

The Rio Grande silvery minnow

The Rio Grande silvery minnow is a small minnow that rarely reaches four inches. This small minnow is silver, with a light greenish-yellow tint and light cream to white belly. It is native to the Rio Grande and Pecos River.

The adults spawn during spring runoff and the females release 600 to 5,300 eggs. The eggs swell and float downstream just under the surface of the water. The eggs drift downstream for three to five days before they hatch. The young fish like backwaters, side channels and flooded areas that provide cover and slow-moving water.

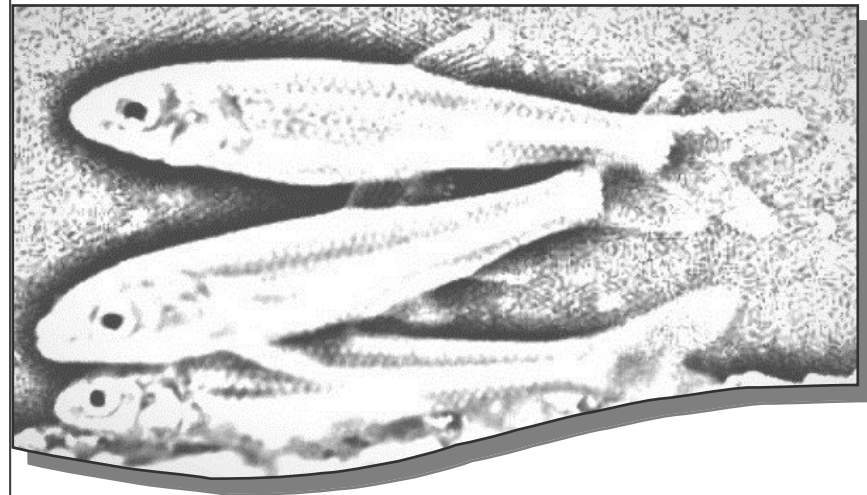
The Rio Grande silvery minnow faces many challenges including drought, increased water-demands, habitat fragmentation and alteration and the introduction of nonnative species. It was listed as endangered July 20, 1994.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service works on numerous activities to watch and help the Rio Grande silvery minnow including population monitoring, hatchery reproduction, reintroduction into historical habitat, and fish rescue. Ultimately, there are three goals for the Rio Grande silvery minnow; *prevent extinction, down-list, and de-list.*



Silvery Minnow, What Makes This Home for You?

