1st of each year on implementation of all RPMs their associated Terms and Conditions	T&C11.3	Reclamation	documentation	3/1/2017, & then annually	annually, by 1-Mar
60	Report to the Service any spills of hazardous chemicals in toxic amounts associated with the Proposed Action activities that occur in the floodplain	T&C11.4	Reclamation	coordination, documentation	by project	by project
61	Annual reports shall reference the appropriate consultation number 02ENNM00-2013-F-0033, and should be delivered electronically to email address nmesfo@fws.gov	T&C11.5	Reclamation	documentation	by project	by project

## **Hand-out of Nonfederal Discussion on Plans for the MRGESCP**

Executive Committee Meeting on January 18, 2017

With the final new Biological Opinion (BO) in-place, the non-federal signatories of the Middle Rio Grande Endangered Species Collaborative Program (Collaborative Program) met to discuss their goals and objectives for the Collaborative Program. The group agreed that the Collaborative Program should halt efforts to formalize a Recovery Implementation Program.

The group further agreed that the Collaborative Program should continue with its historic goals while also committing to *provide a space to efficiently and effectively coordinate science and adaptive management on the Middle Rio Grande*. To that end, the non-federal signatories envision the Collaborative Program to:

1. Be an open and transparent forum for all signatories and stakeholders to share results of monitoring, research, and other science activities to better inform management actions in an MRG-customized Adaptive Management framework or plan.
2. Support recovery and river management efforts for listed species and species of concern.
3. Coordinate funding and cost-share opportunities and agency funding to most effectively spend dollars on projects/programs.
4. Foster open communication about individual organizations' science and management activities, to help coordination of activities and foster shared learning.

### **Near Term Priorities**

The non-federal partners propose the following near-term priorities for the Collaborative Program:

1. Clarification on the role of the federal agencies in the future of the Collaborative Program.
  - a. For example, due to the nonjeopardy BO, we anticipate the role of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS) Ecological Services will be different from the past. What will the participation from the USFWS be moving forward, i.e., what offices will be engaged on technical and management levels and will the permitting process be streamlined for Program-lead adaptive management research and monitoring?
  - b. Additionally, what will participation from the US Army Corps of Engineers look like?
2. Continue work related to the Population Monitoring and Genetics Peer Reviews
3. Confirm, support, and seek funding over next several years
4. Readiness for 2017 irrigation season, including steps that would support future adaptive management activities.

To address the near term and longer term the Nonfeds suggest scheduling a Collaborative Program facilitated retreat that will address, at a minimum:

- a. Role of Collaborative Program
- b. Organization and Decision Making
- c. Unique roles of each Fed/non-Fed entity
- d. Stakeholder engagement
- e. Funding and cost-share
- f. Continued membership, commitment, and engagement of Collaborative Program signatories
- g. A communication plan/structure to share information amongst Collaborative Program signatories and within member organizations.
- h. The current recovery plan and the long-term plan, and how it applies given the new BO.