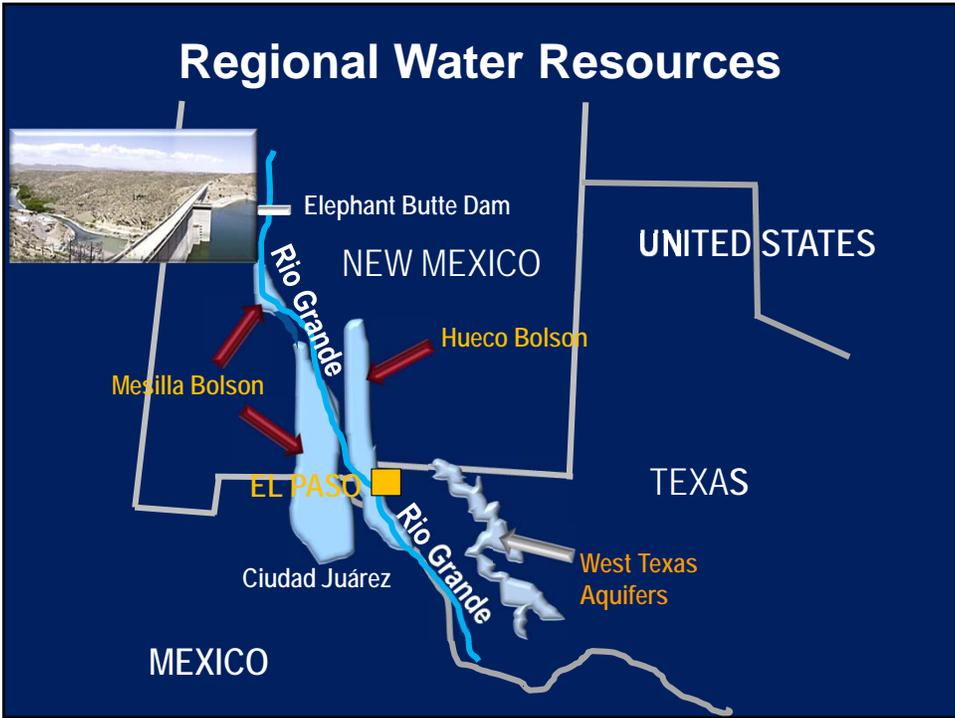


Managing Drought in El Paso



Regional Water Resources



Diversified Resources

50-Year Water Resource Management Plan adopted in 1991



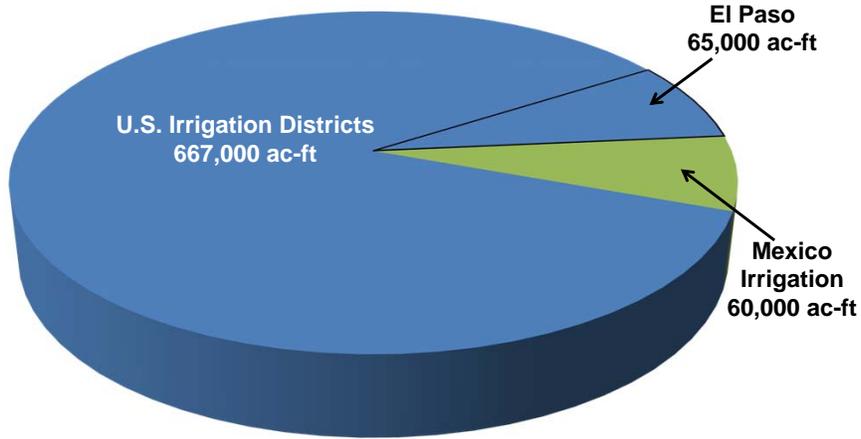
Rio Grande History

- 1906 Treaty between United States and Mexico divides the water
- 1938 Compact among Colorado, New Mexico, and Texas divides U.S. water



