

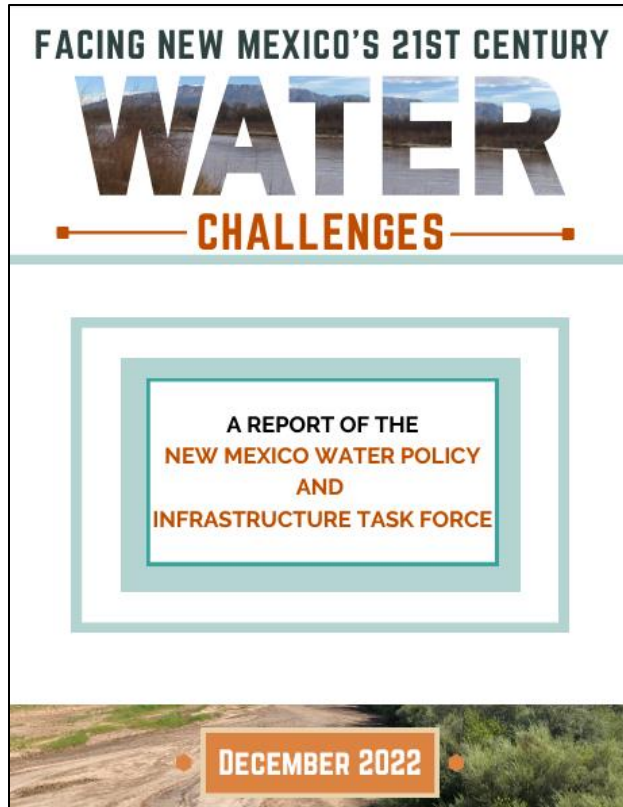
An Update on the Rio Grande and Water in New Mexico

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New Mexico Office of the State Engineer & Interstate Stream Commission

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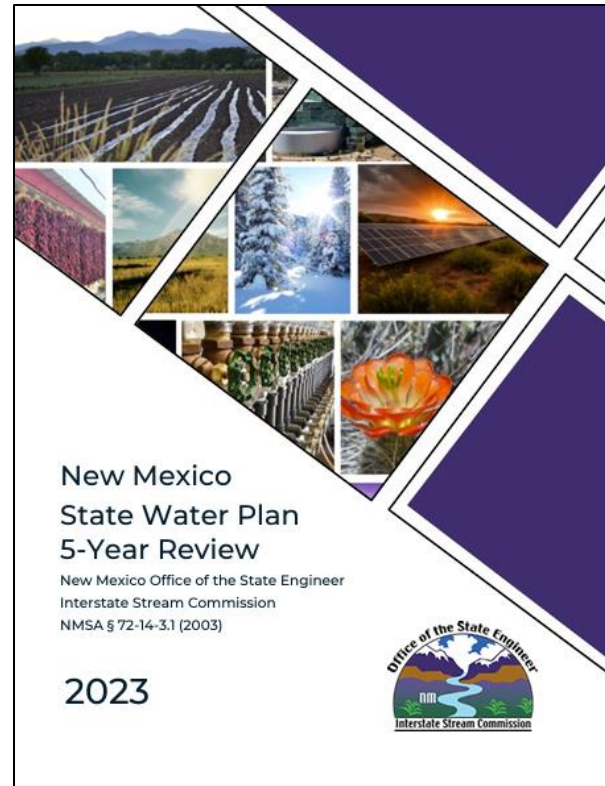


