



## CHAT FILE

**NM WATER ADVOCATES SPEAKER SERIES:  
Water Management & Planning for Resilience  
In the Middle Rio Grande (w/Mike Hamman, State Engineer,  
and Nat Chakeres, General Counsel, OSE)  
September 21, 2023**

- 18:30:17 From Laurie McCann To Everyone: Laurie McCann/Water Advocates
- 18:30:27 From Grace Haggerty To Everyone: Grace Haggerty Rio Grande Bureau ISC
- 18:30:39 From Steve Glass To Everyone: Steve Glass, Board Chair, Ciudad Soil and Water Conservation District
- 18:30:42 From Kristina Romero To Everyone: Kristina Romero
- 18:30:45 From William McMullan To Everyone: Will McMullan, Friends of Bosque del Apache NWR
- 18:30:46 From Stefi Weisburd To Everyone: Stefi weisburd, 350NM
- 18:30:48 From Diane Agnew To Everyone: Diane Agnew, Water Authority
- 18:30:58 From Patricia Cardona To Everyone: Patricia Cardona, Santa Fe, New Mexico
- 18:30:58 From Ricardo Dow y Anaya To Everyone: Ricardo Dow y Anaya OAG Guadalupe Hidalgo Treaty Division, Land Grant & Acequia Liaison
- 18:31:05 From Martin Zehr To Everyone: Martin Zehr/ Green Party of New Mexico
- 18:31:05 From Gina Dello Russo To Everyone: Gina Dello Russo, Escondida, NM
- 18:31:06 From Alan Hook To Everyone: Alan Hook, City of Santa Fe Water
- 18:31:08 From Gillian Gonda To Everyone: Hi everyone, Gillian Gonda/MRGWA
- 18:31:10 From Casey Ish To Everyone: Casey Ish, Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District
- 18:31:25 From Rex Myers To Everyone: Rex Myers Bosque del apache
- 18:31:29 From Carolyn Kennedy To Everyone: Hello Everyone! Carolyn Kennedy and Lynn Montgomery, MRGWA
- 18:31:31 From David Burling To Everyone: David Burling, Director at Eldorado Area Water and Sanitation District
- 18:31:32 From John Hawley To Everyone: John Hawley says Hi to everyone
- 18:31:51 From Alan Hook To Everyone: Reacted to "John Hawley says Hi ..." with 👍
- 18:31:51 From John R Brown To Everyone: John B - MRG Advocates - Hi All!
- 18:31:59 From Steve Glass To Everyone: Reacted to "John Hawley says Hi ..." with 👍
- 18:31:59 From Teresa Seamster To Everyone: Hi - Teresa Seamster, Sierra Club Water Sentinels
- 18:32:06 From Bill Schneider To Everyone: Thank you for hosting this important event.... Bill Schneider. Santa Fe Water
- 18:32:09 From Phil King To Everyone: Phil King, here as Water Ambassador. Also a consultant to Elephant Butte Irrigation District.
- 18:32:14 From Betsy Diaz To Everyone: Betsy Diaz MRGWA Advocate