Allocation of Rio Grande Water

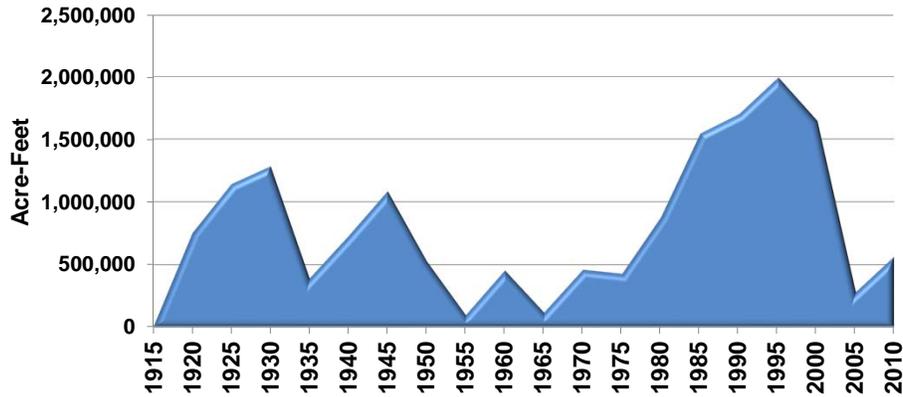
Full Release Total = 792,000 Acre-Feet



Drought History



Elephant Butte Reservoir Historic Levels



Bureau of Reclamation: Upper Colorado Region Historic Data

2012 Drought Summary

- EPWU received reduced river water allocation
 - 32,500 AF compared to usual 60,000 AF
- River releases began late and ended early
- River gates at Caballo closed in the middle of season
 - 2 river water treatment plants shut down
 - 2 week critical conservation period in May



