**Executive Committee (EC)**

**Meeting Follow-Up**

**March 23, 2022; 1:00 AM­­­­­­–12:00 PM**

**Location:** Zoom Meeting

**Decisions:**

* Approval of the March 23, 2022 EC meeting agenda
* Approval of the December 7, 2021 EC meeting minutes
* Approval of the 2021 Middle Rio Grande Endangered Species Collaborative Program (MRGESCP) Annual Report with amendments
* Approval of the Long-Term Plan for Science & Adaptive Management
* Approval of the revised 2022 Work Plan

**Announcements:**

* The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has released a draft Environmental Assessment regarding its requested deviation to store water in Abiquiu in place of El Vado (while El Vado is under construction). The period of public review is open until April 4, 2022.
* The Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22) omnibus appropriations bill was signed on March 15, 2022 and USACE will receive $1.94 million in FY22 (through September 30, 2022). The Bosque Ecosystem Monitoring Program (BEMP) is a USACE funding priority. The President’s FY23 budget request will be released March 28, 2022.
* The Program and Science Support contract for third-party management of the Middle Rio Grande Endangered Species Collaborative Program was awarded to Western EcoSystems Technology, Inc. The five-year contract covers the period of April 2022 through March 2027.
* New Mexico entered 2022 under Article VII in the Rio Grande Compact, with 127,100 acre-feet of debit.
* USACE is implementing the Sandia to Isleta Ecosystem Restoration Project. USACE partnered with Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District to fund the study phase, and is now seeking a non-federal co-sponsor for the design/construction phase. The total estimated cost is $24.7 million, of which the non-federal share would be $8.6 million.
* Thomas Archdeacon, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, is organizing the Rio Grande silvery minnow egg collection effort for the 2022 spawn. To volunteer, contact him at thomas\_archdeacon@fws.gov.
* The Minnow Action Team draft 2022 recommendations are out for review, with comments due back by April 8, 2022. To receive a copy of the draft recommendations, contact Michelle Tuineau at mtuineau@west-inc.com.

**Action Items:**

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| **WHO** | **ACTION ITEM** | **BY WHEN** |
| Program Support Team (PST) | Send out Doodle Polls for the next two EC meetings | 3/25/2022 |
| PST | Finalize the approved 2021 Annual Report and post to the Program Portal  | 3/25/2022 |
| PST | Schedule Science and Adaptive Management Information System (SAMIS) trainings | April 2022 |
| PST | Work with U.S. Geological Survey to fix hydrology links on the Program Portal | 4/15/2022 |
| Kim Eichhorst | Provide an updated map of BEMP sites with continuous data collection and sites that were discontinued. | 4/15/2022 |
| Jim Wilber | Provide questions for the SAMC on potential Angostura Reach river drying scenarios | 4/15/2022 |
| PST | Coordinate with Charles Yackulic on using the model to address potential Angostura Reach river drying scenarios | 4/30/2022 |
| PST | Follow-up up with signatories to clarify planned 2022 activities and priority questions | 4/30/2022 |
| PST | Take list of priority 2022 questions from EC to the Science and Adaptive Management Committee (SAMC) | July 2022 |
| Signatories | Sign the 2022 Memorandum of Agreement | 5/1/2022 |
| PST | Reassess feasibility of an in-person/virtual hybrid June EC meeting | 5/1/2022 |
| Reclamation | Notify Wayne Pullan that he has been awarded the Rick Billings Award and arrange the production and delivery of the award | 5/1/2022 |
| SAMC | Review the revised peer review process and submit for approval to the EC | June EC meeting |
| Signatories | Submit 2022 activities for entry in the SAMIS | November FPC meeting |

**Next Meeting:** June 2022

**Meeting Participants**

**EC Representative Organization**

Anne Marken Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District

Ara Winter Bosque Ecosystem Monitoring Program

Bill Grantham New Mexico Office of the Attorney General

Blane Sanchez Pueblo of Isleta

Grace Haggerty New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission

Jennifer Faler U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

Jim Wilber U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

Katrina Grantz, Federal Co-Chair U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

Kelsey Bicknell Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility

Kim Eichhorst Bosque Ecosystem Monitoring Program

Kyle Harwood Buckman Direct Diversion

Mark Kelly, Non-Federal Co-Chair Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority

Matthew Wunder New Mexico Department of Game and Fish

Michael Scialdone Pueblo of Sandia

Page Pegram New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission

Paul Tashjian Audubon Southwest

Rick Carpenter Buckman Direct Diversion

Ryan Gronewold U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Shawn Sartorius U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

**Participant Organization**

Andy Dean U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Ari Posner U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

Catherine Murphy Program Support Team

Dale Strickland Program Support Team

Danielle Galloway U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Debbie Lee Program Support Team

Kevin Shelley Program Support Team

Kyle Faig City of Albuquerque, Open Space Division

Lynette Giesen U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

Michelle Tuineau Program Support Team

Mick Porter U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Sarah Anderson Program Support Team

Tricia Snyder Wild Earth Guardians