

COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA BRIEFING

Meeting Date: March 8, 2024

Agenda Number: 15

Presenter: Kirk Patten

Corroborator: N/A

Agenda Title: Highlights of the Fisheries Management Division

1. Summary of Agenda Item

The Department will provide a brief overview of the Fisheries Management Division and conservation activities completed in 2023.

2. Background Information

The Fisheries Management Division executes aquatic conservation efforts for the Department which includes habitat restoration, population monitoring, species repatriation efforts, and operation of six state fish hatcheries. In 2023, the Research and Management Section initiated two large-scale aquatic/riparian habitat projects funded through the Habitat Stamp Program, completed one angler and boater access project, completed a decades-long native fish restoration project in the Rio Costilla watershed, dozens of population surveys, among myriad other conservation actions for sportfish, species of greatest conservation need, and threatened and endangered species. The Hatchery Section stocked approximately 616,000 pounds of fish represented by nine species, began rearing Gila trout at Glenwood Hatchery, completed renovations to the aeration infrastructure and decontamination procedures at Rock Lake Hatchery, and finalized plans for renovating the drinking water system at Los Ojos Hatchery.

3. Strategic Plan References and Possible Impacts of Agenda Item

Activities conducted by the Fisheries Management Division advance the Conservation Services Program Objectives 4 of the Department's Strategic Plan: FY 2019 – FY 2023.

4. Considerations Regarding Duplications and/or Conflicts with Existing Rules or Statutes

None

5. Description and Summary of Public Involvement Process and Results

NA

6. Suggested Motion

This presentation is for informational purposes only.