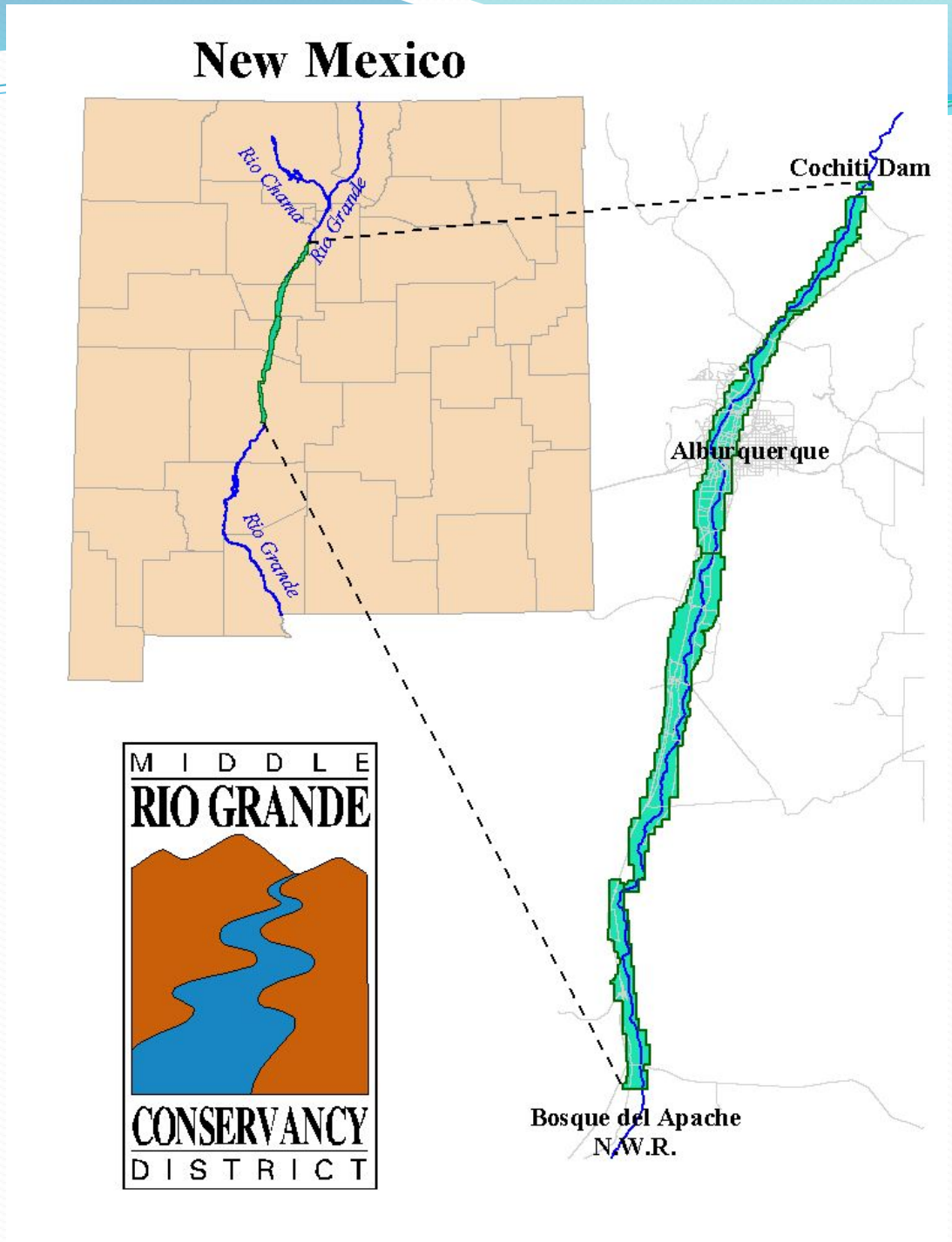
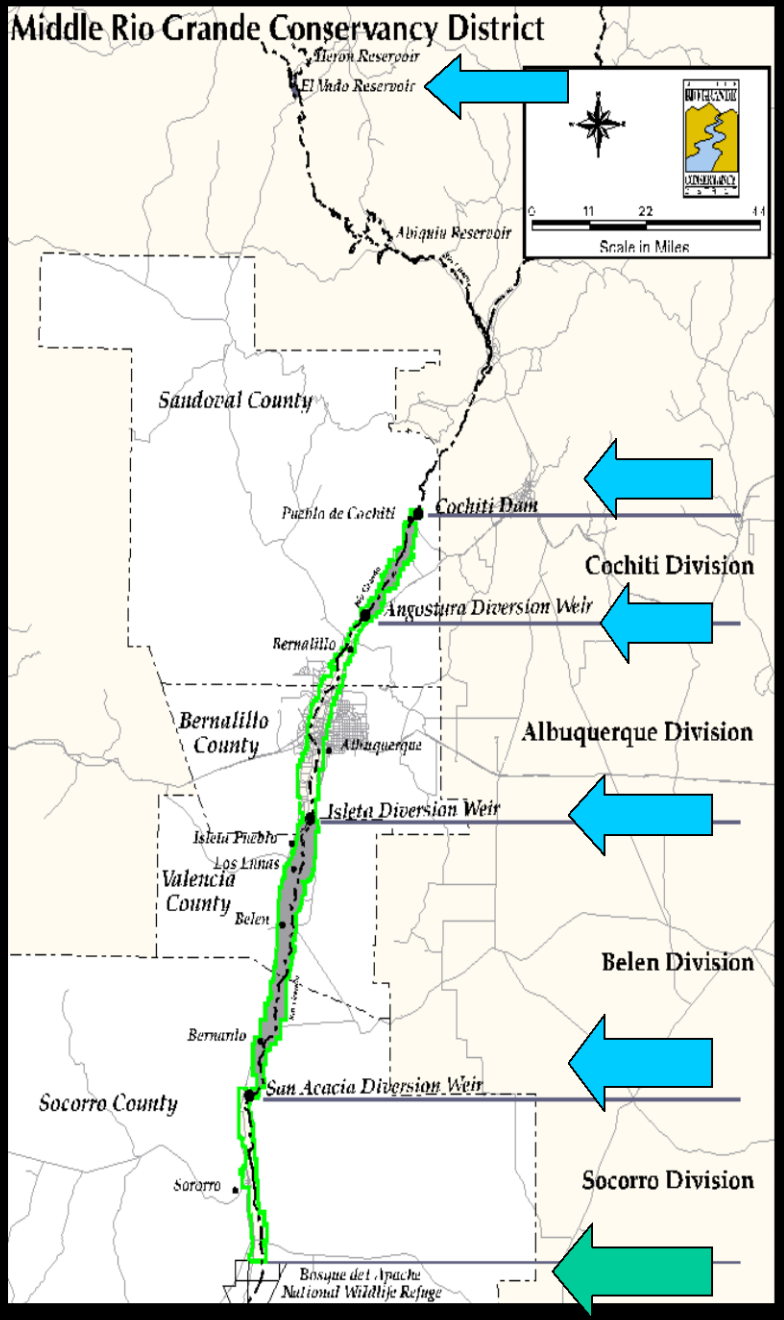
Presentation for the Water & Natural Resources Committee

Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District

October 3, 2023

Jason Casuga, PE
CEO/Chief Engineer


New Mexico
Rio Chama
Rio Grande
Rio Grande
Cochiti Dam
Alburquerque
Bosque del Apache
N.W.R.
MIDDLE
RIO GRANDE
CONSERVANCY
DISTRICT



EL VADO DAM
On the Rio Chama - For water storage

COCHITI DAM

ANGOSTURA Diversion Weir

ISLETA Diversion Weir

SAN ACACIA Diversion Weir

Bosque del Apache Refuge

MRGCD Mission Statement

THE MIDDLE RIO GRANDE CONSERVANCY DISTRICT OPERATES, MAINTAINS AND MANAGES IRRIGATION, DRAINAGE, AND RIVER FLOOD CONTROL IN THE MIDDLE RIO GRANDE VALLEY, PROMOTES EFFICIENT AND RESPONSIBLE WATER MANAGEMENT, PROTECTS THE ENVIRONMENT, WILDLIFE AND ENDANGERED SPECIES IN COOPERATION WITH OTHER LOCAL, STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES, AND PROVIDES MULTI-USE RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN THE MIDDLE RIO GRANDE VALLEY.

MRGC Services:

- **Six New Mexico Pueblos**
- **More than 100,000 parcels of land**
- **60,000 acres of irrigated lands**
- **11,000 irrigators**
- **30,000 acres Bosque**
- **Sandoval, Bernalillo, Valencia & Socorro Counties**