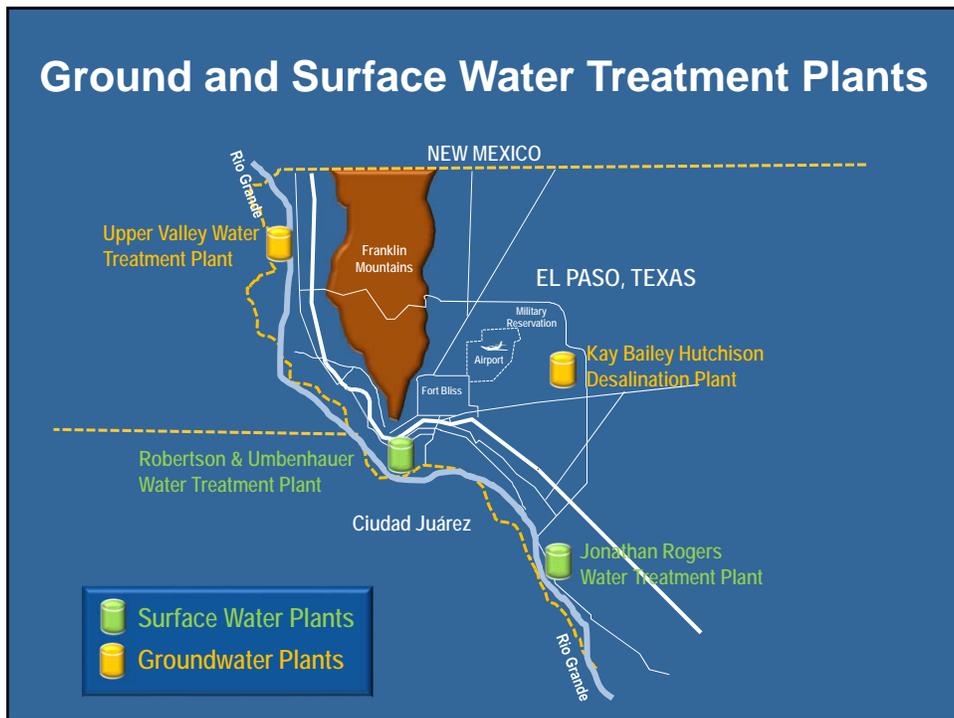
Rio Grande Runs Dry

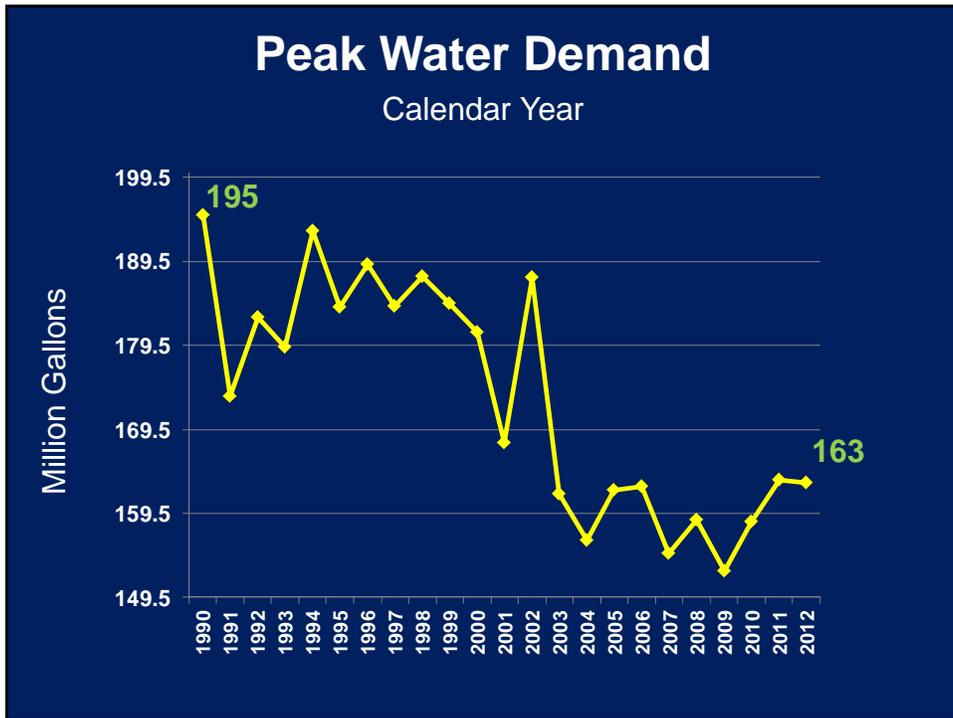
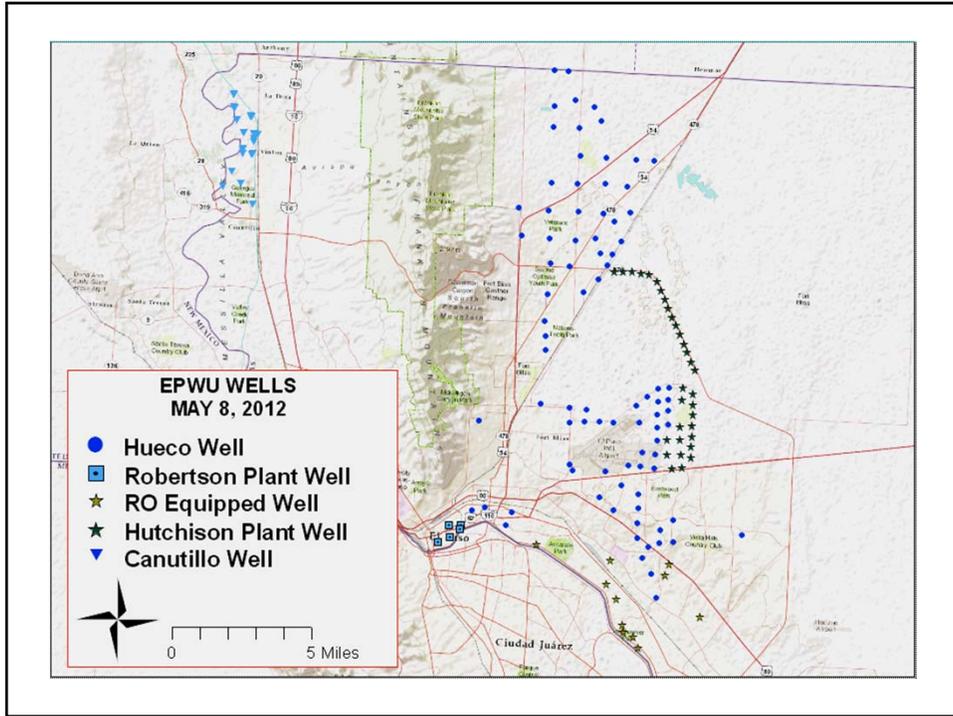
May 12, 2012



