



Agenda **Regular Meeting of the Santa Fe
River Commission**
April 9, 2026 at 6:00 PM
City of Santa Fe Transit Center,
Room #117
2931 Rufina St., Santa Fe

Procedures for Santa Fe River Commission Meeting

Join on Zoom: <https://santafenm.gov.zoom.us/j/84309864154>

The agenda and packet for the meeting will be posted at
<https://santafenm.portal.civicclerk.com/>

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Approval of the February 12, 2026, Meeting Minutes
5. Communications from Other Agencies/Committees
 - a. Santa Fe Watershed Association Adopt Programs Update (Mori Hensley, Executive Director Santa Fe Watershed Association, Mori@santafewatershed.org)
 - b. Update on Love Your Watershed Day (Daniel Alt, Project Specialist, dralt@santafenm.gov)
6. Informational Items
7. Discussion and Action Items
 - a. Approval of the 2026- 2027 Target Flow Hydrograph (Bill Carey, SF River Commission Chair, billcarey.tellus@gmail.com)
8. Matters from Staff
 - a. Erosion Control Workshop – April 11, 2026, 9:00 AM–12:00 PM, Meeting Location: Santa Fe River Rd at Calle Don Jose (Zoe Isaacson, Staff Liaison, zrisaacson@santafenm.gov)
 - b. Invasive Weed Removal Event April 15 and April 18, 2026 (Zoe Isaacson, Staff

Liasion, zrisaacson@santafenm.gov)

- c. Updates on the River Talk Series (Claire Jordy, Project Manager II, csjordy@santafenm.gov)

9. Matters from the Public

10. Matters from the Commission

- a. Subcommittee Breakout Session (Zoe Isaacson, Staff Liaison, zrisaacson@santafenm.gov)

11. Next Meeting:

- a. June, 11th, 2026

12. Adjourn

Persons with disabilities in need of additional accommodations, contact the City Clerk's office at 505-955-6521, five (5) working days prior to meeting date.

**Regular Meeting of the Santa Fe River Commission
February 12, 2026 at 6:00 PM
City of Santa Fe Transit Center, Room #117
2931 Rufina St., Santa Fe
MINUTES**

1. Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Santa Fe River Commission was called to order by Commissioner Jim Reister at 6:01 PM, on Thursday, February 12 , 2026, 2931 Rufina St, Santa Fe, NM 87507.

2. Roll Call

Roll Call was taken by Staff Liaison, Zoe Isaacson. Chair Bill Carey had an excused absence. All other Commissioners were present. Commissioner Klingel attended through Zoom. In attendance were City of Santa Fe Water Division Staff Alan Hook and Levi Newell, Public Works Staff, Daniel Alt and Claire Jordy, and members of the public.

3. Approval of Agenda

MOTION A motion was made by Price, seconded by Hutchinson, to Approve.

VOTE The motion on a roll call vote.

4. Approval of Minutes

- a. Approval of the December 11th, 2025 Meeting Minutes

MOTION A motion was made by Hutchinson, seconded by Montoya, to Approve.

VOTE The motion on a roll call vote.

5. Communications from Other Agencies/Committees

- a. Santa Fe Watershed Association Programs Update (Mori Hensley, Executive Director Santa Fe Watershed Association, Mori@santafewatershed.org)

Mori Hensley from The Santa Fe Watershed Association announced its upcoming Love Your Watershed Day on May 2 and invited River Commission participation.

6. Informational Items

- a. Cerro Gordo Culvert Design and Flood Study Scope of Work (Zoe Isaacson, Staff Liaison, zisaacson@santafenm.gov)

Zoe Isaacson provided an update on the Cerro Gordo Culvert Design and Flood Study, noting the finalized scope of work has been sent to three on-call consultants (WSP, AECOM, and BHI) with proposals due February 20, funded through a FEMA grant.

