



## **SOUTHWEST TRIBAL FISHERIES COMMISSION**

**QUARTERLY MEETING – Thursday, November 15, 2018 9:00 AM**

BIA Southwest Regional Office, 1001 Indian School Rd.,  
Pete Domenici Bldg., Rm. 133, Albuquerque, NM

### **AGENDA**

#### **Coffee and Bagels**

- 9:00 – 9:15** Call to Order (Stuart Leon)  
Introductions
- 9:15 – 9:30** Secretary-Treasurer Report (Steve Whiteman)  
• Approval of Past Minutes  
• Financial Report
- 9:30 – 9:45** Chairman Report (Jacob Mazzone)
- 9:45 – 10:00** Vice-Chairman Report (Adam Ringia)
- 10:00 – 10:15** Presentation: New Mexico Trout organization (tentative)
- 10:15 – 10:30** Partnership Updates  
• U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
• U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs  
• U.S. Forest Service  
• NAFWS  
• Others
- 10:30 – 10:45** Mescalero Tribal Fish Hatchery Report (Shelley Battiest)
- 10:45 – 11:15** Executive Director (Stuart Leon)  
• Review and Discussion: SWTFC Strategic Plan  
• Discussion: SWTFC youth programs  
• The year in review / Looking forward
- 11:15 – 12:00** Open Discussion: Other items of interest to the Commission
- 12:00** Adjourn

#### **Next Meeting:**

***SWTFC Quarterly BOD Meeting  
Spring, 2019***



# Southwest Tribal Fisheries Commission

QUARTERLY MEETING – Thursday November 15<sup>th</sup> 2018 9:00AM

BIA Southwest Regional Office / Domenici Building Room 133  
1001 Indian School NW, Albuquerque, New Mexico

## Meeting Sign-In Sheet

	Name	Organization	Email (IF NOT ON FILE ALREADY)
1	Steve Whiteman	SWTFC / S. Ute Tribe	
2	Jacob A. MAZZONE	SWTC / Jicarilla G&F	
3	Stuart Leon	SWTFC / Exec. Dir.	
4	Colenn Selby	NNDFW	
5	Michèle Martinez	Sandia Lakes	mimartinez@sandia.pueblo.usu.us
6	Adam Ringia	None!	ringia@yahoo.com
7	Cody Lemyte	Zuni Fish & Wildlife	c_lemyte@yahoo.com
8	Lawrence Abeita	BIA/SPA	lawrence.abeita@bia.gov
9	Nelson Luna	Zuni Fish & Wildlife	Nelson.Luna@ashwin.org
10	Jerry Burton	NM Trout	jerry10@aol.com
11	DAVID MARSH	NM Trout	wmarsh7@comcast.net
12	Roberta Chavez	BIA NPA	roberta.chavez@bia.gov
13	JOHN NYSTEDT	US Fish & Wildlife	John.Nystedte@fws.gov
14	Shelley Battiest	Mescalero Fish Hatchery	sbelin@mescaleroapachetribe.com
15	Toni Murden	MTFH	tmurden@matisp.net
16	Raymond Lacero	Pueblo of Laguna	rlacero@laguna.pueblo.usa.gov
17	JOE EARLY	USFWS Tribal Liaison	joe-early@fws.gov
18	Chris Kitcheyan	USFWS - NM FWC	chris-kitcheyan@fws.gov
19	Claudine Flores	Isleta Lakes	claudine.flores@isleta.com
20	Michelle J. Keryte	Isleta Lakes	michelle.keryte@isleta.com
21	NORMAN JOJOLA	BIA/NPA	NORMAN.JOJOLA@BIA.GOV
22	THOMAS E. TISHE	MORA NATIONAL FISH HATCHERY USFWS	tom-tishe@fws.gov
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# Southwest Tribal Fisheries Commission

