New Mexico Nonpoint Source Management Program
Early Input Workshop
Summary Project Report

by

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Task 1. Review the documents identified in Section II of the RFQ and develop a preliminary outline for the workshop. Deliverable: Preliminary outline for workshop.

1.a Review of Key Documents to Develop Preliminary Outline

- NM WRRI reviewed the documents referenced in Section II of the RFQ and used this information to develop a preliminary outline for the workshop (Attachment C.) Through meetings with NMED staff, we adjusted the draft outline throughout discussions and preparation of presentations as well as working through determining additional ways to receive feedback from attendees. NMED provided additional resources and information in addition to the documents referenced in the RFQ. Which was also reviewed and summarized in the draft presentations.
- NM WRRI summarized this information into draft PowerPoint presentations that were provided to NMED and used during the workshop.
- NM WRRI suggested that we review neighboring states' NPS programs. NM WRRI downloaded and reviewed the most recent NPS management programs for Arizona, Colorado, and Texas. They also downloaded and reviewed the last two Annual Reports for Arizona, Colorado, and Texas. This information was included as a brief comparison in the presentation titled "Comparison with Surrounding States NPS Programs."
- All of the information was used to develop a draft outline and agenda for the workshop, that was discussed and updated during the online meetings for developing the workshop. Please see Attachment C – Preliminary Outline.

Task 2. Select, reserve, and pay for (if necessary) an online platform for conducting the workshop, including breakout sessions in which some quantitative information (e.g. votes) is collected. Selection of the platform is subject to NMED approval. Deliverable: Brief report describing features of selected platform is attached and included below.

2.a. Select, Reserve and Pay for Software for the workshop

- NM WRRI Staff evaluated several event management/registration systems. Cvent registration and website builder was determined best for the workshop needs. We evaluated both Zoom and Teams for the online meeting software platform. Slido and Teams Polling were evaluated for polling software, while Miro, Lucidspark, Jamboard, and Microsoft White Boards were evaluated.
- NM WRRI Staff developed practice examples of the polling software and whiteboards to evaluate them and discussed the pros and cons with NMED Staff to determine the best options for ease of usability from external participants.

2.b. Cvent Registration Software

- NM WRRI's Cvent Event Management Software license contains a host of event tools used for this workshop. Cvent's registration and website builder allowed the planning team to create a custom registration process that gathered important information needed from each registrant, such as their preferred selections for breakout group topics. At the November 2, Kick-off Meeting, the team decided because NM WRRI already had the system with the needed tools in place, to move forward with Cvent. Apart from just registration, a workshop landing page provided a distinct home to basic information about the workshop (date, time, format, description, and access to NPS resources).
- Registered attendees were automatically added to an event email list in Cvent, which made it easy for NM WRRI to share event information such as the access information for the Microsoft Teams meeting, a calendar item for the workshop, a link to the workshop agenda, and even unique attendee information such as their breakout room assignments. Before the event, registrants were sent automatic reminders about the workshop, which included the Teams access information as well.
- Post-workshop, attendees were sent a workshop evaluation and additional input form that was designed and sent via Cvent.

2.c. Microsoft Teams Meeting Platform

- While Zoom had been used primarily for virtual conferences and events hosted by NM WRRI, it came to the planner's attention that some federal employees face restrictions on joining Zoom meetings. Given the desire to have NPS management partners from various federal agencies in this workshop, the organizers decided to host this event on Microsoft Teams.
- Teams offered a number of administrative meeting controls such as allowing the organizers to create breakout rooms in advance, a lobby for attendees to wait before the host was ready to admit participants, automatic recording of the workshop, and the ability to pre-assign attendees to their respective breakout rooms once they had joined the event. The chat feature was also used throughout the workshop to address questions and comments from participants.

2.d. Slido Polling Software

- Workshop organizers determined that polling throughout the workshop would provide valuable input on questions related to the current NPS plan, as well as suggestions for new elements of the revised plan. While Microsoft Teams has its own polling function built into the software, NM WRRI noticed that for external participants (those not using an NMSU license for the software) the polling experience was less intuitive, being located exclusively in the meeting chat feature, rather than as an in-meeting pop-up window. To make interactive polling throughout the workshop as easy as possible, with the results available to view in

Realtime, the workshop organizers decided to purchase a one-time single event license of Slido.

- Slido allows a presenter to build polling questions, word cloud prompts, and the resulting responses into their PowerPoint slide presentation. Attendees were prompted to scan a QR code visible on the slide with their mobile device or tablet, or enter a unique event code in their desktop browser to access available questions.
- The question appeared as a slide being screen-shared by the presenter, and as participants responded to the question the results would be displayed on this slide in real-time, along with a counter indicating the number of people currently answering the question, and number of people who have submitted their responses.
- All of the polling questions from the presentations were all linked to the same poll. This allows for all of the responses throughout the day were then able to be exported from the account dashboard of Slido.

2.e. Miro Online Whiteboard Software

- Miro is an online collaborative whiteboard platform that enables people to remotely work together. Within each breakout group discussion there was one facilitator that was responsible for recording responses to various question prompts with virtual sticky notes that could be rearranged around the board, and connected via lines to other notes.
- Breakout room participants were given the option of joining a Miro board themselves via a board-specific URL. These boards were then shared during the report-back phases of the program. The text of the discussions of questions for each board can be exported as text and as pdf or graphic files.

Task 3: Develop an agenda for the workshop using input from SWQB staff. Deliverable: Workshop agenda.

- NM WRRI and NMED staff met for the project kickoff meeting on November 2, 2022. At this meeting, we discussed a schedule of tasks and determined the date for holding the virtual workshop would be January 18, 2023.
- NM WRRI and NMED staff communicated via email and held online meetings to discuss feedback needs, presentation needs, topics for topical groups, questions for polling and breakout discussion session prompting questions, Cvent Registration System, online collaboration meeting platforms, options on polling software, whiteboard software for breakout group notetaking. Throughout November, December, and early January. Online meetings were held on the following dates:
    - November 9

  - November 16
  - November 30
  - December 13 (NM WRRI attended SWQB – Watershed Protection Section Meeting to discuss needs and questions for the workshop)
  - December 14
  - December 28
  - January 9
  - January 11
- We also discussed registration site language, information requested, etc., and reviewed the Cvent system with NMED staff and received their comments and approval before making the registration system live. NMED shared the registration link in an email to their email list. NMED in the RFQ estimated around 30 attendees. The workshop registration had 96 registrants for the workshop.
- The Cvent registration system also asked attendees to select their top two choices for both the morning and afternoon breakout sessions. This information was used to place attendees in topics they were interested in discussing and keep the groups manageable.
- This information was also used to determine 2-3 appropriate topical breakout group facilitators to help facilitate the large groups through the discussions. This spreadsheet was continually updated throughout the registration process to try to even out the groups numbers. The final breakout group assignment spreadsheets are attached.
- NM WRRI also wrote an article about the upcoming NPS Early Input Workshop and registration information. Link: NM WRRI, NMED Co-host Early Input Workshop for the New Mexico Nonpoint Source Management Plan
- NMED used the registered attendees to determine 1-3 appropriate facilitators for the breakout groups who were knowledgeable about the topics, i.e., Forest Service staff for the Forest Health breakout group. Nikki Dictson emailed all potential facilitators to verify that they were willing to facilitate the group and asked them to supply any additional questions they thought were needed. The email also invited facilitators to attend one of the available online sessions where Nikki and Mark, walked them through testing and using the Slido polling platform. In these training sessions, Connie Maxwell presented and walked facilitators through how to use the Miro whiteboards. Connie put together an information sheet with tips on how to use the Miro whiteboards. Sessions were held on January 17, 2023, at 10:00, 10:30, and 11:00 am. In addition, a session was held at 2:30 pm for a couple of facilitators that could not make the morning sessions.
- Nikki met online with NMED Staff Abraham Franklin to run through his presentation and add Slido polling questions on January 13.