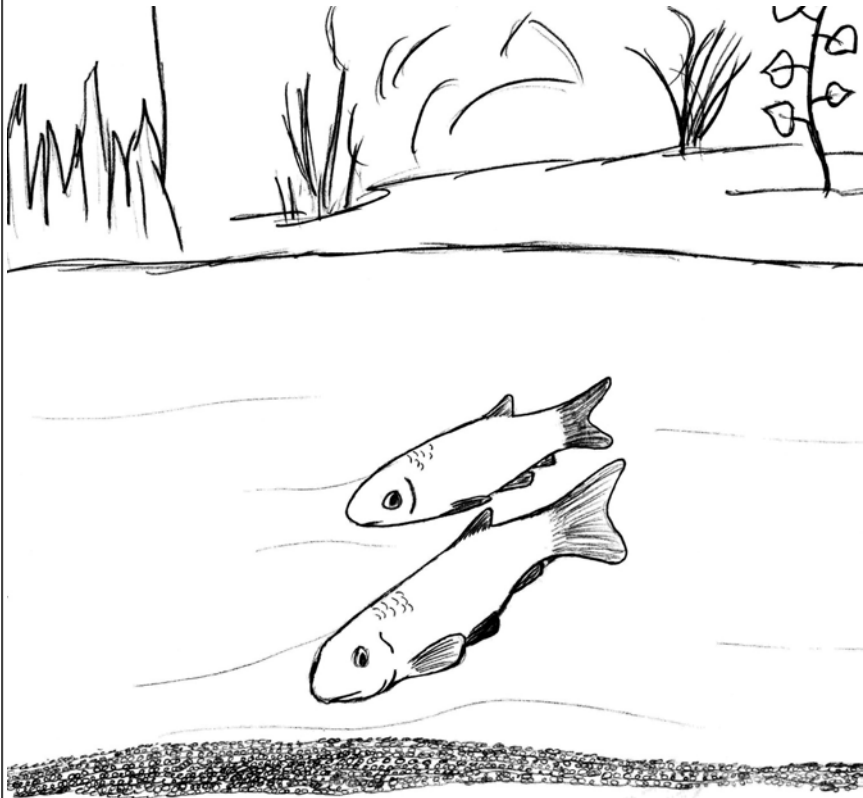
Coloring Book



Written and illustrated by
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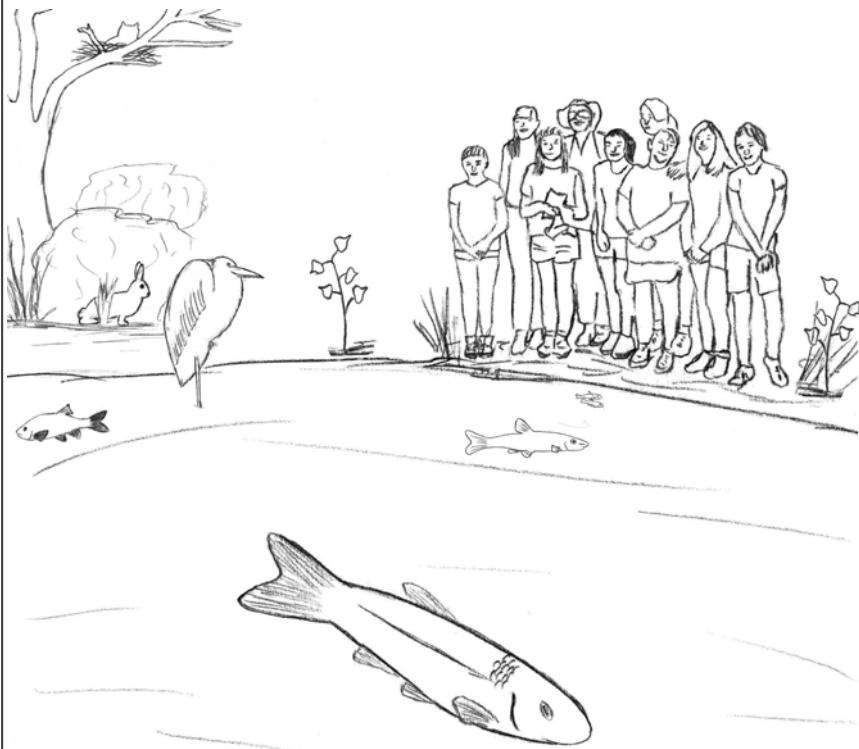
Silvery minnow, what makes this home for you?



The Rio Grande flowing by makes this home for me.