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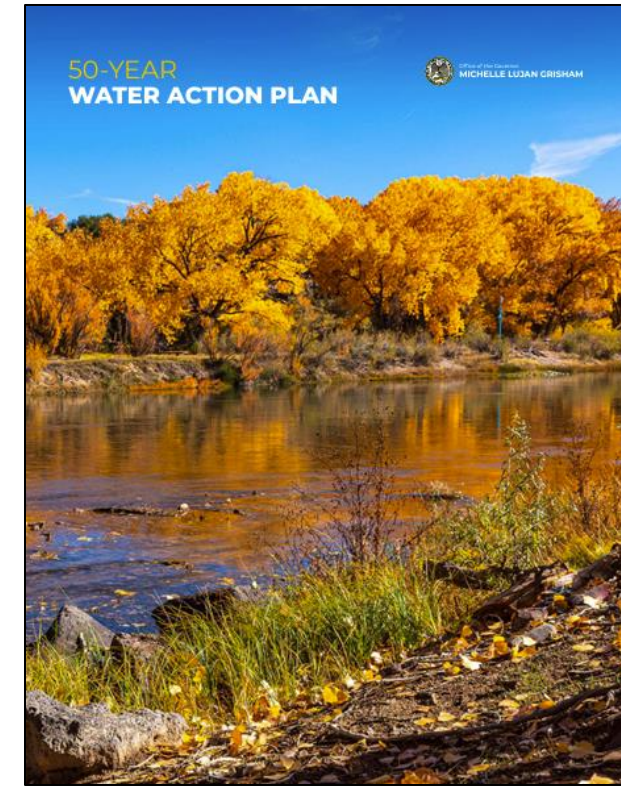
2022 Water Policy and Infrastructure Task Force

- 17 Recommendations
- 106 strategies
- Multi-year phased implementation



2023 State Water Plan Review

- Provides updates since 2018 Plan
- Recommends investing in revitalized regional water planning



2024 Governor Lujan Grisham's 50-Year Water Action Plan

- Water Conservation
- New Water Supplies
- Water and Watershed Protection

Addressing Challenges to Water Management

NEW MEXICO'S WATER FUTURE:

Scientists predict over the next 50 years...



New Mexico will have approximately 25% less water available in rivers and aquifers



New Mexico will be hotter and drier



Historical weather patterns, including precipitation, will change significantly



There will be more significant weather events, such as fires, flooding and drought

Without action, New Mexico will not have enough water to meet our needs

Within the next 50 years New Mexico will have a shortage of

- **750,000 acre feet of water**

Conservation, protection of existing water resources and development of new water resources will be required to meet this shortfall



50-Year Water Action Plan (50YWAP): 11 Priority Actions

WHAT WE ARE DOING TO INCREASE WATER SECURITY:

50-Year Water Action Plan.

The Water Plan actions will help address the reality of a reduced supply in the future.

Water Conservation

EST. IMPACT:
660,000 AF PER YEAR

- | | |
|---|---|
| A1 Develop a public education campaign | A3 Reduce leaks in drinking water infrastructure and increase municipal conservation |
| A2 Incentivise agricultural water conservation | A4 Improve water storage and delivery systems |

New Water Supplies

EST. IMPACT:
150,000 AF PER YEAR

- | | |
|--|---|
| B1 Establish a \$500M strategic water supply to spur investments in desalination and wastewater treatment | B2 Adopt policies to expand potable and nonpotable water reuse |
| | B3 Improve groundwater mapping and monitoring |

Water and Watershed Protection

- | | |
|---|---|
| C1 Cleanup contaminated groundwater sites | C3 Modernize wastewater treatment plants and stormwater infrastructure |
| C2 Protect surface water by controlling pollution through a discharge permitting program | C4 Protect and restore watersheds |