- NM WRRI developed a post workshop evaluation that asked registrants to rate the workshop and offer additional input regarding the six objectives of the NPS Management Plan.
- Nikki met online with NMED Staff, Alan Klatt and Kate Lacey to discuss their presentations and add Slido polling questions to Kate's presentation on January 17, 2023.
- NM WRRI staff (Sam Fernald, Connie Maxwell, Mark Sheely, Jeannette Torres, and Nikki Dictson) were all facilitators in both the morning and afternoon breakout groups to manage the Miro whiteboards to collect the discussion on each of the questions and any further discussions. Alan Klatt from NMED was also a facilitator that helped manage the Miro whiteboards for both of his breakout groups.

Task 4. Provide facilitation during the workshop. Facilitation includes developing audio-visual materials, appropriate assignment to breakout sessions, and managing transitions to breakout sessions. The workshop will be approximately six hours in duration (e.g. 9:00 – 12:00 with one fifteen-minute break plus 1:00 – 4:00 with one fifteen-minute break). Deliverable: Attendance list and all presentations (e.g. in PowerPoint format) provided.

- NM WRRI developed PowerPoint presentation template options for review by NMED that included colors that matched logos, agency logos for use as the base of the presentations for the workshops. NMED edits were included to develop the final template.
- NM WRRI developed PowerPoint presentations to provide information on each topic so attendees would have at least a basic understanding on the issues. Attendees were then asked polling questions and put into topical breakout groups to discuss these issues and provide feedback and ideas. NM WRRI worked with NMED Staff to develop questions that were included in the Slido polls within the PowerPoint presentations. NMED wanted to have the majority of the time available to receive ideas, rank priorities and feedback from attendees.
- NM WRRI staff developed the following presentations that NMED Staff reviewed, edited and presented along with Nikki Dictson:
    1. **Instructions for Polls & Feedback (Nikki Dictson)**
    2. **Welcome and Workshop Overview (Abe Franklin)**
    3. **NM Climate Plan & Resilience to Climate Change (Kate Lacey)**
    4. **Environmental Justice and Equity (Alan Klatt)**

5. **Comparison with Surrounding States NPS Programs with Q&A (Nikki Dictson)**
6. **Actions Leading to Outcomes (interactive polling to rank program priorities)**

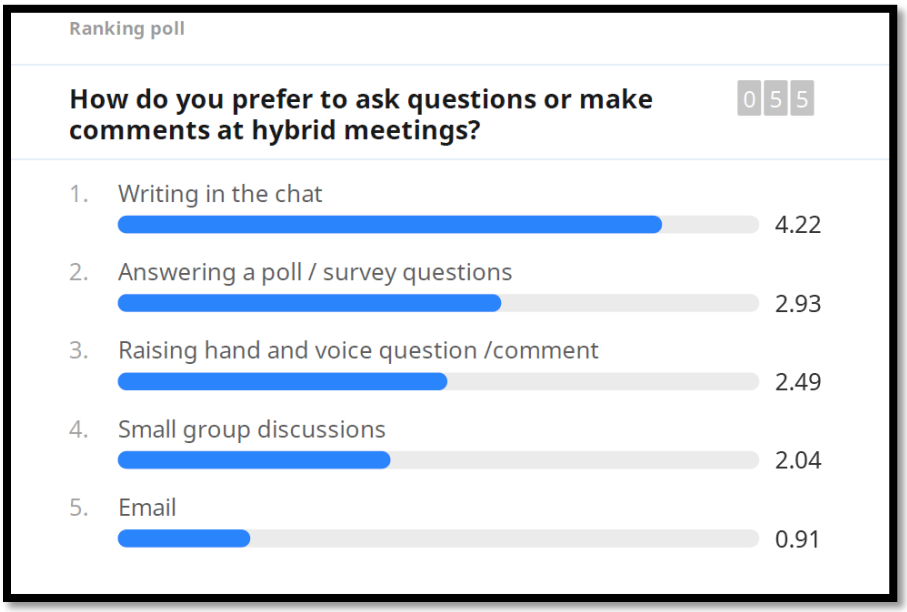
Final presentations are included as attachments to this report. Please see Attachment I:

- Heading and Breakout Slides
- Slido Tutorial
- Workshop Introduction
- NM Climate Plan & Watershed Resilience
- NM NPS Program Workshop. Climate and Equity
- Comparison with Surrounding States Program
- NM NPS Management Program – Actions. Leading to Outcomes

- Presentation Summaries:

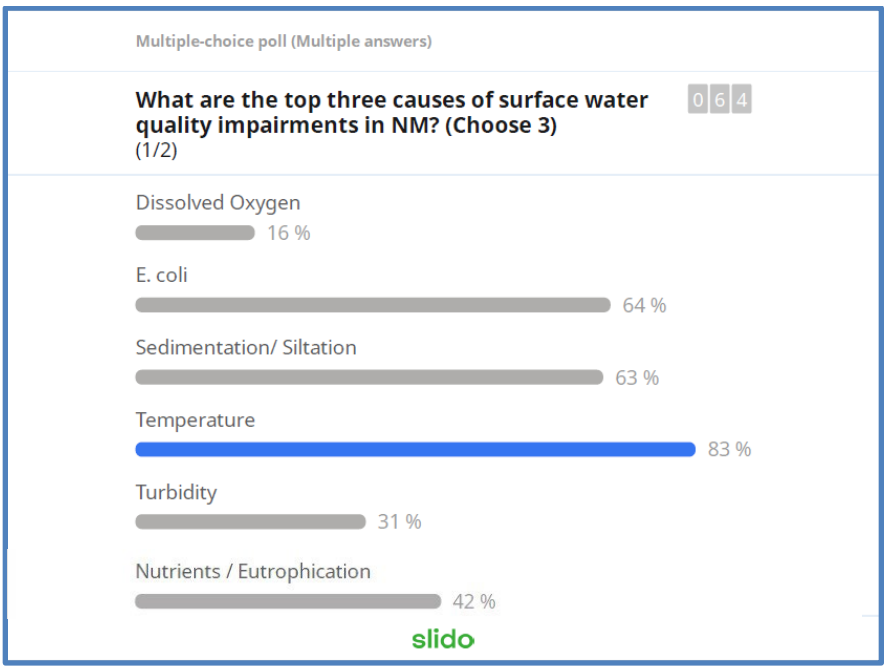
1. **Instructions for Polls & Feedback (Nikki Dictson)**
   - Slides walked attendees through accessing the Slido poles on smart phone, tablet, and computer. It also included some practice icebreaker questions creating word clouds and a ranking question to get them familiar with the polling software.
   - Word cloud poll results for both: Where are you joining us from Today? And please describe why nonpoint source pollution is an important topic to you in 1-2 words.