Quarterly Meeting / BIA Southwest Regional Office – ABQ, NM Nov 15, 2018

**Meeting Convened at 9:10 AM**

## **Membership Attendance (Tribe / Rep)**

1. Jicarilla Apache Nation	Jacob Mazzone (Chairman)
2. Laguna Pueblo	Adam Ringia (Vice-Chairman)
3. Southern Ute Tribe	Steve Whiteman (Secretary-Treasurer)
4. Mescalero Apache Tribe	Shelley Battiest
5. Zuni Pueblo	Nelson Luna
6. Navajo Nation	Glenn Selby
7. Sandia Pueblo	Michele Martinez
8. Isleta Pueblo	Michelle (Jackie) Keryte
9. Taos Pueblo	Talisa Ortega
10. Santa Clara Pueblo	Not present
11. Cochiti Pueblo	Not present
12. San Carlos Apache Tribe	Not present
13. Ohkay Owingeh	Not present
14. Picuris Pueblo	Not present
15. Nambe Pueblo	Not present
16. San Ildefonso Pueblo	Not present
17. Ute Tribe (U&O)	Not present
18. Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe	Not present

## **Other Attendees:**

Stuart Leon, SWTFC Executive Director  
Tori Marden, Mescalero Tribal Fish Hatchery  
Raymond Lucero, Laguna Pueblo Natural Resources  
Cody Lanyate, Zuni Fish & Wildlife  
Claudine Flores, Isleta Lakes  
Norman Jojola, U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs – Northern Pueblos Agency  
Roberta Chavez, U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs – Northern Pueblos Agency  
Lawrence Abeita, U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs – Southern Pueblos Agency  
Joe Early, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service – Region 2 Native American Liaison  
Chris Kitcheyan, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service – NM Fish & Wildlife Cons. Office  
John Nystedt, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service – AZ Ecological Services Office  
Barak Shemai, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service – Region 2 Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator  
Thomas Tighe, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service – Mora National Fish Hatchery  
Jerry Burton, New Mexico Trout  
David Marsh, New Mexico Trout

## **Welcome / Opening Comments (Stuart Leon)**

Stuart welcomed the group, introductions were made  
Per bylaws, 1/3 of membership (=6) is required for quorum; quorum was achieved

## **Secretary / Treasurer Report (Steve Whiteman)**

Steve pointed out that officer election will be held at our annual meeting next spring  
The 2019 election will be to fill the Vice-Chairman position on the SWTFC Board of Directors  
2017 taxes have been submitted by Sammy Johnson, SWTFC tax preparer. An extension was granted by IRS.  
Steve indicated that Mr. Johnson's fee for 2017 tax prep was \$1,200.  
Steve presented minutes from SWTFC's prior meeting on August 10, 2018, held in Ignacio, CO.  
Nelson motioned to approve the August 10 minutes, with second by Adam; Minutes approved by consensus  
Steve provided the financial report for the SWTFC Discretionary, Feed/Fuel, and Investment accounts

Stuart inquired about management of the Investment Fund; Steve briefly explained the history of this fund E. Jones manages the Fund under an “aggressive” investment strategy (i.e., higher potential return but higher risk) Steve offered to setup a conference call with Fund manager, Edward Jones to review fund management

	<b>Beginning Balance/Value</b>	<b>Period Revenues</b>	<b>Period Expenses</b>	<b>Ending Balance/Value</b>	<b>Net Change</b>
<b>Discretionary Fund</b> (8/10/18 – 11/13/18)	\$10,283.68	\$37,540.00	\$30,504.06	\$17,319.62	\$7,035.94
<b>Feed &amp; Fuel Account</b> (8/10/18 – 11/9/18)	\$102,432.09	\$22,410.52	\$24,384.11	\$100,458.50	[\$1,973.59]
<b>Investment Account</b> (8/10/18 – 11/13/18)	\$569,687.61	-	-	\$547,997.29	[\$21,690.32]

