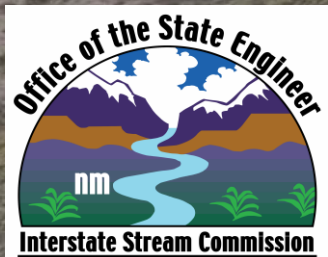


Cooperation and Adaptation Regional Prosperity during Uncertainty



Collaborative Presentation & Panel Discussion
NMISC –EBID

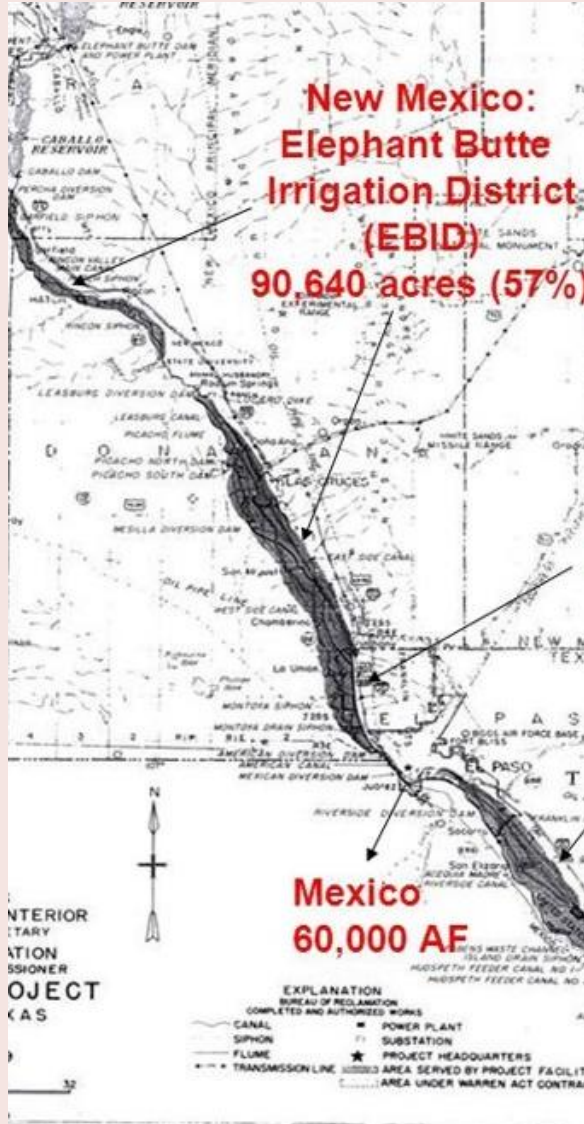
Water and Natural Resources Committee
August 31st, 2026

Today's Focus



- 1) EBID & regional water supply
- 2) Proven ISC–EBID cooperative projects
- 3) ISC Groundwater Conservation Program
- 4) Permanent Depletion Reduction Program

Regional Water Supply History



- EBID farmers appropriated and beneficially used the water now available for our region through the Rio Grande Project
- Preserved water for New Mexico from expanding use in Colorado and Texas prior to the Rio Grande Compact
- Farmer investment provided the foundation for a century of regional prosperity
- We must navigate the impacts of that success together

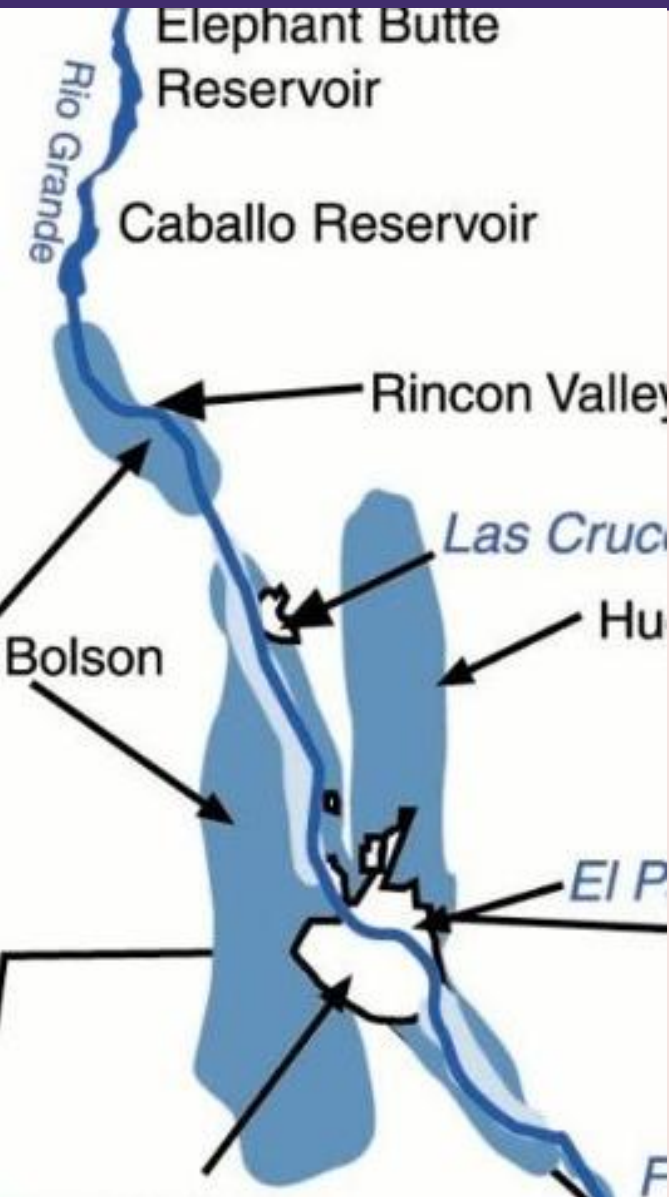
ISC – EBID Cooperative Funding



- Legislative funding + State agencies + local entities
- People with shared interest in project success
- Adapting from federal funding to state–local partnership using New Mexico expertise
- Real world results in rapid time
 - Rehabilitated dams and drains
 - Reduced flooding risk
 - Increased water security
- Lower costs by using local workforce
- Proven partnership success



Impacts of Groundwater Conservation Program



- TX v NM and the 2008 Operating Agreement addressed groundwater impacts to the river
- EBID measures river performance: Caballo releases vs surface-water diversions
- Strongly linked to the El Paso Index and Compact compliance
- 2010s dry period: river *underperformed* EBID estimates
- 2020s dry period: river *overperformed* EBID estimates
- 2026: theoretical positive departure at El Paso Index
- Many factors affect the diversion ratio
 - The GCP is the clearest management change in this period
 - Data are consistent with the program working

Permanent Depletion Reduction Program



- Farmland loss is a real cost to the agricultural community
- Necessary for long-term stability of regional water supply
- We must work together for our combined prosperity
- We must comply with the settlement while maintaining agricultural viability
- The faster we can accomplish this, the quicker the benefits will be realized

Our Shared Future



- EBID, ISC, and OSE have delivered real results together
- There are more opportunities for progress in front of us
- Imagine how much more we can do with continued partnerships
- Prosperity in uncertain times comes from working together