- The ranking question asked attendees how they prefer to ask questions or make comments at hybrid meetings. The most preferred method for the folks on the poll was writing in the chat, followed by answering a poll/survey question. The third most preferred was raising hand and voicing a question or comment. Next was small group discussions and email was the least preferred as shown below:

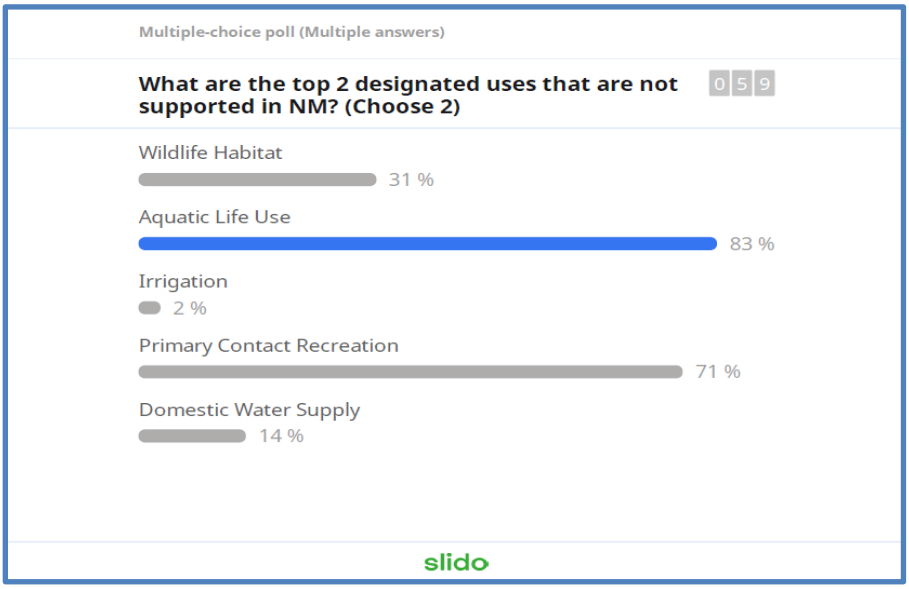


2. Welcome and Workshop Overview (Abe Franklin)

- The presentation included overviews of the workshop, the need to update the program, and the current NM NPS Management Program.
- It included polling questions during the presentation including multiple choice question: **What are the top three causes of surface water quality impairments in NM? (Choose 3).** The top causes of water quality impairments in New Mexico are Temperature, *E. coli*, and Nutrients/Eutrophication. The next top cause at 4 is Turbidity and 6 is Sedimentation/ Siltation. Attendees selected **Temperature at the top with 83% and *E. coli* at 64%, but they selected Sediment at 63% and Nutrients/Eutrophication at 42%.**

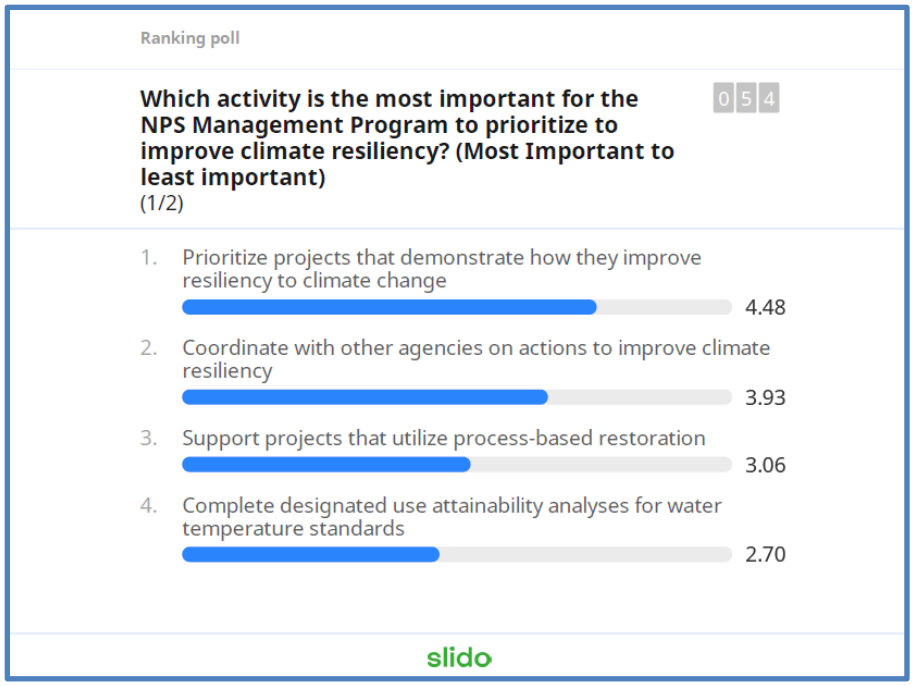


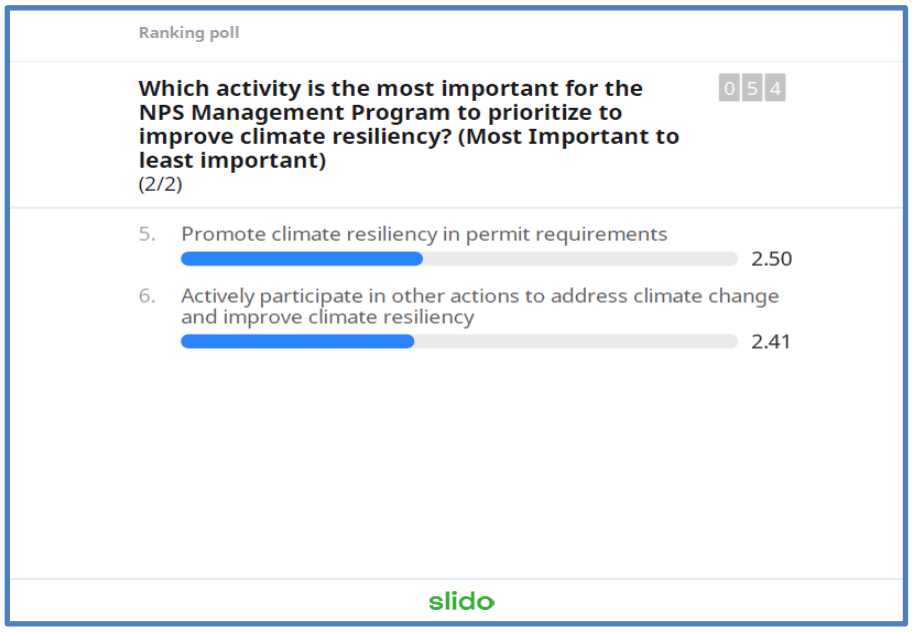
- The second polling question was also a multiple choice question: **What are the top 2 designated uses that are not supported in NM? (Choose 2)** The attendees selected correctly that Aquatic Live Use at 83% and Contact Recreation at 71% are the top 2 designated uses that are not supported in NM.



3. NM Climate Plan & Resilience to Climate Change (Kate Lacey)

- The slides presented an overview of the NM Climate Plan and Climate Resilience to discuss how to incorporate these elements into the NM NPS Management Program.
- The presentation included a polling question during the presentation, that asked: **Which activity is the most important for the NPS Management Program to prioritize to improve climate resiliency? (Most important to least important)**


Ranking poll
Which activity is the most important for the NPS Management Program to prioritize to improve climate resiliency? (Most Important to least important)
(1/2)
0 5 4
1. Prioritize projects that demonstrate how they improve resiliency to climate change
4.48
2. Coordinate with other agencies on actions to improve climate resiliency
3.93
3. Support projects that utilize process-based restoration
3.06
4. Complete designated use attainability analyses for water temperature standards
2.70
slido


Ranking poll
Which activity is the most important for the NPS Management Program to prioritize to improve climate resiliency? (Most Important to least important)
(2/2)
0 5 4
5. Promote climate resiliency in permit requirements
2.50
6. Actively participate in other actions to address climate change and improve climate resiliency
2.41
slido

4. Environmental Justice and Equity (Alan Klatt)

- The slides presented an overview of environmental justice and equity initiatives actions at the state and federal level, in order to prompt discussion of how to incorporate these initiatives into the NPS Management Plan Update.

