

**08285000 EL VADO RESERVOIR NEAR TIERRA AMARILLA, NM**

Upper Rio Grande Basin  
Rio Chama Subbasin

LOCATION.--Lat 36°35'39", long 106°44'00" referenced to North American Datum of 1983, Rio Arriba County, NM, Hydrologic Unit 13020102, Tierra Amarilla Grant, at outlet tower of dam on Rio Chama, at village of El Vado, 12.4 mi southwest of Tierra Amarilla, and at mile 77.7.

DRAINAGE AREA.--873 mi<sup>2</sup> of which 100 mi<sup>2</sup> probably is noncontributing.

**SURFACE-WATER RECORDS**

PERIOD OF RECORD.--January 1935 to September 1965 (monthend contents only), October 1965 to current year. Prior to October 1967, contents at about 0730 hours.

GAGE.--Water-stage recorder. Prior to Oct. 1967, nonrecording gage only below gage height 6,879.3 ft. Datum of elevation is NGVD of 1929.

COOPERATION.--Records provided by Bureau of Reclamation.

REMARKS.--Reservoir is formed by rockfill dam, steel faced. Storage began in Jan. 1935. Capacity 186,250 acre-ft, from capacity table of 1987 between gage heights 6,759.0 ft and 6,902.0 ft, top of spillway gate. Dead storage, 1,480 acre-ft below 6,775.0 ft, sill of outlet works. Figures given herein represent total contents. Reservoir is used to impound water for irrigation by Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District and, since Dec. 1972, to store contract water from San Juan-Chama Project. Rehabilitation of outlet works, completed in Dec. 1966, increased valve-controlled release from about 1,750 ft<sup>3</sup>/s to about 6,000 ft<sup>3</sup>/s.

Reservoir Capacity Table Based on survey by Bureau of Reclamation in 1987  
(Elevation in feet, capacity in acre-feet )

Elevation	Contents	Elevation	Contents	Elevation	Contents
6,820	25,620	6,845	56,100	6,895	164,400
6,825	30,720	6,850	63,730	6,900	179,800
6,830	36,330	6,865	89,870	6,901	183,040
6,835	42,400	6,875	111,000		
6,840	48,980	6,885	135,900		

EXTREMES FOR PERIOD OF RECORD.--Maximum contents, 204,900 acre-ft, of which 7,400 acre-ft was uncontrolled storage, Sept. 29, 2000, gage height, 6,826.08 ft; no storage at times prior to Dec. 1966.

EXTREMES FOR CURRENT YEAR.--Maximum contents, 43,770 acre-ft, May 27, elevation, 7,126.88 ft; minimum, 10,270 acre-ft, Jan. 6, elevation, 7,136.46 ft.

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**RESERVOIR STORAGE, ACRE FEET**  
**WATER YEAR OCTOBER 2012 TO SEPTEMBER 2013**  
**DAILY OBSERVATION AT 2400 HOURS**

Day	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
1	33,650	34,320	24,580	10,440	14,530	18,960	28,970	35,950	42,080	20,230	18,260	22,710
2	33,770	34,340	23,900	10,410	14,710	19,190	29,380	36,800	41,590	20,180	18,290	22,070
3	33,640	34,350	23,220	10,380	14,880	19,360	29,770	37,480	41,110	19,810	18,070	21,820
4	33,430	34,370	22,520	10,350	15,060	19,610	30,150	38,150	40,650	19,280	18,160	21,560
5	33,360	34,400	21,860	10,310	15,230	19,910	30,430	38,820	40,170	18,740	18,540	21,480
6	33,390	34,430	21,180	10,270	15,400	20,290	30,660	39,340	39,570	18,220	18,950	21,350
7	33,420	34,450	20,500	10,360	15,530	20,700	30,920	39,470	38,920	17,930	19,620	21,210
8	33,440	34,470	19,790	10,510	15,740	21,090	31,190	39,720	38,160	17,850	20,220	21,060
9	33,480	34,510	19,070	10,680	15,940	21,410	31,360	39,790	37,400	17,750	20,380	20,910
10	33,650	34,560	18,300	10,840	16,080	21,720	31,410	39,730	36,630	17,660	20,220	20,810
11	33,730	34,590	17,570	11,010	16,250	21,970	31,390	39,680	35,820	17,600	20,410	20,720
12	33,740	34,600	16,840	11,170	16,390	22,280	31,410	39,620	35,050	17,280	20,890	20,180
13	33,790	34,560	16,080	11,320	16,540	22,610	31,460	39,600	34,360	16,720	21,320	19,090
14	33,860	34,440	15,360	11,480	16,690	22,970	31,560	39,740	33,650	16,500	21,730	18,600
15	33,920	34,230	14,660	11,640	16,840	23,340	31,530	40,260	32,920	16,610	22,130	18,290
16	33,980	33,940	13,940	11,790	17,000	23,730	31,510	40,970	32,160	16,740	22,100	18,460
17	33,990	33,550	13,250	11,940	17,160	24,120	31,720	41,730	31,490	16,840	21,860	18,500
18	34,050	33,070	12,600	12,100	17,290	24,480	31,770	42,200	30,760	16,930	21,910	18,700
19	34,070	32,470	12,110	12,100	17,450	24,810	31,700	42,540	29,980	16,620	22,270	18,820
20	34,100	31,860	11,610	12,400	17,630	25,120	31,630	42,780	29,250	16,070	22,650	18,850
21	34,110	31,260	11,260	12,540	17,790	25,450	31,520	42,980	28,380	15,870	23,020	18,780
22	34,130	30,640	11,090	12,690	17,960	25,780	31,520	43,090	27,430	15,980	23,390	18,860
23	34,140	30,030	10,960	12,840	18,120	26,060	31,790	43,230	26,490	16,200	23,340	19,200
24	34,150	29,410	10,850	13,000	18,270	26,310	31,820	43,370	25,550	16,500	23,090	19,410
25	34,150	28,800	10,740	13,140	18,410	26,590	31,990	43,540	24,620	16,800	23,200	19,410
26	34,160	28,120	10,620	13,000	18,560	26,870	32,010	43,700	23,680	16,700	23,670	19,350
27	34,190	27,410	10,560	13,590	18,700	27,160	32,000	43,770	22,740	16,430	24,090	19,250
28	34,200	26,680	10,550	13,830	18,840	27,460	32,430	43,630	21,800	16,580	24,450	19,240
29	34,260	25,970	10,480	14,040	---	27,800	33,180	43,310	20,840	17,130	24,820	19,200
30	34,290	25,270	10,480	14,190	---	28,160	34,460	42,940	20,300	17,530	24,430	19,140
31	34,300	---	10,460	14,370	---	28,560	---	42,510	---	17,890	23,580	---
<b>Max</b>	34,300	34,600	24,580	14,370	18,840	28,560	34,460	43,770	42,080	20,230	24,820	22,710
<b>Min</b>	33,360	25,270	10,460	10,270	14,530	18,960	28,970	35,950	20,300	15,870	18,070	18,290
<b>Change in contents, in acre-feet</b>	750	-9,030	-14,810	3,910	4,470	9,720	5,900	8,050	-22,210	-2,410	5,690	-4,440

	Calendar Year 2012	Water Year 2013
<b>Max</b>	141,310	43,770
<b>Min</b>	10,460	10,270

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