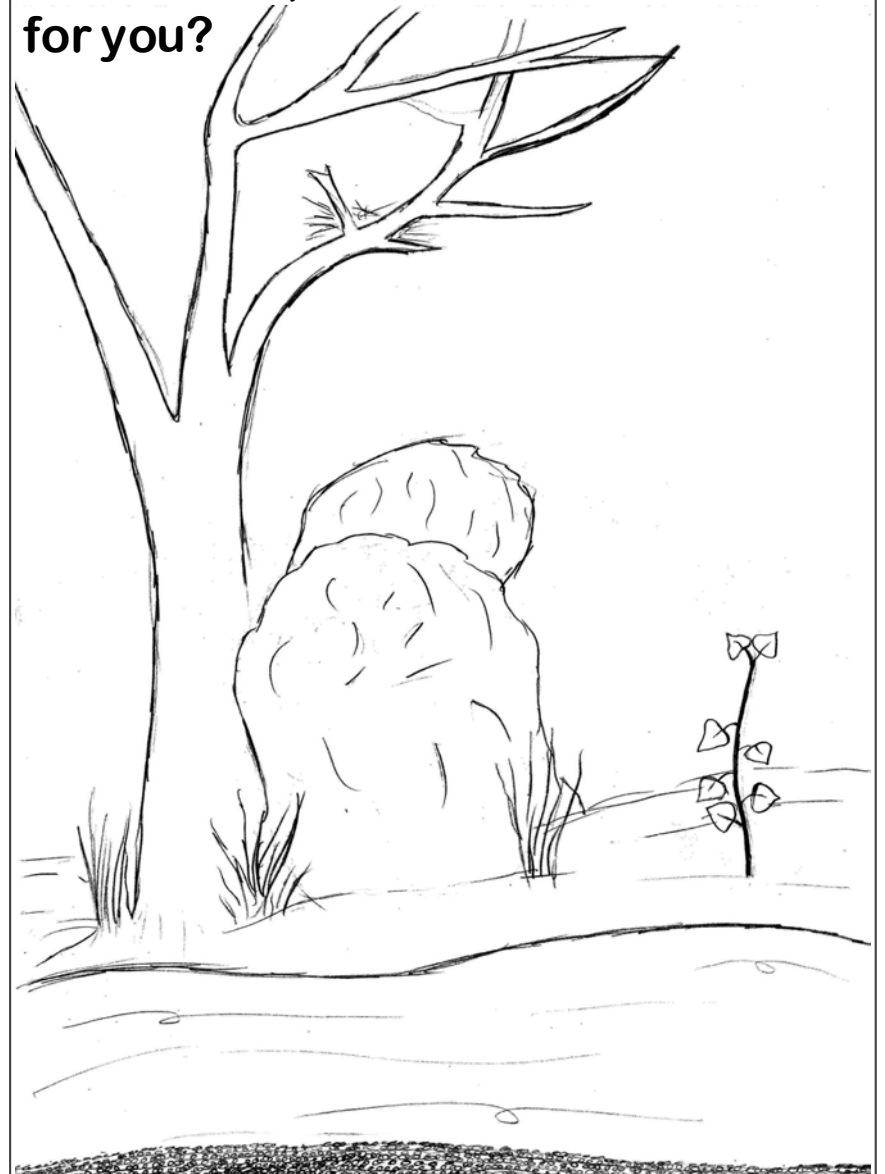
What makes this home for animals and plants you see along the Rio Grande? Draw a sketch of them in their home.

Silvery minnow, what makes this home for you?



The Rio Grande, cottonwoods, great horned owl, desert cottontail, great blue heron, red shiner, longnose dace, and the children watching over all of us makes this home for me.

Rio Grande, what makes this home for you?



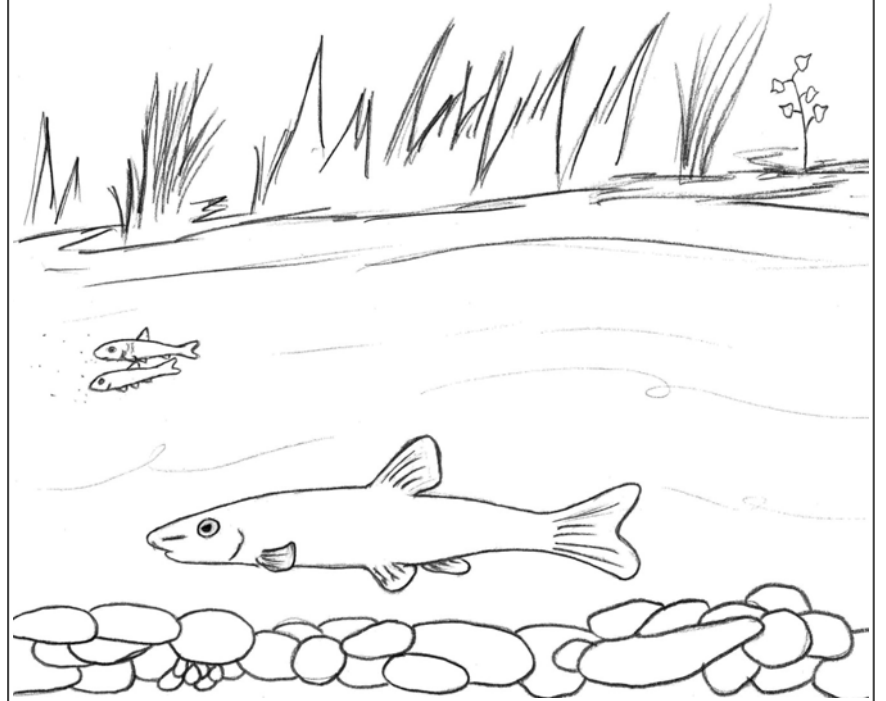
The cottonwoods standing tall along my banks makes this home for me.