**Chairman’s Report (Jacob Mazzone)**

Jacob described a Sept 25-26 inter-agency meeting in Grand Junction, CO with primarily Fed/State wildlife agencies This was organized as the first-annual “Colorado Basin Recovery Coordination” meeting of agencies Focus was on resolving differences in (1) sport fisheries mgmt, and (2) implementation of ESA/native conservation Much of the meeting revolved around AZ, UT claiming unfair treatment on certain ESA matters (e.g. trout stocking) Attendees were glad to see some tribes present (SWTFC, Jicarilla, S. Ute), and would like to see more in the future There are important meetings coming up: Rio Grande Cutthroat, Chub, Sucker conservation groups; Three Species A Species Status Assessment (SSA) is currently in the works for roundtail chub

**Vice-Chairman’s Report (Adam Ringia)**

Adam announced his resignation from Laguna Natural Resources, and is therefore stepping down from SWTFC Adam reminded group of USFWS-Tribes coordination meeting this afternoon Raymond Lucero will be Laguna rep to SWTFC for the foreseeable future Steve pointed out that the election to re-fill the vacant Vice-Chair seat will be at our annual meeting in March 2019

**Presentation by New Mexico Trout (Jerry Burton, David Marsh)**

Jerry and David gave a PowerPoint overview of New Mexico Trout (NMT) NMT is a 501c3, has approximately 210 members, and holds monthly meetings in ABQ Mission: Dedicated to preservation and enhancement of trout fishing in NM’s waters through restoration of riparian habitats and through the education of the public about fishing and fisheries conservation NMT is active with projects, including: river cleanups, beaver dam analog construction, willow plantings, surveys NMT would like to explore partnership opportunities with tribes, nations, agencies, etc. Chris offered that opportunity exist for habitat improvement work at Santa Clara Pueblo Chris suggests that NMT reach out directly to the Pueblo to offer assistance (instead of through FWS) Other opportunities for partnerships with tribes may exist with Taos, Picuris, Mescalero Apache

**Partnership Updates**

- *U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service: Southwest Region (Early, Shemai, Kitcheyan, Nystedt)*  
FWS R2 is hosting another tribal game warden training in Feb 2019 at Santa Ana Pueblo; contact Joe Early Tribal Wildlife Grants on hold at the moment pending federal budget approval The Native American Policy Implementation Team in SW Region will soon share draft for tribal review

Changes have been made with catfish production at Inks Dam NFH to eliminate zebra mussel risk No evidence of mussel invasion at Inks Dam yet; monitoring will continue NZ mudsnail found in outflow of Alchesay NFH; distribution is very isolated, eradication being planned Hazard Analysis/Critical Control Points training (NCTC) is available free to interested tribes through FWS This training may be especially valuable to fish production facilities (e.g., MTFH); contact Barak FWS awards funds to states with ANS plans; opportunity for SWTFC to develop an ANS for SW tribes Barak says awards are approximately \$50k/annually per approved ANS plan

Stuart and Steve acknowledged this is worth SWTFC's further consideration; more to come at next meeting  
Chris encourages attendance at this afternoon's coordination meeting  
Channel catfish delivery goals are being met despite recent ANS concerns at Inks Dam NFH

Chris will soon reach out to various tribes about catfish needs in 2019  
Rainbow trout distribution from Alchesay NFH is occurring again now that the hatchery is BKD negative  
Numbers of trout are down due to ongoing drought and reduced water production at the hatchery  
Next trout stocking will occur in Spring 2019  
Tribal fisheries management plans continue to be very important; many are expiring and need updates  
The management plans are important to justifying allocation of trout to tribes by FWS  
Contact Chris Kitcheyan if assistance is needed with preparing or updating plans

