

How the Rio Grande Compact Functions

Water and Natural Resources Committee
Meeting,
Las Cruces New Mexico
10/15/13

The Rio Grande Compact Covers the Upper Rio Grande Basin

The Rio Grande Compact



- The Rio Grande Compact of 1938 divides the surface waters of the Upper Rio Grande Basin amongst Colorado, New Mexico, and Texas
- The Upper Rio Grande Basin
 - From headwaters of Rio Grande in Colorado to Fort Quitman, Texas
 - The basin includes parts of the 3 states and two countries

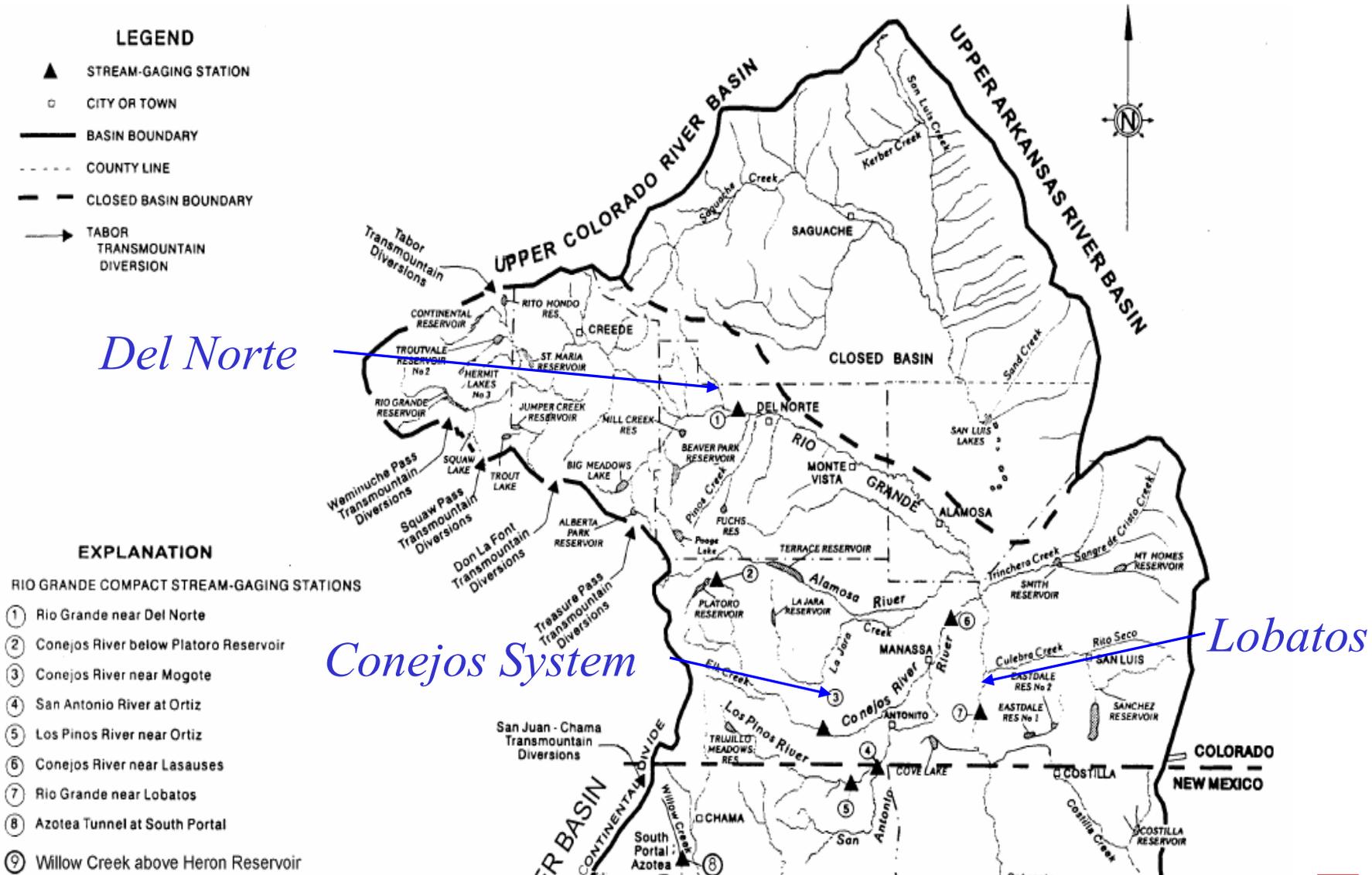
