

IS IT WORTH IT?

- ① Yes: Worth It
 It's a resource
 Water = Life
 It will benefit us → Social + cultural
 It ties things together
 Challenge: drought; lack of young generation
 Spirit; self esteem
 Way of giving to community
 Welcoming outsiders.

- ② Benefits: for the whole community
 Payoff = conserve water for future
 → children, future generations
 Important that people actively participate
 (this helps the dialog)
 Payoff = security; food (grow + have wells)
 Water = Life
 Acequias brought down thru generations
 Problem = lack of young generation
 = lack of maintenance → we'll lose acequias

- (3) Worth it? Yes
 Gratitude to ancestors
 Human-based / Land-based democracy
 = acequias
 → no need for fossil fuels
 ↳ fossil fuels = myth of not needing each other
 = myth of freedom
 ↓
 Limits = not yet reached ; but not forever ; relocalization
 Opportunity → being a good ancestor

- (4) Acequia Culture = culture in itself
 = unified community
 If not holding on to it → it will fade away
 In times of feast → all is well
 In times of "famine" → crisis ; disrespect
 ↓
 risk of fading away
 Bonding if we work together
 Respect for small time farmer → solidarity +
 a tight community
 Benefits → good life ; econ + culturally

⑤ Acequias = privilege, inheritance of hard work
Benefits → river bed culture traditions

Problem: need respect; educ. about culture, traditions
Pay off; respect, participate with e/o.
Need new generation to learn about it + respect it

What's Not Working?

Social / Policy

Technical / Physical

Acequia Literacy Practices + Policies

Lack of enforcement

Pollution - trash, sediment

Repartimiento needed
- bylaws
- rules + commission process

Lack of water / vol. of production
lack of prioritization

Newcomer who don't understand the system

Infrastr. upgrades.
- fishing lakes in headwaters as water reserves (water storage needed)

Traditions disregarded

New techn. don't always work

Not enough people know the rules

Improved communication } needed
More transparency }



part

What's Not Working Social / Policy

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ACEQUIA LITERACY
[PRACTICES] cont'd.

Not much respect for governance
 " " " " for neighbors
 Delinquencies (in fees)
 No respect for water
 reparto
 Mayordomo poorly understood
 " " also lack understanding
 Problems betw. small vs.
 large acequia water needs
 ↳ scheduling difficulties

Hard to get people to work on
 acequias (parties?)

Technical / Physical

PARTICIPATION
across generations

Not enough cleaning between
 seasons
 Lack of maintenance

Wells going dry
 Loss of trees
 Wildlife — more gopher, rabbits
 + owls

↳ damage/impact

individual vs. collective?

3

Conflict betw. drip vs. non-drip use.

↓
 Should be look @ differently
 e.g. as efficiency | governance
 + distribution
 Look @ things collectively

going dry
 Well problems; drought; lack of
 water in acequias.
 How to improve water delivery in
 aceq. + to wells

↳ + infrastr. changes

What's Not Working Social/Policy

Technical/Physical

④ Problem of Water Rights
• chaos of aceq. WR gov'ce
(inconsistencies)

• Changes of 2003 Acequia
+ Water law.

Threat of problems related
to possible future adjudication
(see Taos problems).

Community to work together
to anticipate this

We don't have young people
coming along; young people
maxed out to manage the
trad. + new cultures re: acequias.
↳ in their schedules

How can we bring in the
younger generation?

ACEQUIA
LITERACY: POLICY

PARTICIPATION
esp. i next generation
(recruitment)

Not enough water
long ditches → end = dry
leaver dams

rip/pumps vs. flood irrig.
related to Gr. Water recharge

Lack of maintenance / limpia

What does not work

Celebrando 7/13/13 (6)

(5)

Social / Policy

Need for education

Mismanagement

↓
People not involved enough

Lack of communic.
" " participation

Aceq. losing their importance

Parciantes don't know / have bylaws

Acequia culture = "evaporating like the water"

- get together
- utilize the Valley Aceq. Assoc.
- Repartido experimentation
- Look @ developing machinery to do the work (on maintenance)
- If close to river, use RAM pump directly from river
↳ descarga in river → more water in river

Technical / Physical

Not enough water

Long ditches → end = dry

Beaver dams

Drip / pumps vs. flood irrig.
related to Gr. Water recharge

→ Lack of maintenance / limpia

③ What might work?