- 18:32:17 From Cathryn Pokorny To Everyone: My name is Kitty Pokorny and I live in Socorro, NM. I'm joining from my home.
- 18:32:24 From Steve Glass To Everyone: Reacted to "Diane Agnew, Water A..." with 
- 18:32:26 From Kristina Romero To Everyone: Kristina Romero, New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission
- 18:32:28 From Paul Montoia To Everyone: Greetings! Paul Montoia
- 18:32:43 From Monique DiGiorgio To Everyone: Monique DiGiorgio, Western Landowners Alliance
- 18:33:09 From Steve Glass To Everyone: Reacted to "HelloEveryone! Carol..." with 
- 18:33:16 From Tim Voskuil To Everyone: Hi All, Tim Voskuil, Albuquerque.
- 18:33:21 From Athena Cholas To Everyone: Athena Cholas, Natural Resources Conservation Service , easement program manager
- 18:33:22 From William Turner To Everyone: Bill Turner Trustee of WaterBank
- 18:33:23 From Ruth Striegel To Everyone: Ruth Striegel, Albuquerque, NM Interfaith Power and Light.
- 18:33:47 From Susan L Homer To Everyone: Susan Homer, Albuquerque
- 18:33:53 From Barbara Calef To Everyone: Barbara Calef, League of Women Voters of New Mexico
- 18:33:54 From Anne Marken To Everyone: Anne Marken MRGCD
- 18:33:54 From Pat Dooley To Everyone: Pat Dooley, Santa Fe
- 18:34:01 From Ladona Clayton To Everyone: Ladona Clayton, Clovis, NM, Ogallala Land & Water Conservancy
- 18:35:17 From Jeanne Logsdon To Everyone: Jeanne Logsdon, League of Women Voters of Central New Mexico
- 18:35:53 From Peter Cocha To Everyone: Peter Cocha, Corrales
- 18:36:25 From Andy Otto To Everyone: Andy Otto, N New Mexico Group, Sierra Club
- 18:36:48 From Amanda Nezzie To Everyone: Amanda Nezzie, Water Planner, ISC
- 18:37:15 From Brittany Gaume To Everyone: If you just joined us please introduce yourself in the chat and please post any questions you may have in the chat
- 18:39:04 From Dagmar Llewellyn To Everyone: Dagmar Llewellyn, Bureau of Reclamation Upper Colorado Basin Region.
- 18:39:48 From Brittany Gaume To Everyone: We hope you will join us for our next speakers series on Oct. 19, 2023 - What is the Public Interest in Middle Rio Grande Water Management? With Barbara Baca and Eric Olivas you can register here <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83907596582?pwd=c0RxZ09KNDVjaFdDNmUzVzhNQWN3dz09>
- 18:42:38 From Brittany Gaume To Everyone: If you missed any of our past speakers series you can get to the recordings here: <https://mrgwateradvocates.org/prior-workshops/>
- 18:44:23 From Brittany Gaume To Everyone: Please post any questions you may have in the chat.
- 18:46:03 From Ralph Wrons To Everyone: Happy 100th anniversary to the Conservancy Act
- 18:46:28 From Brittany Gaume To Everyone: Reacted to "Happy 100th annivers..." with 
- 18:46:35 From John Hawley To Everyone: Reacted to "John Hawley says Hi ..." with 
- 18:47:57 From Brittany Gaume To Everyone: If you just joined us please post your questions in the chat

