



Irrigation Information

Allocation

The annual allocation of water stored in Elephant Butte Lake at the beginning of each irrigation season is determined through coordination between EBID, El Paso County and the Bureau of Reclamation.

Allotment

Annually, the EBID Board of Directors (BOD) announces an allotment of water per water righted acre to begin each irrigation season. As the annual allocation to EBID increases, the allotment to farmer paid accounts is increased.

Assessment

The EBID Board annually reviews and approves the fiscal budget for annual operations and maintenance costs of the District. They then determine an assessment charge to members to cover these costs based upon the water righted acres within the District.

The annual tax assessment is determined and approved by the BOD for farm tracts. The assessment rates may be set to include all the allotted water for EBID at the time of payment.

The annual assessment is a charge to land owners within the boundaries of EBID who have water righted acres as defined by the New Mexico State Statutes. These two statutes make it clear that the assessments are for the operating costs of the District and can be assessed upon the land owner with water righted acres within the boundaries of EBID, regardless of the amount of water available, allotted or received.

Section 73-11-30 NMSA provides that whenever the assessments remain unpaid, or any balances /charges for water delivered are unpaid, the assessments are levied upon and are the responsibility of the EBID land owner.

Section 73-11-36 NMSA allows the District to use the revenue laws for assessment levying and collecting taxes on real estate when it seeks to collect.

Section 73-11-48 NMSA states that in lieu of bringing suit for collection of assessment and charges, the board of directors of any irrigation district may elect to declare forfeited the water rights on any land less than two acres within the district for which assessments and charges are delinquent and on which irrigation district water has not been used for a period of three years.

Annual assessments become delinquent February 1 and begin to accrue interest as of that date.

Payments

The payment of the annual tax assessment allows the opportunity to order and receive the annual irrigation season allotment. Farm members are permitted to place orders based on the total allotment set by the BOD each year. The payment of the annual tax assessment allows the opportunity to order and receive the annual irrigation season allotment. Farm members are permitted to place orders based on the total allotment set by the BOD each year. Flat rate members are permitted to water **once** during the designated flat rate irrigation weekend.

The EBID Board will continually evaluate

water resources throughout the irrigation year.

Any water requested by the EBID farm member in excess of the annual allotment during the irrigation season must be purchased from, or transferred from, another EBID member paid account before an order for water can be placed.

Farm members interested in selling or purchasing water should contact the EBID tax department to indicate their desire to do so. Although EBID assists in the sales and purchases of water between member accounts, EBID does not guarantee the sales or purchases of water on an annual basis. Sales and purchases of water are driven solely by EBID members.

Renter Agreements

Must be completed, signed and submitted to EBID annually. This provides the necessary information to accurately reflect the land owner's permission for another member to place orders and use the surface water.



Farm members:

Contact the EBID tax department to indicate your interest in selling or purchasing water on an annual basis.

Elephant Butte Irrigation District; 530 S. Melendres, Las Cruces, NM 88005; 575-526-6671 FAX: 575-523-9666, www.ebid-nm.org

Gary Esslinger—Treasurer/Manager, Ext. 1

Financial Director—Gail Norvell, 575-526-6671 Ext. 2 or 575-993-2437

Please visit the EBID website for links to weather information and forecasts, important information regarding water allotment, on-line water orders and annual irrigation schedules.



Irrigation Surface Water — Beneficial Use

The EBID Board of Directors continues to evaluate the supply of surface water available and members' intent to use it. There is a combination of strategy and science in coordinating the amount of water available for storage in Elephant Butte Lake and allocated by the BOR, diversion and delivery by EBID and intent and timing of use by EBID constituents.

The challenge is to coordinate that information with the farmer's needs and available water to meet those demands. In an effort to make decisions on the quantities of water and putting that water to beneficial use, your assistance is needed. Please consider the following information:

EBID farm members:

- *Have you completed payment on your account to receive the annual allotment of water available on your account?*
- *Do you intend to place orders for delivery and apply the water allotted to your land?*
- *Have you considered that the water can be made available to other EBID members for their use?*
- *Is the land fallow?*

If you answered no to these questions – please consider the following options:

- If you have not completed payment on your account for the annual assessments, then the water available on this property will not be put to beneficial use.
- EBID members must pay

assessments annually. This payment provides the current and good standing of your paid assessments on your account and provides the opportunity for the water to be put to beneficial use.

- This water, if the farmer decides not to use it can be transferred for use to another member.

EBID farm members who have paid the annual assessments and do NOT intend to place orders to use the water Please contact the EBID tax department and indicate your interest in selling the water available to your account. Indicate your EBID account number, name, number of acres, contact telephone number. EBID personnel will contact EBID farm members interested in purchasing the water. EBID farm members make payment directly to other farmers in this sale and purchase transaction.

EBID farm members interested in purchasing water – Please contact the EBID tax department to indicate your

request. Members interested in purchasing water will receive the information regarding the water available. A list of members who have expressed an interest in selling water is maintained and EBID personnel assist in coordinating the members interested in selling water. Members who complete the payment transactions for assessments for allotted water will have the purchased water transferred to their farm account to be able to put the water purchased to beneficial use.

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT EBID WITH ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS REGARDING THIS INFORMATION.

Financial Director—Gail Norvell
575-993-2437

EBID TAX OFFICE:

575-993-2475
575-993-2696



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