

ARIDLANDSINSTITUTE

DESIGN INNOVATION AT THE NEXUS OF WATER, ENERGY, AND CLIMATE CHANGE
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Saturday, July 13th, 2013

Program: Celebrando las Acequias 2013

6th Annual Exploration of Land, Water, and Culture in the Lower Embudo Valley
Mission Embudo, Dixon, NM

HERE/NOW Drought, climate change, and the Lower Embudo Valley

Morning Session: Handling the Drought [9am – noon]

Drought tests the limits of land, customs, patience, and trust. It asks us hard questions, and requires that we take stock. From 9 to 12, residents of the Lower Embudo Valley are invited to come together and respond to four questions whose answers might form a strong basis for getting through this drought together.

9:10 am: Introduction and Welcome: Estevan Arellano, Acequia Junta y Cienega;

9:20 am: Framework for Dialog/Overview + Format: Hadley + Peter Arnold, Arid Lands Institute.

9:30am: **Question 1. Is it worth it?**

Why bother with the hard work of acequia culture? What are the limits of our commitment to our place, our history, and our neighbors? What are the payoffs?

9:45 am: Designated spokesperson summarizes table discussion: 2 minutes each.

10:00am: **Question 2. What's not working?**

What practices are making drought harder on you? On your family? On your neighbors?

10:30 am Designated spokesperson summarizes table discussion: 2 minutes each.

10:45am: **Question 3. What might work?**

What am I open to trying? Am I open to renewing old practices? Am I open to trying new approaches?

11:15 am: Designated spokesperson summarizes table discussion: 2 minutes each.

11:30am: **Question 4. What do I need to be effective? How do I find out more?**

Are there others who want to work with me on this? How can I learn from others? Where can I see examples or talk with someone who has experience?

11:45 am: Designated spokesperson summarizes table discussion: 2 minutes each.

12:00 – 1:30 pm: Lunch, for participants only.

Afternoon Session: Adapting to Climate Change [1:30pm -5pm]

An Updated Watershed-Based Plan for the Lower Embudo Watershed, New Mexico

The US Environmental Protection Agency [EPA] and the New Mexico Environment Department, Surface Water Quality Bureau [NMED] have recently green-lighted a watershed-based planning process for addressing urgent water and land-use issues for the Lower Embudo Valley. The two-year process, funded by the federal Clean Water Act Section 319(h), is a direct outgrowth of ongoing efforts in the Embudo Valley community to form a long-term, collaborative program for ecological restoration and stabilization of soils, arroyos, acequias, and streams in the valley. The objective is to produce, by 2015, an updated Watershed-Based Plan (WBP) for watersheds within the lower Rio Embudo drainage, northern New Mexico. A project area map is attached.

Participants in the afternoon session will work in small groups to answer five questions that will shape the watershed-based planning process:

1:30pm: Overview of the EPA Watershed-Based Planning Process: Peter Arnold

Where we have been, where we are going, what your role might be, how today is going to work?

1:50pm: Q + A

2:00pm: Question 1. What about this Valley do you cherish? What would you preserve unchanged?

Participants will be drawing on a shared map (one map per table).

2:15pm: Designated spokesperson summarizes table discussion: 2 minutes each.

2:30pm: Question 2. What is missing? What's not working? What would you change?

What would you add? Where do you see those changes taking place?

Participants will be drawing on a shared map (one map per table).

2:45pm: Designated spokesperson summarizes table discussion: 2 minutes each.

3:15pm: Question 3. Why make those changes? Why allocate that particular land to those changes?

How would those changes affect the region?

Participants will be making written annotations to their maps and discussing possible outcomes.

3:45pm: Table Presentations:

Designated spokesperson presents and summarizes each table's vision: 5 minutes each.

4:30pm: Summary Overview and Question 4: What role do you see for yourself in this process?

5:00pm: END