5. Comparison with Surrounding States NPS Programs with Q&A (Nikki Dictson)

- The slides presented a brief overview of the Arizona Dept. of Environmental Quality Commissioned an NPS Benchmarking Survey that eight states provided input. States included: California, Colorado, Hawaii, Indiana, Nevada, New Mexico, Texas and Utah which all have NPS Management Plans.
- It also provided a brief comparison of NPS Management Plans with surrounding states of Arizona, Colorado, and Texas.

6. Actions Leading to Outcomes (interactive polling to rank program priorities)

- Slido polls in PowerPoint allowing attendees to rank the activities included in the 2019 plan plus additional activities discussed at the workshop for each of the six main objectives of the NM NPS Program. NM WRRI worked closely with NMED Staff to remove any completed activities from the 2019 NPS Plan.
- Objectives are specific, verifiable targets or conditions selected to meet the goal of the program. These are the six main objectives from the 2019 NPS Plan:
    1) Complete WBPs to Enable Effective Implementation
    2) Improve Water Quality
    3) Protect Water Quality
    4) Share Information on Surface Water Quality
    5) Protect Ground Water Quality
    6) Cooperate with Other Agencies
- NM WRRI staff and Abe Franklin, reviewed the AM and PM breakout groups and added key activities to the Slido polls before the polling began as the last activity of the day.
- Ranking polls asked participants to rank the following activities with the top being most important ordered to the bottom or least important.

- Slido poll results are attached to this report and the ranking polls are also included as tables for each objective tasks below.

Table 1. Objective 1: Complete WBPs to enable Effective Implementation

OBJ. 1	Objective 1: Complete WBPs to Enable Effective Implementation	Rank
1	Encourage participation of all stakeholders including those in other states, Indian Nations, pueblos and tribes when watersheds cross jurisdictional boundaries.	7.20
2	Re-institute 319 funding for group creation and on-going operations	6.35
3	Provide technical support to stakeholder groups who have successfully applied for WBP funding.	6.31
4	Conduct a Solicitation for Applications (SFA) at least once every other year for projects to revise existing or develop new WBPs.	5.80
5	Conduct Watershed Roundtables like Wetland Roundtables.	5.74
6	Cooperation among agencies and tribes: Assist USFS in developing Watershed Restoration Action Plans that are also 9-element Watershed-Based Plans	5.74
7	Conduct a conference called the New Mexico Watershed Forum for cross-agency coordination.	5.47
8	Work with SWQB Monitoring, Assessment, and Standards Section (MASS) to complete in-house WBPs as alternatives to TMDLs.	5.12
9	Prepare WBPs in-house with stakeholder participation.	5.10
10	Conduct procurements as necessary for technical and outreach components of primarily in-house WBP efforts.	3.90
11	Provide information to help USFS or other agencies develop Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) plans or other postfire plans to be used as WBP alternatives.	3.71

Table 2. Objective 2: Improve Water Quality Implementation

OBJ. 2	Objective 2: Improve Water Quality Implementation.	Rank
1	Develop, manage, and provide oversight of state-funded watershed and riparian restoration projects (e.g. through the River Stewardship Program).	4.96
2	Conduct Solicitation for Applications (SFAs) at least every other year for watershed implementation projects outlined in WBPs and WBP alternatives, to be funded with Section 319 watershed project funds.	4.31
3	Use scientific methods and weight-of-evidence reporting to measure and document effectiveness of efforts towards achieving water quality standards.	4.14
4	Conduct smaller procurements for specific, targeted projects that will implement WBPs and WBP alternatives, to be funded with Section 319 watershed project funds.	3.76
5	Work with the NMED Construction Programs Bureau and local government entities to	3.41

	pursue the use of the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) to address water quality problems.	
6	NMED Surface Water Quality Bureau will work with NMED Construction Programs Bureau to reduce E. coli impairments through wastewater treatment centralization.	3.31
7	NMED Surface Water Quality Bureau will work with NMED Liquid Waste Program to reduce illicit discharges and increase compliance with septic tank regulations.	3.16

Table 3. Objective 3: Protect Water Quality

OBJ. 3	Objective 3: Protect Water Quality	Rank
1	Participate in collaborative forest restoration efforts by providing information related to water quality and forest ecology, as a means of preventing impacts to water quality from unnaturally intense wildfire.	7.57
2	Develop New Mexico specific guidance and provide training for completing element i. (A monitoring component to evaluate the effectiveness of the implementation efforts over time, measured against the criteria established under element h.) in WBPs.	7.31
3	Direct a portion of Section 319 watershed project funds to implementation of WAPs, to protect and restore wetlands and to protect downstream water quality.	6.84
4	Assist federal agencies with development and selection of alternatives for proposed projects by participating in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. NEPA for permitted grazing in the watersheds of high quality coldwater, coldwater, and c	6.55
5	Assist designated management agencies with developing procedures to ensure that proposed actions will not result in degradation of water quality in ONRWs.	6.08
6	Evaluate applications for permits to discharge fill, as required under Section 404 of the CWA. Conditionally certify these activities to protect water quality standards, as allowed under Section 401 and under state law (e.g., 20.6.2 NMAC).	6.02
7	Assist the SWQB MASS with planning and implementing water quality surveys, providing available information relevant to sources of NPS pollution, and with completion of water quality assessments and TMDLs.	5.80
8	Work with NMED's Office of General Counsel to document procedures to enforce regulations pertaining to ground and surface water protection at Section 20.6.2.2201 of the New Mexico Administrative Code (NMAC), to prevent or abate disposal of refuse in water	5.53
9	Conduct water quality reviews at active and proposed mining sites. Review Mining Act permit applications, inspect mine sites, and ensure that mining activities will not result in water quality standards exceedances.	5.43
10	Within two years of any major wildfire, with severity outside the natural range of variability for the affected forest types, occurring in the watershed of one or more streams with a high quality coldwater, coldwater, or cool water aquatic life designated	5.26
11	Review NEPA documents to encourage protection of surface and ground water quality	4.59
12	Work with the NMED Construction Programs Bureau to pursue the use of Clean Water SRF to protect water quality.	4.35

Objective 4: Share Information on Surface Water Quality

OBJ. 4	Objective 4: Share Information on Surface Water Quality	Rank
1	Participate as active members in watershed groups, providing critical information about water quality programs as new developments occur, and assisting with technical aspects of watershed planning and project design as needed.	7.29
2	Provide educational opportunities for the public and private sector by coordinating with other state and federal agencies, soil and water conservation districts (SWCDs) and the New Mexico Association of Conservation Districts, local schools and youth prog	6.92
3	Outreach and Education to decisionmakers on importance to keep funding and resources to support water management (resources being diverted to other priorities, ex: homeless & crime).	6.86
4	Promote and develop volunteer monitoring and data sharing to support more frequent and detailed water quality assessment and awareness of local water quality.	6.77
5	Support education and outreach components of WBPs and alternatives to WBPs, with Section 319 watershed project funding. The application process for on-the-ground projects that implement acceptable watershed plans will clearly specify that education and outreach.	6.65
6	Offer more technical Assistance with projects and proposals.	5.43
7	Provide support for stakeholders using water quality models.	5.80
8	Conduct Watershed Roundtables like Wetland Roundtables.	5.31
9	Directly fund small publication projects to produce brochures and booklets describing Best Management Practices (BMPs) for landowners and land management agencies.	4.35
10	Conduct a conference called the New Mexico Watershed Forum for cross-agency coordination	4.24
11	Publish Clearing the Waters, a quarterly newsletter detailing lessons learned of Section 319(h) projects and other NPS news. The SWQB newsletter currently informs approximately 1,600 readers of NPS related issues and activities in New Mexico.	3.69