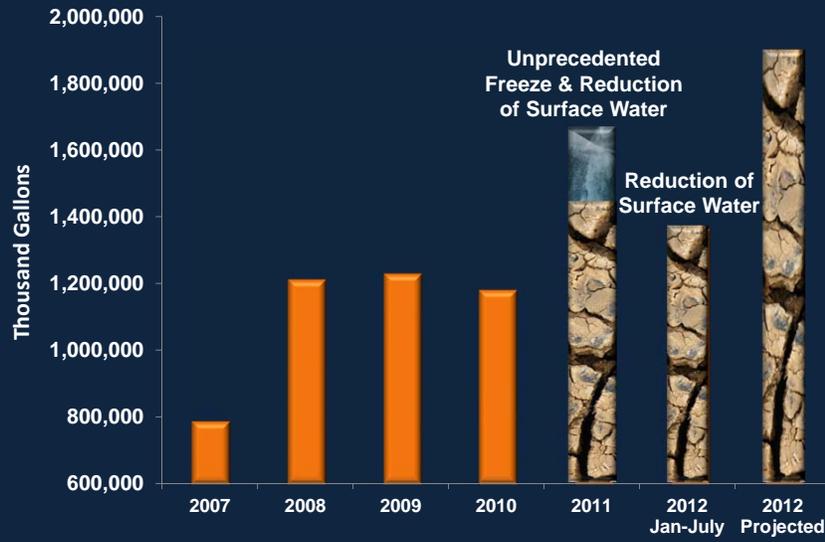
Available Water at Elephant Butte for the Region