- *U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs (Lawrence Abeita)*  
Funding request period for Conservation Law Enforcement is closing  
Open funding programs are: endangered species, hatchery maintenance, invasive species, youth programs  
Deadlines for requests are in mid-January; Applicants need to work through their local agency offices  
Contact Waylon Denny at Regional Office with questions
- *Native American Fish & Wildlife Society (Norman Jojola)*  
There was a great regional conference held in Ignacio, Colorado; thanks to Southern Ute Tribe  
2019 Nat'l Conference will be hosted by SW Region in Phoenix, May 20-23 by Gila River Indian Comm.  
Conference will be held at Wild Horse Pass Resort and Casino  
Two workshops to be held on May 20: feral horses and climate change  
Conference agenda is currently under development; contact Norman with suggestions for topics  
Youth Practicum is being planned again for 2019; probably to be held at Rio Mora Nat'l Wildlife Refuge  
Advertising for NAFWS Executive Director continues, "until filled"

#### **Mescalero Tribal Fish Hatchery Report (Tory Marden)**

Tory reviewed the hatchery report for the group. The report is attached to these minutes.

#### **Executive Director Report (Stuart Leon)**

Stuart commented on the success of the SWTFC newsletter; next issue at end of December

- *SWTFC Strategic Plan*  
The draft updated plan has been prepared and Stuart has requested comments; none received  
Nelson, Steve, Jacob all offered comments on the plan and supported its approval  
Nelson motioned to approve the Strategic Plan. Glenn seconded motion. 8 votes in favor, 0 opposed.  
The Strategic Plan will again be discussed at our Annual Meeting in 2019
- *SWTFC Youth Programs*  
Youth programs were held in 2018 at Southern Ute, Mescalero, and Zuni  
These programs were great successes that inspired many tribal youth interested in natural resources  
\$50k in USFS funding is available for more youth programs in 2019  
Stuart would prefer to spread this funding to as many interested tribes as possible  
Programs are not limited to just fisheries; work just needs to be in natural resources
- *SWTFC Fisheries Workshops*  
FWS/Fisheries Program (DC office) is awarding \$10k in support of SWTFC fisheries workshops  
Workshops have been a great success so far; planning for 2019 workshop needs to start  
Stuart is very enthusiastic about Aquatic Invasive Species as a workshop topic; looking for other ideas  
HACCP is an important topic that can be incorporated into an AIS Workshop  
Other possible topics: Fish ID, Aquatic Invertebrates  
Lawrence indicates training rooms are available for workshops at BIA Regional Office
- *Hatchery Truck at Mescalero Tribal Fish Hatchery*  
The hatchery truck is dilapidated, getting worse, and needs to be replaced  
Many thousands of dollars are being spent on repairs and maintenance for the truck  
Stuart has spoken with Mescalero Director Tyner Cervantes about pursuing BIA funds

The BIA's "Hatchery Maintenance" program should be a suitable source of funds  
Funds are needed for (1) purchasing a new truck, and (2) finishing raceway shade structures

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 PM

**Next Meeting:**  
***SWTFC Annual BOD Meeting – Spring 2019***  
***BIA Headquarters – Albuquerque, New Mexico***

**Meeting Minutes taken by:**  
Steve Whiteman, Secretary-Treasurer  
Southwest Tribal Fisheries Commission  
[swhitema@southernute-nsn.gov](mailto:swhitema@southernute-nsn.gov)

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT**  
**SOUTHWEST TRIBAL FISHERIES COMMISSION**  
**November 15, 2018**

**I. DISCRETIONARY FUNDS** *Wells Fargo, P.O. Box 1081 Albuquerque 87103*

Balance on 8/10/2018	\$	10,283.68
Balance on 11/13/2018	\$	17,319.62
<b>Net Change:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>7,035.94</b>

Revenues

Transfer from Feed & Fuel Account	\$	20,000.00
USDA-USFS Grant for Summer Youth Programs (SUIT+MAT)	\$	17,540.00
<b>Sub-Total:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>37,540.00</b>

