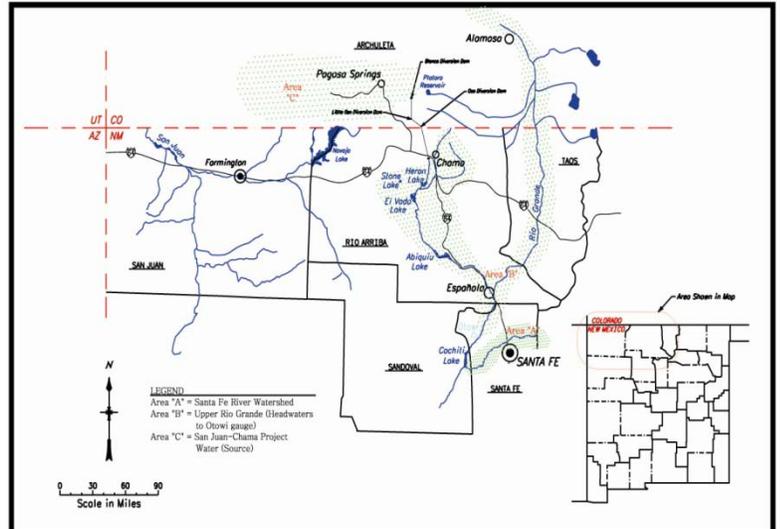


## Santa Fe Basin Study

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The water supplies for the city and county of Santa Fe are derived primarily from three river basins in northern New Mexico and southern Colorado including the Rio Grande, the Santa Fe River, and the San Juan River. As a result of climate change, a decrease in available supply from each of these surface-water sources for Santa Fe has been projected, and is anticipated to result in a significant imbalance between water supply and demand. This imbalance is expected to increase in magnitude over the course of the next century. Under current assessments of water management practices, it is estimated that between 15% and 30% of water demand in the area will be unmet by the year 2060, and that water shortages may begin as early as the 2020s.



As a proactive measure to address the growing stresses facing the river basins that provide Santa Fe's water supply, Reclamation will work with the City of Santa Fe (City) and the County of Santa Fe (County) to quantify the potential impacts of climate change on available water supply, and evaluate potential mitigation and adaptation strategies. The Santa Fe Basin Study (Study) will focus on the three watersheds that supply surface water to the City and County: the Santa Fe River watershed; the Upper Rio Grande sub-basin (upstream of Otowi Gage); and the San Juan River sub-basin. The study will also consider groundwater, and its role in managing future supplies in light of the projected increases in supply variability.

The Study's objectives are to:

- Quantify the potential impact of climate change on available water supply from each of the three surface-water sources;
- Assess the vulnerability and possible shortcomings of current long-range water supply strategies;
- Assess the impacts of climate change on the Santa Fe watershed agriculture and local food production, land use, ecosystems, and water demand; and
- Evaluate and adopt new mitigation and adaptation strategies and, as deemed appropriate, propose incorporation of these strategies into future water supply plans.

Multiple stakeholders have expressed support for the Study, and have expressed interest in providing needed data. The public will also be kept informed about the study, and invited to provide input on the alternatives for mitigation. The anticipated cost of the Study is \$421,256. The City and the County will provide 53% of the cost of the study, and Reclamation will provide 47%.