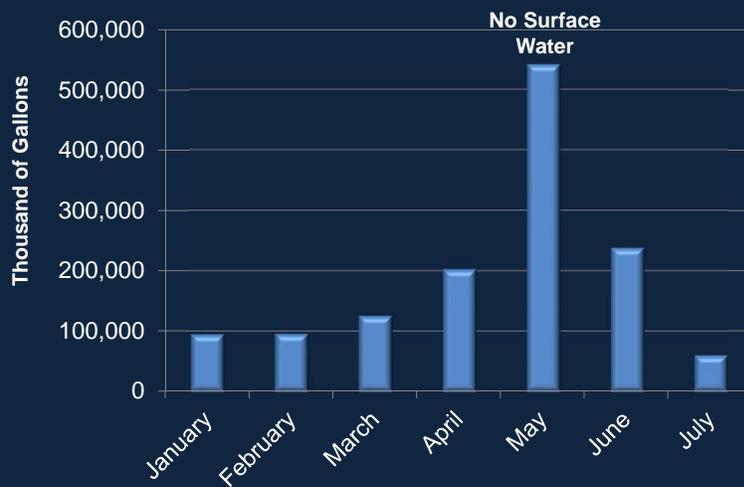


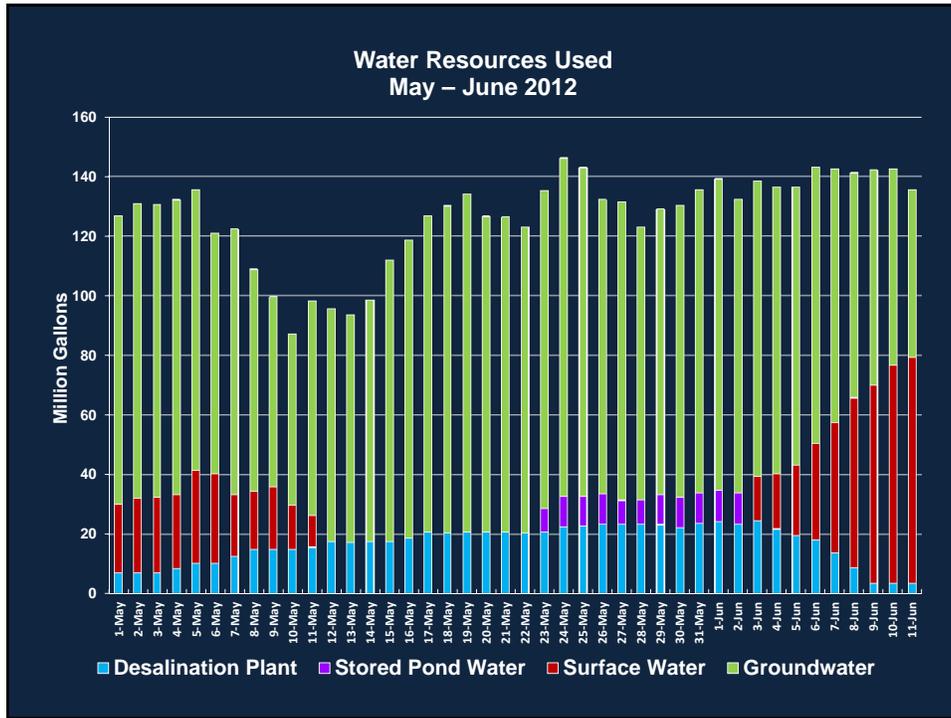


Kay Bailey Hutchison Desalination Plant Production

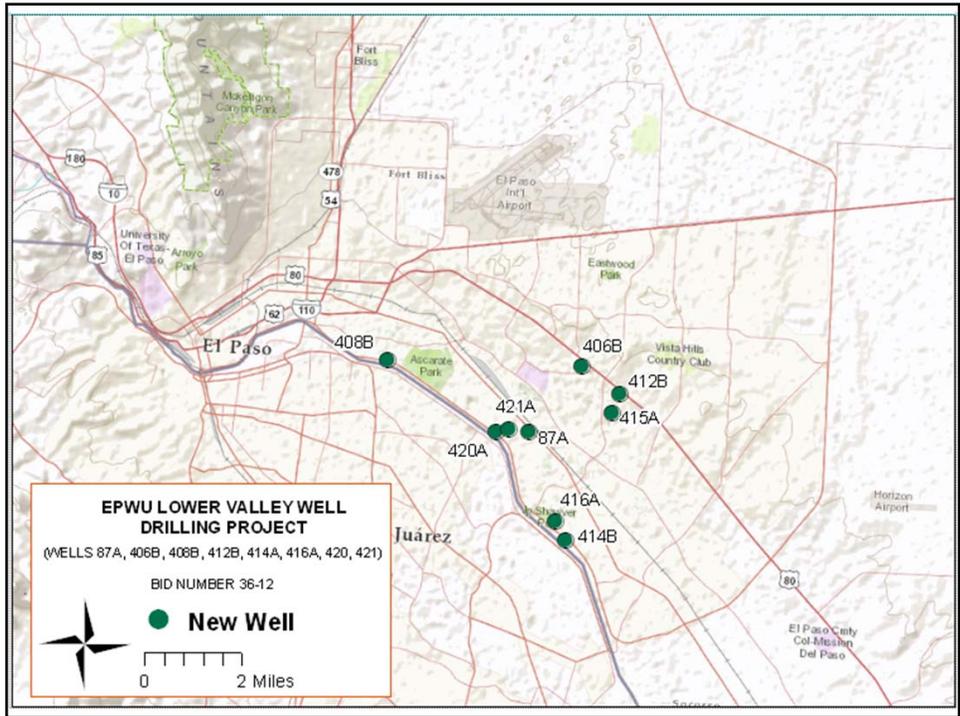
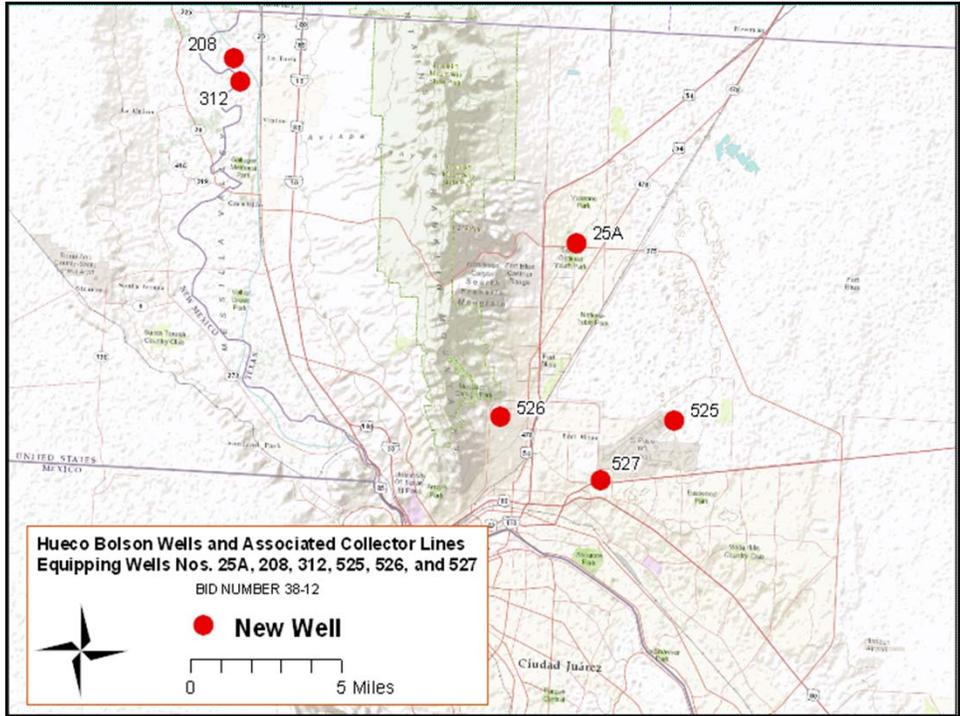


