



# Natural Resources Conservation Service

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## Natural Resources Conservation Service New Mexico State Office

100 Sun Avenue NE, Suite 602  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87109  
(505) 761-4400

July 2, 2026

SENT VIA USPS FIRST-CLASS MAIL

### **RE: Public Alternatives Finalization Meeting Notice for the Supplemental Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment (Plan-EA) for the Tortugas Arroyo Watershed Dam Site 1 Rehabilitation Project, Doña Ana County, New Mexico**

Dear Resident,

The United States Department of Agriculture - Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Elephant Butte Irrigation District (EBID), in cooperation with New Mexico State University, are preparing a Supplemental Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment (Supplemental Plan-EA) for the Tortugas Arroyo Watershed Dam Site 1 Rehabilitation Project in Las Cruces, New Mexico within Doña Ana County. The Supplemental Plan-EA is being prepared and funded in accordance with the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act (PL 83-566), which provides for cooperation between the Federal Government and the States and their political subdivisions to address resource concerns due to erosion, floodwater, and sediment and provide for improved utilization of the land and water resources.

This letter is to inform you that the NRCS and EBID will hold an in-person Public Alternatives Finalization Meeting on **Thursday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 6:00 PM** to provide an update on the Supplemental Plan-EA's progress of work, explain alternatives considered, present the preferred alternative, and obtain feedback from meeting attendees. Details on how to attend the meeting can be found below:

#### **In-Person Meeting Option**

Elephant Butte Irrigation District Office  
530 South Melendres Street  
Las Cruces, NM 88005

#### **Virtual Meeting Option**

Link: <https://bit.ly/TortugasAug2026>

Meeting ID: 248 738 008 960 341

Passcode: bb7tG3je

Phone #: 469-770-0416 followed by 887282316#

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Comments can be submitted in any one of the forms listed below. Comments can also be submitted if you cannot attend the Public Alternatives Finalization Meeting. However, all comments must be postmarked by **Saturday, September 19, 2026**.

- Submit written comments at the in-person Public Alternatives Finalization Meeting
- Mail written comments to:  
USDA NRCS-New Mexico  
Attn: Merceidez Fabok  
100 Sun Avenue Northeast, Suite 602  
Albuquerque, NM 87109-3434
- Email your comments to: [Merceidez.Fabok@usda.gov](mailto:Merceidez.Fabok@usda.gov)

A website exists for the project to provide updates as the Supplemental Plan-EA is being developed. The website can be found at the following link: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs-initiatives/watershed-and-flood-prevention-operations-wfpo-program/new-mexico/watershed> or via the QR code below.



If you have any questions or comments, please contact Merceidez Fabok, Watershed Program Manager, by email at [merceidez.fabok@usda.gov](mailto:merceidez.fabok@usda.gov) or via phone at 505.761.4421.

Respectfully,

**Elias Gnann, P.E.**  
*State Conservation Engineer*

Enclosure:

- Project Map



**Tortugas Plan-EA  
Watershed and Project Area Map**

- Project Site
- Tortugas Subwatershed Boundary



Project Location: 106.670567°W 32.305589°N

1:104,187