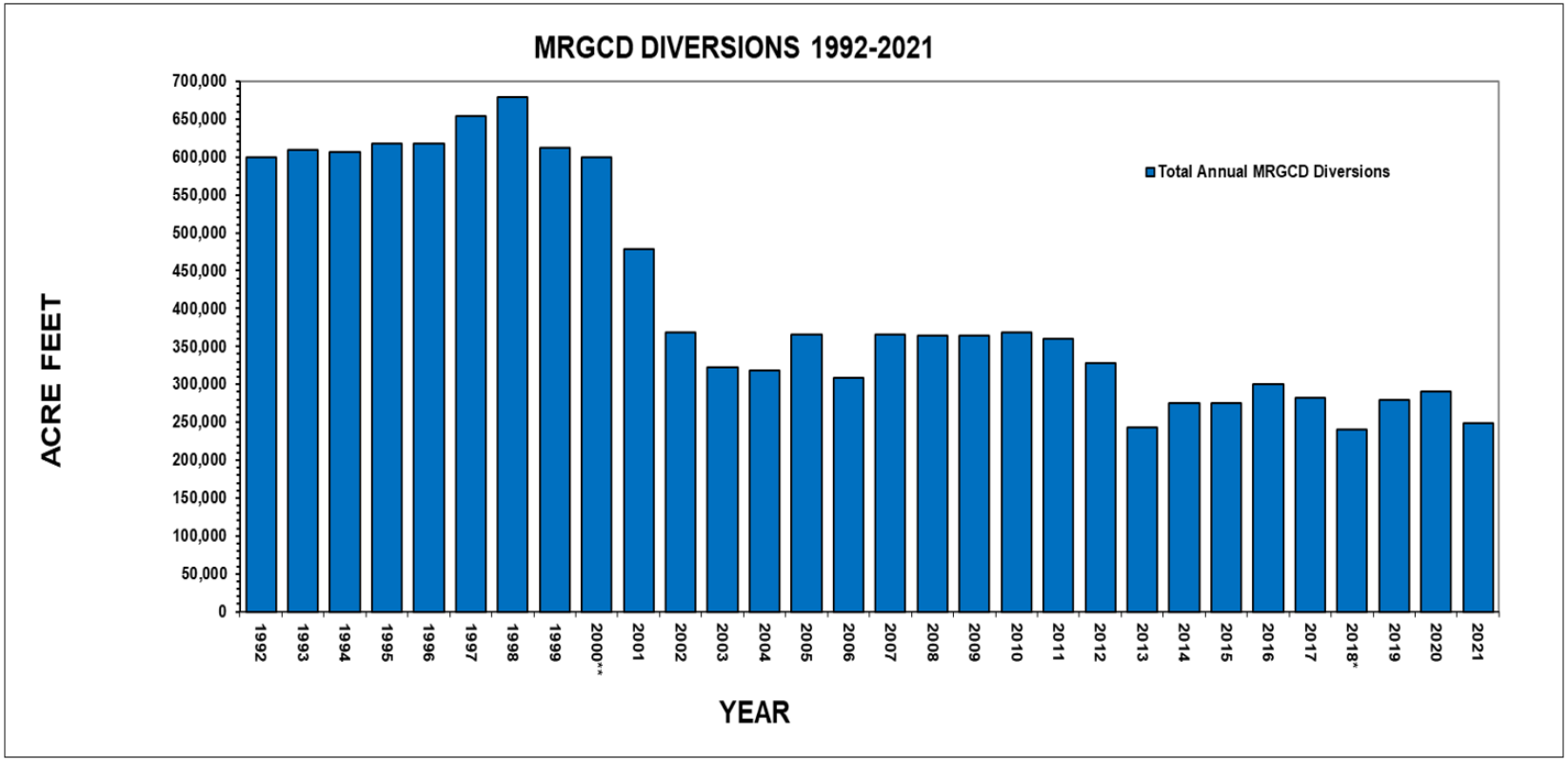
MRGCD Water Management

1) Meet irrigation demands while improving service and increasing system efficiencies: Board Policy is to achieve a minimum efficiency of one hour per acre at the turnout District-wide.

2) Operate in a manner that helps to keep New Mexico out of debit status to the Rio Grande Compact.