- 18:49:27 From William Turner To Everyone: Glad you motioned the Embargo On the Rio Grande issued by the U.S. Secretary of war on December 5, 1896. Isn't this a more important date than March 19, 1907. The Embargo was not ended until 1923. Any water rights with a priority in the period 1896 and 1923 would be illegal. One of the first applications after 1923 was for water rights on the Arroyo Hondo south of Santa Fe,
- 18:53:05 From Brittany Gaume To Everyone: If you just joined us please post your questions in the chat and we will have a question and answer session at the end of meeting.
- 18:57:01 From Sigmund Silber To Everyone: Sorry I am late. Sig Silber
- 18:59:07 From Brittany Gaume To Everyone: We hope you will join us for our next speakers series on Oct. 19, 2023 - What is the Public Interest in Middle Rio Grande Water Management? With Barbara Baca and Eric Olivas you can register here <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83907596582?pwd=c0RxZ09KNDVjaFdDNmUzVzhNQWN3dz09>
- 18:59:19 From Ralph Wrons To Everyone: Q: What is the "New obligation" at the NM/TX state line? (if I heard that correctly? stated at about 6:52) Is that going to add to our looming water scarcity woes in NM? Thanks for the history, by the way, to set the stage.
- 19:00:47 From Spencer Gerwin To Everyone: Reacted to "Happy 100th annivers..." with 👍
- 19:01:39 From elaine hebard To Everyone: How to include vested rights since the Rio was fully, if not over, appropriated by 1907?
- 19:02:24 From Martin Zehr To Everyone: Reacted to "How to include veste..." with 👍
- 19:07:15 From Norm Gaume To Everyone: Mike, how will your office and the ISC incentivize cooperation to develop a plan for sustainable resiliency of the Middle RIO GRANDE? What is the ISC's role in supporting collaborative water planning in the Middle RIO GRANDE?
- 19:07:33 From Susan L Homer To Everyone: Is it true that there is no state data base inventorying the number & capacity of wells tapping ground water in the state?
- 19:08:45 From Martin Zehr To Everyone: Will a priority call be made due to climate change?
- 19:09:06 From Michael Pitula To Everyone: Replying to "Is it true that ther..." The NMOSE has a database of Points of Diversion that includes groundwater wells. It includes depth to water data for some of them.
- 19:10:59 From Spencer Gerwin To Everyone: I had trouble logging in. Who are the speakers?
- 19:11:50 From Brittany Gaume To Everyone: Mike Hamman, State Engineer spoke first and now Nat Chakeres, NM ISC General Counsel is speaking
- 19:12:45 From Norm Gaume To Everyone: How big an issue is illegal water use in the Middle Rio Grande. Do you have plans to enforce against illegal water use?
- 19:14:58 From William Turner To Everyone: Water loss along the Rio Grande is considered by URGWOM Operation Model. Does this ma model consider that SJ Chama water is not native rio grand water but rather floats on top of native Rio Grande water in the rivers and reservoirs. So, the first water over the spillway and the water that is evaporated from Reservoirs is really SJC water. The ox that is gored is contractors for SJC water. Tis was affirmed in Jicarilla Apaches vs. City of Albuquerque in 1979. Therefore the accounting loss of flow down the rio grande is absorbed by SJC water. Do you agree?
- 19:16:21 From Norm Gaume To Everyone: Nat Chakeres is the State Engineer's General Counsel.
- 19:16:56 From Brittany Gaume To Everyone: Thank you for that correction Norm

- 19:17:00 From William Turner To Everyone: WaterBank routine has several hundred acre feet of water available for sale. Would the OSE consider buying at market prices. Last year alone we sold about 700 or 800 acre feet.
- 19:18:00 From Denise Fort To Everyone: Environmentalists want to see the San Acacia reach of the Rio Grande restored, not further damaged by resurrecting the 1950s era Low Flow. Temporary water fallowing was mentioned as the one tool you're using now. I understand the OSE accepts the forecasts of how climate change will affect flows in the river. Nat described alternative administration. Why doesn't the OSE begin to actually manage withdrawals in the Rio Grande so that Compact and Texas obligations can be met?
- 19:22:11 From Brittany Gaume To Everyone: Don't forget that MRGCD elections are coming right up. Use your voice and vote
- 19:24:09 From Norm Gaume To Everyone: Replying to "Water loss along the..." Bill, as a former ISC chief engineer, I can't agree with your characterization of San Juan-Chama water. It is true the imported San-Juan Chama can't take space that storage for the Lower RIO GRANDE can fill, so it spills first. But, do you think Elephant Butte Reservoir will ever spill again?
- 19:24:51 From Martin Zehr To Everyone: Agricultural users are NOT depleting the aquifer
- 19:26:02 From Martin Zehr To Everyone: No voice in formulating the plan and no objections heard?
- 19:26:03 From William Turner To Everyone: Replying to "Water loss along the..." Of course it will. At the time of the trial, attorney for the USBR mader fin off my position by saying that Elephant Buttee had never spilled. Well spill it did several years in the mid 90s.
- 19:27:09 From Jeanne Logsdon To Everyone: Can you tell us more about the process to set up the regional planning process? When do you hope the first regions will be in place?
- 19:28:11 From John Hawley To Everyone: At 91, with only 9 years to go, I want to welcome you all to the uncharted territory of the Anthropocene! From my personal hydrogeological perspective, New Mexico is already well into the era of mining of both groundwater and surface-water resource.
- 19:30:09 From Norm Gaume To Everyone: Reacted to "At 91, with only 9 y..." with 
- 19:30:23 From Ladona Clayton To Everyone: Reacted to "At 91, with only 9 y..." with 
- 19:30:36 From William Turner To Everyone: Replying to "Water loss along the..." The OSE should require that any developer buy water rights to cover their use. Bernalillo, Belen do it. But only for redidental developments. They do not require FaceBook or Amazon or other business water users to do it.
- 19:31:18 From Martin Zehr To Everyone: It took more than 10 years for the first regional plan for the Middle Rio Grande
- 19:31:33 From Denise Fort To Everyone: Reacted to "At 91, with only 9 y..." with 
- 19:37:48 From William Turner To Everyone: Replying to "Water loss along the..." That is incorrect. Steve Reynolds told Charlie Crowder when Charley wanted to drill wells for a development near the border. Steves reply was: You drill as many wells as you want Charlie. We want to get that water before it goes to Texas: Have you read the Hemele Document?
- 19:38:13 From Paul White To Everyone: How can we get a link to the recording once it is posted?
- 19:38:26 From Ralph Wrons To Everyone: Thanks Nat for your comprehensive and explicit answer
- 19:38:55 From Brittany Gaume To Everyone: A recording of the meeting will be sent to everyone who registered and/or attended the meeting. Check your email in a few days!
- 19:40:03 From Brittany Gaume To Everyone: Other past speakers series recordings can be found here <https://mrgwateradvocates.org/prior-workshops/>

