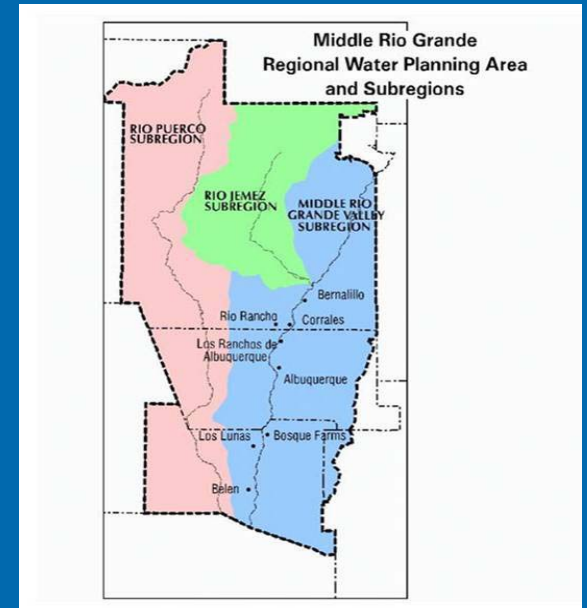


# Middle Rio Grande Regional Water Plan

## *A Background/Review Presentation for the Thirteenth Annual Water Assembly*

October 24, 2009

Kevin Bean  
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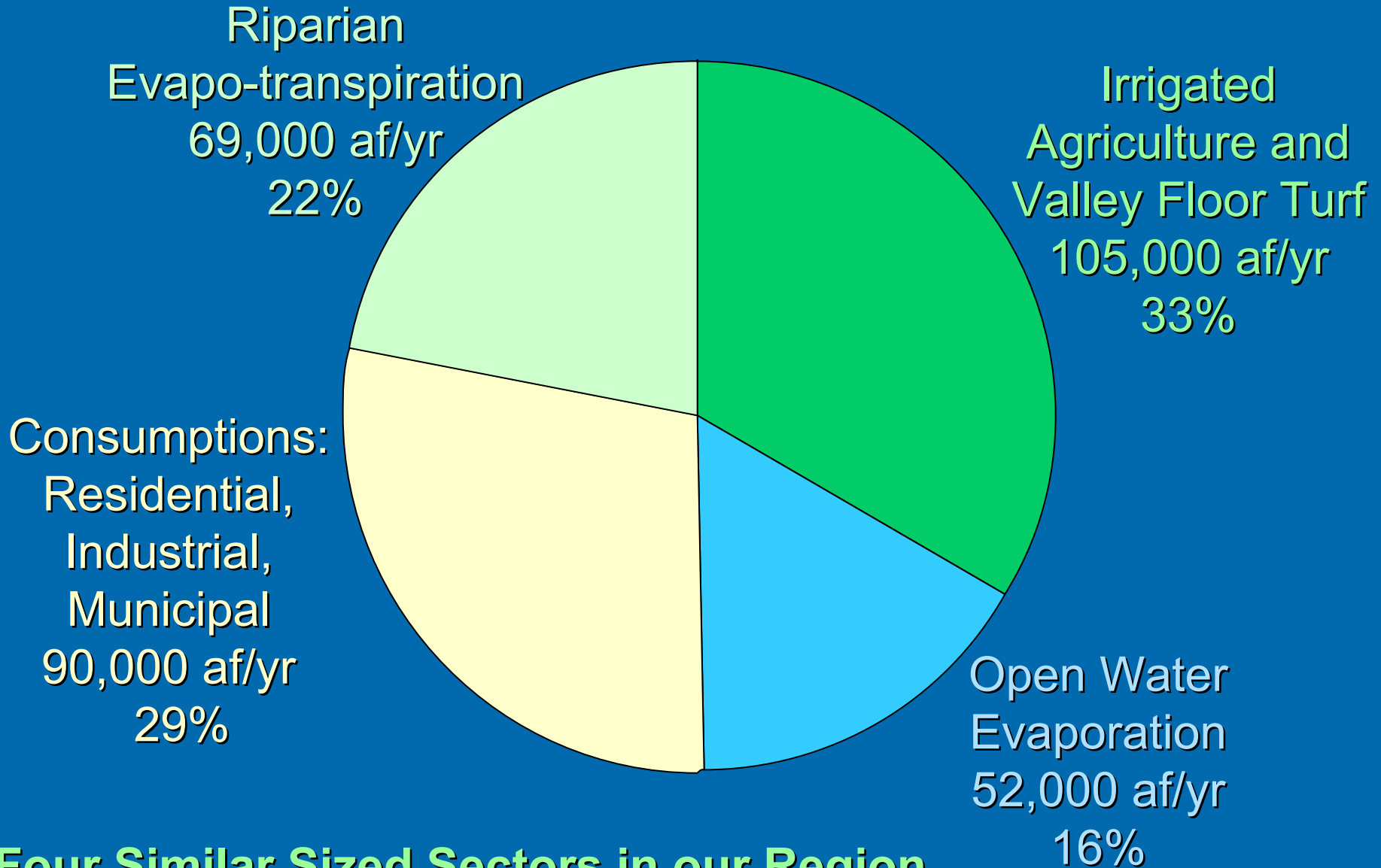