Platoro Dam in Colorado



The Rio Grande Compact - Colorado

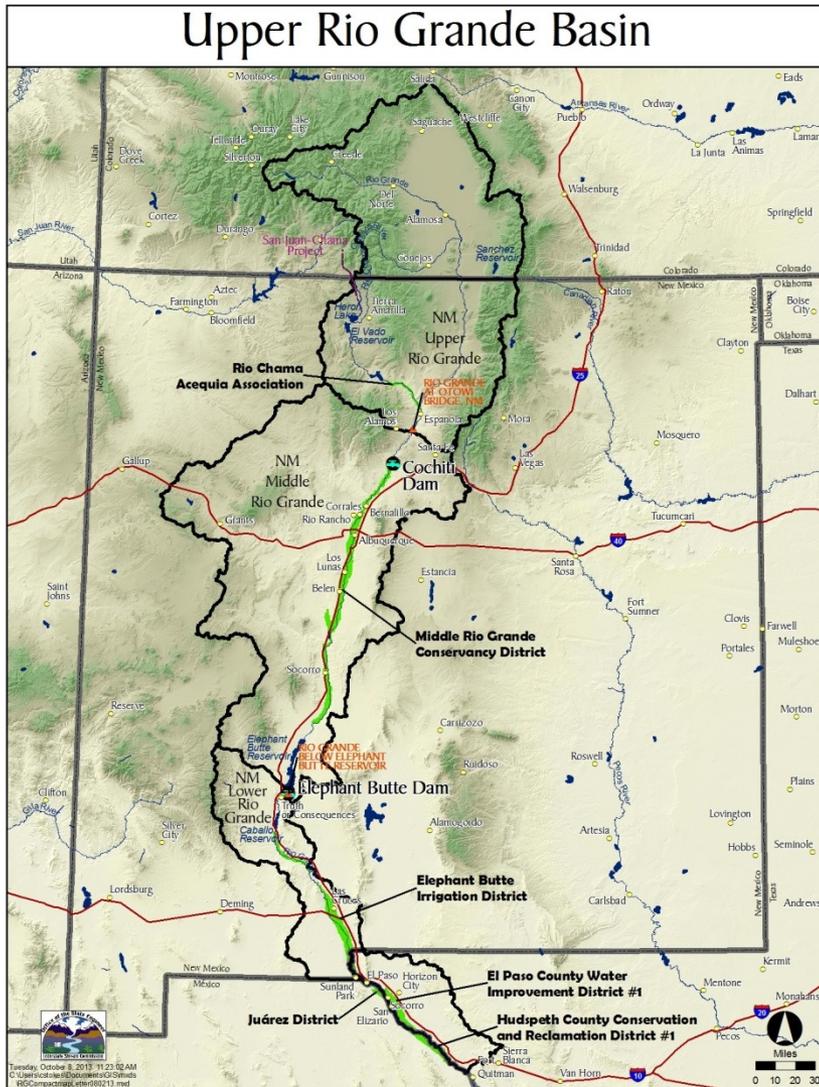
- Colorado is Required to Deliver Water to New Mexico at the Colorado-New Mexico Stateline
 - At the Lobatos Bridge
 - The amount of water required to be delivered to the Stateline is determined based upon the gage record of:
 - The Rio Grande at Del Norte
 - Three locations on Conejos River System
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The Rio Grande Compact - Colorado





