

# IRRIGATION SEASON UPDATE

Water availability is very limited, and as MRGCD runs out of its San Juan Chama Project (SJCP) storage water to augment the native flow of the river this week, it will become more so. The available water to the MRGCD is not enough to meet irrigation demands throughout the valley. However, the MRGCD continues to make irrigation deliveries in all four divisions with what water is available. Water is distributed in proportion to the acreage served, and ditches are operated on a rotational basis. Without rain, flows in the river are expected to drop low enough by the end of Sunday, June 19th, that the Corrales pumping operation may no longer be feasible.

The MRGCD has NOT decided to end the irrigation season; the middle valley is simply running out of water. If monsoon rains produce runoff to the river, the MRGCD will divert what it can and deliver it to irrigators. Depending on the location and intensity of rain events, it is unlikely rain will benefit all areas, and it's possible it could benefit the same areas over and over. Often rain runoff is of short duration, and even though the MRGCD diverts to capacity, runoff from the event may not last long enough to sustain deliveries, especially in ditches furthest from the point of diversion. The MRGCD will do its best to equitably distribute inflows from summer rains.

Farmers should exercise caution when making decisions this summer. The ability of the MRGCD to guarantee water deliveries at any time are extremely limited. Irrigators should be prepared to irrigate on short notice, any day of the week, and any time of day.

# 2022 IRRIGATION SEASON UPDATE



## CONTACT THE MRGCD

1931 2nd Street SW  
Albuquerque, NM 87102

Tel: (505) 247-0234

Email: [waterdistribution@mrgcd.us](mailto:waterdistribution@mrgcd.us)

Website: [www.mrgcd.com](http://www.mrgcd.com)

Updated  
June 15th, 2022



TEMPERATURE & PRECIPITATION UPDATE

90-day temperature and precipitation forecasts developed by the National Weather Service indicate that the Middle Rio Grande is likely to experience warmer than average conditions and that there are equal chances for above or below average precipitation through September.

RIO GRANDE COMPACT UPDATE

At the end of 2021, New Mexico's Rio Grande Compact (an interstate and international water sharing agreement between New Mexico, Colorado, Texas and Mexico) Debt to Texas was approximately 127,000 acre-feet. New Mexico has under delivered to Texas through May of 2022 but this is normal for this time of year. Rio Grande Compact accounting is done at the end of the calendar year, and it is too early to tell where New Mexico's Rio Grande Compact Debt will be at the end of 2022. MRGCD is coordinating with water management agencies to ensure that water is conveyed to Elephant Butte as efficiently as possible to minimize New Mexico's Rio Grande Compact Debit.

PRIOR AND PARAMOUNT UPDATE

20,000 acre-feet of Prior and Paramount water has been stored in Abiquiu reservoir for the Six Middle Rio Grande Pueblos. If the Bureau of Indian Affairs determines that the amount of native water entering the Middle Rio Grande is not sufficient to meet the needs of the Prior and Paramount lands, they will call for releases from Prior and Paramount water from storage to meet the those demands. If these releases are made MRGCD will move to Prior and Paramount only operations. Any water left over after deliveries to the Pueblos have been made will be delivered by the MRGCD to non-pueblo farmers.

