



MONTHLY MEETING

Thursday, November 10, 2011 – 7:30 pm
Manzano Mesa Center (map p4)

Rio Grande Silvery Minnow Restoration in NM and TX Guest Speaker: Jason Remshardt, USFWS



Jason Remshardt, on the right, at the latest fish release in Big Bend of Texas for Rio Grande silvery minnow

Throughout much of its historic range, the decline of the Rio Grande silvery minnow is primarily due to destruction and modification of its habitat resulting from diminished water flows. Water quality degradation and competition and predation by introduced non-native species are other contributory factors. In New Mexico, silvery minnow populations are known to occur in the Bosque del Apache and Seville National Wildlife Refuges.

Our guest speaker, Jason Remshardt, will detail the efforts of the New Mexico Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office (NMFWCO) to conduct research, monitoring, and resource inventory activities on a variety of projects related to the Rio Grande silvery minnow in the Rio Grande of New Mexico and Big Bend, Texas. Among these projects are population monitoring, salvage, propagation, and stocking.

Jason is a Fish Biologist with the US Fish and Wildlife Service in Albuquerque. He has over 20 years of experience working with a variety of fish and wildlife management in the midwest and southwest US. He is currently involved primarily with native fish conservation in the Rio Grande of New Mexico and Texas. His projects have included population monitoring, fish tagging, stocking, and habitat use evaluation for Rio Grande silvery minnow. The NMFWCO is based in Albuquerque and is located at 3800 Commons Avenue NE.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Remember this Sunday to “fall back” and reset the clock. I am not a big fan of the time change. I do prefer daylight savings time and having sun longer in the afternoon. The time change also signals the closing of another successful year for AWF.

Our primary goal for this year was to set the stage for leadership change in 2012. We are very pleased with the progress this last year. No major events or monumental marks were made. We had excellent programs again. Glenda continues to do an outstanding newsletter and website (abq.nmwildlife.org).

Attendance at our projects was excellent. All indications are that AWF will continue as leaders in modeling the Leopold land ethic again next year.

This is an early reminder to mark your calendars--Thursday, December 8--for our annual meeting and pot luck dinner. Meet the board members, old and new, and help us spring forward into next year.

Gene Tatum

Jim Hubert's

Notable Quote of the Month

“It would be absolutely useless for any of us to work to save wildlife without working to educate the next generation of conservationists.”

– Jane Goodall, Primatologist and Anthropologist, at a July 2011 conference entitled “Conserving the Future, Wildlife Refuges and the Next Generation”

Court Reinstates Clinton Roadless Rule

Albuquerque Journal

By Phil Parker / Journal North Reporter on Sat, Oct 29, 2011

A federal court ruling this month has re-established a Clinton-era ban on roadway construction in almost 60 million acres of forest and grassland in 38 states, including more than 1 million acres in New Mexico.

The ruling, by the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, echoes another one recently issued by the 9th Circuit Court.

“It’s definitely a significant and meaningful court judgment in New Mexico,” said Bryan Bird of the Santa Fe-based environmental advocacy group WildEarth Guardians.

Large sections of land falling under these protections include national forest areas surrounding the Pecos Wilderness, along the Rio Chama north of Española, and between Taos and Questa.

President Bill Clinton signed the Roadless Area Conservation Rule in the final days of his administration, placing a moratorium on roadways and commercial timber harvesting in those areas. It does, however, allow fire mitigation, Bird said.

The George W. Bush administration repealed the roadless protection regulations in 2005, replacing them with a process giving states control of the matter. Attorneys general in California, Oregon, Washington and New Mexico sued to put the rules back into place.

“There could always be an appeal to the Supreme Court,” said Bird, “but after the 9th and 10th Circuits have soundly upheld the rule, it would be a real uphill battle to try to take it to the Supreme Court.”

Not that the fight is over. Rep. Steve Pearce, R-N.M., is co-sponsor of H.R. 1581, which would place several million acres of land protected under the Roadless Area Conservation Rule into local management plans. The bill, titled the Wilderness and Roadless Area Release Act of 2011, repeatedly notes the areas protected under the rule have been reviewed and deemed unfit for conservation as wilderness.

Pearce spokesman Jamie Dickerman said Thursday that H.R. 1581 would allow more Americans to enjoy federal lands while still protecting wildlife.

Bird called the roadless rule “the next lower level” of protection below a wilderness designation, which can only be made by Congress.

He said the Obama administration is backing the roadless rule.

“There are some legislative activities afoot, but I think everyone is confident that the White House would not sign anything like that,” Bird said.

A Note of Appreciation

October 20, 2011

Speaking for the Board of Los Amigos de Valles Caldera and myself, our thanks to AWF collectively and each volunteer personally for the outstanding work you did this summer on the wetlands restoration projects on the Valles Caldera National Preserve.

As shown by the results of the work AWF did several years ago in the Valle Santa Rosa, this summer's efforts will stand for years as a monument to your dedication to protection and restoration of valuable wetlands.

Thank you!