Kay Bailey Hutchison Desalination Plant Production Jan. 2012– July 2012



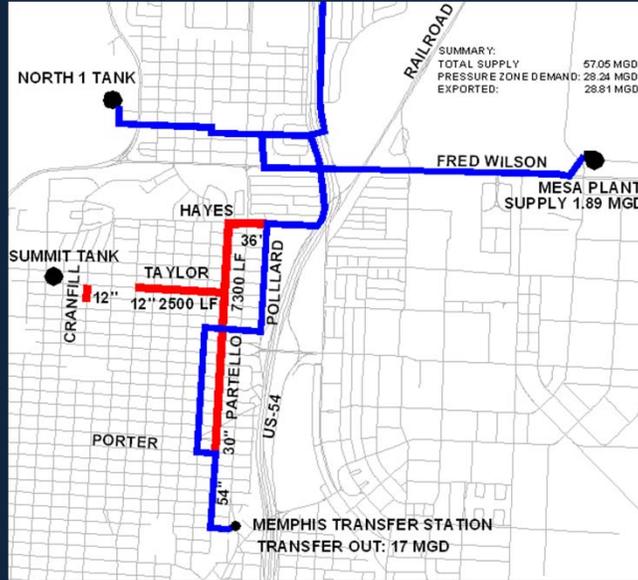


- ## 2013 and Beyond
- 6 new wells on-line by April 2013
 - Re-drilling 9 wells in lower valley
 - Water main projects to carry groundwater to central and downtown areas that heavily rely on river water
 - NE/Central Drought Project
 - Paisano Project
 - North Central Reclaimed water project