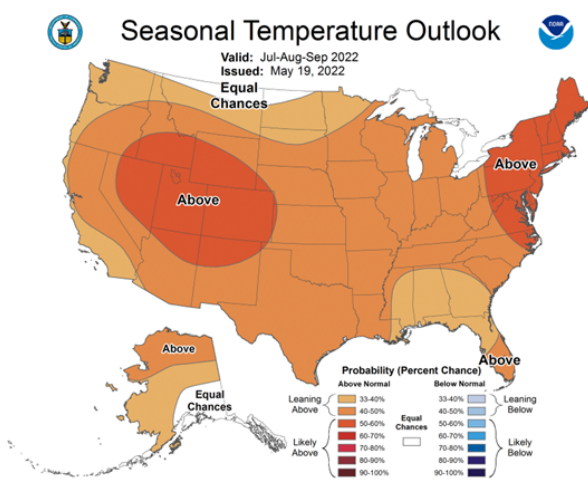


Figure 1. 90 Day Temperature Outlook

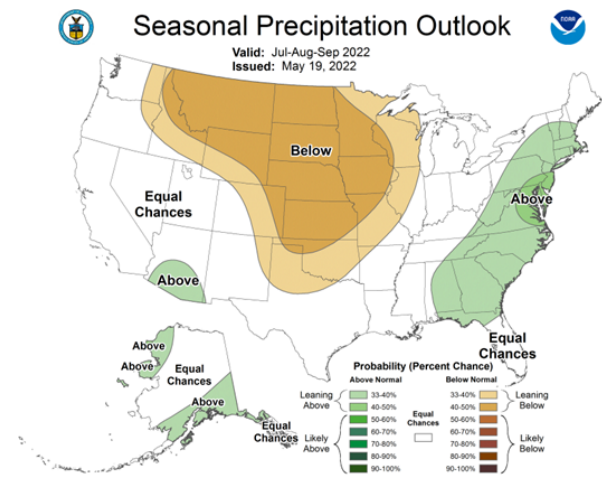


Figure 2. 90 Day Precipitation Outlook

Scan the QR code (right) to access the Three Month Outlook produced by the National Weather Service's Climate Prediction Center. This information can also be accessed at [https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/long\\_range/seasonal.php?lead=1](https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/long_range/seasonal.php?lead=1)

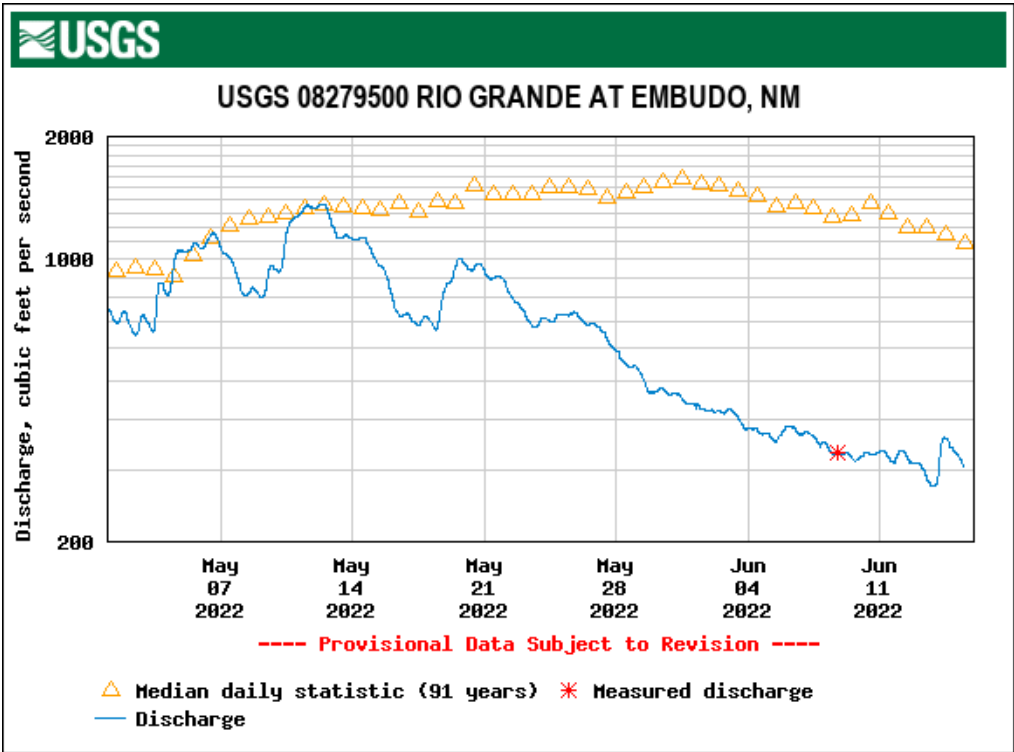


Figure 3. u k '8 k '8 U k '8

Uk8#)  
This plot can be accessed at

