

## **History of the Rio Grande (for all ages!)**

Adapted from the River of Change Model, Bosque Education Guide

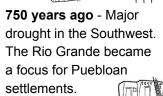
Knowing the history of a place and an ecosystem helps us learn, acknowledge, and connect with events and people in the past. This is a brief timeline of big events that shaped the Middle Rio Grande, its bosque, and Albuquerque in the past 2000 years. Read through the timeline, then share with a family member something that you learned!

1600 years ago - First 1. known Puebloan

permanent settlements



400 years ago - Spanish colonizers began settling in New Mexico. Indigenous Puebloans aimed to reclaim 3. religious practices, culture, and land, leading to the Pueblo Revolt in 1680.



1706 - City of Albuquerque was founded by Spanish colonizers.

1870s-1940s - Large floods occur, population increases, overgrazing leads to erosion and more sediments in the river, and Saltcedar and Russian Olive are introduced as garden plants and spread into the wild.

1941 - Rio Grande floods over the levees for the last time. One of the last time **7** Cottonwoods sprout

naturally.

1965-1975 -**9**. Cochiti Dam is built on the Pueblo of Cochiti

**1920s** - Levees and ditches were constructed to limit flooding. The river straightens as a result.

8.

1957 - Jetty Jacks are placed along the river bank to control debris when flooded.

10. 1996 - First **BEMP** monitoring site installed

Has your family been influenced by the history of the Middle Rio Grande? Talk to a family member about how your family's history connects to these events. Create your own timeline, story, or art to represent major events in your family and how they tie into the history of the Middle Rio Grande. Don't limit yourself to the space provided below!