Jack & Darlene Crane

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ALBUQUERQUE WILDLIFE FEDERATION
PO Box 20225 | Albuquerque, NM 87154
abq.nmwildlife.org

MEMBERSHIPS

NEW MEMBER

Matt Rosett

RENEWED MEMBERS

Dewey Moore & Shelley Roberts

Upper Cedro Creek in October

Our final project of the 2011 season was a combined effort with participants from Albuquerque Wildlife Federation, the Quivira Coalition, and the US Forest Service working on an upper reach of Cedro Creek off the Juan Tomas Road south of Tijeras.

CEDRO CREEK AWF PARTICIPANTS

Linda Butler
Phil Carter
Kristina G. Fisher
Dewey Moore
Dennis Muirhead
Glenda Muirhead
Kurt Nolte
Alex Rice
Shelley Roberts
Michael Scialdone
Marilynn Szydowski
Carl White
Bronwyn Wilson
Bill Zeedyk

The sizable crew broke into several teams to build structures including one rock dams, rock baffles, rock run-downs, and Zuni bowls to help mitigate the effects of erosion in an incised channel in a section of Cedro Creek new to the AWF group. Previous equipment work had started the process, and had also brought in a good supply of rocks to create structures at points determined by Bill Zeedyk to help nudge nature in the right direction. Also put to use were dead downed trees, which got rolled and muscled into place to create a large diversion formation in the channel.

The afternoon culminated in a tasty potluck dinner at the nearby Pine Flat Picnic Ground, where Michael Scialdone (“Scial”) grilled bison burgers and chicken sausages. Contributions of side dishes and desserts completed the picnic fare, and beautiful weather during the project activities and the subsequent meal brought our 2011 project season to a perfect conclusion.

Our sincere thanks to all who attended this year's projects. Without your participation, we can get nowhere in our efforts to improve wildlife habitat in our state. With your strong and willing hands and always amiable company, we accomplish much and look forward to more great events in the future.



OPEN SPACE VISITOR CENTER

CALENDAR of EVENTS

6500 Coors Blvd NW between Montañó & Paseo del Norte

at the end of Bosque Meadows Rd

Tuesday – Sunday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

505-897-8831 | www.cabq.gov/openspace

Bosque Wild: Guided Nature Walk

November 6 | 9:00 am | FREE but registration required

Is the Bosque a mystery to you? Or would you like to learn more about its wild residents and its history? Join our naturalists for a walk into the riverside forest.

Film Screening of "Stories of Wolves-The Lobo Returns"

Friday, November 18th 6:00 pm

Followed by Q & A with the director

Documentary film produced in New Mexico about the recovery of Mexican Gray Wolves in New Mexico, Arizona and Mexico

Wild Wolf Film presents the recently released documentary film about New Mexico's endangered wolves. It is a story with many sub-plots because of the dynamic relationship of the wolves to the various communities who now share the wolves' habitat: the ranchers, the conservationists, the Native American cultures, and the other animals who depend upon the wolves' presence to maintain a healthy ecological system.

As much as it's a film about wolves, it's also about the people of New Mexico and Arizona and their stand in making this program a success or a failure. And ultimately it is about the vanishing wildness inside and outside of us.

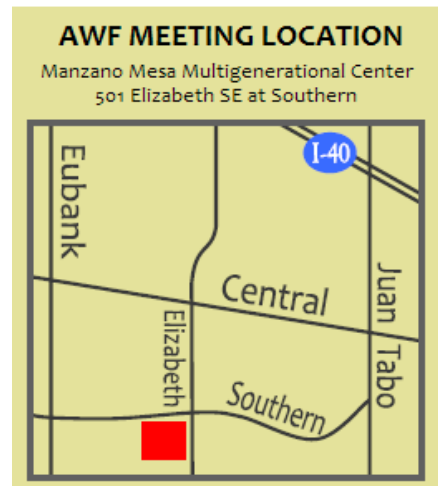
AWF Has a New Address

After many years, AWF recently moved its post office box from downtown ABQ to a NE substation. This downtown location is being considered for closure because of declining usage, and has also recently instituted absolute security checkpoints for entry because it is housed in a federal building. These considerations made a move seem practical and prudent.

Our new mailing address is:

Albuquerque Wildlife Federation
P.O. Box 20225
Albuquerque, NM 87154

The AWF website and our membership application have been updated to reflect this change.



AWF MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Albuquerque Wildlife Federation | PO Box 20225 | Albuquerque, NM 87154

An affiliate of New Mexico Wildlife Federation

I'd like to belong to AWF ONLY or I'd like to belong to AWF + NMWF: Designate NMWF member(s) _____

name(s) _____

address _____

city, state, zip _____

phone _____ email _____

Gift membership from: _____

Student [under 18 ----- \$10 (AWF membership only)

Individual ----- \$25

Family ----- \$35

Sustaining ----- \$50-\$99

Patron ----- \$100

Lifetime ----- \$500 (One-time payment)

Dues \$ _____

Contribution \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____