The Rio Grande Compact – New Mexico



Upper Rio Grande Basin of New Mexico

If depletions change between the Stateline with Colorado and Otowi Bridge, modify Middle Rio Grande allocation

The Rio Grande Compact in NM – Upper Rio Grande

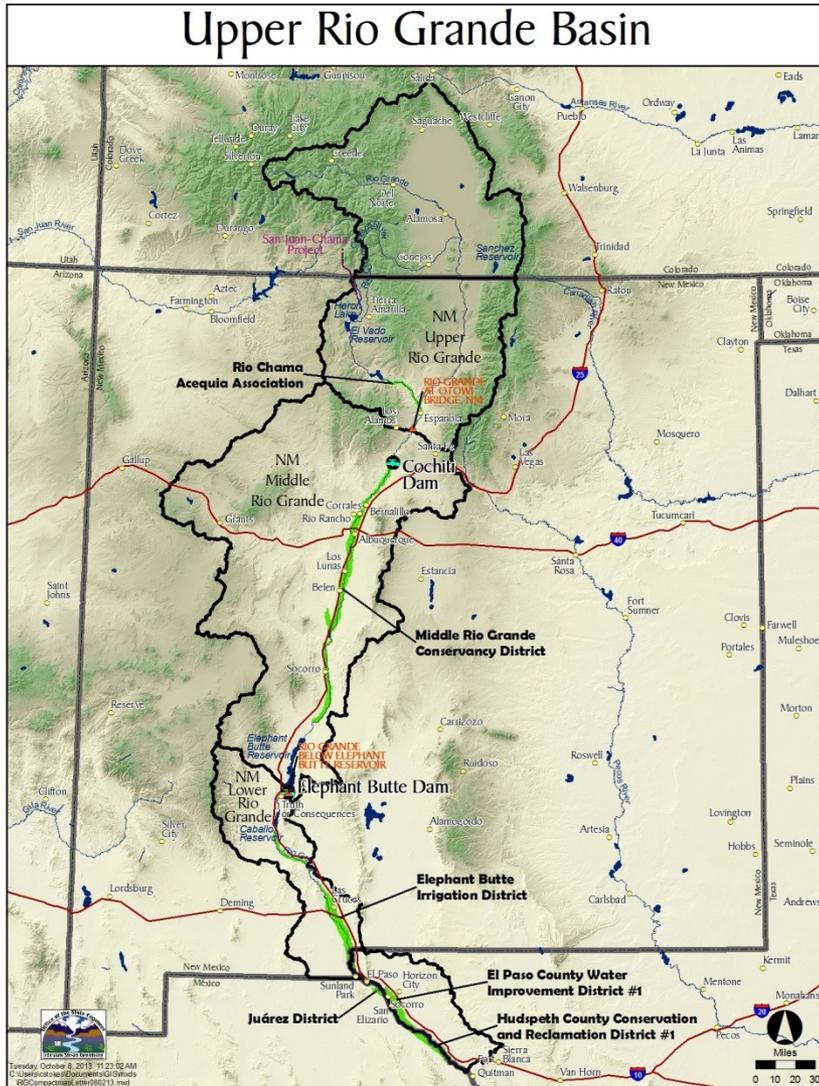




The Rio Chama Valley below Abiquiu Dam



The Rio Grande Compact – New Mexico



Middle Rio Grande Basin of New Mexico

New Mexico is Required to Deliver Water to Elephant Butte Reservoir (the Rio Grande Project):

