



## International Boundary and Water Commission United States Section

For immediate release  
February 10, 2022

### **EL PASO WATER'S REMEDIATION WORK IN THE RIO GRANDE AND AN OVERVIEW FOR THE 2022 IRRIGATION SEASON ON AGENDA FOR FEBRUARY 24 PUBLIC MEETING**

The United States Section of the [International Boundary and Water Commission](#) (USIBWC) has scheduled a public meeting of the Rio Grande Citizens Forum (RGCF) on **Thursday, February 24, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. MST via webinar**. Dr. Maria-Elena Giner, Commissioner, USIBWC, will attend the Citizens Forum meeting and will provide opening remarks. The Rio Grande Citizens Forum was established to facilitate the exchange of information with the public about Commission activities and related matters.

Gilbert Trejo, Interim Chief Technical Officer, [El Paso Water](#) will give a presentation on the continuing clean-up and remediation efforts along the Rio Grande, because of the Frontera Wastewater Emergency that started last August. In January, El Paso Water halted the discharge of wastewater into the Rio Grande. Trejo will provide a timeline of the events that transpired since the last meeting of the Rio Grande Citizens Forum and will discuss the multi-agency work that is underway.

Jerry Melendez, Civil Engineer, Bureau of Reclamation, will discuss the water operations overview for the 2022 irrigation season for the Rio Grande Project. Melendez will discuss the snowpack conditions in the headwaters of the Rio Grande in Southern Colorado and Northern New Mexico which results in snowmelt runoff into Elephant Butte Reservoir, the

corresponding water supply conditions for the Project, the climate outlook for the region, and 2022 preliminary forecasts for Elephant Butte and Caballo Reservoirs.

A complete meeting agenda follows. Members of the public who would like more information about the meeting may contact (915) 494-6027 or the Public Affairs Office at [lori.kuczanski@ibwc.gov](mailto:lori.kuczanski@ibwc.gov).

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# RIO GRANDE CITIZENS FORUM

Thursday, February 24, 2022

6:30 – 8:30 p.m. MST

## **To join our Teams Meeting, go to our web page:**

<https://go.usa.gov/x6Bqg> and click the “Join” button. If you do not have Teams installed on the device you will use to attend the meeting, it will work through any internet browser. If possible, it may be helpful for you to test connectivity on your own prior to the meeting by clicking on the Join link and ensuring your camera and microphone are functioning.

Or join by phone: Call in number: **(915) 320-4718 | Conference ID: 518 359 724#**

## **Agenda**

- **Opening Remarks**—Dr. Maria-Elena Giner, Commissioner, USIBWC
- **Welcome and Introductions** – Erin Ward, Citizens Forum Co-Chair
- **El Paso Water Remediation Efforts Along the Rio Grande due to the Frontera Wastewater Emergency** —Gilbert Trejo, Interim Chief Technical Officer, El Paso Water
- **2022 Irrigation Season Overview** —Jerry Melendez, Civil Engineer, Bureau of Reclamation
- **Public Comment** (To make public comment, RSVP by noon on Feb. 24 to [lori.kuczanski@ibwc.gov](mailto:lori.kuczanski@ibwc.gov) or 915-494-6027)
- **Board Discussion**
- **Suggested Future Agenda Items**

*If you have a disability that you wish to self-identify confidentially that requires accommodation, please advise us ahead of time.*

For more information, call 915-494-6027 or email [Lori.Kuczanski@ibwc.gov](mailto:Lori.Kuczanski@ibwc.gov)