



**For immediate release:**

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## **Gallinas River Water Shortage Sharing Amended Rotation Schedule Announced**

**(LAS VEGAS, New Mexico)** – The water shortage sharing rotation schedule that was prompted by the severe drought conditions in northern New Mexico is again being revised due to worsening drought.

“The newly amended rotation schedule goes into effect on Monday, June 6. We’ve all read in the paper, heard on the radio, and talked to our neighbors about the lack of snow and rain this year, and the shortage of water in the rivers. Our own personal awareness brings home the importance of this water shortage sharing rotation schedule,” said Water Resource Allocation Program Director John Romero.

As per the last amended Rotation Schedule, the City of Las Vegas’ storage has reached the critical level that will require them to divert all of the available flow in the Gallinas River. This requires all diverters upstream of the city’s diversion to cease diversions until further notice. This is dependent upon the City’s ability to regain sufficient storage levels.

The Gallinas River Shortage Sharing Rotation Schedule—2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment will be posted on the Office of the State Engineer website at [www.ose.state.nm.us/water\\_info\\_awrm\\_basins\\_gallinas.html](http://www.ose.state.nm.us/water_info_awrm_basins_gallinas.html) under Water Shortage Sharing Rotation Schedule.

If at any time during the Sharing Rotation, the City’s storage level falls below 70 percent, all diverters above the Montezuma Gauge shall cease diversions until notified by the Office of the State Engineer, and the City will immediately begin diverting until storage levels are restored to 75 percent. All diverters downstream of the City’s diversion structure will continue the Rotation Schedule with the remaining available water.

**(MORE)**

For questions about the rotation schedule, please contact Rio Gallinas Water Master Luis Aguirre at (505) 827-7831.

*The Office of the State Engineer is charged with administering the state's water resources. The State Engineer has the responsibility to allocate, measure, administer, and oversee the distribution of all surface and groundwater in New Mexico, including streams and rivers that cross state boundaries. The State Engineer is also Secretary of the Interstate Stream Commission.*

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