

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

Rio Grande Silvery Minnow Sanctuary

Purpose: A goal exists to create a natural waterway for growing and releasing Rio Grande silvery minnows. The Rio Grande Silvery Minnow Sanctuary would be used to provide habitats for all life stages of silvery minnow.

- Project is located about a mile south of Bridge Blvd in Albuquerque, New Mexico, on the east side of the Rio Grande.
- Cooperating agencies include: Reclamation, Fish and Wildlife Service, MRGCD, and the City of Albuquerque.
- Phase one consists of pump intake and adjacent concrete lining. Work began February 2006.
- Phase two consists of construction of sanctuary channel which began April 2006.
- Phase three consists of filter building, drain return pipeline, outlet structure, and completion of pumping plant.
- Preliminary total construction cost is approximately \$3 million.
- Annual operation and maintenance costs estimated at \$350,000.
- Completed project could serve as one of the refugia required by the Biological Opinion.
- Selected site has room for expansion.
- Reclamation's FY2006 appropriation included \$2 million for the sanctuary.