Cottonwoods, what makes this home for you?



The great horned owl who nests within my branches makes this home for me.

Longnose dace, what makes this home for you?



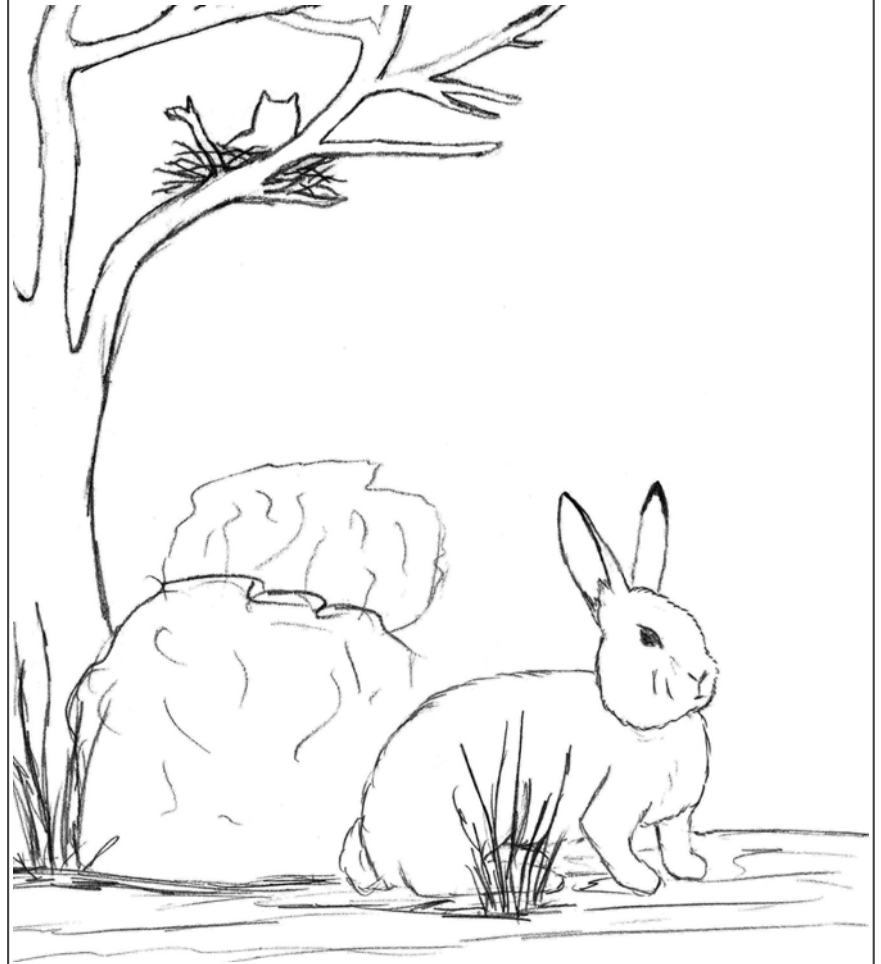
The silvery minnow feeding with glee makes this home for me.

Red shiner, what makes this home for you?