[www.WaterAssembly.org](http://www.WaterAssembly.org)  
293-9208

# Middle Rio Grande Regional Water Planning Area and Subregions

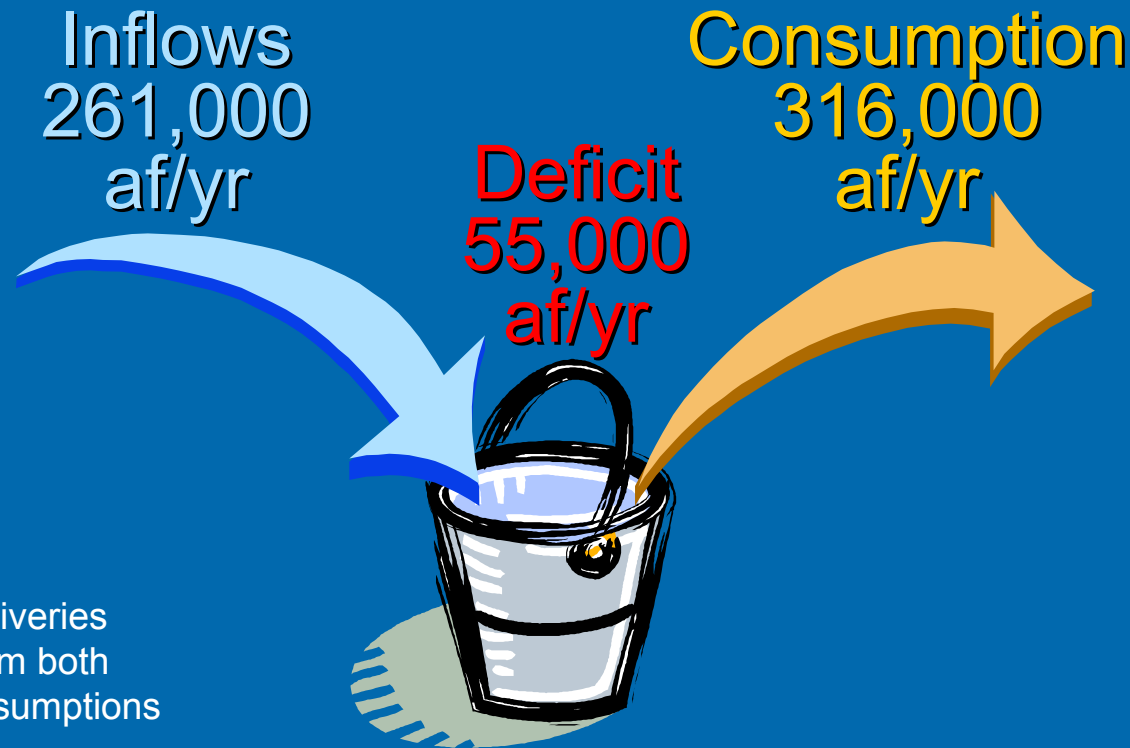


# The Regional Water Budget – 1972-1997



# The Regional Water Budget Bottom Line

Ongoing Deficit Spending of Water – 15-20%  
Last Quarter of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century



Note:

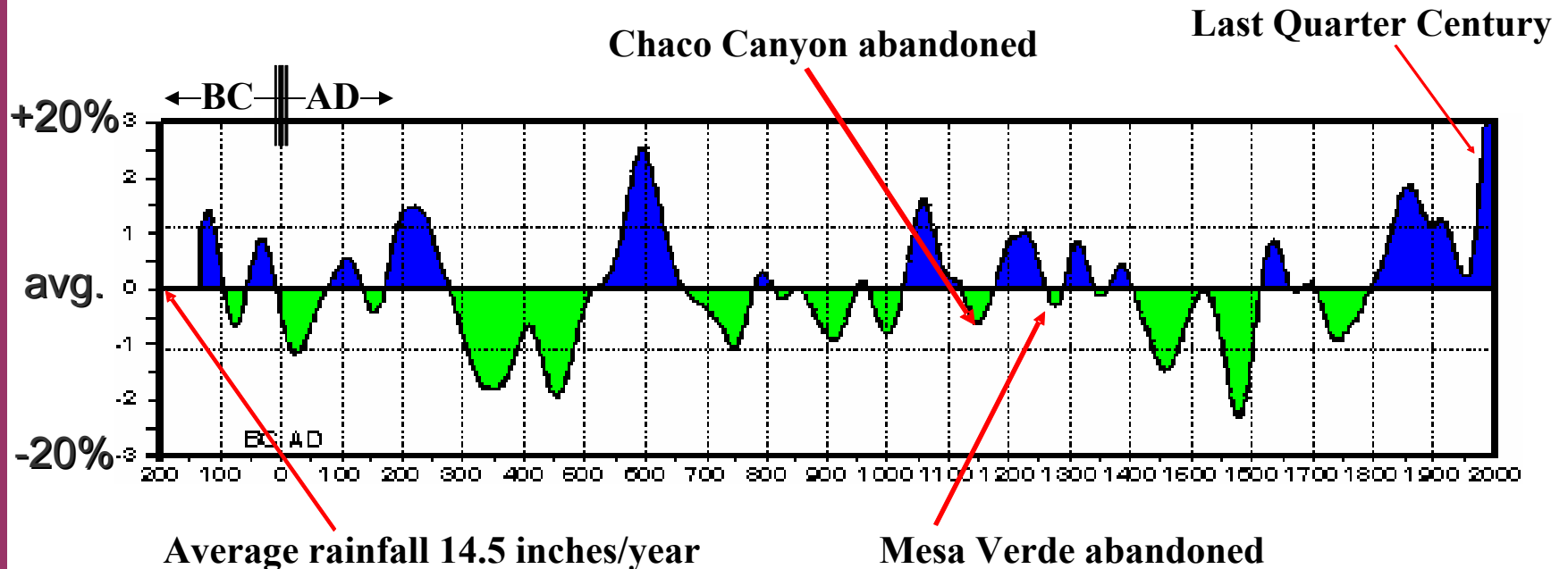
- o Downstream Deliveries are Excluded from both Inflows and Consumptions

**55,000 Acre Feet is 18 Billion Gallons  
Enough to Fill a Football Field 7 Miles Deep, Every Year !**

# Wettest Quarter Century in 2000 Years

## Rainfall Over 2000 Years in New Mexico

Tree rings from El Malpais National Monument (Henri Grissino-Mayer)



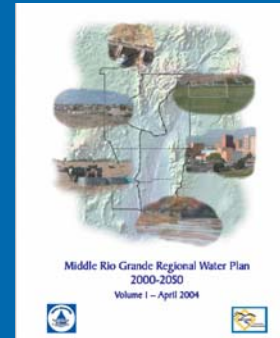
**We Were Overspending When We Were Flush**

# Regional Water Plan

- Accepted in 2004 by All 19 Local Governments in the Region
- Accepted by New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission

Result of:

- Seven Year Open and Inclusive Process
- More than 100 Public Meetings throughout Region
- About 100 Briefings to Agencies, Groups, Governing Bodies
- About 500 Water Assembly Meetings
- About 60 MRCOG Water Resources Board Meetings
- Over 30,000 Water Assembly Volunteer Person-Hours
- \$1.2 Million in State, Local Government and Private Funds
- Extensive Analysis Studies and Computer Modeling



**A Basis for Moving Forward**

# Key Planning Considerations

- Recognize that the Plan Represents a Snapshot in Time
- Draw Recommendations from a “Preferred” Scenario
- Focus on Critical Parameters, without Ignoring Others
- Obtain Wide Acceptance of the Water Plan

# Regional Planning Mission

Balance Use

with

Renewable Supply





# Plan Attributes – A Shopping List

- Mission: “Balance Water Use with Renewable Supply”
  - Considering Environment, Rights, Authorities, Cultures, Traditions, etc.
- Forty Three Recommendations - Arranged in:
- Nine Recommendation Categories:
  1. Urban and Rural Conservation Activities
  2. Water Resources Planning and Management
  3. Water Monitoring and Measurement
  4. Agriculture
  5. Water Quality
  6. Bosque and Other Riparian Habitats
  7. Water Storage to Reduce Evaporative Losses
  8. Desalination and Transfer of Water
  9. Public Education
- Statement of Public Welfare
- Implementation Strategy – Local/Regional Plans of Action

# In Summary, the Plan's Challenge:

For Each Person, For Each Entity, For Each Level

- Think Cooperatively
  - Think Broadly
  - Think Wet Water
- Beyond Boundaries of Jurisdiction
  - Beyond Duration of Term of Office
  - Beyond One's Own Special Interests
  - Beyond Our Current Generation

**Attack the Deficit Spending !**

**For Our Grandchildren, and for Their Grandchildren**

# Further Info ?

See The Regional Water Plan

at

[www.WaterAssembly.org](http://www.WaterAssembly.org)

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