



**-- MEDIA ADVISORY --**  
(April 5, 2007)

## **New Rio Grande Silvery Minnow Refugium**

**(LOS LUNAS, New Mexico)** – A new facility is scheduled for construction in Los Lunas in coming months that will allow the Rio Grande silvery minnow to breed and thrive in a reach of the Rio Grande south of Albuquerque.

Pueblo of Isleta Governor Robert Benevides will be performing a ground blessing ceremony, followed by the ground breaking on Thursday, April 12, 2007.

Officials expected to attend the groundbreaking: Congresswoman Heather Wilson, Attorney General Gary King, New Mexico State Engineer John D'Antonio, Interstate Stream Commission Chairman Jim Dunlap, Los Lunas Mayor Louis F. Huning, and others.

The facility, to be managed by the Interstate Stream Commission, will help with the recovery of the Rio Grande silvery minnow by providing a place for the fish to spawn and grow in an environment that closely resembles its natural habitat. This facility will meet one of the requirements of the 2003 Biological Opinion.

**Where:** **Los Lunas Silvery Minnow Refugium**  
1000 N Main Street  
Los Lunas, New Mexico 87031

**When:** **Thursday, April 12, 2007**

**Time:** **9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**

**Directions:** **(see attached sheet)**

**For more information, contact:** **Julie Maas, Public Relations Specialist, at (505) 765-2011**

**# # #**

## Directions to Refugium Groundbreaking

- From Albuquerque, take Interstate-25 south to Los Lunas (For reference, approximately 21 miles from downtown Albuquerque)
- Take the Los Lunas exit number #203
- Turn left onto NM Hwy 6/Main Street
- Drive approximately 1.2 miles
- Turn left into the State of New Mexico Las Lunas Campus, marked by a yellow sign. (If you pass the police station next to the campus, you've gone too far.)
- Once on the campus, go to the right, following the circular drive.
- The location of the groundbreaking and parking sites will be marked.