Table 5. Objective 5: Protect Ground Water Quality

OBJ. 5	Objective 5: Protect Ground Water Quality	Rank
1	Create and distribute outreach materials to assist permit holders in understanding requirements.	7.55
2	Conduct free testing of water samples from private domestic wells for nitrate, iron, sulfate, fluoride, conductivity, and pH using portable analytical equipment.	7.47
3	Draft and issue enforcement letters such as Notices of Non-Compliance, Notices of Violation, Discharge Permit Required and Abatement Plan Required.	7.34
4	Conducting compliance inspections and file reviews.	7.11
5	Issue new and renewal Discharge Permits to facilities discharging without a Discharge Permit and facilities renewing their Discharge Permits.	6.96

6	Conduct educational outreach activities on water quality issues through informative brochures, displays and individual contact with NMED staff.	6.53
7	Support water well decommissioning and wellhead protection	6.11
8	Draft and issue Compliance Orders.	5.75
9	Support a state Underground Injection Control permitting program	5.30
10	Hold compliance meetings and teleconferences.	4.57
11	Participate in settlement negotiations.	3.17
12	Testify in administrative and judicial appeals.	3.06

Table 6. Objective 6: Cooperate with Other Agencies

OBJ. 6	Objective 6: Cooperate with Other Agencies	Rank
1	Participate in statewide efforts related to water resources planning such as revision of the State Water Plan (coordinated by the Office of the State Engineer), and the Forest and Watershed Health Plan (Coordinated by the Forestry Division of EMNRD).	5.70
2	Work with the SWCDs with the greatest number of assessed stream miles to develop their programs and projects to protect and improve water quality.	4.92
3	Revisit, renew, or maintain existing agreements with the USFS Southwestern Region, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) New Mexico State Office, and United States Department of Energy (DOE).	4.76
4	Multipurpose plans to simplify the planning process across agencies to reduce workload.	4.62
5	Support regional working groups and fund them	4.56
6	Participate in the State Technical Committee and any subcommittees or work groups of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA NRCS).	3.98
7	Coordinate two New Mexico Wetlands Roundtable meetings per year.	3.60
8	Work with the Farm Service Agency (FSA) to review the locations covered by the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) riparian buffer sub-program and seek opportunities to work with FSA or their cooperating producers to coordinate on future water quality project	2.98

NM WRRI worked with NMED Staff to develop appropriate topics for breakout groups as well as to develop some initial prompt questions for both the morning and afternoon breakout sessions:

- Morning Topical Breakout Groups:
    1. Improving surface water quality
    2. Engaging communities & improving environmental justice
    3. Organizational capacity building for watershed groups
    4. Technical capacity building for watershed groups
    5. Protecting ground water quality
    6. Cooperation among agencies and tribes

- Afternoon Topical Breakout Groups:
    1. Improving surface water quality
    2. Engaging communities & improving environmental justice
    3. Organizational capacity building for watershed groups
    4. Technical capacity building for watershed groups
    5. Protecting groundwater quality

- NM WRRI worked with NMED to determine 2-3 appropriate co-facilitators for the topical breakout groups. NM WRRI emailed and confirmed with all of the co-facilitators, shared the prompt questions and invited them to an informational teams meeting for facilitators to show them the software and discuss the questions. NM WRRI staff were co-facilitators that ran the whiteboards to take notes of the discussion during both the AM and PM breakout groups. List of facilitators for breakout groups are in attachment E.

Task 5. Provide a recording of the workshop on an external hard drive. Deliverable: External hard drive with recording of the workshop in a standard commonly readable format.

- NM WRRI Staff (Mark Sheely) led the effort to manage the Microsoft Teams, breakout group assignments, and Teams recordings of the online meeting. Recordings are saved as MP4 files and include the entire workshop and raw videos.
- There are also files of the main meeting chat that includes attendee sign-in and questions/responses as well as the breakout group chats.
- All files pertaining to the project, “Early Public Input Workshop for the NPS Management Plan Revision," have been copied onto an external hard drive and will be shipped to NMED via USPS, with the tracking number provided in an email to Abraham Franklin no later than Wednesday, June 7, 2023.

Task 6. Prepare a report on the workshop, summarizing the input and recommendations for the revised Nonpoint Source Management Program Plan resulting from the workshop. Deliverable: Report at least ten pages in length.

- Nikki Dictson drafted a report on the workshop that summarizes all of the tasks to plan, facilitate, and conduct the online workshop. This includes detailing any existing or new software licenses that NM WRRI used to coordinate and facilitate the workshop.
- A summary of the key input and recommendations for the NPS Management Program Plan update was developed below:

- Throughout the workshop there were a few recommendations and strategies that were discussed multiple times:
  - Communication is critical and more opportunities for communication was desired. Strategies included starting a watershed roundtable to meet virtually every 6 months on NPS and MS4 permitting topics; An annual watershed meeting / Conference; Interagency meetings on RFPs, to develop MOUs, data sharing and for collaboration on projects.
  - Increased support, funding and training to improve both organizational and technical capacity for watershed groups.
  - Training and assistance with both modeling and monitoring (especially modeling for load reductions, determining best practices and critical locations, and monitoring both water quality and implementation).
  - Increased outreach and education to the public on NPS issues, planning, and implementation to create understanding, support, and watershed champions.
  - Training and outreach to increase green infrastructure and Low impact development (LID) practices to reduce pollution and peak flows. Remove obstacles to permitting such as long multi-departmental reviews, engineering requirements,
  - Resources have been being diverted due to pandemic, crime and homelessness, outreach is needed to politicians / decision makers to prioritize water quality and climate resilience.
  - Small and rural communities have limited funding that can make non-federal match a barrier, so match assistance would be beneficial.
  - NPS program should prioritize projects that benefit disadvantaged communities, points may not be enough but should be given 15 points
  - Organizational capacity varies across the state but at all levels they need funding to build capacity (hire staff, contract experts, modeling and monitoring) Supply groups with training, information, or template on how to build a watershed group, be successful, assist with outreach, etc.
  - More hands on trainings to provide guidance on proposals and projects, modeling and monitoring to build technical capacity.
  - There are lots of multipurpose plans, could we overlap between agency requirements to simplify the process? It would be great to integrate plans such as source water protection, community wildfire protection, and hazard mitigation plans. This would also reduce resources by meeting to complete all three at the same time.

- The complexity of regulations to navigate through requirements of NEPA, USACE, NPDES, etc. are very difficult to do within the 319 Grant timelines.
- Engage youth – tie into school STEM and Envirothon programs, add to science curriculum that adds participation in outdoor watershed projects.
- Groundwater management is critical to future climate change issues and aquatic resources and needs public outreach and education, replacement of older infrastructure, co-alignment of state and federal regulations and financial assistance for conservation practices.
- NMED SWQB should also attend GWQB Water Fairs.
- NMED should check if lack of TMDL's is making potential projects ineligible because of current prioritization of TMDLs.
- USFS is starting new Watershed Restoration Action Plans (WRAPS) and there was great interest in seeing if these plans could also be 9 element watershed based plans – could pilot this with WRAP on the Rio Chama.
- Support regional efforts – suggested discuss with BLM to restart Rio Puerco Management Committee.
- Creating a centralized location to deposit or access plans, map layers, and data from multiple agencies and NGO's, would reduce duplication of efforts, allow better communication, and report milestones.
- It is difficult to determine costs of project implementation with current rising costs, inflation, and difficulty sourcing materials.
- Regulatory Program discussion suggested three regulatory programs be added: Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Act; 20.6.6.4000 NMAC – Prevention and Abatement of Water Pollution as groundwater; Groundwater cleanup projects of the Chevron Mine and Shumway Arroyo.
- Link NPS Program to the Anti-degradation policy (20.6.4.8.A.(2) NMAC).
- Review and update the list of best management practices included with the NPS Management Program.
- Develop templates for MOU's, MOA's, and cooperative agreements with other agencies for contracting.
- Forest Health and water quality have an important nexus, overlay forest priorities with water quality priorities and burn areas for shared priorities.

