



**San Juan River Basin Recovery
Implementation Program (SJRIP)
Annual Meeting and
Coordination Committee Meeting
30 June 2022**

FINAL SUMMARY

Coordination Committee (CC) Members:

Jason Davis, Chair
Steve Whiteman
Absent
Peter Ortego
Crystal Tulley-Cordova
Colleen Cunningham, CC alternate
Michelle Garrison
Rudy Keedah
Ryan Christianson
Dale Ryden
Steve Wolff, CC alternate
Rudy Keedah
Joseph Trungale

Representing

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (Service)
Southern Ute Indian Tribe
Jicarilla Apache Nation
Ute Mountain Ute Tribe
Navajo Nation
State of New Mexico
State of Colorado
U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)
Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation)
Service, Region 6
Water Development Interests
Bureau of Land Management
The Nature Conservancy (TNC)

Program Office (PO):

Melissa Mata, Program Coordinator
Eliza Gilbert, Assistant Program Coordinator
Scott Durst, Science Coordinator
James Sykes, Program Support Assistant
Raphaela Ware, Biologist

Representing

Service
Service
Service
Service
Service

Other Interested Parties:

Colleen Cunningham, CC alternate
Lisa Yellow Eagle, CC alternate
Kara Scheel
Debra Hill, CC alternate
Jacob Mazzone, Biology Committee (BC)
Mark McKinstry, BC
Tom Chart, BC
Pamela Norris
Tildon Jones
Julie Stahli
Lee Traynham
Kathleen Callister
Nathan Clifton
Clarence Fullard

Representing:

State of New Mexico
Southern Ute Indian Tribe
State of Colorado
Service
Jicarilla Apache Nation
Reclamation
Water Development Interests
Arizona Public Service
Service
Service
Reclamation
Reclamation
Reclamation
Reclamation

Introductions and changes to agenda – Davis

Scheel and Ortego asked for clarification on the process to become a CC representative. Mata said she needed an email from the SJRIP entity or its current CC representative. Mata received confirmation of Ortego's CC nomination via email during the meeting.

Gilbert asked for time to explain an idea to create a geographic file (kmz file) of San Juan River points of interest for the SJRIP.

Review of action items identified during the 18 May 2022 meeting – Gilbert

- 1) The CC is in the process of voting to invite NPS as a signatory participant. Mata will follow up with Chris Kelleher for Utah's position.
Mata said Kelleher did not provide an update on Utah's position on NPS becoming a signatory but did indicate Utah was a signature away from becoming a SJRIP participant.
- 2) The CC will provide comments to Tildon Jones on the draft Colorado Pikeminnow Recovery Plan by the end of May.
Completed
- 3) Tildon Jones will prepare draft time and cost estimates for the San Juan Program for inclusion in the Colorado Pikeminnow Recovery Plan to be discussed at the 30 June CC meeting.
Completed
- 4) Mata will share her Annual Meeting presentation with the CC.
Completed
- 5) Mata will coordinate with outstanding parties on participation in the Nonnative Fish Stocking Cooperative Agreement.
Ongoing

May 18th meeting summary approval (vote) - Gilbert

Gilbert received comments from Christianson and Tom Pitts which were editorial in nature. Ryden motioned to approve the summary, Christianson seconded, and with no opposition the motion passed.

Discuss incorporation of the Service's Environmental Branch and Solicitor offices Section 7 Principle comments and next steps - Gilbert

Gilbert asked if any CC members had comments on her incorporation of the Service's Environmental Review Branch and Solicitor's Office edits into the draft Section 7 Principles. Cunningham said she had asked for a legal review by New Mexico's solicitors, and they had been okay with the revisions. Gilbert said she received an email from Tom Pitts indicating he was also okay with the revisions. Gilbert said the next step was to send the draft to the Service's Regional Director (Region 2) to recommend to the CC for approval. Mata said that process could take a couple of weeks but might be concluded in time for the CC to approve the draft during the next meeting (3 August 2022).

Colorado Pikeminnow Recovery Implementation Strategy cost and time estimates – Jones

Jones provided an overview of the purpose of the Colorado Pikeminnow Recovery Plan (Plan) Time and Cost Estimates (Estimates) which are to estimate the time and cost to achieve the Plan's goals and any intermediate steps. The draft Plan has 11 recovery actions, and the Time and Cost Estimates are not pro-rated if an action benefits other listed species. The Estimates are not intended to effect SJRIP and Upper Colorado Recovery Program post-2023 planning or process. Instead, the Estimates drew from that planning as Jones said he used the post-2023 estimates developed by both recovery programs. For the SJRIP, these values were calculated as the average annual cost of recovery activities from 2024-2028 estimates that included annual three percent inflation. Jones combined annual and capital costs between recovery programs. Jones presented the Estimate and an intermediary Excel spreadsheet showing detailed costs for each recovery action. Jones said he worked with the SJRIP PO to check for any errors and make sure there was consistency between Estimates and the SJRIP post-2023 estimates. Gilbert and Durst said they thought Jones did a good job incorporating their comments. The total Estimate was ~\$180 million over 15 years while the Post-2023 planning between both recovery programs covering all four listed species and additional activities totaled \$308 million over 15 years. Jones said there was significant overlap with the Estimates and actions for other species and these were for flows, nonnative fish management, and fish passage and screening. Jones said the Upper Colorado Recovery Program Management Committee asked for additional language to explain that the states conduct other activities that contribute to recovery, but since those activities are not specific to pikeminnow they are not included in the estimates. Stahli said the language would be crafted to be vague because they did not want to identify actions that did not have a cost or time associated with them. Jones said more specific actions and details could be incorporated into the Recovery Implementation Strategy as it is a more flexible document in that it does not require Service Regional Director approval or public comment. Trungale asked Jones to share his intermediary spreadsheet. Davis asked what would happen if recovery actions took more than 15 years and Jones said the document was guidance until there is further revision. Ryden thought his concerns about including inflation had been addressed by Jones. Although Ryden thought 15 years did not make sense from a biological standpoint, but it made sense as a planning window. Jones thought the Service would be able to provide its review by September and said the documents would then go to the Service's External Affairs to upload to a public website for comment. He did not know how long that process might take.

KMZ file for the SJRIP – Gilbert

Gilbert said Cunningham and Garrison asked if the PO had a geographic file (called a kmz) of different points of interest on the San Juan River. Gilbert had said they did not but could develop one. Gilbert demonstrated what such a file could look like with Google Earth which is software that can be freely downloaded. Gilbert said she could put in the locations for the passive integrated antenna system locations, waterfall, habitat restoration projects, etc. Gilbert said she would send an email to the CC to get additional ideas on what should be included in a geographic file.

Next meetings

BC meeting (recommend annual work plan) 14 July 2022

CC meeting (annual work plan approval) 3 August 2022

ACTIONS ITEMS FROM 30 June 2022 COORDINATION COMMITTEE MEETING

1. The CC is in the process of voting to invite the NPS as a signatory participant.
2. The PO will route the draft Section 7 Principles to the Service's Region 2 Director to recommend to the CC for approval
3. Gilbert will send an email to the CC to request points of interest to be included in a SJRIP San Juan River geographic points of interest file (called a kmz file)
4. The PO will distribution the Excel file Jones used to develop the Colorado Pikeminnow Recovery Plan Time and Estimate Costs