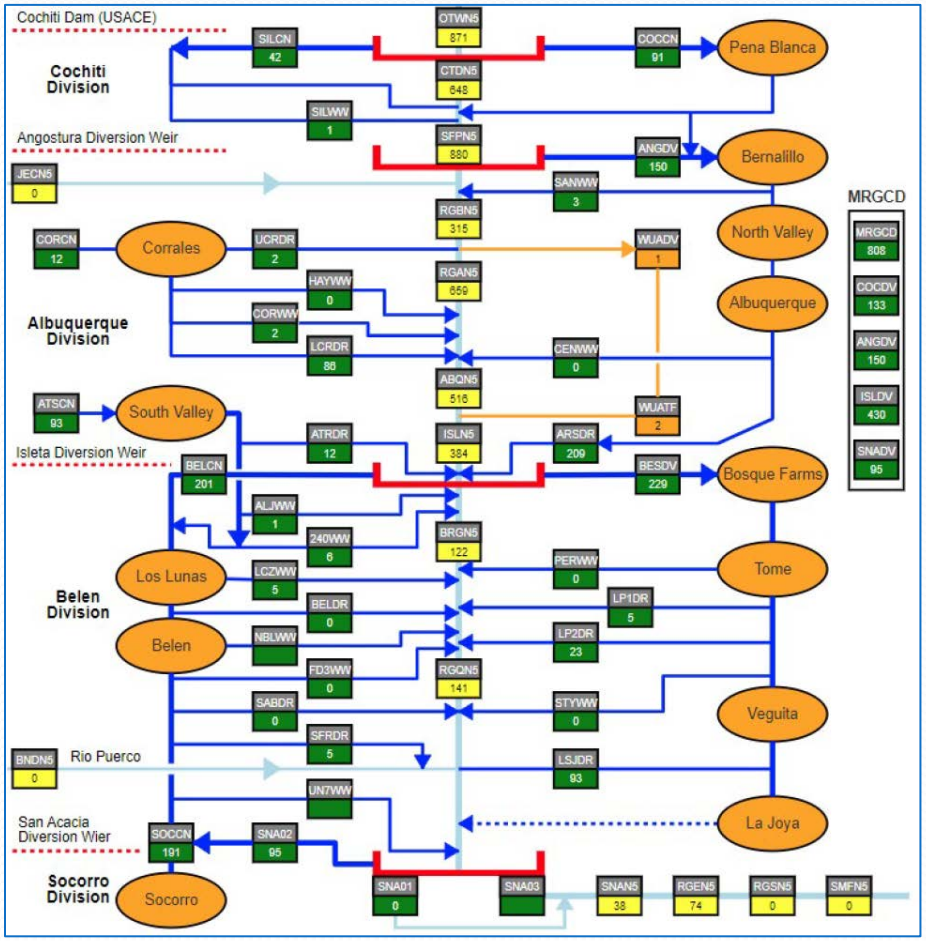
3) Comply with ESA through application of offsetting commitments and conservation measures in concert with all other agencies' actions to move toward recovery through adaptive management processes.