- NMED could be brought into the New Mexico Shared Stewardship Portal – NMSSP.org so that any assets and GIS layers could be added to this site. This information is incorporated into the Forest Action Plan.
- Opportunities for Interagency meetings and conversations are needed regarding match for grants, catastrophic wildfires, source water protection collaboration, anti-donation clause, and possibility of shared grant application process.
- Fund water quality plans for ONRWs tier 2 and 3 waters as it is less expensive to protect than cleanup after impaired. Develop guidance for monitoring for degradation and steps to be taken if trend is down.
- Simpler versions of plans or executive summaries for public consumption should be developed and widely promoted to increase community understanding and support and create watershed champions.
- Outreach and understanding of climate resilient practices and highlight any successful restoration projects that will lead to better climate resiliency (resilient plant lists and restoration that supports increased vegetation, slowing and spreading flows, and recharging of aquifers).
- More information and training is needed on carbon capture and sequestration, EMNRD involved in Natural and Working Lands Climate Action Team, Los Alamos, NMSU, and UNM all have researchers working on carbon. Regional working groups, NPS webinar or brown bag lunch, or even the watershed roundtables covering carbon capture and climate resilience would help build technical capacity on these topics.

- A summary of notes of the 11 breakout group sessions was developed from the white board notes and review of the videos of the facilitator's verbal summary after the morning and afternoon sessions.
- The report also includes a summary of the input from each breakout group from the Miro whiteboards. Summaries of the breakout group were also discussed and can be watched on the videos. There is a full listing of the notes taken by each breakout group as well as the summary and a separate file of just the compiled summaries of the breakout session input included as files and attachment K.
- Mark Sheely compiled the Attendee Input Highlights from workshop Chat Log which can be found in Attachment L and compiled the responses from the online post workshop evaluation and additional input that is included as Attachment M.
- All of the additional information from the workshop is included as attachments and/or as files saved on the external drive.

Attachments

A: Brief Report describing features of Workshop Software

a. Select, Reserve and Pay for Software for the Workshop

- NM WRRI Staff evaluated several event management / registration systems and the Cvent registration and website builder was determined best for the needs. We evaluated both Zoom and Teams for the online meeting software platform. Slido and Teams Polling were evaluated for polling software, while Miro, Lucidspark, Jamboard, and Microsoft White Boards were evaluated.
- NM WRRI Staff developed practice examples of the polling software and whiteboards to evaluate them and discussed the pros and cons with NMED Staff to determine the best options for ease of usability from external participants.

b. Cvent Registration Software

- NM WRRI's Cvent Event Management Software license contains a host of event tools that were used for this workshop. Cvent's registration and website builder allowed the planning team to create a custom registration process that gathered important information needed from each registrant, such as their preferred selections for breakout group topics. At the November 2, Kick-off Meeting the team decided since NM WRRI already had the system that had many needed tools to move forward with Cvent. Apart from just registration, a workshop landing page provided a distinct home to basic information about the workshop (date, time, format, description, access to NPS resources).
- Registered attendees were automatically added to an event email list in Cvent, which made it easy for NM WRRI to share event information such as the access information for the Microsoft Teams meeting, a calendar item for the workshop, a link to the workshop agenda, and even unique attendee information such as their breakout room assignments. Before the event, registrants were sent automatic reminders about the workshop which included the Teams access information as well.
- Post-workshop, attendees were sent a workshop evaluation and additional input form that was designed and sent via Cvent.

c. Microsoft Teams Meeting Platform

- While Zoom had been used primarily for virtual conferences and events hosted by NM WRRI, it came to the planner's attention that some federal employees face restrictions on joining Zoom meetings. Given the desire to have NPS management partners from various federal agencies in this workshop, the organizers decided to host this event on Microsoft Teams.
- Teams offered a number of administrative meeting controls such as allowing the organizers to create breakout rooms in advance, a lobby for attendees to wait

before the host was ready to admit participants, automatic recording of the workshop, and the ability to pre-assign attendees to their respective breakout rooms once they had joined the event. The chat feature was also used throughout the workshop to address questions and comments from participants.

d. Slido Polling Software

- Workshop organizers determined that polling throughout the workshop would provide valuable input on questions related to the current NPS plan, as well as suggestions for new elements of the revised plan. While Microsoft Teams has its own polling function built into the software, NM WRRI noticed that for external participants (those not using an NMSU license for the software) the polling experience was less intuitive, being located exclusively in the meeting chat feature, rather than as an in-meeting pop-up window. To make interactive polling throughout the workshop as easy as possible, with the results available to view in Realtime, the workshop organizers decided to purchase a one-time single event license of Slido.
- Slido allows a presenter to build polling questions, word cloud prompts, and the resulting responses into their PowerPoint slide presentation. Attendees were prompted to scan a QR code visible on the slide with their mobile device or tablet, or enter a unique event code in their desktop browser to access available questions.
- The question appeared as a slide being screen-shared by the presenter, and as participants responded to the question the results would be displayed on this slide in real-time, along with a counter indicating the number of people currently answering the question, and number of people who have submitted their responses.
- All of the polling questions from the presentations were all linked to the same poll. This allows for all of the responses throughout the day were then able to be exported from the account dashboard of Slido.

e. Miro Online Whiteboard Software

- Miro is an online collaborative whiteboard platform that enables people to remotely work together. Within each breakout group discussion there was one facilitator that was responsible for recording responses to various question prompts with virtual sticky notes that could be rearranged around the board and connected via lines to other notes.
- Breakout room participants were given the option of joining a Miro board themselves via a board-specific URL. These boards were then shared during the report-back phases of the program. The text of the discussions of questions for each board can be exported as text and as pdf or graphic files.

B. Final Registration System Landing Page

Help Contribute to New Mexico's Next Nonpoint Source Management Plan

The New Mexico Environment Department's Surface Water Quality Bureau is beginning the process of revising New Mexico's program for managing nonpoint source pollution. In cooperation with the New Mexico Water Resources Research Institute, we are planning a one-day interactive workshop to discuss and update the the New Mexico Nonpoint Source Management Program.

We would like to invite the participation of our water quality partners interested in discussing the current program, sharing their experiences, and offering suggestions on additional ideas, resources, activities, and innovative solutions for improving and protecting water quality and updating the management program. Section 319 of the federal Clean Water Act requires states to assess NPS pollution and develop management programs to control the sources identified.

Please register to join us for the free workshop that will be held virtually on January 18, 2023 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM Mountain Time.

Nonpoint source pollution is generally caused by rainfall or snowmelt moving over and through the ground. As the runoff moves, it picks up natural and human-caused pollutants and deposits them into rivers, lakes, wetlands and ground water. Most surface water quality problems in New Mexico are caused at least in part by nonpoint source pollution.

The current New Mexico Nonpoint Source Management Program is described in the 2019 Nonpoint Source Management Plan, available at https://www.env.nm.gov/surface-water-quality/nps-plan/.

If you are interested and able to attend the virtual workshop on January 18, please register now below!

Workshop Registration

Fill out the information below, then click Next to continue.

* First Name
* Last Name
* Email Address
* Organization
Title
* City
State

* 1. Which best describes your occupation or relationship with nonpoint source management?

