**Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District (MRGCD)**

**2023 Irrigation Season**

**March 28, 2024**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE TO MRGCD IRRIGATORS**

**WATER BANK RULE**

The MRGCD established the Water Bank rule to allow lands without water rights to continue

irrigating under surplus water supply conditions. The MRGCD is notifying holders of Water Bank

leases that Water Bank deliveries are curtailed for the 2023 irrigation season because the

MRGCD will not have sufficient supplemental water in storage to augment the flow of the Rio

Grande to provide for all irrigators during the season.

**ALTERNATE CURTAILMENT LOCATION (ACL) PROCEDURE**

The MRGCD established the Alternate Curtailment Location (ACL) procedure to allow irrigators

with options to dry out irrigable lands to continue irrigating lands without water rights. This

procedure requires an applicant to designate an area to be curtailed to move water from land

that is currently irrigated to land without water rights. Administration of ACLs is facilitated

through a Water Bank application and agreement. Approved ACLs may receive water delivery

according to the terms of the Water Bank Lease/ ACL Agreement. If you are interested in an

ACL, please contact the Assessments Department to schedule an appointment.

**CURTAILMENT COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT**

It has come to the attention of MRGCD staff that some irrigators did not follow the terms and

conditions of 2023 Water Bank Lease/ ACL Agreements. The MRGCD is concerned that areas to

be curtailed were irrigated either willfully, negligently, or because of incidental delivery of

water from regular lands to curtailment lands. Field borders separating curtailment areas from

irrigable fields must be installed according to MRGCD specifications.

For the 2024 irrigation season, MRGCD staff will perform routine inspections to ensure

compliance with Water Bank Lease/ ACL Agreements. Inspections include but are not limited to

a review of field conditions, a check of field borders, an evaluation of on-farm delivery systems,

soil moisture testing and monitoring, water measurement, and aerial surveillance. Failure to

comply with specifications may result in suspension of water delivery and up to termination of

the Water Bank Lease/ ACL Agreement.

**WATER SERVICE CHARGE (WSC)**

MRGCD Irrigation Systems Operators (ISOs) Logbooks will identify delinquent properties and

other issues with properties. If your ISO informs you there is an issue with your property, please

contact the Assessments Department at 505-247-0234 or assessments@mrgcd.us. Irrigators are

highly encouraged to verify their property status prior to the start of the season to avoid delays

to water delivery.

**WCS payments can be made online at https://wscportal.mrgcd.com/**