



# Flat Rate Irrigation

Also known as Small Tract Irrigation

## FLAT RATE DELIVERY

Elephant Butte Irrigation District (EBID) members owning parcels or combination of parcels that total less than two acres. Are designated as flat rate. Small tract irrigations are based on the amount of water that is allocated to EBID and the corresponding pro rata allotment that is issued by the Board of Directors to EBID constituents. The number of irrigations is determined by a 6" charge per irrigation. This amount was determined when EBID instituted the Small Tract Metering/ Monitoring program when small tract irrigations were sampled in selected areas by measuring the amount of water delivered and calculated. Water flow measurement begins when the head gate is opened and not when water gets to the field or yard. Based on that sampling and on the total allocation of water to the District for the season, the EBID Board of Directors will establish a small tract irrigation schedule for each irrigation season.

**All water delivery is subject to change and is dependent upon the availability of water. The following rules and/or procedures apply for all Small Tract Irrigations:**

1. The tax assessment for all years must be paid in full or you are not eligible to take irrigation water.
2. A small tract irrigator may be required (or choose) to irrigate along with a farmer if a formal combination is approved and completed.
3. The EBID BOD will announce the small tract schedule at the beginning of each irrigation season.
4. Irrigation is on a first come, first served basis, not sequentially by placement along the community ditch.
5. Water may be taken ONCE on either of the days the flat rate is scheduled by EBID. (Saturday OR Sunday).
6. Water can be taken only one time during the 48-hour Small Tract Weekend.
7. Please refer to the schedule to determine on which date and/or day you will be able to irrigate.
8. Please contact your Ditchrider, or EBID at 526-6671 or 524-8003 if you have any questions about the date and/or day you are allowed to take delivery of irrigation water, or to find out in which unit your property is located.

### BE WATER EFFICIENT

Irrigate as efficiently as possible to help conserve water:

- Be sure your ditches are clean (free of debris and overgrown vegetation). It is the responsibility of each user to keep the community ditch clean. If the ditch is deemed unsafe or not properly maintained EBID may refuse to deliver water until repairs are made.
- Do not leave the irrigation unattended.
- Call EBID immediately if you experience a problem.

## WATER THEFT

The Sheriff has advised that he will cite offenders who are caught taking water illegally. Illegal taking of water is irrigating more than once during the scheduled flat rate weekend and/or taking of water without a fully paid EBID status. If something unusual or improper is happening, contact EBID immediately. EBID will be patrolling during Small Tract Weekends to enforce the rules and procedures described above. When necessary, EBID will contact the Sheriff's Department to request assistance.

## AVAILABILITY OF WATER

All water delivery is subject to water availability and approval by the EBID Board of Directors. For up-to-date information, stop by our main office at 530 South Melendres Street in Las Cruces, check with your Ditchrider, call any of the numbers below, or check the EBID web site, especially after the monthly meeting of the Board of Directors (usually the second Wednesday of each month). For more information about EBID policies and procedures, please see the documents on our web site.

Elephant Butte Irrigation District; 530 S. Melendres, Las Cruces, NM 88005; 575-526-6671 FAX: 575-523-9666

[www.ebid-nm.org](http://www.ebid-nm.org)

Gary Esslinger—Treasurer/Manager, Ext. 1

## WATER DELIVERY OPTIONS

EBID policies and procedures have been established which enable Small Tract Irrigators to:

- Place water orders.
- Allow better coordination for the conjunctive use of surface water. Water righted acreage for two, or more, Flat Rate members/accounts can be combined and considered as one account for water delivery purposes. This allows irrigators to place a water order for the delivery of water instead of being limited to irrigation on designated flat rate weekends.

### Community Ditch Associations (CDA):

- Typically a combination of two or more EBID flat rate members (owning one or more parcels of land totaling less than 2.00 acres).
- EBID flat rate members may join together to form a CDA so that they can irrigate as a farm rate member.
- All EBID members forming the CDA have acres on the same delivery ditch.
- CDAs are for the purpose of water delivery only.

### Process:

- EBID members must meet with designated EBID personnel and complete the approved documents to formalize the CDA. It will be reviewed and approved annually.
- All CDA members must have an EBID account status paid in full in order for ANY of the participants to receive water each year.
- The CDA must have a lead member/account contact person established. This Lead Account must place water orders with EBID. Irrigations may NOT occur without an EBID order. No other CDA members are permitted to place orders.
- All CDA irrigations occur at the same time.
- The annual allocation of water will be updated to the CDA as a group. No additional water may be delivered when the water allocation of water is used for each year. Water is not carried over from year to year. No transfers of water are permitted among the CDA participants.