MRGCD Annual Diversions

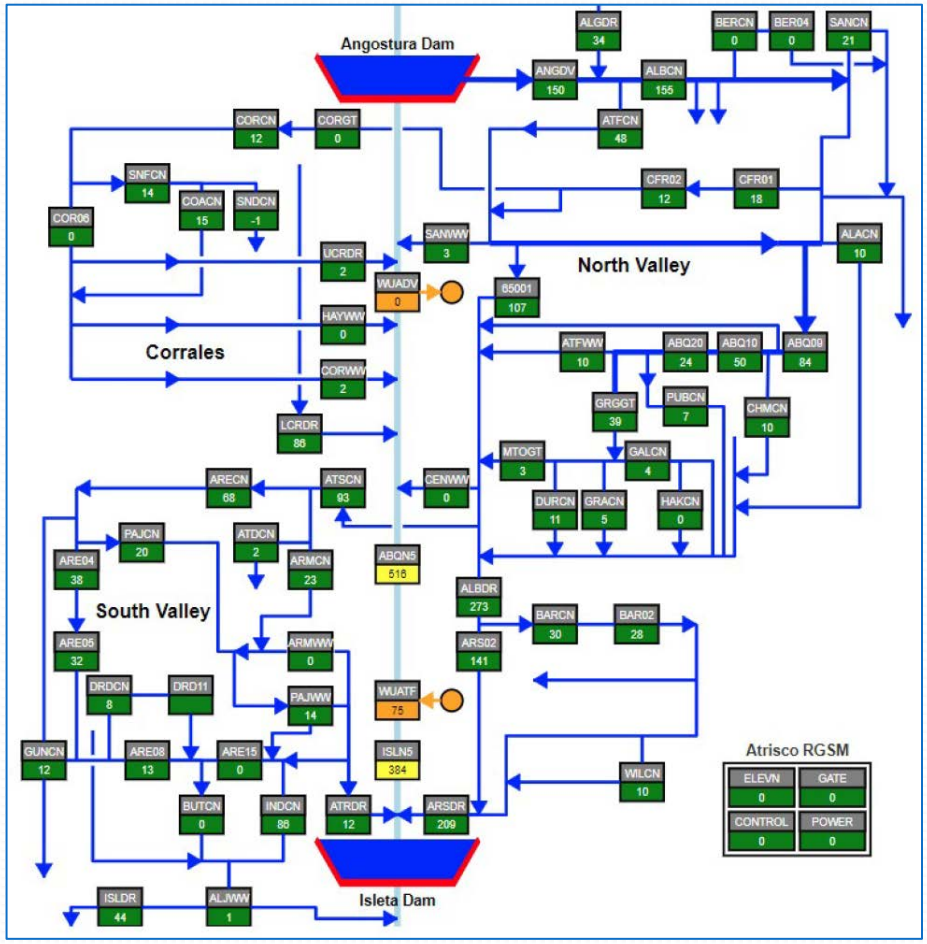


- Over the same time period MRGCD's irrigated acreage has decreased by approximately 10,000 acres.

MRGCD Water Measurement Program

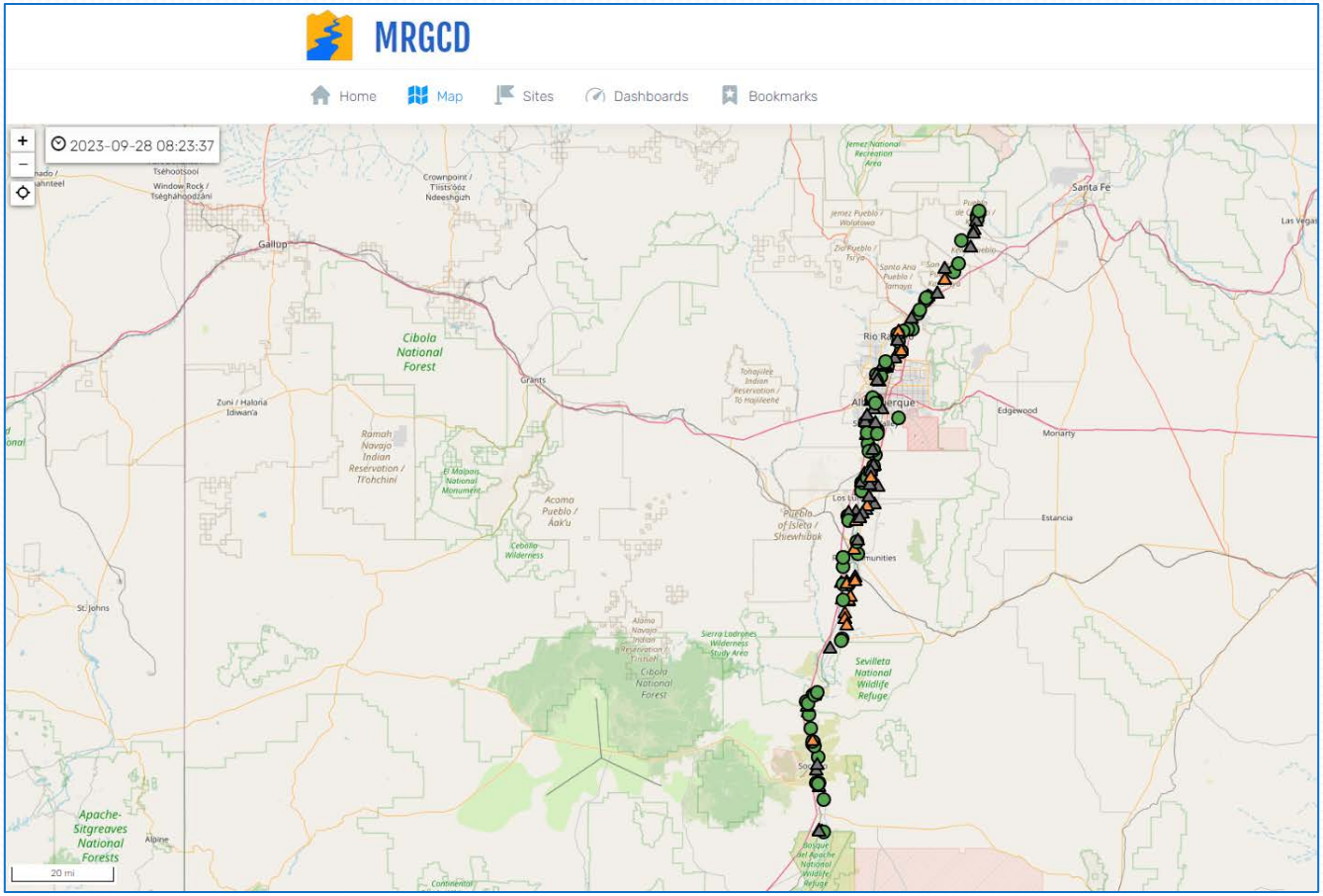


Summary Schematic



Albuquerque Division Schematic

Water Measurement Modernization



Water Measurement

Annual MRGCD Cost to Operate and Maintain Gaging Network

Description	2023	2022	2021	2020
Wages/benefits	392,004.73	245,012.76	305,248.91	238,123.53
Inv/materials	57,489.72	13,509.98	31,116.29	3,556.38
Vehicles/fuel/repair	19,706.35	14,090.64	16,437.28	11,694.24
Office/admin	10,511.21	5,690.78	4,776.95	5,821.78
Total Cost	479,712.01	278,304.16	357,579.43	259,195.93