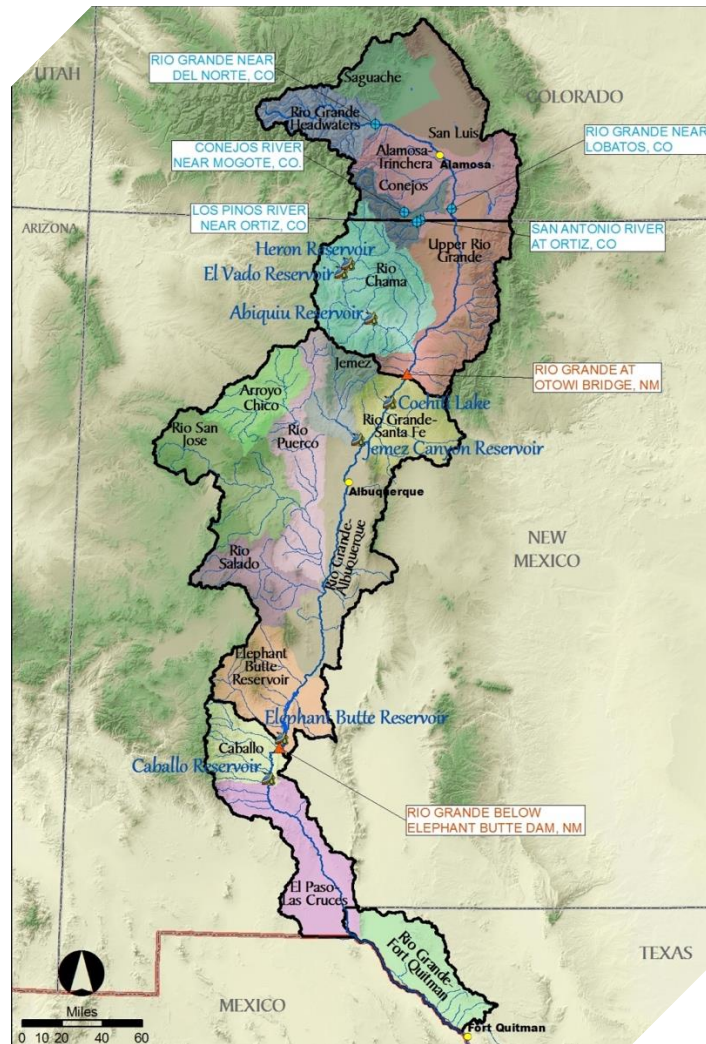
We must ensure that future generations of New Mexicans have:

- a secure water supply,
- resilient watersheds, and
- thriving local economies.

50YWAP: Built on Foundation of Ongoing Efforts

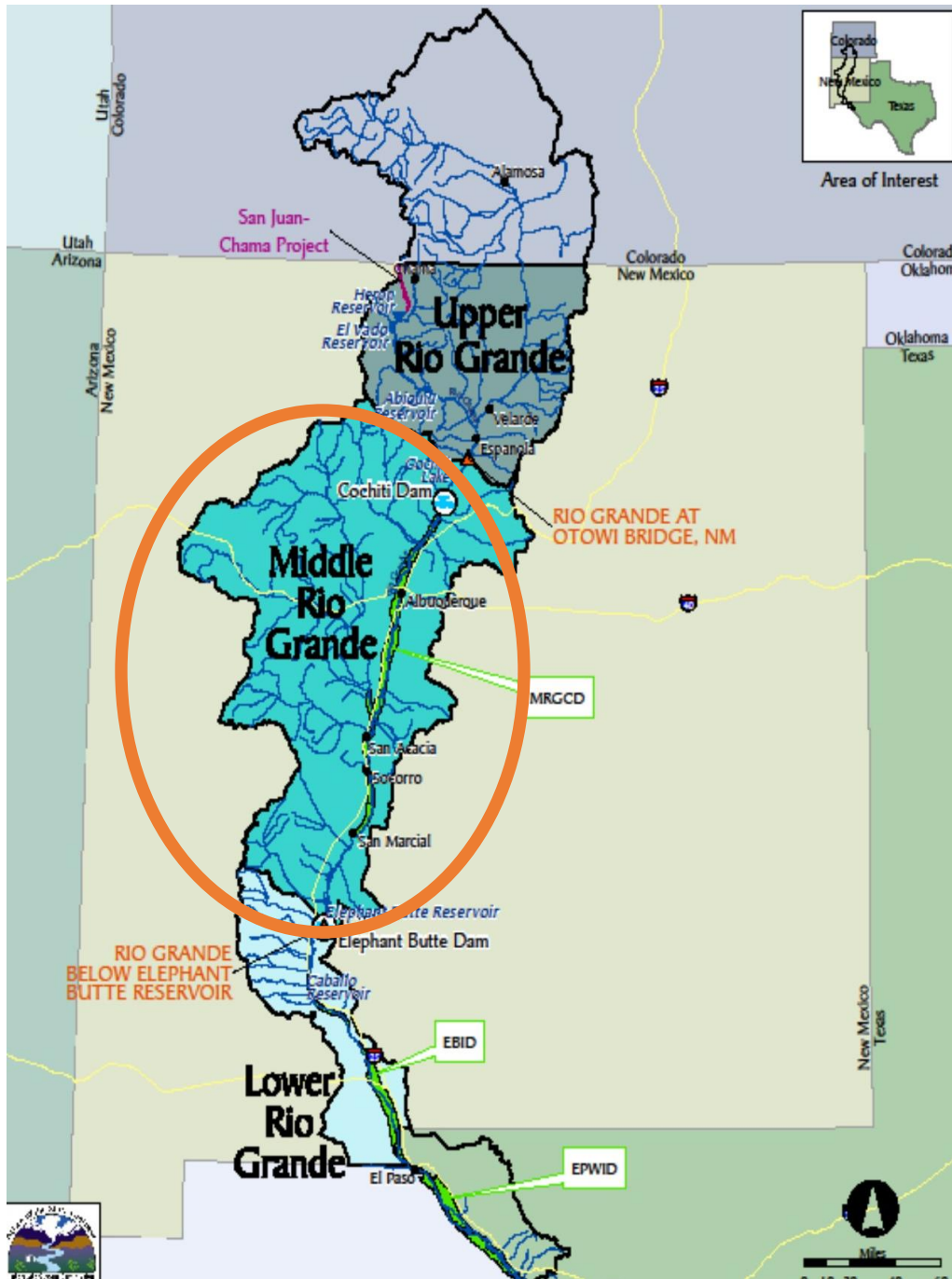
- Advancing **Indian water rights settlements** to build on the strong progress made in recent years to negotiate and implement agreements that resolve outstanding claims and secure water supplies for more communities
- Implementing the **Land of Enchantment Legacy Fund**
- Continued funding and reforms for the **Water Trust Board**
- Improving opportunities for communities to leverage **capital outlay funding to complete water projects**
- Implementing the **New Mexico Water Data Act**
- Broader investments in **local capacity building and the water workforce**
- Advancing regionalization approaches that increase critical capacity for managing drinking water and wastewater systems, including through the **Regional Water System Resiliency Act of 2023**
- **Robust regional water planning to implement the Water Security Planning Act of 2023**





