



MIDDLE RIO GRANDE ENDANGERED SPECIES COLLABORATIVE PROGRAM

September 2020 Newsletter

SAMC APPLICATIONS OPEN NOW

Dear Collaborative Program members, partners, and friends –

We are making good progress developing the Collaborative Program's science and adaptive management framework. The next step is convening the Science and Adaptive Management Committee (SAMC), which will play an important role in the Collaborative Program's future operations. The SAMC will help refine the Science & Adaptive Management Plan, develop the Long-Term Plan, and implement both plans.

On behalf of the Executive Committee, we are pleased to announce that applications for the SAMC are now open! All interested and qualified individuals are invited to apply. The SAMC will be tasked with coordinating and synthesizing scientific work related to the Middle Rio Grande (MRG) ecosystem and listed species in order to inform management actions in the area.

We are looking for applicants with:

- Technical expertise specific to the MRG and its listed species in one or more of the following areas:
 - * Aquatic biology
 - * Terrestrial biology
 - * System-wide ecology
 - * Hydrology
 - * Geomorphology
 - * Genetics
 - * Climate science
 - * Soil science
 - * Watershed resource planning
- Strong communication and analytical skills,
- A collaborative mindset, and
- The ability to interpret scientific findings across multiple disciplines.

Visit <https://webapps.usgs.gov/MRGESCP/workGroups/samc.html> for more information and to download an application. Please consider nominating individuals you think would meet the listed qualifications. Send nominations to Catherine Murphy (cmurphy@west-inc.com).

FEATURED THIS ISSUE:

- ◆ Program Announcements
 - SAMC Applications
 - 2020 Science Symposium Call for Abstracts
 - FY19 Annual Report
- ◆ Member Introductions
- ◆ Recent Publications
- ◆ Upcoming Dates and Deadlines
- ◆ Administrative Updates
 - Call for Cost Share Reports and Annual Report Write-Ups

KEY SAMC INFO

Due Date: October 2, 2020

Contact: Catherine Murphy
(cmurphy@west-inc.com)

Apply at: <https://webapps.usgs.gov/MRGESCP/workGroups/samc.html>

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

2020 SCIENCE SYMPOSIUM CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

The Collaborative Program invites the submission of abstracts for oral or poster presentations during the virtual 2020 Science Symposium. This year, the event will include a series of half-day Zoom webinars, concluding with a virtual social on the final day. The event will feature a wide range of presentations, discussions, and networking opportunities with scientists and managers working in the Rio Grande Basin. The event is tentatively scheduled for **December 1-3, 2020**, but the length of the event will be determined by the number of abstracts submitted.

This is an opportunity to share your research with colleagues who are actively working at the nexus of science, management, and policy. Participants from all disciplinary backgrounds are welcome to submit abstracts related to the MRG's listed species and the MRG ecosystem. Investigators at all career stages are encouraged to present their work.

Abstracts will be reviewed and evaluated for their novelty and merit, their relevance to management actions or decision-making in the MRG, and their ability to address key uncertainties for listed species. All accepted abstracts will be made available on the MRGESCP website. Visit <https://webapps.usgs.gov/MRGESCP/Symposium2020/2020-call-for-abstracts> to register, submit an abstract, and get more information on virtual presentations.

FY19 ANNUAL REPORT

The Collaborative Program FY19 Annual Report is now available for download on the Program Portal. Click the link: <https://rb.gy/tcd2fs> to view the report on the site.



INTRODUCING...

Welcome LTC Patrick Stevens U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

As the new Albuquerque District Commander for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Lieutenant Colonel Patrick Stevens leads a civilian and military workforce of more than 350 personnel in executing the mission of providing military construction, civil works, and inter-agency support throughout New Mexico, southern Colorado, and far west Texas. The Albuquerque District performs design, construction, and operations and maintenance services for the three Air Force installations in New Mexico and nine lake projects throughout the area.

Prior to assuming command of the Albuquerque District, LTC Stevens was assigned to the U.S. Military Observer Group as the Chief of Support Operations, responsible for support to all U.S. Service members assigned to United Nations peacekeeping operations. He also deployed to Jerusalem for six months in support of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization.

Upon Graduation from Florida Institute of Technology in 2002, LTC Stevens earned a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering and was commissioned as an officer for USACE. He earned a master's degree in Engineering Management from Missouri University of Science and Technology and is a graduate of the Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. LTC Stevens is a licensed Professional Engineer in the State of Texas and is a certified Project Management Professional.

