

Middle Rio Grande

Regional Water Plan

2000-2050

August 2004

Preface

Document Evolution

This water plan document is intended to be an evolving, regularly updated, repository of the water planning information that is gathered through public and stakeholder participation, along with technical analysis. All attributable comments and suggestions from the public will be incorporated and reported in future versions of this document. Address recommended changes or comments to the Mid-Region Council of Governments or the Middle Rio Grande Water Assembly.

Status of this Version

This regional water plan was accepted by each of the local governments in the region in early 2004 and was accepted by the New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission on August 17, 2004. The content was developed according to a structure and guidance drawn from the New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission (ISC) December 1994 Regional Water Planning Handbook template, with some additions that were deemed appropriate for the region. This issue lists and ingests comments that were received from the ISC and from general public Open Houses. Numerous comments were recognized as important for incorporation, but required resources beyond those available for this issuance. Those comments were deferred for action during the next update cycle.

Document Identity

This document is the Middle Rio Grande Regional Water Plan. It is the repository for community-based collaborative information and decisions concerning the means for balancing between renewable water supply and water demand in the region.

Document Genesis and Local Role

The water planning process, including development of this document for the Middle Rio Grande Region (MRG Region), was coordinated jointly by the Water Assembly and the Water Resources Board. The Water Assembly is a grass roots organization with a mission to develop a MRG regional water plan through an open, inclusive, and participatory process. The Water Resources Board is the Mid-Region Council of Governments' (MRCOG) designated policy-making board for water issues. This document is intended to be taken as well-coordinated advisory guidance to local, state, and federal officials in their process of making and implementing public policies and regulations that affect the MRG Region as well as guidance to the general public.

Water-Planning Context

This plan is intended to provide a blueprint for solving the water problems of the MRG Region. This plan, along with other regional plans, is intended to be integrated into the State of New Mexico Water Plan. The statewide water planning process is being conducted under the guidance of the ISC, a department of the New Mexico Office of the State Engineer (OSE).

Overall Planning Schedule

This document represents the result of extensive public sessions over a seven-year period coupled with expert technical analyses. It is expected, however, that regional water planning activities will be ongoing, well beyond publication of this document.

Planning Process

To be of any use, and as specified by the ISC, the water planning process must be a collaborative one, involving as much balanced public and stakeholder participation as possible. Toward this end numerous public meetings, broad information distribution, and focused public and stakeholder outreach, as well as detailed technical work, are all an integral part of the plan development process.

Acknowledgements

The regional water-planning process for the MRG Region (Sandoval, Bernalillo, and Valencia Counties) was supported by a wide array of people and entities. We are grateful for their support.

The ISC contracted with the region through the Mid-Region Council of Governments. There was a Phase I contract for \$150,000 and a Phase II Contract for \$300,000, as authorized by the New Mexico State Legislature.

In addition to the contracts from ISC, local governments provided \$161,353 in support of Phase I and \$280,530 in support of Phase II for consulting subcontracts, for MRCOG staff and for other direct costs in support of the program.

The Water Assembly arranged for about \$300,000 consisting of cash from entities in the region and in-kind support from Sandia National Laboratories and the University of New Mexico/Utton Transboundary Resource Center. Contributing entities include:

- *University of New Mexico Water Resources Program*
- *ExxonMobil Corporation*
- *Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority*
- *Sandia National Labs*
- *UNM Utton Transboundary Resource Center*
- *City of Rio Rancho*
- *Intel Corporation*
- *Elaine Hebard*
- *U S Bureau of Reclamation*
- *Bohannon Huston, Inc.*

In-kind contributions have also come from:

- *University of New Mexico Water Resources Program*
- *U S Army Corps of Engineers*
- *Natural Resource Conservation Service*
- *The Science and Technology Park at UNM*

In addition to the above cash augmentations, Water Assembly contributed an estimated 30,000 person-hours of volunteer labor and expertise through the planning process.

