Squaring Up with the Rio Grande

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Water Use by Sector in LRG

- Irrigated Agriculture: 90.11%
- Public Water Systems: 6.81%
- Commercial: 1.27%
- Livestock: 0.76%
- Domestic wells: 0.53%
- Power: 0.49%
- Industrial/Mining: 0.03%
D3 Allocation

- $\text{MX} = 0.09375 \cdot R - 11,610$, maximum 60,000 acre-feet
- $\text{EP1} = 0.53775 \cdot R - 33,872$, maximum 376,885 acre-feet
- $\text{EB} = R \cdot R_D - \text{MX} - \text{EP1}$
- $R_D =$ Total Diversion/Release
Graphical D3

Allocate, AF

Release from Caballo R, AF

- MX
- EP1
- EBID
Allotment Process

- Diversion Allocation set by BOR a la D3
- Adaptive strategy by EBID
  - Allotment = \( e_c \cdot \text{Allocation}/90,640 \)
  - \( e_c = \text{Delivery}/\text{Diversion} \approx 50\% \) in drought, 65\% in full supply
  - Moving target
- Groundwater - ???
SWUAs

- Allow entity to use surface water for M&I and other uses within District boundaries
  - Ownership of Project Water rights
  - Lease of Project Water rights
  - Transfer of Project Water
Foundations for Special Water Users Associations

- Developed by EBID, City of Las Cruces, and the State Engineer
- EBID Policy 2003-GA8, approved November 19, 2003
- 73-10-48 NMSA
SWUA Details

- Assessed as EBID constituents
- Share pro rata in shortages
- Surface water rights maintain EBID’s 1906 priority date
- SWUA must lease all of the water from a parcel; land must be fallowed
- Special Combined Unit: Small tracts (<2 acres) can be consolidated and treated as farm tract for ordering and billing
- Maintained as Ag use until demand for direct M&I use develops
Who Can Form SWUAs?

- Municipalities
- Counties
- State Universities
- Member-owned community systems
- Public utilities
- Interstate Stream Commission
Traditional Ag – to – Ag transfers

- Total Allotment
- Agricultural Users
  - Agricultural Water Used
  - Agricultural Conservation Pool
SWUA Ag – to – M&I transfers
Application to River Restoration

- Restoration on water-righted land
  - Order-delivery
- Drain restoration sites
  - Passive flow - Bosque Park
- Instream flow order/delivery
  - Relation to downstream Project delivery