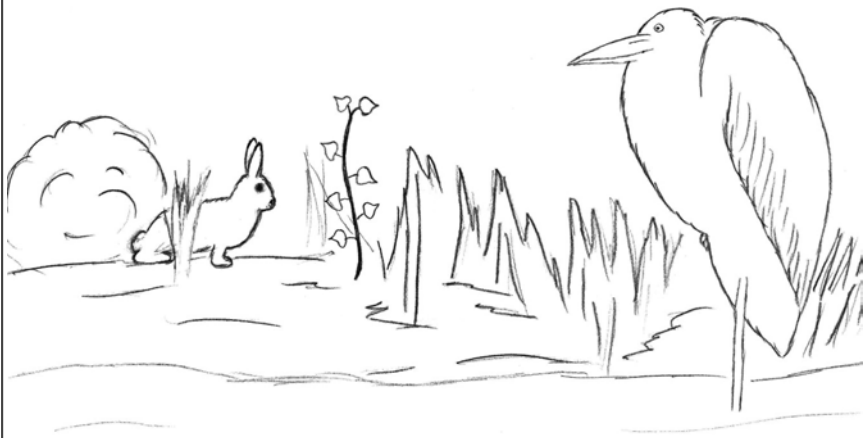
The longnose dace darting by makes this home for me.

Great horned owl, what makes this home for you?



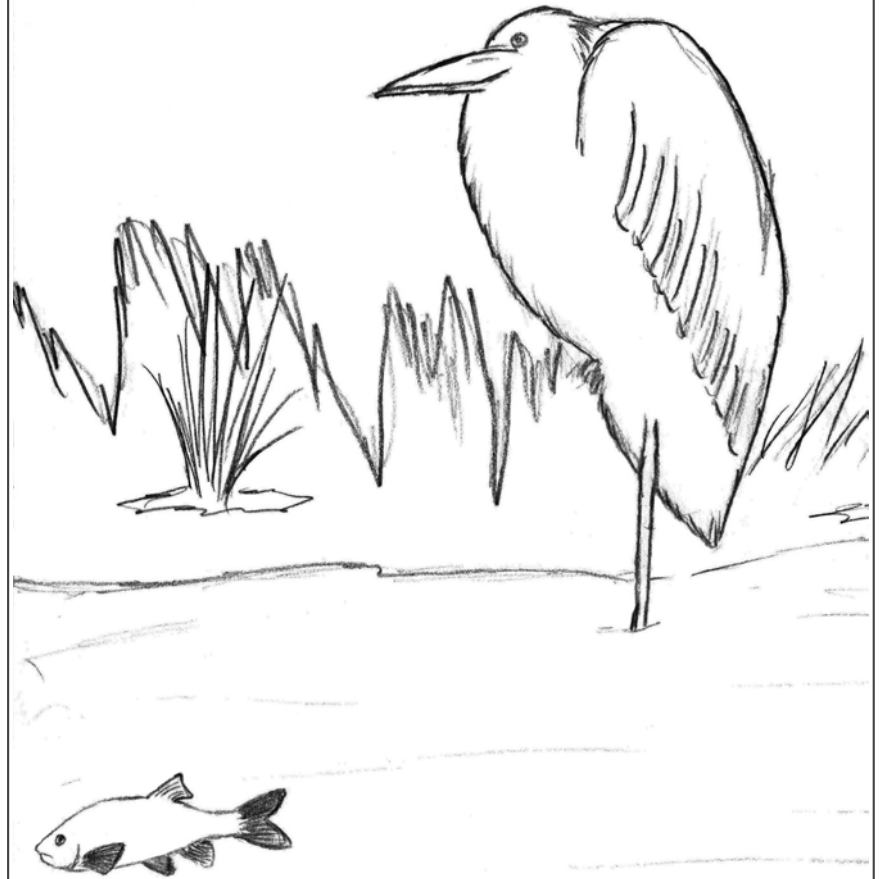
The desert cottontail who tries to hide makes this home for me.

Desert cottontail, what makes this home for you?



The great blue heron standing still as can be makes this home for me.

Great blue heron, what makes this home for you?



The red shiner that swims swiftly by makes this home for me.