

CARLSBAD PROJECT WATER OPERATIONS & WATER SUPPLY CONSERVATION EIS KEY CONCEPTS IN CARLSBAD PROJECT OPERATIONS

- ✓ **W**ater from storms and snowmelt is diverted from the Pecos River for direct use or is stored in reservoirs.
- ✓ **W**ater rights and priority affect virtually all aspects of the allocation of water to users.
- ✓ **R**eclamation delivers Carlsbad Project water allocations to the CID for irrigation use.
- ✓ **U**pon CID request, block releases are made to deliver water efficiently to CID at Brantley Reservoir.
- ✓ **O**perations must be conducted within the structure of existing water rights and Reclamation authorities. Reclamation is limited in the actions that can be taken by its legislated authority and by Federal and State laws.
- ✓ **R**eclamation cannot impair senior water rights in operating the Carlsbad Project.
- ✓ **W**ater stored in Carlsbad Project reservoirs can only be used for authorized purposes and applied to beneficial use.
- ✓ **R**eclamation is legally obligated to deliver water stored for irrigation to the water users for use on the lands to which the statutes apply in accordance with the water rights and contracts.
- ✓ **I**n order to provide flows for the shiner, Reclamation bypasses water that would otherwise become part of the Carlsbad Project water supply, when available. Because this is a less efficient way to deliver water, Reclamation has obtained replacement water from other sources.
- ✓ **T**his EIS analyzes the environmental effects of changes in Carlsbad Project operations. These include a range of proposed flow targets; and options for acquiring additional water for the Carlsbad Project deliveries to the CID and for use to benefit the shiner.