Expenses

Payroll for Stuart Leon: August - October, 2018	\$	10,241.25
Payroll Taxes Impounded	\$	2,676.75
Payroll Department Accounting Fees	\$	216.60
Reimburse SUIT for Summer USFS Intern Program	\$	13,339.00
Travel Stipends for Fisheries Workshop Students	\$	950.00
Stuart Leon Conference Travel Expenses (Fuel, Food)	\$	223.81
Credit Card Payments (Leon)	\$	2,856.65
<b>Sub-Total:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>30,504.06</b>

**II. FEED & FUEL ACCOUNT** *Wells Fargo, P.O. Box 1081 Albuquerque 87103*

Balance on 8/10/2018	\$	102,432.09
Balance on 11/9/2018	\$	100,458.50
<b>Net Change:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>(1,973.59)</b>

Revenues

Fish Purchases (x 6)	\$	22,410.52
<b>Sub-Total:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>22,410.52</b>

Expenses

Transfer to Discretionary Account	\$	20,000.00
Vehicle Repairs	\$	1,592.67
Credit Card Payments (Battiest)	\$	2,791.44
<b>Sub-Total:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>24,384.11</b>

**III. INVESTMENT ACCOUNT** *Edward Jones 8000 Paseo del Norte NE Suite C9 ABQ 87122*

Account Value on 8/10/2018	\$	569,687.61
Account Value on 11/13/2018	\$	547,997.29
<b>Net Change:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>(21,690.32)</b>

REPORT TO THE SWTFC MEMBERSHIP  
MESCALERO TRIBAL FISH HATCHERY

**DELIVERIES**

For the reporting period of August through October 2018, we delivered 6,000lbs. of rainbow trout ranging from 11.5" and up in support of 2 Tribal Fisheries program, Mescalero Apache Tribe and the Pueblo of Nambe. This number of trout was equivalent to delivering 10,990lbs. All trout were provided at a rate of \$3.06 per pound, plus transportation costs.

**HATCHERY BUSINESS**

Hatchery staff consists of Tyner Cervantes, Director, Shelley Battiest, Hatchery Manager, Tori Marden, Asst. Hatchery Manager, John Salazar, Houston Fatty and Ian Murphy, Fisheries Technicians. Jimmy Runningwater, Fisheries Technician/CDL Driver. We are sad to announce that Jessica Rodriguez no longer works with MTFH. We will miss her, but wish her well.

The ARD-17 Lot that hatched back in December 2017 are now 10 months old, SSD-18 Lot are 9 months old and FLD-18 Lot are now 7 months old.

Due to the Big Fish Delivery truck having mechanical and maintenance issues we haven't been able to maintain our normal fall delivery schedule.

Our ongoing project with the NEW Recirculation Tankhouse (RTH) is coming along very well. We are almost near completion with the help from Mora National Fish Hatchery.

Our Summer Youth did a wonderful job helping us out this summer from making deliveries, helping with tours and working on the NEW RTH.

We have a WIOA worker and one volunteer that comes in on their days off from school and on weekends.

Tours have slowed down just a little but we did get local departments, Las Cruces Boy Scouts, Mescalero Gaming Commission and Tularosa Science Club to name a few.

Along with continuing day to day operations and maintenance of the hatchery, we had other projects going on during the reporting period:

August

- Crew helped with flood prepping and control
- Mora staff came down to help assemble RAS tanks and piping
- Data collecting

September

- Mora staff came down again to help with RTH
- Regular hatchery operations

October

- Staff started prepping to install electricity to RTH
- Big Fish Delivery truck went in for mechanic and maintenance work
- Regular hatchery operations

MTFH has maintain its normal Class-A status; disease free. Bio-security measures at the hatchery are continuing to be maintained.

Our primary mission at the hatchery is to serve our community and the many SWTFC member tribes to the best of our ability and to provide the best quality fish we can to support tribal fisheries programs. We will continue to do so.