



International Boundary and Water Commission United States Section

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MEXICO DELIVERS WATER TO THE UNITED STATES TO FULFILL TREATY OBLIGATIONS

Mexico has completed Rio Grande water deliveries to the United States in accordance with the 1944 Water Treaty, fulfilling its obligations for the 2002-2007 water delivery cycle. Under the terms of the treaty, Mexico is to deliver water to the United States from six Rio Grande tributaries. The treaty specifies a minimum delivery of 1.75 million acre-feet during the course of a five-year water delivery cycle. Mexico completed the minimum required deliveries for 2002-2007 at the end of the cycle on September 30, 2007.

The previous two five-year cycles ended in deficit. In 2005, Mexico completed paying its water debt from those cycles.

“These water deliveries mean that users in the United States have the water they are entitled to under the treaty,” said Carlos Marin, U.S. Commissioner of the International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC). “It’s good news that we are starting a new cycle without a deficit.”

The IBWC is responsible for applying the boundary and water treaties between the United States and Mexico and settling differences related to the treaties. The IBWC determines the national ownership of waters of the Rio Grande and operates two international storage reservoirs on the river – Falcon and Amistad. The waters delivered by Mexico are stored in the international reservoirs for release to downstream municipal and agricultural users. Once IBWC determines national ownership, Texas will allocate U.S. water to its authorized water right holders.

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