- MRGCD will be investing $750,000.00 to construct up to 11 new gaging stations between 2023 and 2025

Rio Grande Compact Compliance Efforts

2020

- Ended non-pueblo irrigation season one month early
- Stopped releases from storage Labor Day weekend

2021

- Started irrigation season one month late
- Adhered to an 80% of full demand curve while the river channel was connected

2022

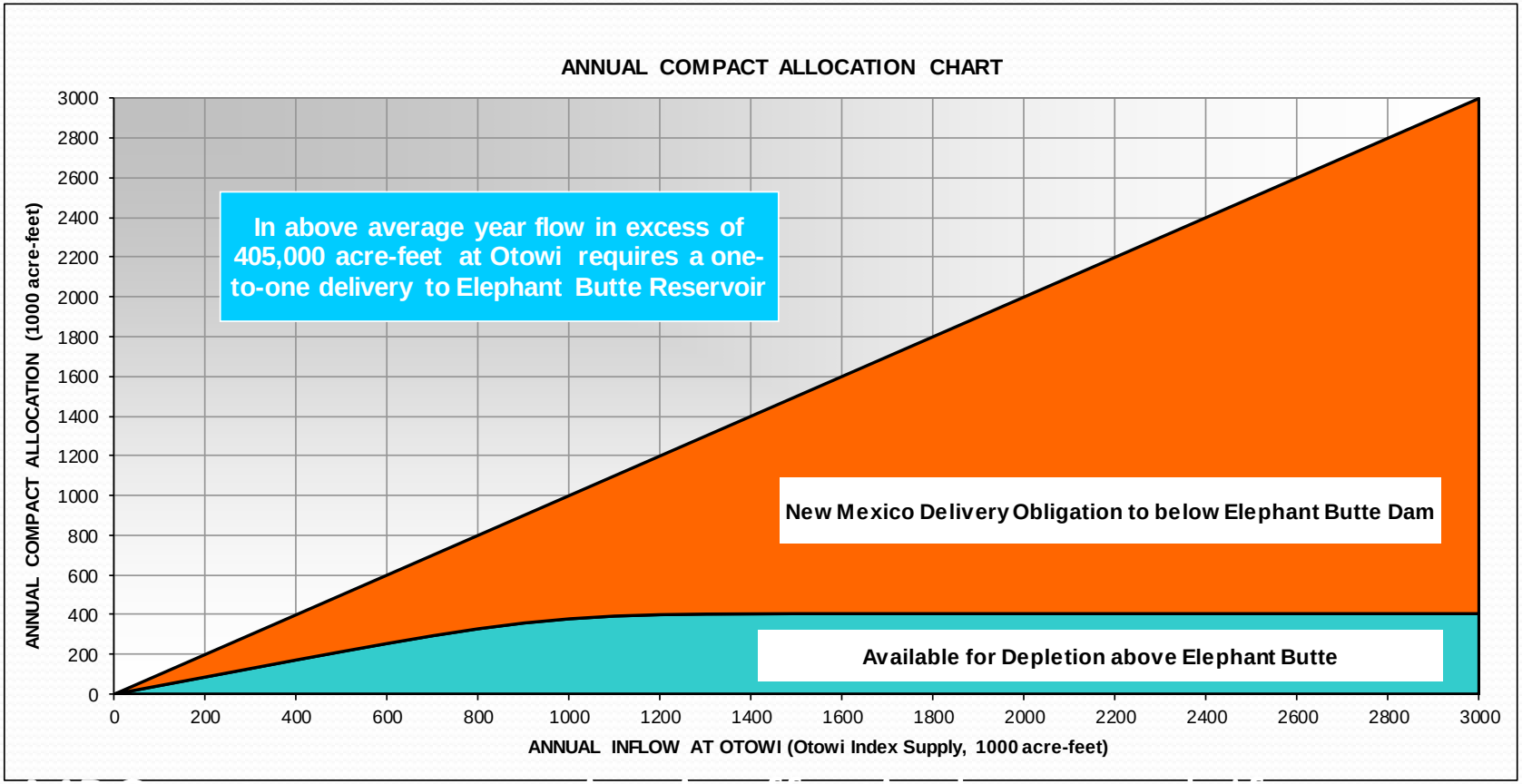
- Adhered to an 80% of full demand curve until the river channel was connected