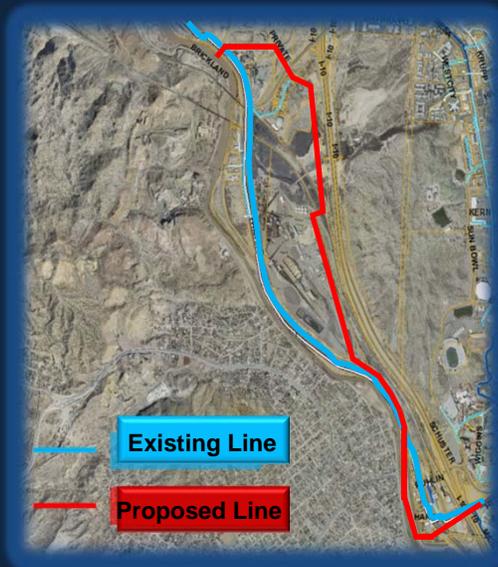
Northeast/Central Drought Project

Will Carry Groundwater from Wells in Northeast El Paso to Central El Paso and Near Eastside

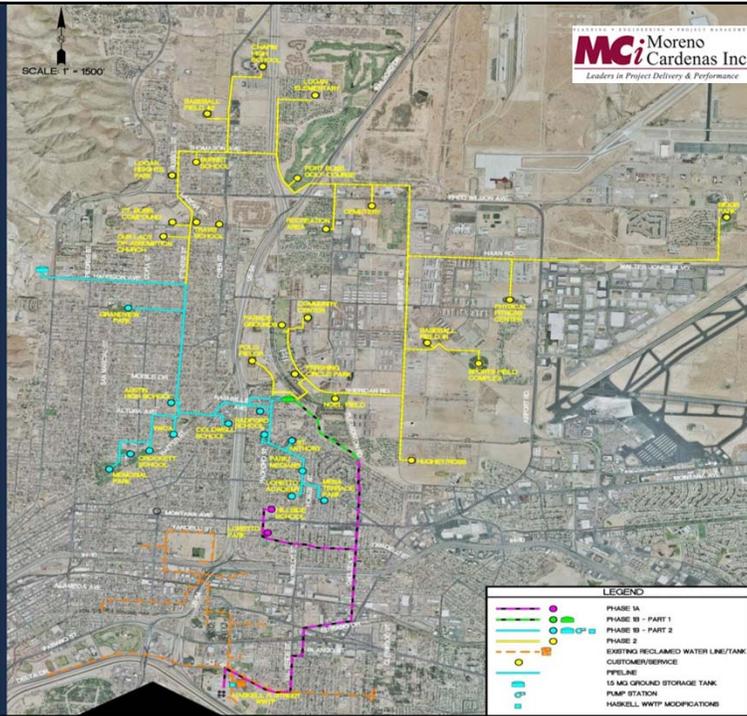


Paisano Valley Line

Will Carry Groundwater from Wells in Canutillo to Downtown and Near West El Paso



North Central Reclaimed Water Project



LESS IS THE NEW MORE

LessisMoreep.org

2012 Conservation Campaign

Objectives:

- Decrease water consumption
- Increase awareness of water conservation
- Brand El Paso as a conservation leader



Public Education Campaign

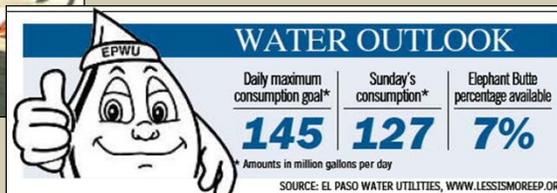
- Outdoor, television and radio
- Online and mobile
- Social Media
- Website



Media and Public Relations



- Watering schedule reminders
- TV and radio live interviews
- Community events and workshops
- Home Depot partnership
- El Paso Times partnership



LESS IS THE NEW MORE

- Campaign is successful tool to encourage conservation
- El Pasoans cut water use by over half-a-billion gallons in 2012
- Campaign will continue in 2013

Summary

- We are prepared for drought
- We will call for continued voluntary water conservation
- If the snowpack and runoff is very low, we may have to request mandatory restrictions for a short period of time to meet demand