► Eight (8) major reservoirs in the Rio Grande Basin in New Mexico:

- **Heron Reservoir – Post-Compact, San Juan Chama Project**
- **El Vado Reservoir – Post-Compact**
- **Abiquiu Reservoir – Post-Compact, Middle Rio Grande Project**
- **Cochiti Reservoir - Post-Compact, Middle Rio Grande Project**
- **Galisteo Reservoir - Post-Compact, Middle Rio Grande Project**
- **Jemez Reservoir -Post-Compact, Middle Rio Grande Project**
- **Elephant Butte Reservoir – Pre-Compact, Rio Grande Project**
- **Caballo Reservoir – Post- Compact, Canalization Project, Compact storage restrictions not applicable due to its location.**



Middle Rio Grande Investments

\$44M in 2023 and 2024 Legislative Sessions is supporting:

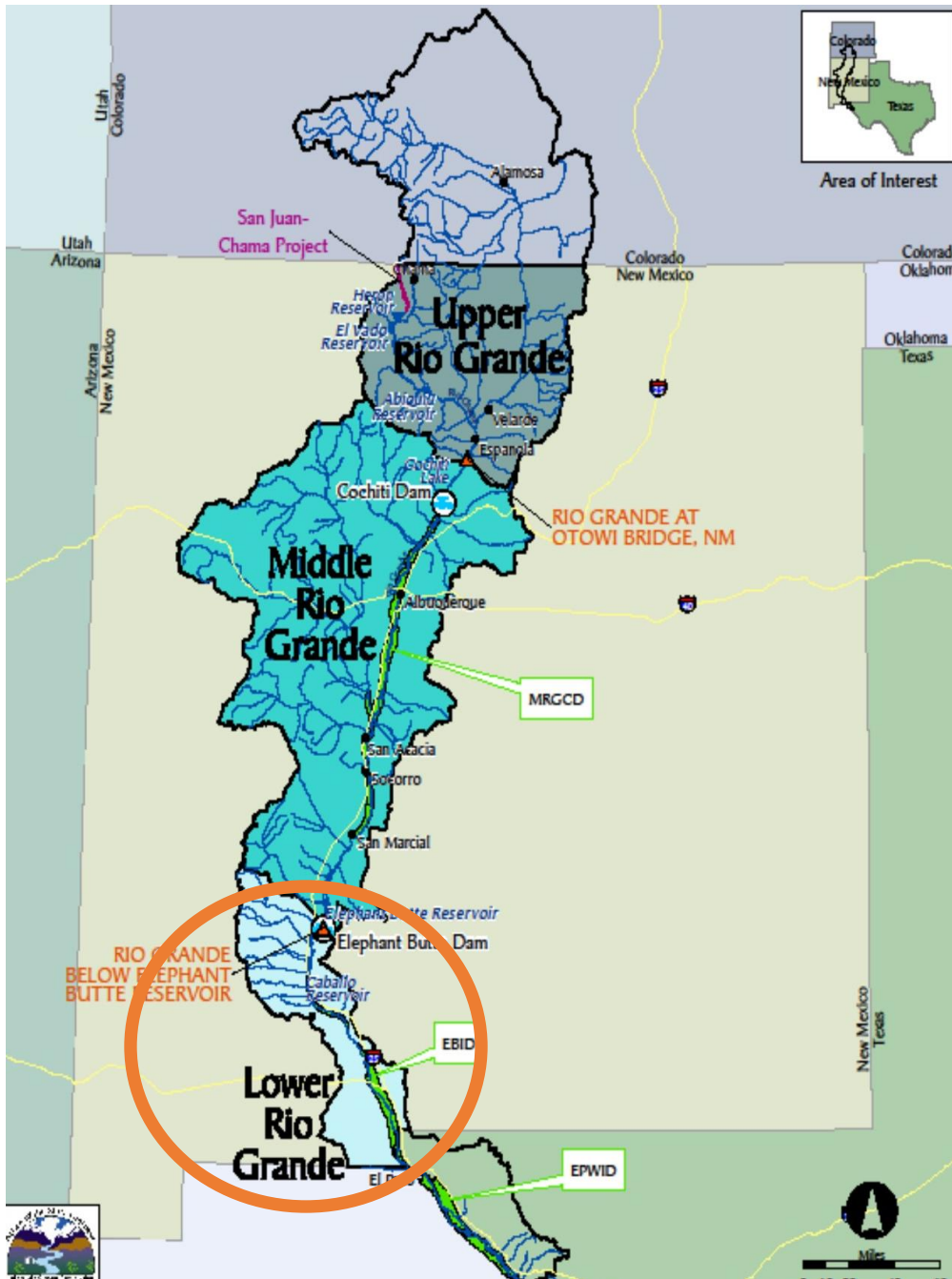
- Active Channel Management for Multiple Purposes
 - Conveyance and Habitat
 - Critical Partnerships with Federal Agencies: Reclamation and Army Corps of Engineers
 - Cooperative Agreement with Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District (MRGCD)
- MRGCD's Voluntary Depletion Reduction Program
- Ongoing Delta Channel Maintenance and Sediment Plug Mitigation
- Data, Modeling, and Development of Various Management Tools
 - Low Flow Conveyance Channel

Leverages Federal Funding and Partnerships

Need to prepare for:

Six Middle Rio Grande Pueblos Water Rights Negotiations and Settlement

More Active Depletions Management



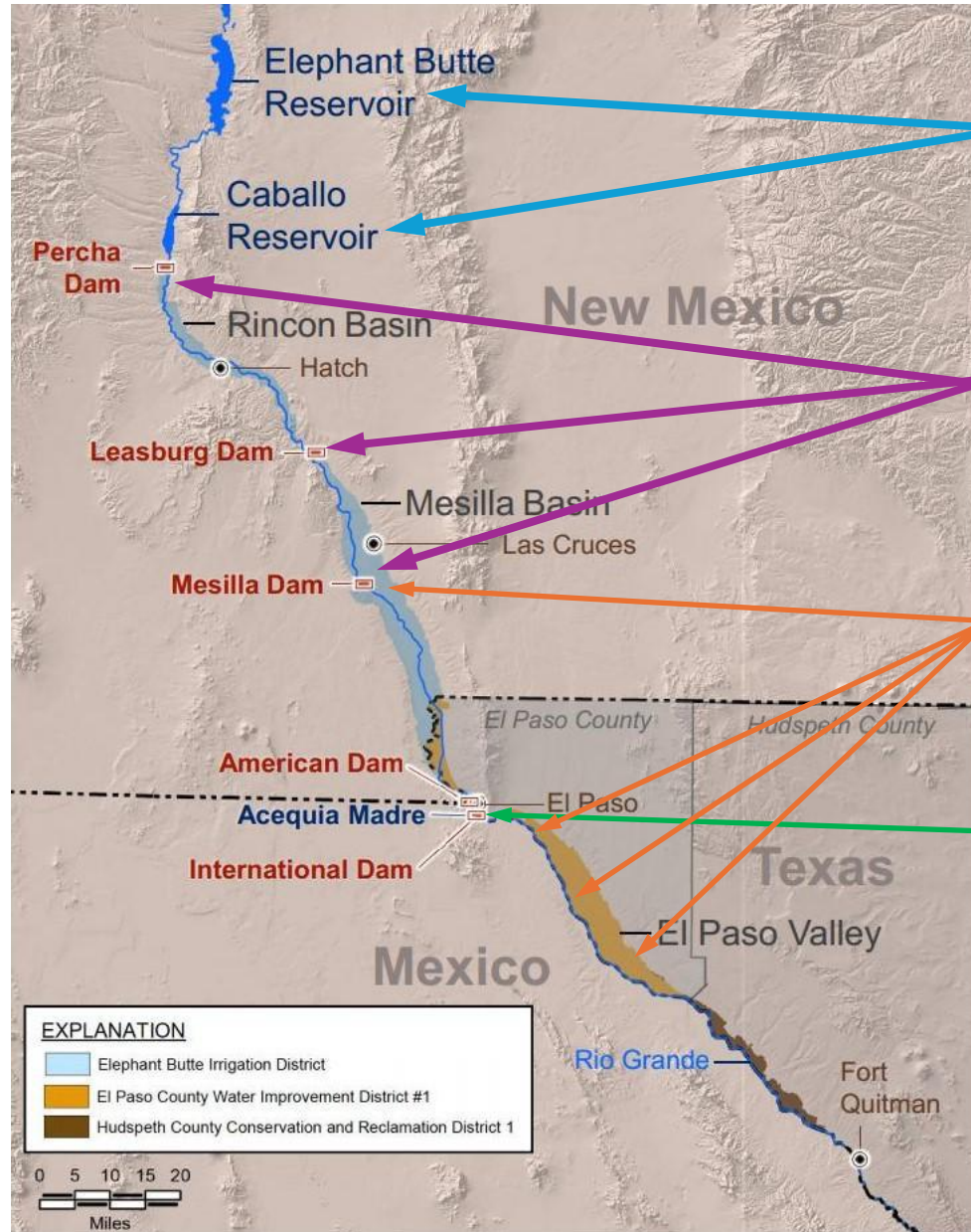
Lower Rio Grande Investments

\$60M+ in 2023 and 2024 Legislative Session is supporting:

- Depletions Management
 - 2023 Groundwater Conservation Program = \$4.6M committed on ~3,000 acres as part of a longer-term groundwater leasing program
 - 2024 enrollment planned
 - Gathering community input towards a potential purchase program
- Implement special projects – aquifer recharge, brackish water, water importation, stormwater management
- Engage with local stakeholders to develop suite of long-term solutions
- Cooperative Agreement with Elephant Butte Irrigation District (EBID)
- Building the NMISC/NMOSE Team

*Leverages Federal Funding and Partnerships
More Active Depletions Management*

RIO GRANDE PROJECT



Project Storage
– Approx. 2,350,000 AF –

Diversions to EBID (NM)
– 90,640 Acres –

Diversions to EPCWID (TX)
– 69,010 Acres –

Diversions to Mexico

Elephant Butte Dam and Reservoir

- Located on the mainstem of the Rio Grande several miles upstream of Truth or Consequences New Mexico.
- Constructed and operated by Reclamation.
- Completed in 1916 with a storage capacity of about 2,600,000 acre-feet.
- The current capacity is slightly less than 2,000,000 acre-feet.



Provides storage for downstream Rio Grande Project irrigated lands in New Mexico and Texas and delivery of 1906 Treaty flows to the Republic of Mexico. Also produces hydropower.

Many Rio Grande Compact constraints on upstream storage in post-Compact derive from Elephant Butte Reservoir storage Levels.



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