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C	Executive Summaries/TOCs
C-1	Thorn et al 1993 (ES)
C-2	Mcada and Barroll 2002 (ES)
C-3	Bartolino and Cole 2002 (ES)
C-4	FWUP 2001 (ES)
C-5	IPP 2000 (WA sum)
C-6	Papadopoulos 2000 (ES)
C-7	Nims et al. (Shomaker) 2000 (ES)
C-8	OSE/ISC Framework for Public Input (ES)
C-9	Niemi and McGuckin 1997 - WWPRC (ES)
C-10	Scurlock 1998 (TOC)
C-11	Daniel B Stephens 2003 (full water qual rpt)
D	Glossary
E	Water Projects
F	Public Comments

Supporting Documents

Supporting documents appear on the accompanying CD available on request from the Mid-Region Council of Governments.

A-1	WA Certificate of incorporation
A-2	WA Bylaws
A-3	WRB Bylaws
A-4	WA IRS certificate
A-5	MOU – WA/MRCOG
A-6	Blewett letter
A-7	MOU – subregions
A-8	Roles and Responsibilities letter
B	Plan schedule
C-1	Pamphlets
C-2	Slide Shows
C-3	Road Shows
C-4	Water Picture Show

C-5	<i>Regional Forum Summaries (mailers for 4-6)</i>
C-6	<i>Chronicles 1999-2002</i>
C-7	<i>Media Kit</i>
D	<i>Public Comment database</i>
E-1	<i>Candidate Alts book</i>
E-2	<i>Presentation of Alts by Kryder</i>
E-3	<i>Long Alternatives Tracking Matrix</i>
E-4	<i>Alts Public preferences</i>
E-5	<i>Alts Evaluation Handbook</i>
E-6	<i>Alts Feasibility Handbook (a draft version??)</i>
E-7	<i>Tracking the Alts (short version)</i>
F	<i>Maps</i>
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H	<i>Full 3rd party docs</i>
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H-2	<i>FWUP 2001</i>
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H-3	<i>Papadopulos 2000</i>
H-4	<i>Nims et al (Shomaker) 2000</i>
H-5	<i>Legal Issues 2003</i>
H-6	<i>Legal Overview 2003</i>
H-7	<i>IPP 2000</i>
H-8	<i>Jojoba report</i>
H-9	<i>Rio Grande Compact</i>
H-10	<i>Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo</i>
I	<i>WBE</i>
J	<i>Fact sheets for 19 Alts</i>
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K-2	<i>Converged Scenario</i>
K-3	<i>Preferred Scenario</i>
K-4	<i>Water for Future Scenario</i>
K-5	<i>SDC Scenarios</i>
L	<i>ISC Plan Acceptance Criteria</i>
M	<i>Main model (SNL summary)</i>
N	<i>Mini model (assumptions, Powersim files)</i>
O	<i>Analysis Team Regional Data</i>
P	<i>Chapter 9 endnotes</i>
Q	<i>Plan Development Database</i>

- R *Tohajiilee Water Supply Project*
- S *Placitas Water Demand Study*
- T *What Is a Partnership?*

Historical Archives

Historical archives appear on the accompanying CD available on request from the Mid-Region Council of Governments.

- A1-2 *ISC SOWs*
- B *Two letters to pueblos (2002, 2003)*
- C *Contributors to WA and water planning*
- D-1 *AC members/agendas (1997-2003)*
- D-2 *ExCom agendas (2000-2003)*
- D-3 *WRB members/minutes (1999-2003)*
- E *Monthly meeting schedule*
- F *Working Team reports (inconsistent representation)*
- G-1 *Water Assemblies (nothing for #3)*
- G-2 *Regional Forums 1 and 6 (nothing for 2-5)*
- G-3 *Community Conversations*
- G-4 *Special meetings (workshops, retreats, joint sessions, coordination sessions)*
- H *Changes to March 2004 Version*