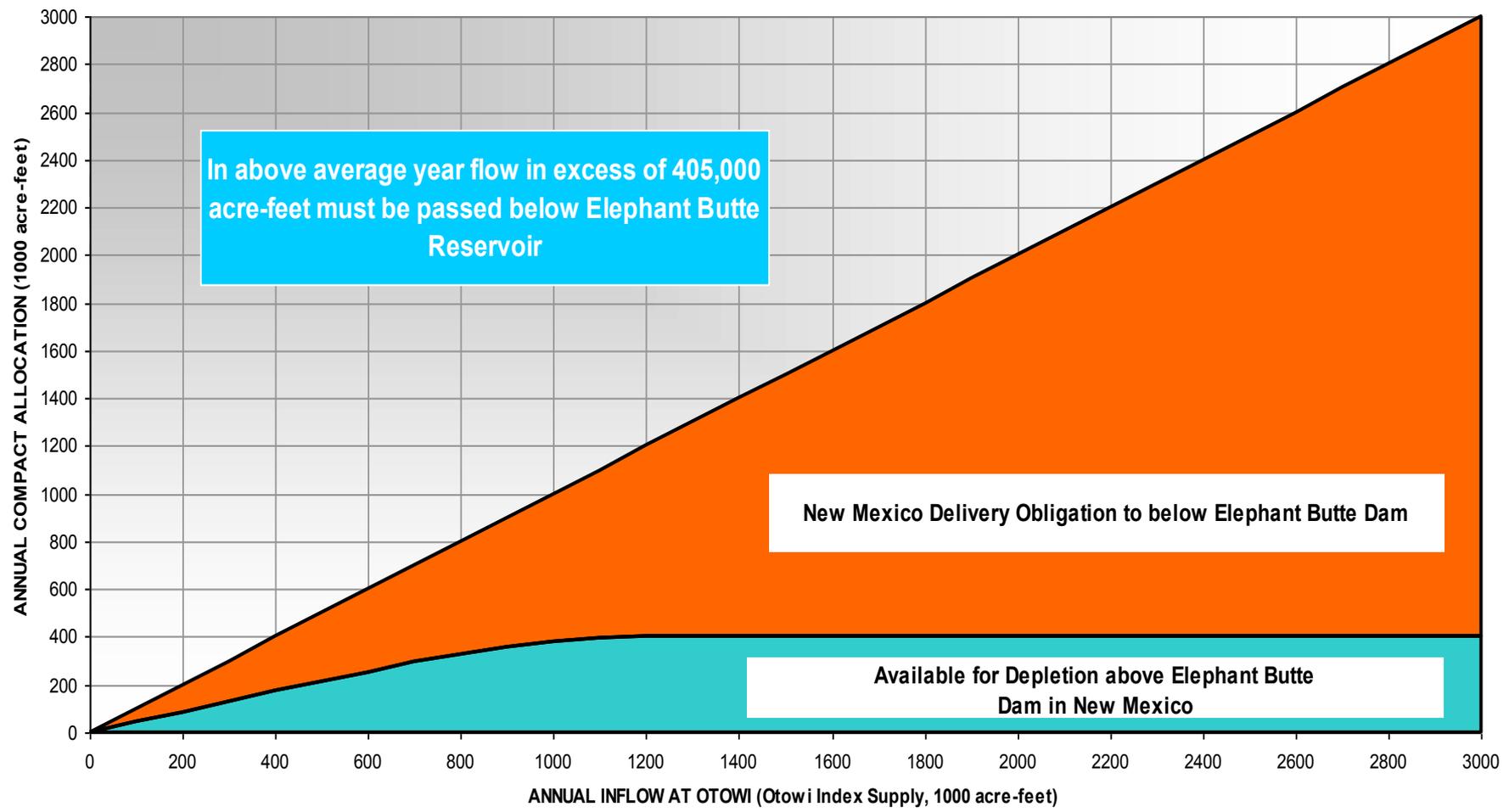
There is an explicit allocation of the flow measured at the Otowi gage and delivery to Elephant Butte