- 19:40:58 From William Turner To Everyone: Replying to "Water loss along the..." There are 0 Junior water rights in the MRGCD District. The rights belong to the farmers not the MRGCD. Only the pre-1907 water rights are active. Collaboration between the OSE and the MRGCD is excellent. All ditch riders for example have tables that are tied into the MRGCD database.
- 19:42:16 From Norm Gaume To Everyone: What are your thoughts about completing as many prerequisites, like working to form the entity and assembling the required data to support model in parallel with completing the ISC's formal Rules and less formal Guidelines?
- 19:42:57 From William Turner To Everyone: Replying to "Water loss along the..." Gotta go. Its been an excellent discussion.
- 19:48:58 From elaine hebard To Everyone:  
<https://www.ca8.uscourts.gov/texas-v-new-mexico-and-colorado-no-141-original>
- 19:49:08 From Brittany Gaume To Everyone: Thank you Elaine!
- 19:49:24 From Norm Gaume To Everyone: Replying to "Water loss along the..." @William Turner No but that was 30 years ago. We need to look forward knowing the mistakes that we now see with the benefit of hindsight, which may or may not legally constrain available solutions. In any case, the compact protects the Middle Rio Grande from activities in the Lower RIO GRANDE
- 19:50:05 From Betsy Diaz To Everyone: Thank you both for providing details of water planning and management that clarified information about many issues of which I knew in part by filling in the gaps in such clear ways. Betsy Diaz MRGWA & Interfaith Power & Light
- 19:53:33 From Denise Fort To Everyone: Keeping the river wet must happen. And this requires water management not using a constructed channel. Fortunately, even though NM doesn't have any environmental review for water projects, the federal Bureau of Reclamation does, and the OSE's pursuit of an artificial channel will receive some outside review.
- 19:55:45 From Brittany Gaume To Everyone: We hope you will join us for the next speakers series on Oct 19th - register here:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83907596582?pwd=c0RxZ09KNDVjaFdDNmUzVzhNQWN3dz09>
- 19:58:07 From Martin Zehr To Everyone: Wasn't the prediction Water Wars 2025?
- 20:00:25 From Brittany Gaume To Everyone: It really helps us plan these events if you can take a moment to take our survey! <https://forms.gle/kbxtSQzqhryPbyr5>
- 20:01:00 From Brittany Gaume To Everyone: Please consider donating to the Water Advocates to fund more speakers series! [https://www.paypal.com/donate/?cmd=\\_s-xclick&hosted\\_button\\_id=W4S4T9S8HRMNC&ssrt=1695343235860](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=W4S4T9S8HRMNC&ssrt=1695343235860)