7. Discussion and Action Items

- a. Two Mile Pond Year Two Monitoring Results and Conclusions (Steve Finch, PG, Principal Hydrogeologist- Geochemist, John Shomaker & Associates, Inc., sfinch@shomaker.com)

The primary presentation focused on the Two Mile Pond Year Two Monitoring Results. Data collected from 2024–2025 showed stable riparian conditions ranked Good to Excellent, continuous system flow averaging approximately 0.34 cfs, and significant vegetation change due to cattail encroachment. Climate variability, including drought and flooding conditions, influenced flows, and findings indicated roughly 50% of inflow may originate from Santa Fe River seepage upstream of the Old Stone Dam. Low dissolved oxygen levels within the pond complex were attributed to groundwater dominance and high organic matter. Reports will be posted on the River & Watershed website.

- b. Junior Ranger Booklet Update (Daniel Alt, Project Specialist, Dralt@santafenm.gov)

An update on the Junior Ranger Booklet project was provided, with Dan Alt stepping in to assist following staff transitions. The 14-page, full-color booklet will feature nine City parks and focus on engaging youth in learning about local ecosystems. Commissioners provided suggestions on wildlife highlights, park inclusion, and interpretive opportunities.

8. Matters from Staff

Staff updates included Water Division projections showing below-average snowpack (approximately 42% of typical yield), anticipated reduced flows for the upcoming water year, and continued Nichols Dam restoration work.

9. Matters from the Public

10. Matters from the Commission

- a. Subcommittee Breakout Session (Zoe Isaacson, Staff Liaison, zrisaacson@santafenm.gov)

Subcommittees reported progress on education and erosion control efforts.

- The Education Subcommittee is mapping trash can locations along the trail and completing an inventory and gap analysis of interpretive signs between Two Mile and San Isidro. Potential themes include the Living River concept, native plants, and cultural history. Preliminary grant research and cost estimates have been shared with staff.
- The Erosion Control Subcommittee is coordinating a workshop with Southwest Urban Hydrology, tentatively planned for late March, and is working with the Santa Fe Watershed Association to ensure trained volunteers assist with river

stewardship efforts.

- b. Open Discussion Regarding the Pursuit of Possible Grants For Interpretive Signs Along the River. (Zoe Isaacson, Staff Liaison, zisaacson@santafenm.gov)

The Commission discussed ongoing and future interpretive signage efforts along the Santa Fe River. Educational trash can wraps, funded through the Que Linda Grant, are expected to be installed by June 30 and will include messaging on dog waste, MS4, and native plant species (in English and Spanish). The Commission expressed interest in pursuing additional grants for permanent interpretive signage, with the City submitting applications and the Commission assisting with drafting. Examples of successful signage, such as those at the Santa Fe Canyon Preserve, were noted as potential models. Further collaboration with the County may follow installation of the initial signage elements.

11. Next Meeting:

The commission discussed the next regularly scheduled meeting that will be held on April 9th 2026.