LTC Stevens began his career with USACE at Fort Stewart, Georgia, in 2003. From 2003 to 2006, he served as a platoon leader and staff officer with the 92nd Engineer Battalion and deployed twice in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. LTC Stevens then served as an Observer/Controller Team Chief with the 1st Army at Fort Carson, Colorado and Fort Bliss, Texas. He was next assigned to the 2nd Brigade of the 1st Cav-

alry Division at Fort Hood, Texas where he served as an Engineer Staff Officer and Current Operations Officer during a deployment to Kirkuk, Iraq, and he served as a Company Commander in Baqubah and Taji, Iraq.

From 2011 to 2013, LTC Stevens was assigned to the North Atlantic Division of USACE where he served as Deputy Area Engineer to the New York Area Office and later as the Deputy Division Commander. In 2014, LTC Stevens was assigned to the 36th Engineer Brigade as the Brigade Logistics Officer at Fort Hood, Texas. He deployed to Liberia in support of Operation United Assistance, and after returning in 2015, was assigned as the 20th Engineer Battalion Executive Officer.

In 2018, LTC Stevens was assigned to the Federal Emergency Management Agency as part of a one-year interagency fellowship, during which he deployed to Texas in support of Hurricane Harvey response operations.

On July 9, 2020, LTC Stevens assumed command of the Albuquerque District. Subsequently, he also assumed the role of USACE representative on the Collaborative Program Executive Committee. Please join us in welcoming him!



INTRODUCING...



Welcome Shawn Sartorius **U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE**

Shawn Sartorius is the newest Field Supervisor for the New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office (NMESFO). With this position, he has also taken on the role of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) representative on the Collaborative Program Executive Committee.

Born and raised in Montana, Shawn left as soon as possible to travel to the Southwest at the age of eighteen. He got his bachelor's degree at the University of Arizona in 1996 and Ph.D. at the University of Oklahoma in 2002, focusing on lizard evolutionary ecology at field sites in Arizona and the Amazon Basin of Brazil. Following a

brief teaching stint at Southwestern Oklahoma State University after graduate school, Shawn took a position as an Energy Pilot Project biologist in Billings, Montana. He then moved to Helena, Montana, where he spent 7 years as the Field Offices Listing and Recovery biologist, and was the Service lead for the Canada lynx and wolverine. In 2014, Shawn came back to the Southwest when he took a position as the Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive Species Coordinator for the Southwestern Region of the Forest Service in Albuquerque. In 2016, Shawn became the Classification Branch Chief in the Albuquerque Regional Office. In 2020, Shawn accepted a position as Field Supervisor for the USFWS NMESFO and joined the Collaborative Program. Please join us in welcoming him!

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

THE FOLLOWING ARE RECENT PUBLICATIONS PROVIDED BY MEMBERS OF THE MRGESCP.

[2019 Annual Monitoring Results and Maintenance Plan for San Acacia Reach Restoration Sites](https://rb.gy/cl58b4). McKenna C, Caplan T, Widener W. (2020). Report prepared for New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission. <https://rb.gy/cl58b4>

[2019 Middle Rio Grande Southwestern Willow Flycatcher Study Results](https://rb.gy/dviquh). Moore D. (2020). Report prepared by U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Technical Service Center. <https://rb.gy/dviquh>

[2019 Report for the Los Lunas Habitat Restoration Project; 17 Years of Monitoring](https://rb.gy/zzi4mx). Siegle R, Moore D. (2020). Report prepared for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. <https://rb.gy/zzi4mx>

[Avian Noise Disturbance Study](https://rb.gy/qz18qe). Dillon KG, Moore D. (2020). Report prepared for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. <https://rb.gy/qz18qe>

[Drought Results in Recruitment Failure of Rio Grande Silvery Minnow \(*Hybognathus amarus*\), an Imperiled, Pelagic Broadcast-Spawning Minnow](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10641-020-01003-5). Archdeacon TP, Diver-Franssen TA, Bertrand NG et al. (2020). *Environmental Biology of Fishes*, 103, 1033-1044. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10641-020-01003-5>

[Effects of Seining Effort and Site Length on Variability of Small-Bodied Fish Catch-Rates in a Sand-Bed River](https://doi.org/10.1002/rra.3666). Archdeacon TP, Reale JK, Gonzalez EJ, Grant JD. (2020). *River Research and Applications*, 1-10. <https://doi.org/10.1002/rra.3666>

[Hydrologic Controls on Abundance and Distribution of the Endangered Rio Grande Silvery Minnow in the Middle Rio Grande](https://rb.gy/1c3jwe). Walsworth TE, Budy P. (2020). Report prepared for U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.

