**2021 Science & Adaptive Management Committee (SAMC) Accomplishments**

In 2021, the Middle Rio Grande Endangered Species Collaborative Program (MRGESCP) officially began operating as a science and adaptive management program. The SAMC is central to the MRGESCP’s structure as a science program. The following are the major accomplishments of the SAMC and the related Science & Technical (S&T) Ad Hoc Groups it formed over the last year:

* Inducted inaugural members
* Formed the following S&T Ad Hoc Groups:
  + Population Monitoring Work Group (PMWG) Summary Report
  + Rio Grande Silvery Minnow (RGSM) Integrated Population Model
  + RGSM Genetics/Conceptual Ecological Model (CEM) Refinement
  + Avian CEMs Refinement
* Directed the PMWG Summary Report Ad Hoc to summarize the work of the PMWG.
  + Worked with Rich Valdez to finalize the PMWG Summary Report, identify and clarify key findings and recommendations, incorporate and archive peer review comments, and refine essential messages for the EC
  + Developed a memo to the EC with SAMC-recommended next steps to accompany the PMWG Summary Report
* Directed the Avian CEMs Refinement Ad Hoc Group to identify and characterize scientific uncertainties in the Southwestern willow flycatcher and Yellow-billed cuckoo CEMs
* Supported the RGSM Integrated Population Model Ad Hoc Group in their continued model development
* Directed the RGSM Genetics/CEM Refinement Ad Hoc Group to include genetic, propagation, and augmentation components into the RGSM CEM
* Hosted a program-wide workshop to gather input on the draft Science Objectives
* Finalized the Science Objectives for EC approval
* Informed the development of the Science & Adaptive Management Information System (SAMIS)
* Developed project evaluation criteria to facilitate development of the Long-Term Plan and devised a three-part weighted scoring rubric
* Began to incorporate climate change and resiliency considerations into the project development process
* Informed the development of a peer review process for the Collaborative Program
* Hosted a program-wide workshop to discuss how to define and measure habitat restoration success
* Hosted the first Collaborative Seminar: August 24, 2021, Rob Dudley, American Southwest Ichthyologic Researchers (ASIR), on RGSM Population Monitoring