# RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

## **Joint Biological Assessment**

Bureau of Reclamation, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and Non-Federal Water Management and Maintenance Activities on the Middle Rio Grande, New Mexico

Middle Rio Grande Project, New Mexico San Juan-Chama Project, New Mexico Upper Colorado Region



#### **Mission Statements**

The U.S. Department of the Interior protects America's natural resources and heritage, honors our cultures and tribal communities, and supplies the energy to power our future.

The mission of the Bureau of Reclamation is to manage, develop, and protect water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American public.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs' mission is to enhance the quality of life, to promote economic opportunity, and to carry out the responsibility to protect and improve the trust assets of American Indians, Indian tribes and Alaska Natives.



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### **Acronyms and Abbreviations**

Middle Rio Grande Project, New Mexico San Juan-Chama Project, New Mexico Upper Colorado Region

Submitted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Rio Grande Silvery Minnow Southwestern Willow Flycatcher

Yellow-billed Cuckoo New Mexico Meadow Jumping Mouse

Pecos Sunflower Interior Least Tern



#### **Acronyms and Abbreviations**

1928 Act Act of March 13, 1928 (45 Statute 312)

1935 Act Act of 1935, 49 Statute 887

1981 Agreement Agreement: Procedures for the Storage and Release of Indian

Water Entitlement of the Six Middle Rio Grande Pueblos, approved by the Secretary of the Interior, December 28, 1981

2003 BO March 17, 2003 Biological Opinion

°C degree Celsius

°F degree Fahrenheit

> greater than
< less than
% percent
§ section</pre>

ABCWUA Albuquerque-Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority

AF acre-feet

AFY acre-feet per year

AM Adaptive Management

AMAFCA Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority

Annual Operating Plan Middle Rio Grande Annual Operating Plan

AT&SF Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe

ATV all-terrain vehicle

BA biological assessment

Basin Rio Grande Basin

BDA Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge

BIA Bureau of Indian Affairs

BiOp biological opinion

BLM Bureau of Land Management
BMP best management practice

BO biological opinion

BDD Buckman Direct Diversion Project
Bylaws Collaborative Program's bylaws

CFR Code of Federal Regulations

cfs cubic feet per second

cm centimeter

cm/s centimeter(s) per second

Coalition Coalition of the Six MRG Pueblos

Collaborative Program Middle Rio Grande Endangered Species Collaborative Program

Compact Rio Grande Compact

Corps U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

CPUE catch per unit effort cuckoo yellow-billed cuckoo

CWA Conservation Water Agreement

Diversion Dams

Angostura, Isleta, and San Acacia Diversion Dams

DMI data management interface

DO dissolved oxygen

DPS Distinct Population Segment

EB Elephant Butte

EBID Elephant Butte Irrigation District

EC Executive Committee

EDWA Emergency Drought Water Agreement
EPA U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

ESA Endangered Species Act

ET evapotranspiration
Fed Reg Federal Register

flycatcher Southwestern willow flycatcher

FM flow model

ft feet

GIS geographic information system

gpcd gallons per capita per day
GPS global positioning system

ha hectare

Heron Dam and Reservoir

HO hydrologic objective

IT incidental take

ITS Incidental Take Statement

jumping mouse New Mexico meadow jumping mouse

JyS Plan 2003 Jemez y Sangre Regional Water Plan

km kilometer

LFCC Low Flow Conveyance Channel

LIDAR light detection and ranging

LJAA La Joya Acequia Association

LLSMR Los Lunas Silvery Minnow Refugium

LTP Long-Term Plan

m meter

m<sup>2</sup> square meters

MBTA Migratory Bird Treaty Act

MCP minimum convex polygon

mg/L milligrams per liter

mi mile

mm millimeter

MOA Memorandum of Agreement

MOU Memorandum of Understanding

MRG Middle Rio Grande

MRGAA Middle Rio Grande Administrative Area
MRGCD Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District
MRG Plan Middle Rio Grande Regional Water Plan

MRG Project Middle Rio Grande Project

NEPA National Environmental Policy Act

NM New Mexico

NMDGF New Mexico Department of Game and Fish

NMED New Mexico Environment Department

NMISC New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission

NMOSE New Mexico Office of the State Engineer

NMSA New Mexico Statutes Annotated

NPDES National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

NRCS Natural Resources Conservation Service

NWR National Wildlife Refuge

O&M operation and maintenance

OM&B operation, maintenance, and betterment

PCE primary constituent element
PDO Pacific Decadal Oscillation

PHVA workgroup Population and Habitat Viability Assessment/Hydrology

workgroup

PIT passive integrated transponder

Program Reclamation's Supplemental Water Program

Project Middle Rio Grande Project

PVA Population Viability Analysis

Reclamation U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

RG Rio Grande

RGC Rio Grande Compact

RIO River Integrated Operations

RIP Middle Rio Grande Recovery Implementation Program

RM river mile

RPA reasonable and prudent alternative
RPM reasonable and prudent measure

SADD San Acacia Diversion Dam

SE State Engineer

Secretary Secretary of the Interior

Service U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

silvery minnow Rio Grande silvery minnow

Six MRG Pueblos Cochiti, Santo Domingo, San Felipe, Santa Ana, Sandia, and

Isleta Pueblos

SJC Project San Juan-Chama Project

SNOTEL snowpack telemetry

Stat. Statute

State of New Mexico

SS Plan Soccoro-Sierra Regional Water Plan

SWFL Southwestern willow flycatcher

tern interior least tern

TNC The Nature Conservancy

URG Upper Rio Grande

URGWOM Upper Rio Grande Water Operations Model

U.S. United States

U.S.C. United States Code

USGS U.S. Geological Survey

WDFW Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

WMA Wildlife Management Area

WWTP wastewater treatment plant

YOY young-of-year