



EL PASO COUNTY WATER IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT No. 1

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DISPATCHER (915) 872-4029

To: All Farmers and Irrigation Water Users

From: Jesus Reyes, General Manager

Date: January 20, 2021

Re: 2021 Irrigation Season

Due to COVID-19, we will not be able to meet in person; therefore, I am informing you via mail on how the irrigation season is looking thus far.

The Rio Grande Project is in an extraordinary drought. The amount of usable water available for release currently in storage is approximately 6% of total project capacity or less than 160,000 acre-feet. Because of this very limited water supply, the Rio Grande Project Allocation Committee has not made an allocation to the District, Elephant Butte Irrigation District, or Mexico.

Considering, the small amount of water in storage, the estimate allotment to farmers would be 6 to 12 acre-inches per acre and the estimated release date is May 28, 2021 with the first water arriving in El Paso around June 1, 2021. The Allocation Committee will evaluate the project water supply every month and plans on making the first allocation on or before May 11, 2021.

If there would be any increase, it would depend on the runoff from the snow pack in Colorado and northern New Mexico; and as in past years, the District's allocation and the farmers allotment will be increased once the runoff reaches the dam.

I am scheduling a Zoom meeting on January 28, 2021 at 3:00pm (MST), in which, we will discuss the above information in detail. If you wish to attend by Zoom, the link is as follows:

By Computer: <https://zoom.us/j/9158724000> Passcode:4000

By Phone: 346-248-7799 Meeting ID: 915 872 4000 Passcode: 4000