- ☐ Federal government agency
- ☐ Pueblo or Tribal government
- ☐ State government agency
- ☐ County or local government agency
- ☐ Soil and Water Conservation Districts
- ☐ Non-governmental organization (e.g. non-profit)
- ☐ Landowner
- ☐ Education or research organization
- ☐ Private business
- ☐ Interested community member

*** 2. For a breakout session, please select two topics that would most interest you for breakout discussion.**

- ☐ Engaging communities and improving environmental justice
- ☐ Organizational capacity building for watershed groups
- ☐ Technical capacity building for watershed groups
- ☐ Improving surface water quality
- ☐ Protecting ground water quality
- ☐ Cooperation among agencies and tribes

*** 3. For a second breakout session, please select two topics that would most interest you for breakout discussion.**

- ☐ Planning for water quality protection and improvement
- ☐ Regulatory programs
- ☐ Forest health
- ☐ Outstanding National Resource Water Protection
- ☐ Building climate resiliency

4. What are some other topics not listed above that you would like to recommend?

* 5. How did you hear about this workshop?

- ☐ Surface Water Quality Bureau mailing list
- ☐ Clearing the Waters newsletter
- ☐ NM WRRI mailing list
- ☐ NMED website or social media
- ☐ Someone else attending or interested in this workshop
- ☐ Other

Already registered? Click here to modify or cancel your registration

Questions? Contact our planner

Workshop convened by: Workshop supported by: Workshop facilitated by:

cvent

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C. Preliminary Workshop Outline

New Mexico Nonpoint Source Management Program

Early Input Workshop

Wednesday, January 18, 2022

8:30 a.m. Event Sign In

9:00 a.m. Welcome and Workshop Overview

9:15 a.m. Overview of NPS Management Program

9:45 a.m. Comparison with Surrounding States and Facilitated Discussion

10:30 a.m. Break

10:45 a.m. Overview of Justice 40 Initiative, NM Climate Plan and Ecosystem Services

11:15 p.m. Polling and Facilitated Discussion Breakout Groups

12:00 p.m. Lunch Break

1:00 p.m. Priorities for NPS Pollution Control in New Mexico and Polling Questions

2:00 p.m. Opportunities for Cooperation with Agencies & Tribes for Improving and Protecting Water Quality

2:15 p.m. Break

2:30 p.m. Breakout Group Discussion / Facilitated Discussion / Breakout Group Summaries / Groups Report Back

3:45 p.m. Wrap-Up & Program Evaluation

4:00 p.m. Adjourn

The New Mexico Environment Department NPS Management Program is funded through a Clean Water Act Section 319(h) nonpoint source grant provided by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

PROGRAM GOAL, OBJECTIVES, ACTIVITIES, AND MILESTONES

- Review requirements for federal consistency review in CWA Section 319 and in EPA's NPS Guidelines (if any), and describe what we do or want to do to comply with these requirements.

OBJECTIVE 1 – COMPLETE WBPS TO ENABLE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION

- Outreach ideas for plan development:
  - Workshops for target groups: ag, tribal AND/OR tribal and adjacent states, urban, anglers, other agencies, existing cooperators
  - Watershed group network – revive, expand, and refine use of watershed group list and conduct at least one statewide coordination meeting for watershed groups per year. Roy Jemison is familiar with a similar effort that he thinks was successful, in AZ.
  - 2017 list of watershed groups on NMED's website: https://www.env.nm.gov/surface-water-quality/wbp/

OBJECTIVE 2 – IMPROVE WATER QUALITY

- Our recent OTG funding opportunities have potentially supported funding of five types of plans:

1. *Watershed-Based Plans (WBPs) listed at* https://www.env.nm.gov/surface-water-quality/accepted-wbp;
2. *Wetlands Action Plans (WAPs) listed at* https://www.env.nm.gov/surface-water-quality/wap;
3. *Completed alternative plans to address hydrologic problems in Category 4C streams listed at https://www.web-g.env.nm.gov/surface-water-quality/wp content/uploads/sites/18/2022/05/NMED-SWQB-WPS-WRAS.xlsx;*
4. *Category 4B Demonstrations. New Mexico's only Category 4B demonstration (for copper and aluminum in Sandia Canyon) is available at https://www.env.nm.gov/surface-water-quality/303d-305b/, under the heading "2022-2024 Supporting Documents and Websites"*; and/or
5. *Post-fire response plans for waters affected by recent major wildfire (as described below).*

OBJECTIVE 3 – PROTECT WATER QUALITY

OBJECTIVE 4 – SHARE INFORMATION ON SURFACE WATER QUALITY

- Do an annual workshop on monitoring and modeling for watershed groups, for watershed-based planning and implementation. John suggested doing this as part of the WBP project development process so finalists or new sub-grantees can participate and learn from it.
  - BANNCS / BEHI / WAARRRRRS
  - SSTEMP
  - STEPL
  - ANCOVA

OBJECTIVE 5 – PROTECT GROUND WATER QUALITY

OBJECTIVE 6 – COOPERATE WITH OTHER AGENCIES

- 2020 Forest Action Plan
- The Forest and Watershed Restoration Act (FAWRA)
- TRIBAL PARTNERSHIPS FOR LANDSCAPE RESTORATION
- NMSU Healthy Soils Program
- Climate-Aware Mine Reclamation
- Emergency Management and Infrastructure Resilience
- Clean Water State Revolving Fund
- Post-Wildfire Water Quality Rehabilitation Projects

NEW INITIAVES

Climate

The New Mexico Environment Department-Surface Water Quality Bureau (SWQB) is participating in the "Emergency Management, Resilience and Health " Climate Action Team.

The New Mexico Climate Action website is here: https://www.climateaction.nm.gov/. The Governor's Executive Order on addressing climate change which created the Interagency Climate Change Task Force is here: https://www.climateaction.nm.gov/. (Identify NPS management program components that implement the State Climate Action Strategy.)

From the Climate Action website, the Climate Strategy Reports (https://www.climateaction.nm.gov/resources/) contain a brief description of the work that SWQB has been engaged in that supports efforts to address climate change.

Here is the relevant excerpt from the 2020 Report (https://www.climateaction.nm.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/NMClimateChangeReport_2020.pdf) that is related to the NPS Program:

> **Building Climate Resiliency Through Surface Water Action Plans**
>
> To improve and restore watershed condition, which increases climate resiliency, NMED, through EPA-issued Clean Water Act grants, oversees the development of Watershed Based Plans and Wetland Action Plans as well as state and federally funded restoration and improvement projects for surface waters. Watershed and wetland planning addresses

2. Take immediate and affirmative steps to incorporate environmental justice considerations into their work, including assessing impacts to pollution-burdened, underserved, and Tribal communities in regulatory development processes and to consider regulatory options to maximize benefits to these communities.

3. Take immediate and affirmative steps to improve early and more frequent engagement with pollution-burdened and underserved communities affected by agency rulemakings, permitting and enforcement decisions, and policies. Following President Biden's memorandum on strengthening the Nation-to-Nation relationship with Tribal Nations, EPA staff should engage in regular, meaningful, and robust consultation with Tribal officials in the development of federal policies that have Tribal implications

4. Consistent with the Administration's Justice 40 initiative, consider and prioritize direct and indirect benefits to underserved communities in the development of requests for grant applications and in making grant award decisions, to the extent allowed by law.