Otowi Gage



Middle Rio Grande Allocation

ANNUAL COMPACT ALLOCATION CHART

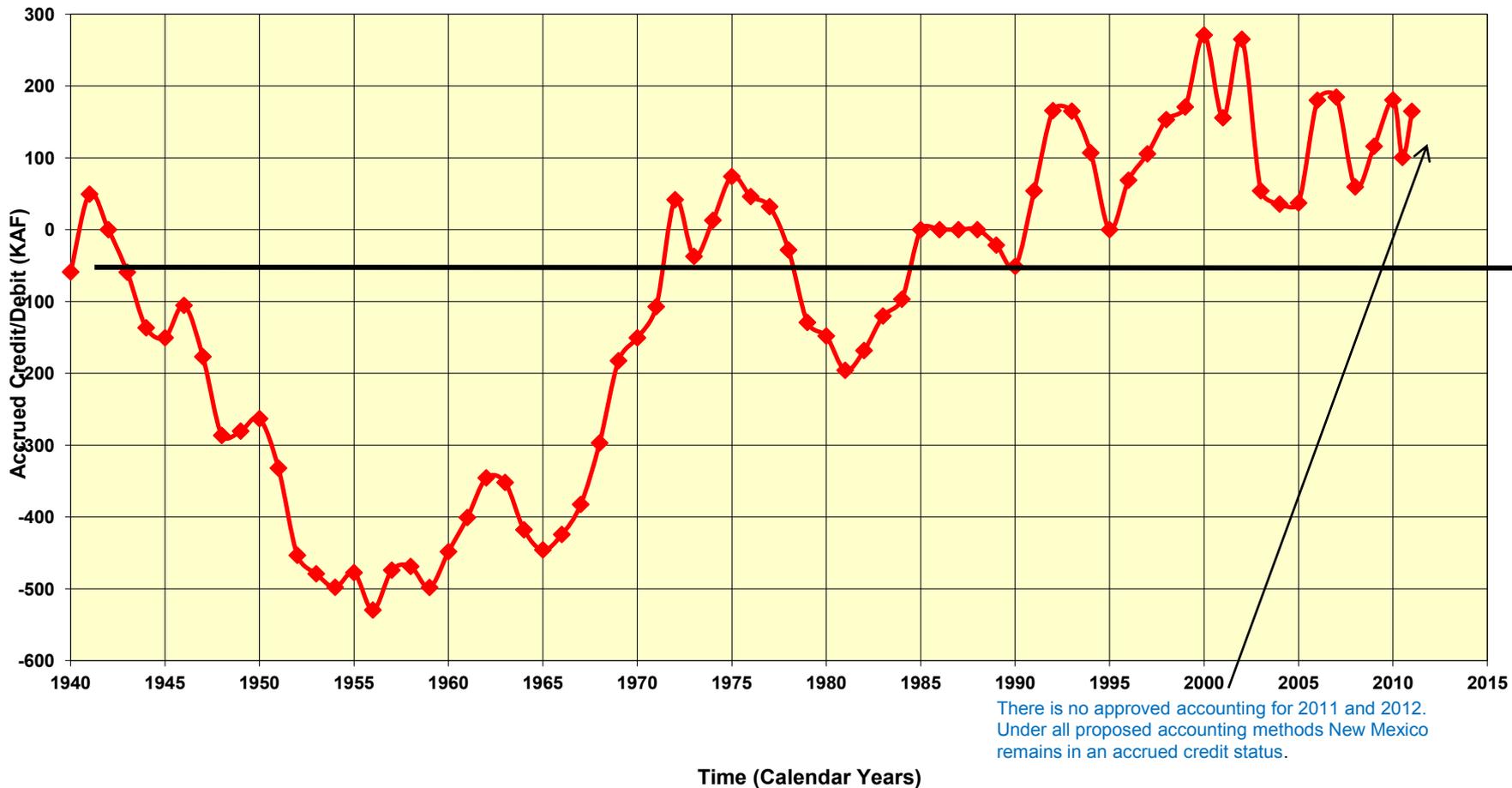






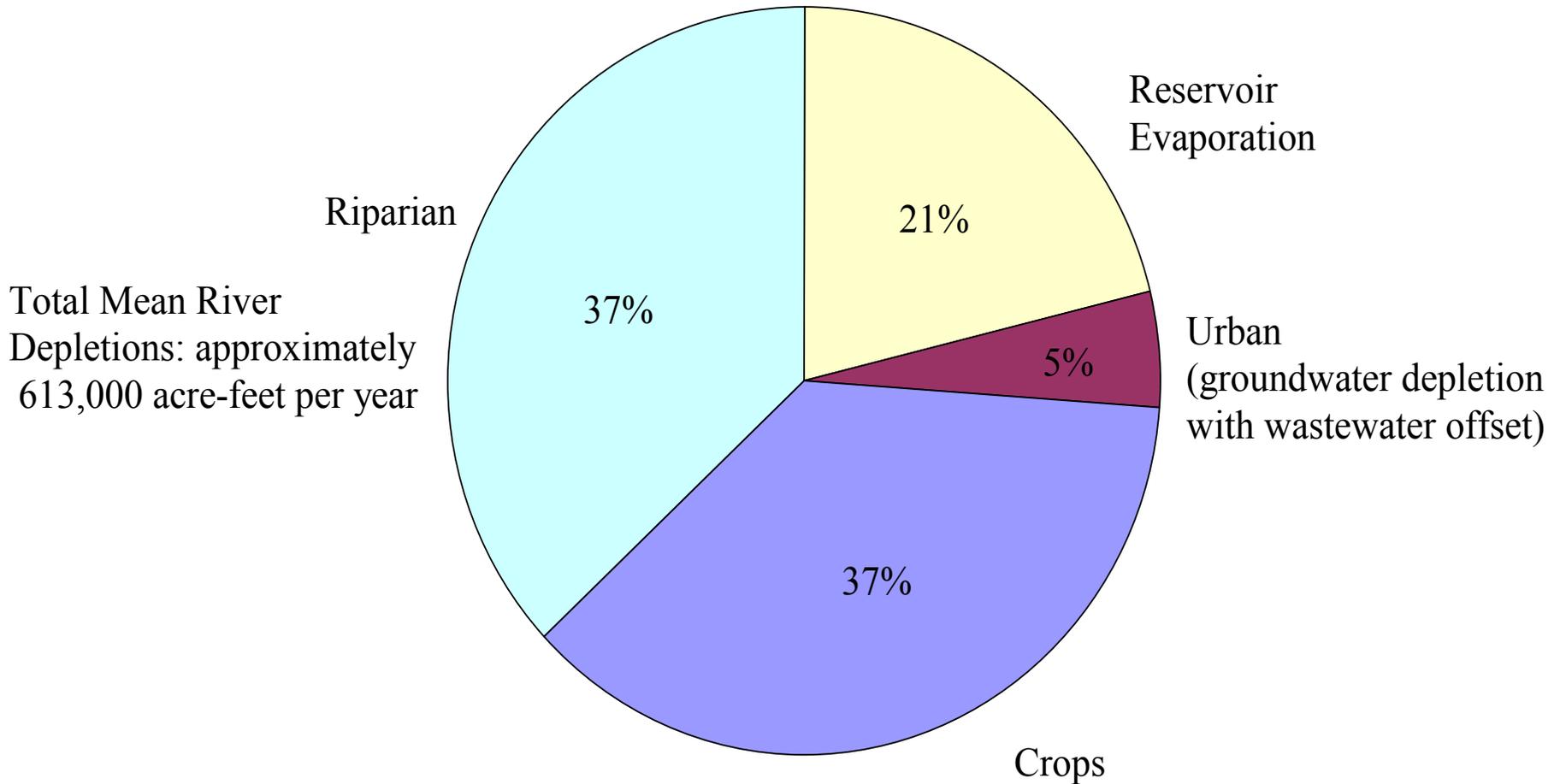


Rio Grande Compact Compliance 1940 - 2013



There is no approved accounting for 2011 and 2012.
Under all proposed accounting methods New Mexico
remains in an accrued credit status.

Middle Rio Grande River System Depletions



Source: SSPA, July 2000 Water Supply Study of the Middle Rio Grande