12. Adjourn

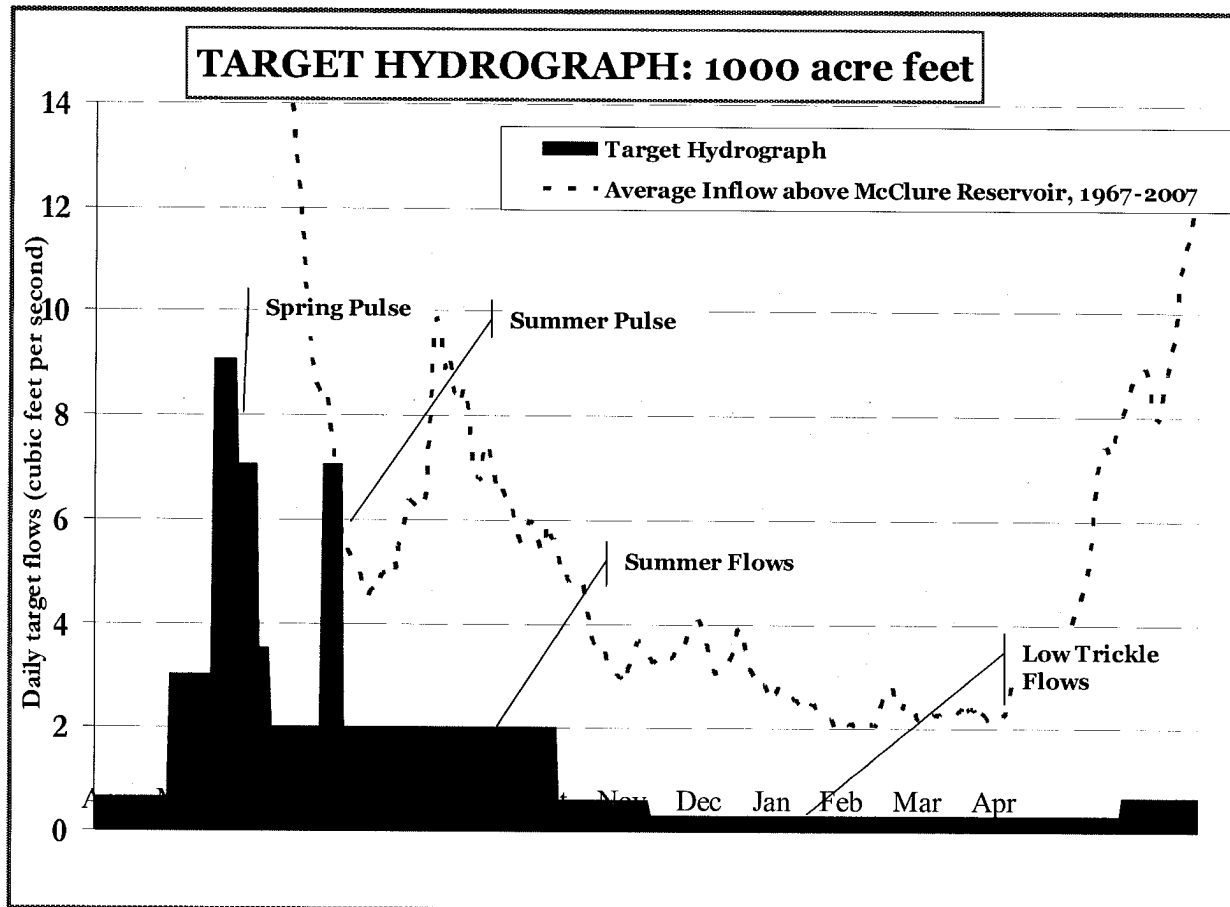
Adjourn at 7:54 pm

Zoe Isaacson, Staff Liaison

Attested To By:

Bill Carey, Santa Fe River Commission Chair

Figure 1



4.3 Dry and Critical-Dry Year Target Flow Reductions

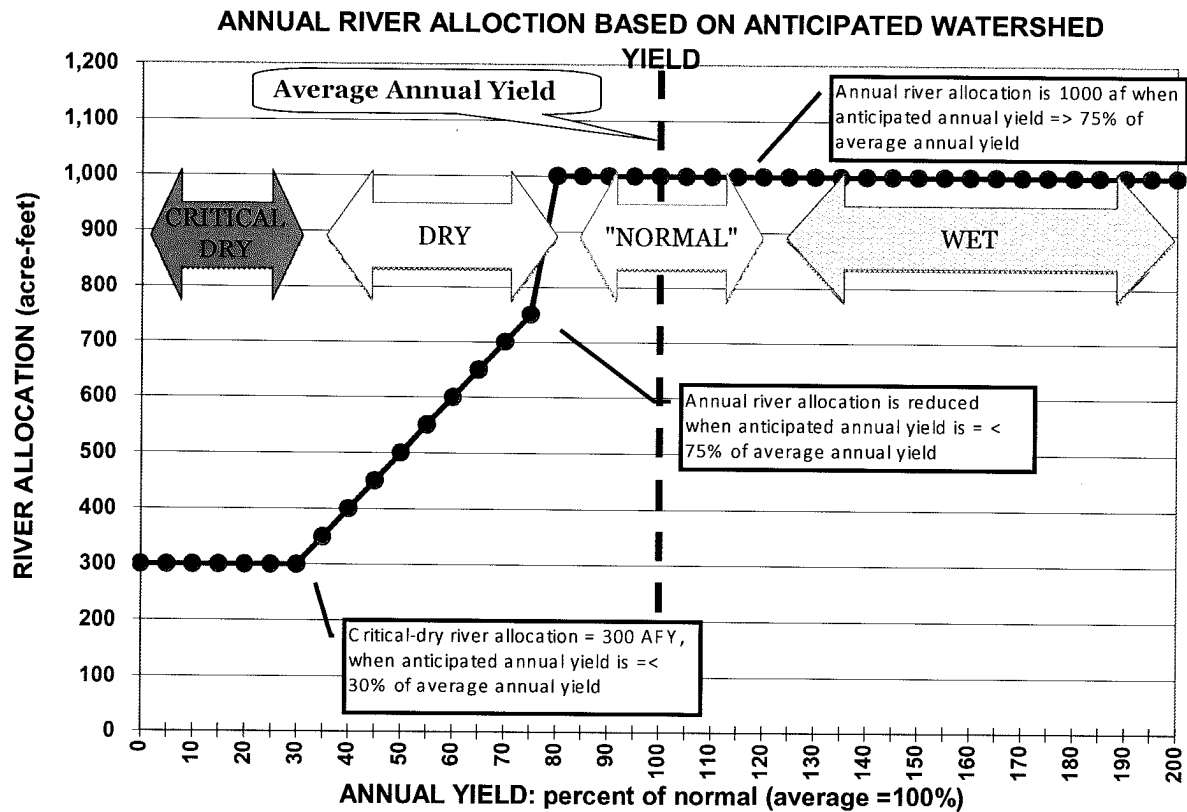
4.3.1 Reduction of Target Flows in Dry and Critically Dry Years

A dry year is defined as a year in which the anticipated watershed yield is equal to or less than 75% but greater than 30% of historical average. A critical-dry year is a year in which the anticipated watershed yield is equal or less than 30% of the historical average. In dry and critical-dry years, the total volume of the target hydrograph (1,000 af) will be reduced, by multiplying 1,000 by the percentage of the anticipated watershed yield:

$$\text{TargetHydrograph} \times \text{AnticipatedWatershedYield}_{\text{yearX}} = \text{target flows}_{\text{yearX}}$$

For example, in a year where the anticipated watershed yield is 65% of average, the target flow for the target year is calculated by 1,000 afy x 65% = 650 af. The reduction calculation is depicted graphically in Figure 2.

Figure 2



4.3.2 Dry Year Hydrographs

In dry years, the flow manager will allot the timing and magnitude of the daily target flows in a manner consistent with the following guidelines:

- (a) reduction in summer flows,
- (b) scaling-down – but not eliminating – the spring pulse and,
- (c) reduction in low flows from 0.30 cfs to 0.15 cfs.

The timing and magnitude of dry year target flows for 700 af, 600, afy, 500 afy, and 400 afy are described in the Dry Year Hydrographs in Appendix A.

While scaling back the quantity of the annual target flow in dry years, the priority is to provide for spring and summer pulses to fulfill the purposes of the pulses as outlined for the 1000 afy target flow in section 4.2.1 above.

4.3.3 Critical-Dry Year Hydrograph

In critical-dry years, in which the total target flows equal 300 af per target year, the daily target flows will be managed in a manner consistent with the following guidelines and as illustrated by Figure 3:

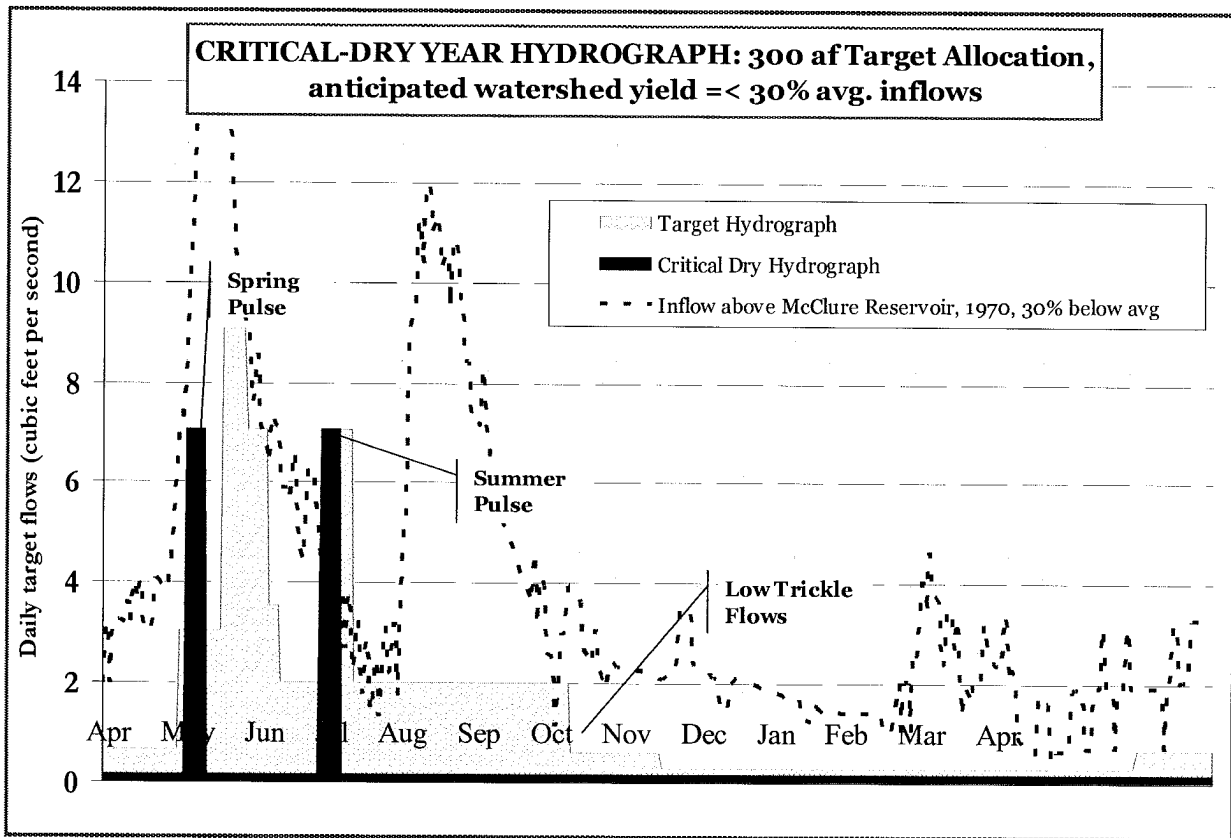
- a) sustained low flows of 0.15 cfs,
- (b) one spring and one summer pulse, each of approximately 100 afy.

The schedule of the pulses shall generally follow the timing of the pulses in the target

hydrograph. The magnitude of the pulses shall be approximately 7 cfs, provided that the daily target flows are within the bypass constraint. The river shall retain flows of at least 300 afy barring an emergency or unforeseen infrastructure constraint (e.g., failure of Nichols’s Reservoir outfall structure). The purpose of the critically dry year hydrograph is to maintain a wet corridor in the upper river for riverine and riparian ecological benefit while providing two downstream pulses for the purposes of the pulses as outlined for the 1000 afy target flow in section 4.2.1 above.

In critical-dry years, since the daily target flows for the Fishing Derby cannot be reliably met, the Fishing Derby will be suspended.

Figure 3



4.4 Wet Year Flows

During wet years, defined as when the anticipated watershed yield is greater than the historical average, the river will be allocated water according to the target hydrograph (e.g., 1,000 afy) in the target year. In wet years, the actual daily flows will likely be greater because of flow contributions from reservoir flood management, and because of greater flows within the urban watershed. These greater daily flows will meet many of the objectives described in Article 4.1. Furthermore, the irrigation needs of the river corridor will be supplemented by the above-average spring precipitation. By not increasing the target hydrograph in a wet year, in wet years the City may be able to put the full amount of the City’s Santa Fe River water rights under License 1677 to beneficial use and thus rest the City’s well fields and use of local groundwater resources.

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