

January 27, 2020



Re: 2020 Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District Water Bank

Dear Applicant:

The Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District (MRGCD) Water Bank was formed by the Board of Directors to promote the beneficial use of water for agriculture, protect water rights and water supply, ensure adequate carriage water, and support aquifer recharge. The Water Bank enables irrigation of productive lands with leased water when water supply is sufficient to serve all lands within the MRGCD. When supply is insufficient for all lands, Water Bank leases may be curtailed to protect water rights of other lands within the District. The Water Bank supports the intent of the MRGCD that as many irrigable acres as possible remain in agricultural production, and we are pleased to work with constituents to identify lands that can benefit from this policy.

For the 2020 irrigation season we are again offering you an opportunity to utilize the MRGCD Water Bank. As of today, snowpack conditions are similar to last year and near the long-term average. However, the MRGCD finished 2019 with very little water in storage, and Rio Grande Compact Article VI will require retention of additional water in upstream reservoirs throughout 2020, reducing the portion available to store for irrigation delivery for the MRGCD water users. There may be periods of time in 2020 when water is not available for all irrigators and deliveries to properties with Water Bank leases may be curtailed. Please review MRGCD Revised Rule No. 23 regarding curtailment of deliveries to Water Bank leases (<https://www.mrgcd.com/water-delivery.aspx> > WATER BANK).

While curtailment is in effect, water will not be delivered to land for which a Water Bank application was made. The MRGCD will notify irrigators through our Irrigation System Operators (ISO) as well as our website, when Water Bank deliveries are curtailed. Water Bank users may resume irrigation after curtailment is lifted and as scheduled with your ISO.

Exceptions to curtailment may occur if localized conditions occur (rainfall, for example), or through alternate curtailment locations (ACL). ACL's are non-Water Bank lands normally under cultivation which may be designated to be curtailed in lieu of equivalent Water Bank lands, allowing Water Bank lands to continue to be irrigated. ACL's must be requested and identified at the time of your Water Bank application or renewal. If an ACL is requested and approved by the MRGCD, it may not be changed during remainder of the irrigation season. It is the responsibility of the applicant to provide all appropriate documentation associated with the lease application, including any required maps, to the MRGCD at the time of application. ACL's support the intent of the MRGCD to protect water rights, while allowing irrigators to receive water on their most productive lands during curtailment periods.

Enclosed please find a Water Bank application/renewal form for 2020. If you would like to lease water or continue to lease water from the MRGCD Water Bank for irrigation, the enclosed form must be completed and returned to the MRGCD and payment made before water will be delivered to your property. A Water Bank Lease Agreement must also be

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87103-0581

1931 Second St. SW

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87102-4515

505.247.0234

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signed and notarized before **ANY** irrigation takes place, without exception. Your ISO will have a list of properties that have a "green light" to irrigate or a "red light" if the Lease Agreement is not signed or fees and assessments have not been paid.

The rates for the calendar year 2020 are as follows: The Water Bank Lease Fee will be \$50.00 per/acre and the Water Service Charge will be \$43.82 per/acre. An Administrative fee of \$100.00 per application is required. This fee is valid for up to a maximum of five (5) consecutive years as long as the lease is renewed annually and is not changed. Any applicant making changes to a Lease Agreement upon renewal within the 5-year period will incur the \$100.00 Administrative fee.

If an applicant enters into a five-year Lease Agreement, lessees will no longer be required to renew the Lease Agreement but must annually certify that no changes are being made. If changes are made either to the lands under the Water Bank or the alternate curtailment location, then a new Lease Agreement will need to be signed before the property is eligible for water.

Prior to receiving water from the Water Bank, applicants must have paid all required fees in full, must not be delinquent on any fees or assessments owed to MRGCD, and must comply with all provisions of the MRGCD Revised Rule No. 23 (Water Bank).

We look forward to working with you during a successful 2020 irrigation season.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike A. Hamman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mike A. Hamman, CEO

Enclosure: Water Bank lease application



MIDDLE RIO GRANDE CONSERVANCY DISTRICT
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WATER BANK WATER LEASE APPLICATION

*A \$100 ADMINISTRATIVE FEE MUST ACCOMPANY APPLICATION UNLESS ALREADY UNDER
A FIVE-YEAR LEASE AGREEMENT.*

*AGRICULTURAL WATER LEASE FEE IS \$50.00 PER IRRIGATED ACRE PER YEAR
WATER SERVICE CHARGE IS \$43.82/ACRE/YEAR*

MRGCD FILE NO _____	DATE _____
Applicant Name _____	MRGCD Owner # _____
Contact Person _____	
Property Owner (IF DIFFERENT THAN APPLICANT) _____	
Mailing Address _____	
Street / PO Box	City
State	Zip
Street Address _____	
Street / PO Box	City
State	Zip
Phone No. Home: _____	Work/Cell: _____
County: _____	

PLACE OF USE – DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY _____ ACRES OF LAND TO BE IRRIGATED
 (IF YOU NEED MORE SPACE, USE BACK OF THIS FORM)

LEGAL DESCRIPTION & COUNTY PROPERTY CODE (UPC) _____

	IRRIGATED ACRES	TOTAL ACREAGE
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THE APPLICANT AFFIRMS THAT THE WATER RECEIVED UNDER THIS WATER LEASE APPLICATION WILL ONLY BE USED FOR ARGICULTURAL OR RELATED PURPOSES AS DETERMINED BY THE MRGCD.

<input type="checkbox"/> NEW APPLICATION	IF RENEWING AN EXISTING LEASE, DATE CURRENT LEASE BEGAN: (DATE) _____	CURRENT IRRIGATION SEASON: _____ 2020
<input type="checkbox"/> CERTIFY "NO CHANGE" TO LAND UNDER THE 5-YEAR CONTRACT		

SOURCE OF WATER SURFACE GROUNDWATER

WILL THERE BE AN ALTERNATIVE CURTAILMENT PARCEL TO BE DECLARED? YES NO

NAME OF DITCH: (IF APPLICABLE) _____ IS TURNOUT AVAILABLE? YES NO

LOCATION: _____

APPLICANT MUST BEAR ALL COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH TURNOUTS OR STRUCTURES AS NECESSARY TO RECEIVE LEASED WATER AND MUST PAY ALL APPLICABLE WATER SERVICE CHARGES, ADMINISTRATIVE FEES AND OTHER APPLICABLE CHARGES

HAVE PRE-1907 WATER RIGHTS BEEN: SOLD* TRANSFERRED* LEASED* OTHER*

* IMPORTANT – PLEASE FURNISH ALL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

PLEASE ATTACH A MAP IDENTIFYING THE ACREAGE TO BE DRIED UP WHEN CURTAILMENT CONDITIONS ARE IN EFFECT.
 (THIS DESIGNATION WILL REMAIN IN EFFECT FOR THE ENTIRE IRRIGATION SEASON.)

LESSEE OWNER APPLICANT SIGNATURE _____

Under MRGCD policy, deliveries of water under Water Bank leases will only be possible when curtailment conditions are not in effect. For further information on when water deliveries may be curtailed, please refer to MRGCD Water Bank Rules, Revised Rule No. 23. THIS APPLICATION IS NOT A LEASE AGREEMENT AND DOES NOT GUARANTEE THAT YOU WILL BE APPROVED FOR A WATER BANK LEASE. DELIVERIES OF WATER WILL NOT BEGIN UNTIL A WATER BANK LEASE AGREEMENT HAS BEEN SIGNED BY THE APPLICANT AND ACCEPTED BY THE MRGCD.