[No Quarter: Lack of Refuge During Flow Intermittency Results in Catastrophic Mortality of an Imperiled Minnow](https://doi.org/10.1111/fw.13607). Archdeacon TP, Reale JK. (2020). *Freshwater Biology*, 1-16. <https://doi.org/10.1111/fw.13607>

[Photographic Monitoring of Defoliation by the Tamarisk Beetle](https://rb.gy/lm3hwh). Dillon KG, Moore D. (2020). Report prepared for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. <https://rb.gy/lm3hwh>

[Relationship of Effective Size to Hatchery Supplementation and Habitat Connectivity in a Simulated Population of Rio Grande Silvery Minnow](https://doi.org/10.1002/nafm.10453). Carson EW, Osborne MJ, Turner TF. (2020). *North American Journal of Fisheries Management*, 40(4), 922-938. <https://doi.org/10.1002/nafm.10453>

[Rio Grande Silvery Minnow Population Monitoring During July 2020](https://rb.gy/1c3jwe). Dudley RK, Platania SP, White GC. (2020). Report prepared for U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. <https://rb.gy/1c3jwe>

[Rio Grande Silvery Minnow Population Monitoring During June 2020](https://rb.gy/f8o7sn). Dudley RK, Platania SP, White GC. (2020). Report prepared for U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. <https://rb.gy/f8o7sn>

[Rio Grande Silvery Minnow Population Monitoring During May 2020](https://rb.gy/sfdoz0). Dudley RK, Platania SP, White GC. (2020). Report prepared for U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. <https://rb.gy/sfdoz0>

[Satellite Imagery-Based SERVES Soil Moisture for the Analysis of Soil Moisture Initialization Input Scale Effects on Physics-Based Distributed Watershed Hydrologic Modelling](https://doi.org/10.3390/rs12132108). Pradhan NR, Floyd I, Brown S. (2020). *Remote Sensing*, 12, 2108. <https://doi.org/10.3390/rs12132108>

[Wild at Heart: Programs to Diminish Negative Ecological and Evolutionary Effects of Conservation Hatcheries](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.biocon.2020.108768). Osborne MJ, Dowling TE, Scribner KT, Turner TF. (2020). *Biological Conservation*, 251, 108768. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.biocon.2020.108768>

[Yellow-billed Cuckoo Breeding Habitat Use: Radio Telemetry on the Middle Rio Grande, New Mexico 2019](https://rb.gy/fgtcq5). Dillon KG, Moore D. (2020). Report prepared for U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. <https://rb.gy/fgtcq5>

[Yellow-Billed Cuckoo Study Results - 2019](https://rb.gy/gyshjx). White M, Moore D, Siegle R. (2020). Report prepared for U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. <https://rb.gy/gyshjx>

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES AND UPCOMING DATES AND DEADLINES

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Population Monitoring
Work Group Meeting
September 30, 2020
1:00 PM—4:00 PM

Executive Committee
Meeting
October 27, 2020
2:00 PM—4:00 PM

2020 Science Symposium
December 1-3, 2020

Executive Committee
Meeting
December 17, 2020
9:00 AM—12:00 PM

PROGRAM DEADLINES

SAMC Applications
October 2, 2020

2020 Science Symposium
Call for Abstracts
October 16, 2020

FY20 Non-Federal Cost
Share Reports
December 1, 2020

FY20 Annual Report Write-
Ups
December 15, 2020

Administrative Updates

PROVIDED BY JULIE DICKEY, PROGRAM SUPPORT TEAM

FY20 Non-Federal Cost Share Reporting

A Fiscal Year 2020 (FY20) cost share template has been emailed to each non-federal signatory. FY20 cost share reporting is due by **Tuesday, December 1, 2020**. Please email your completed cost share report to jdickey@west-inc.com.

MRGESCP FY20 Annual Report Write-ups

Soliciting write-ups for the FY20 Annual Report will be a little different this year, as the write-ups will be used to inform the Adaptive Management Database. An electronic form has been sent to the signatories that have ended their fiscal years. All signatories will receive the form by October 1st. Please evaluate your FY20 activities and decide which of them should be included in the MRGESCP FY20 Annual Report. Submit one form per write-up. Submissions are due by **Tuesday, December 15, 2020** to mtuineau@west-inc.com.



The information in this newsletter should not be attributed to the MRGESCP or its Executive Committee, but to the organization from which it was submitted.

For comments and inquiries, contact:

Program Support Team | (505) 362-1251 | jdickey@west-inc.com

Photo: Scenic view of the MRG; Photo Credit: Mike Marcus, APA