2023

- Adhered to an 80% of full demand curve until the river began over-banking through the middle valley

****Continued advocacy for the operation of the Low Flow Conveyance Channel once the river begins to dry naturally.**

Chart Showing NM Delivery under the Rio Grande Compact



- For all practical purposes, the RGC caps consumptive use of RG water at around 400K a-f. Consumptive use in the MRG is partially met by San Juan-Chama water, which is external to the RGC.

Low Flow Conveyance Channel (LFCC)

- The LFCC is a federal facility constructed between 1950-59 by the Bureau of Reclamation.
- The purpose of the facility was to assist New Mexico in paying back a Rio Grande Compact Debt accrued between 1943-1956 in excess 500,000 ac-ft.
- New Mexico's debt was eliminated by 1972.
- NM's current accrued debit as of January 2023 is 93,000 AF

Southern end of the LFCC

Photo looking South (July 2023)

Southern end of the LFCC

Photo looking South (July 2023)

Photo looking North (July 2023)

Southern end of the LFCC

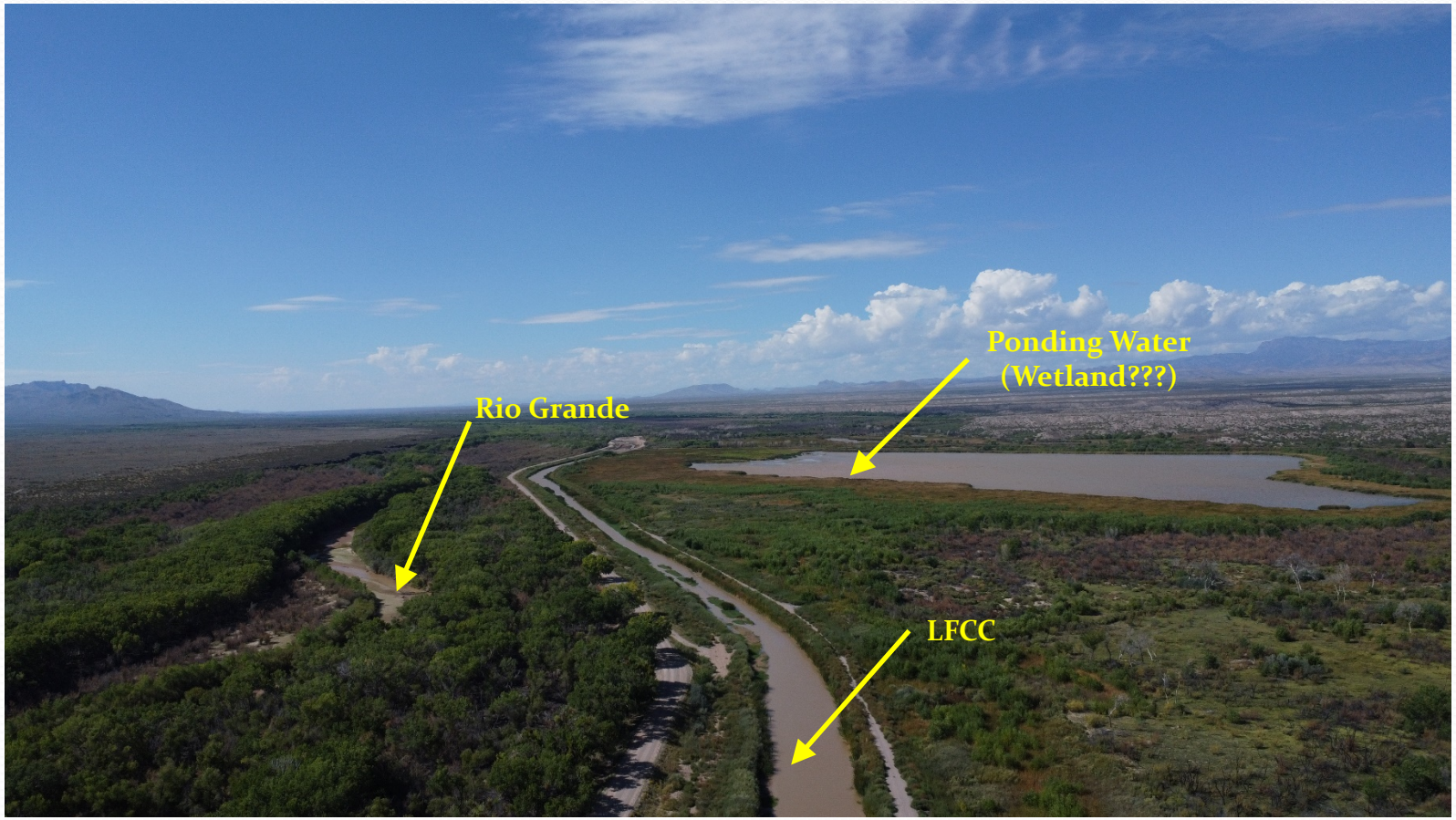
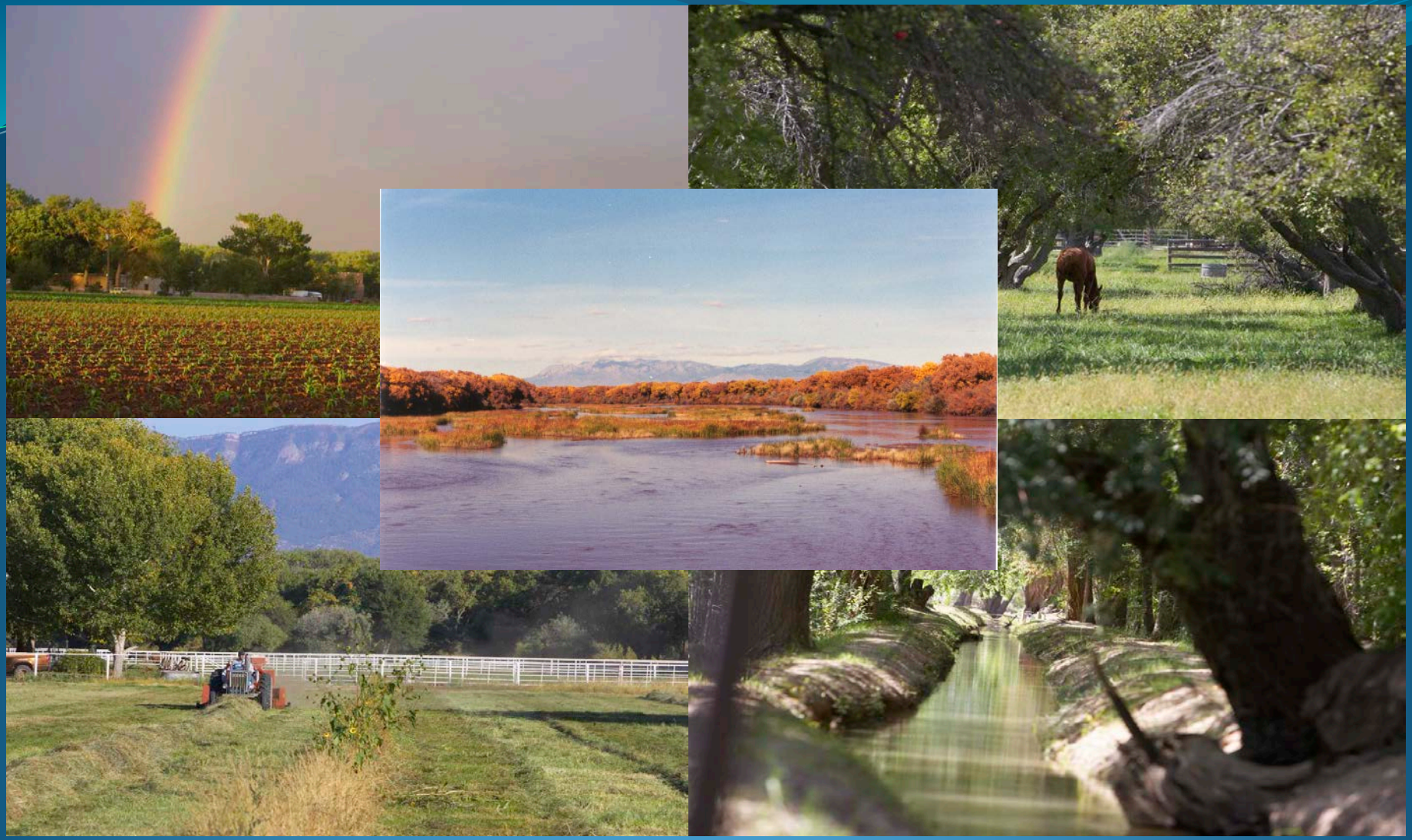


Photo looking South (October 2, 2023)



Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District Keeping the Valley Green