- ① Cultural foundation
- make ^{each} new parciante follow mandatory orientation to educate them → more trust + underst.
 - encourage people to share info w/newcomers
 - annual mtgs. to be revived + big conida + awards/recognition
- reach out to + get to know the newcomers + inform them

Physical

- holding ponds ; upstream infiltration
- removal of invasive spp.
- more research on drip-irr. impacts

② Try:

- piped irr. systems ; incl. storage, tanks
- repartido mechanisms, starting @ bottom, working upward
- study drip vs. flood irr. : pros + cons
- get the word out w/a telephone tree : by acequia + valley wide?
- get together over winter to anticipate issues
- utilize the Valley Aceq. Assoc.
- Repartido experimentation
- Look @ developing machinery to do the work (on maintenance)
- If close to river, use RAM pump directly from river
 ↳ discharge in river → more water in river

(3)

Dialog about all methods - learn, listen more

Lack of measurement of water use

Maintain banks

Internship program to follow mayordomos + commissioners

Water banking (only 35% is now irrigated; use the 65%)

ID why parciantes don't irrigate/farm the land

Acequia handbook + Valley-wide aceq. handbook

Share w/realtors

NMAA has
"mayordomos"
project w/a
handbook

(5)

Using ponds -> irr. drip. look for compatibilities / studies

Transitioning from subsistence to new times

(4)

Group has experience w/drip + flood irrigation

Efficiency in water delivery

Brush removal

Soil development -> differences in water holding capacities
in relation to upland; relation to recharge capacity

Need for mulching -> to reach greater consistencies
in recharge

Ac. de la Plaza has experience w/flood, drip, ~~gravity~~ irrig.

Measure / study the differences.

gravity vs. pump

(6)

Interns / volunters (supervisors)

Bring in foreign students

Appropri. using technology (w/ @ Northridge fields)

(e.g. using or not using)

Planting gardens for biodiversity

Introduce transfer of data rights (TDR)

Creativity / fantasy -> soils (manure)

Soil types:

Co. has ordinance in place + a watershed proj.
In the Cebolla area + work w/NRCS
(Rio de los Nutrias) to promote the right systems for
Soil conservation + productivity

↓
Get a farm plan together w/ Co conservationist
↓
based on soil type.

5 Education

New comers to be educ. by mayordomo / to read the handbook
Elem. school to include aceq. practices in 6th grade curriculum
Teach students how to keep banks clean

↳ parciante children.

Institutions to do + share info based on studies
e.g. Picuris.

6 Adopt-a-ditch to clear ditch banks + barter system (shared, collab. system)

Not always wait for technol. — encourage people to do
manual labor

Rituals for communication; e.g. speaking their mind
or a newsletter (technical + inspirational + kids corner)

Interns / WOOFFERS (w/ college credits)

Bring in foreign students

Approp. using technology (look @ Alcalde findings)
(e.g. lining or not lining)

Planting gardens for biodiversity

Introduce transfer of dev rights (TDR)

Creativity / fantasy → soils (macro/micro organisms)

What do I need to be effective?
What do you need/like to request?
Short-term.

NEEDS

RESOURCES



- Empowerments
- Interns
- Acequia techniques + educ literacy
- Acequia resource Education.
- Newsletter - La Pala
- Ag-related info

- OSE, BOR
- NMAA
- EPA - educ. grants
- NMDA
- NMED, SUQR

① Seek out grants + service providers
e.g. Case studies

- existing programs
- projects
- County
- State
- Fed. agencies
- Other Acequias
- County
- NMSU - Alcalde
- Extension Svce.

Hydrologist / Hydro-geol. advice
Exchange info how things were done manually

- e.g. Diego Gonzales
- Acequia Assoc.

Constr. of storage ponds

- Adam Mackay, Seth Brown

NEEDS

RESOURCES

Strong Acequia Assoc. reactivation

w/ NMAA
+ everyone to act

Interns

Quivira Coalition
Various resources: CO - San Luis Valley
Charge \$ + find local people
Adrienne w/ WOOFER exper.

Acequia resource list

Town Crier + UNM Taos
Intern program
+ Ameri Corps
(Sierra del Norte)

Newsletter - La Pala

Build Trust

Communic. within acequia
" within all acequias in Dixon

Visit neighbors; local parciantes

+ how to agree to disagree

How to employ local kids in
a meaningful way

Get the info out
e.g. summary of this mtg.

www.Culturalenergy.org

Alternative building materials
- tour

Tour of Best Practices:
Estevan. / Ac. Junta

Guide of all indiv. acequias
+ effectiveness details

Nejeem Raheem

CROP STRATEGIES: seeds -
what is best adapted?

Neighbors