

WRRI REPORT NO. 273

PROCEEDINGS

37TH ANNUAL NEW MEXICO WATER CONFERENCE

Multicultural, Multiuse: Planning New Mexico's Water Resources Future

Taos Civic Plaza
Taos, New Mexico
November 5-6, 1992

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

PREFACE	v
PROGRAM	vi
WATER CONFERENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE	viii
An Overview of Water Resources Planning <i>Leo M. Eisel</i>	1
Trends in Water Management <i>Jo S. Clark</i>	5
History of New Mexico Water Planning <i>Albert E. Utton</i>	11
Current Ideas for New Mexico Water Planning <i>Eluid Martinez</i>	13
Regional Water Planning Dialogue: The Pecos Experience <i>S. Chris Nunn</i>	17
The Dangers of Water Planning in Isolation: A Northern New Mexico Perspective <i>Antonio A. Medina</i>	19
Regional Water Planning: The Eastern Plains Approach <i>Leland D. Tillman</i>	23
The Kansas Water Plan <i>Joseph F. Harkins</i>	27
Reaching the Joint Settlement Between El Paso and New Mexico: An Update on El Paso v. Reynolds and the Cooperation Now Emphasized Between El Paso and New Mexico <i>Steven L. Hernandez</i>	33
The Role of Acequias in Water Planning <i>Wilfred Gutierrez</i>	37
The Many Facets of Instream Flow <i>Tim DeYoung</i>	39
Water Banking: Has Its Time Come in New Mexico? <i>Charles T. DuMars</i>	43
Agricultural Water Conservation <i>Allie W. Blair</i>	47

Opening Comments for the Water Conservation Panel	
<i>Alice Darilek</i>	53
Water Conservation in Denver	
<i>Elizabeth Seymore Inman</i>	55
Tucson's Water Conservation Plan	
<i>Gary Woodard</i>	61
Phoenix Water Conservation Program	
<i>Jane H. Ploeser</i>	65
Why Water Conservation? Why in El Paso?	
<i>John T. Sutton</i>	69
WORKSHOPS	71
Instream Flow Workshop	
<i>Peggy Montañó, Reporter</i>	73
Water Banking Workshop	
<i>Howard Hutchinson, Reporter</i>	77
Agricultural Conservation Workshop	
<i>Wesley Menefee, Reporter</i>	81
CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS	83

PREFACE

We headed north for the 37th Annual New Mexico Water Conference and were received graciously by our northern New Mexican colleagues and friends. We were honored to have Governor Tony Reyna of the Taos Pueblo welcome us to Taos and wish us well in our meetings. It also was a pleasure to listen to Nelson Cordova's talk on the history of Taos Pueblo during Thursday's luncheon.

Water planning continues to be a hot topic in New Mexico as well as throughout the West. New Mexico's growing population, limited water supply and strong traditional ties to water use combine to make sound water planning vital to New Mexico's future. At this year's conference we learned of other state's planning efforts and western trends in water management. The history of New Mexico's water planning was described along with State Engineer Eluid Martinez' thoughts on current water planning issues in our state. Several speakers who have been active in developing regional water plans in New Mexico offered their insights on the planning process. A panel of water conservation experts from Denver, Tucson, Phoenix and El Paso talked to us about some of their successes and failures in developing effective municipal water conservation programs.

For the first time in many years, we held workshop sessions on three controversial and timely topics: instream flow, agricultural conservation and water banking. Our special thanks to the facilitators for these workshops, Tim DeYoung, S. Chris Nunn, and Howard Hutchinson, respectively. Conference participants attended one of the three concurrent workshops where lively exchanges took place for a couple of hours Friday morning. We then reconvened as a group and listened to reporters from each of the workshops summarize the discussions that took place. Peggy Montano did a superb job informing us of the issues and concerns articulated in the instream flow workshop, as did Wesley Menefee for the agricultural conservation workshop, and Howard Hutchinson for the water banking workshop. Their reports are contained in these proceedings.

The WRRI is grateful for the suggestions and support of the Water Conference Advisory Committee in planning the conference. Each year the committee suggests a conference site, topic and relevant speakers. We look forward to working with them in the spring as we plan our next conference.



Tom Bahr
Director



Taos Pueblo Governor Tony Reyna addresses conference.

37TH ANNUAL NEW MEXICO WATER CONFERENCE

MULTICULTURAL, MULTIUSE: PLANNING NEW MEXICO'S WATER RESOURCES FUTURE

Taos Civic Plaza
Taos, New Mexico

Thursday, November 5, 1992

Session I - Water Resources Planning and Assessment

Moderator:	Tom Bahr, Water Resources Research Institute
8:25 a.m.	Views from the Former Chairman of the U.S. Water Resources Council Leo Eisel, Wright Water Engineers
8:55 a.m.	Trends in Western Water Resources Management and Planning Jo Clark, Western States Governors' Association
9:25 a.m.	History of New Mexico Water Planning Al Utton, University of New Mexico School of Law
9:50 a.m.	Break
10:15 a.m.	Current Ideas for New Mexico Water Planning Eluid Martinez, New Mexico State Engineer
10:40 a.m.	The Regional Water Planning Dialogue: The Pecos Experience Participants from the Pecos Basin Regional Water Planning Project
11:05 a.m.	The Kansas Water Plan Joe Harkins, University of Kansas
11:30 a.m.	Reaching the Joint Settlement Between El Paso and New Mexico Steve Hernandez, Hubert and Hernandez, P.A.
Noon	A Brief History of the Taos Pueblo Nelson Cordova, Taos Pueblo

Session II - Special Issues in Water Planning

- Moderator: Tom Bahr, New Mexico Water Resources Research Institute
- 1:30 p.m. The Role of Acequia Organizations in Water Planning
Wilfred Gutierrez, New Mexico Acequia Commission
- 1:55 p.m. The Many Facets of Instream Flow
Tim DeYoung, Modrall, Sperling, Roehl, Harris and Sisk, P.A.
- 2:20 p.m. Water Banking
Chuck DuMars, University of New Mexico School of Law
- 2:45 p.m. Agricultural Conservation
Al Blair, Blair and King Engineering
- 3:10 p.m. Break
- 3:35 p.m. Conservation Panel

Moderator: Alice Darilek, State Engineer Office

Panel Members:

Liz Inman, City of Denver
Gary Woodard, University of Arizona
Jane Ploeser, City of Phoenix
John Sutton, City of El Paso

Friday, November 6, 1992

Session III - Workshop Session

- 8:00 a.m. Workshop Instructions
Tom Bahr, New Mexico Water Resources Research Institute
- 8:15 a.m. Instream Flow Workshop
Facilitator: Tim DeYoung, Modrall, Sperling, Roehl, Harris and Sisk
- Water Banking Workshop
Facilitators: Pete MacGill and Howard Hutchinson, Catron County
Water Advisory Board
- Agricultural Conservation Workshop
Facilitator: S. Chris Nunn, Regional Water Planning Dialogue
- 10:45 a.m. Break
- 11:00 a.m. Plenary Session - Workshop Results and Discussion