Audubon

New Mexico Water Dialogue Middle Rio Grande Farm and River Resilience Project January 14, 2021

BY QUANTINA MARTINE

WATER RESOURCE ASSOCIATE

AUDUBON NEW MEXICO

Photo: Quantina Martine/Audubon Southwest

Project Overview



- Location: Middle Rio Grande Isleta Reach
- Endangered species:
 - Rio Grande Silvery Minnow
 - Southwestern Willow Flycatcher
- 6 outfalls/wasteways
 - Los Chavez, NM to Bernardo, NM



Endangered Species



Rio Grande Silvery Minnow



The Rio Grande silvery minnow (*Hybognathus amarus*) is one of America's most critically endangered species. Photo by: Aimee Roberson

Southwestern Willow Flychatcher



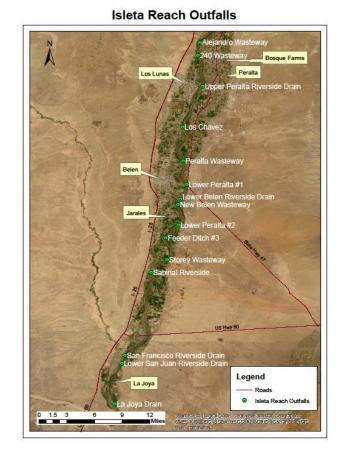
What is an Outfall? What is special about an outfall?

Photo: Quantina Martine/Audubon-Southwest

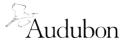
Isleta Reach



- 48 River miles
- Valencia and Northern Socorro counties
- Cities: Los Lunas and Belen
- 13,000 acres of Bosque habitat
- MRGCD Belen Division:
 - Roughly 26,500 acres of irrigated agriculture
 - Largest MRGCD Division
- Sevilleta NWR
- Bernardo and La Joya WMA's
- Whitfield Wildlife Management Area



Fieldwork/Data Collection by Audubon NM



- Habitat Characterization
- Cross Section
- Laser Level at Transects
- Soil Texture
- Flow Measurement
- Main Channel Habitat



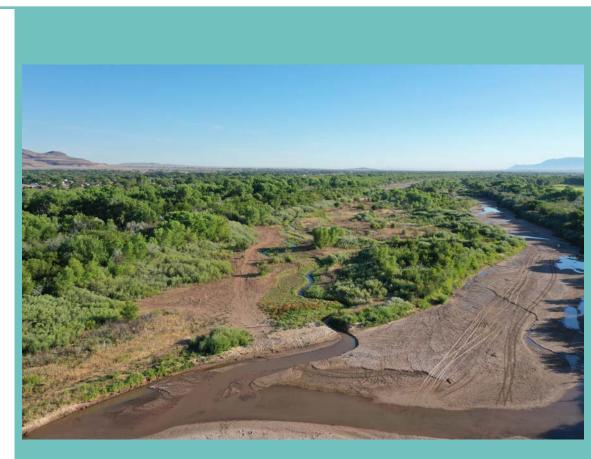


Los Chavez Outfall

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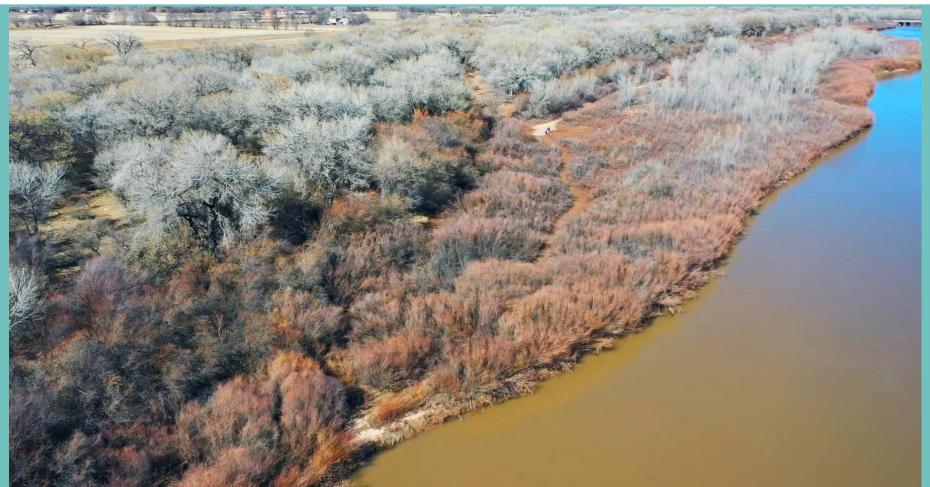
Los Chavez Wasteway 34°44'53.91"N, 106°44'45.55"W





New Belen Wasteway





Drying River in the Isleta Reach



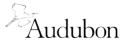


Drying River in the Isleta Reach





Conceptual Design for Restoration





Conceptual Design for Restoration





Optimal for habitat for species:





Partners



- Partnerships:
 - Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District
 - Bureau of Reclamation
 - University of New Mexico Utton Center
 - National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
 - US Fish and Wildlife Service
 - Isleta Reach Stewardship Association
 - Interstate Stream Commission
 - SWCA
 - Hawks Aloft
 - Bonneville Environmental Foundation





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