



MIDDLE RIO GRANDE  
WATER ADVOCATES



NM WATER  
AMBASSADORS

# Legislators: Please Protect our Water

*Pass the 2023 Water Security Planning Act  
Secure NM's Equitable Water Future*

## The Facts: New Mexico is in a Water Crisis

- Reservoirs, rivers, aquifers, acequias, and irrigation ditches are drying
- Catastrophic wildfires threaten watersheds and livelihoods
- Rivers, streams, and groundwater recharge have declined more than 25% and will decline by 25% more by 2070
- Many communities lack resources for better water infrastructure and management
- State water agencies lack resources to protect public welfare and equitably adapt to a drier future
- WE MUST ACT NOW TO AVOID severe water and economic insecurity.

## The Opportunity: We Can Take Bold, Transformational Steps

- Provide state water agencies with resources to carry out existing critical jobs and address new challenges
- Plan for New Mexico's climate change water future
- Conserve and be better stewards of our water
- Make possible a resilient and sustainable water and economic future for New Mexico
- WORKING TOGETHER, we have a unique and historic opportunity to transform water management in New Mexico.

## A Solution: The 2023 Water Security Planning Act

- Implements Water Policy and Infrastructure Task Force ***Recommendation 2.2: Elevate regional planning in the face of increasing water scarcity to promote equity and build capacity to govern and manage water.***
- Establishes a long-term framework for robust state-funded **regional water resilience planning**
  - Community driven, science-based, focused on resilience, sustainability, and equity
  - Intended to be implemented, unlike the ineffective 1987 framework
- Directs regional planning to **vet and prioritize projects and policies to increase water security**
- Directs the Interstate Stream Commission to **establish state rules to fund and approve plans and recommend the appropriation of state-matching funds to implement them**

**THINK WATER – ACT NOW**  
**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**  
VISIT the [MRGWA 2023 Legislature webpage](#)