EPA defines environmental justice as "the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and policies." Environmental justice is a major part of the agency's core mission of protecting human life and the environment. For more information: https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice

Regional EJ Resources

- Region 6 Implementation Plan to Promote Meaningful Engagement of Overburdened Communities in Permitting Activities
- Environmental Justice for CAA Permitting in EPA Region 6
- The Merger of Small Water Systems is one of several presentations from the EPA Region 6 Environmental Justice Forum in June 2018; it details a best practice model in southern New Mexico that effectively brought about improved access to clean water.

EJ ideas to implement Justice40:

- EJ points in SFA: A new question in the application, worth 50 or so points, something like, "Describe how the project will support or encourage environmental justice for disadvantaged communities."
- Describe Public Involvement Plans and Limited English Proficiency analyses (PIPs and LEPs).
- Ask tribes how degraded waters have impacted subsistence uses or cultural practices (recommended by a Hoopa Tribe member in a national EPA EJ call).
- If RSP is going strong, consider reducing or eliminating match requirements for 319 projects. One state mentioned match as an obstacle to projects in disadvantaged communities.

The Equity Action plan aligns with the Agency's Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-2026 EPA Strategic Plan, announced March 28, 2022, and outlines six priority actions:

- Develop a comprehensive framework for considering cumulative impacts in relevant EPA decisions and operationalize that framework in EPA's programs and activities.
- Build the capacity of underserved communities to provide their experience to EPA and implement community-led projects.
- Develop EPA's internal capacity to engage underserved communities and implement clear and accountable processes to act based on communities' input.
- Strengthen EPA's external civil rights compliance program and ensure that civil rights compliance is an agency-wide responsibility.
- Integrate participatory (community) science into EPA's research and program implementation.
- Make EPA's procurement and contracting more equitable.

EPA's Equity Action Plan carries forward our work to break through barriers and advance equity and justice across our efforts to ensure clean water, air, and land for all communities.

EPA Equity Action Plan (pdf) (1.17 MB, April 2022)

Watershed Resilience

The NMED Surface Water Quality Bureau completed its biennial report identifying surface waters that do not support designated uses or meet water quality standards.[19] NMED works with multiple stakeholders to prepare Watershed-Based Plans to address water quality problems for watersheds with impaired streams.

- **Natural and Working Lands**
- **30 X 30 Executive Order**
  - The executive order specifically:
  - • Directs the agencies to use existing programs across all land types, leverage state and federal funding to the fullest extent, engage with federal land management agencies in planning, and coordinate with stakeholders;
  - • Directs the agencies to meet quarterly to assess the state's progress toward the goals set by the executive order and provide an annual report to the governor on progress; and
  - • Instructs the agencies to use the best available science, take a broad view of conservation,including contributions from working lands, and demonstrate a commitment to equity, including respect for and consideration of tribal sovereignty and self-determination.

- **Carbon Sequestration Through Land Conservation**
  - EMNRD's Forestry Division launched a new natural and working lands initiative in 2021 that aims to sequester carbon in forests and other natural and cultivated lands. This work plays an important role in reducing overall greenhouse gas emissions in New Mexico.

  - This program will also assist in stabilizing watershed functions, such as snowpack storage, surface water regulation, absorption of stormwater, soil health, and below-ground carbon storage. In partnership with the NMDA, Forestry is co-developing strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from wildfires and increase the sequestration capacity of New Mexico's forests, rangelands and cultivated agricultural lands through sustainable management practices.

- Adaptation & Resilience in Natural & Working Lands
  - The State of New Mexico is developing adaptation strategies and is investing in resilience to reduce climate related impacts and to safeguard our communities.
  - Resilience takes many forms, but at its center is the capacity to prepare for, adapt to, and recover from hazards quickly.[17] Economic resilience benefits our communities with a diverse, robust economy, while social resilience bolsters the ability of communities to protect themselves and their neighbors in times of need. Physical resilience incorporates climate risk into infrastructure, supply chains, and natural ecosystems, whereas resilient watersheds preserve our state's precious water resources and ecosystem services. A resilient health system ensures that residents can continue to receive health care for climate-related health risks and during emergency situations.
  - It is essential that social equity for all New Mexicans is embedded throughout all forms of resilience. New Mexico benefits from a rich, diverse cultural heritage with many long-standing cultures. Climate change will only exacerbate social inequities, often disproportionately affecting overly burdened communities—such as people of color, tribal communities, immigrants, low- or no-income earners, rural communities, and agricultural and extraction-dependent communities—which are most vulnerable to the impacts of a changing climate and most limited in their financial resources to cope with climate impacts. State agencies are working hard to mitigate climate risks experienced by overly burdened communities and to uplift all residents of New Mexico.

BALANCED APPROACH TO NONPOINT SOURCE POLLUTION CONTROL

PRIORITIES FOR NONPOINT SOURCE POLLUTION CONTROL

PRIORITIES FOR WATERSHED-BASED PLANNING

PRIORITIES FOR IMPROVING WATER QUALITY

4 PRIORITIES FOR WATER QUALITY PROTECTION

1. *Protection of Outstanding National Resource Waters*

- Add an appendix called "Guidance for Nonpoint Source Discharges in ONRWs." Creation of this document may have been promised to EPA circa 2010 when EPA approved the wilderness ONRWs. The document was apparently once posted on the ONRW web page (see https://web.archive.org/web/20161230154832/https://www.env.nm.gov/swqb/ONRW/).

Abe Franklin has this document which is identified as Appendix G to the 2009 NPS Management Plan, but it was never reviewed or approved as part of the NPS Management Plan by WQCC or EPA.

2. *Post-Fire Watershed Protection Activities*

3. *Implementation of WAPs*

4. *Programmatic Activities*

D. Attendance Report

Attendance Report: New Mexico Early Input Workshop for the Nonpoint Source Management Program

Total unique attendees: 90

Meeting Duration	7h 32m	452 minutes
Average attendee in-meeting time:	5h 49m	349.33

Name	In-meeting duration (h:mm:ss)	In-meeting duration (minutes)	Email (Teams couldn't provide all attendee emails)
Mark Sheely	7:31:55	451.92	msheely@nmsu.edu
Jeanette Torres	7:24:34	444.57	jttorres@nmsu.edu
Franklin, Abraham, ENV	7:19:48	439.80	abraham.franklin@env.nm.gov
ndictson	7:18:17	438.28	ndictson@gmail.com
jessica johnston (Guest)	7:02:39	422.65	
Klatt, Alan, ENV	7:01:07	421.12	Alan.Klatt@env.nm.gov
MCDONALD, MELISSA A.	7:01:00	421.00	mamcdonald@santafenm.gov
Leslie Grijalva	7:00:39	420.65	leslie.grijalva@ibwc.gov
Lohmann, Maria, EMNRD	6:56:09	416.15	Maria.Lohmann@emnrd.nm.gov
Jolene McCaleb	6:56:08	416.13	jmccaleb@taylormccaleb.com
Lionel Haskie	6:56:08	416.13	lhaskie@navajopride.com
Sobien, Helen, OSE	6:56:07	416.12	Helen.Sobien@ose.nm.gov
ISAACSON, ZOE R.	6:56:05	416.08	zrisaacson@santafenm.gov
Robert Mullin	6:56:40	416.67	rmullin@bernco.gov
Shellie Eaton, COA (Guest)	6:56:31	416.52	
Dan McGregor	6:56:27	416.45	dmcgregor@bernco.gov
Jemison, Roy -FS	6:56:27	416.45	roy.jemison@usda.gov
Jones, Kerry - FS, SANTA FE, NM	6:56:24	416.40	Kerry.Jones@usda.gov
Miller, Gregory -FS	6:56:23	416.38	gregory.miller@usda.gov
Diego Gomez Sandoval County	6:56:21	416.35	
Herman, Jason, ENV	6:56:21	416.35	Jason.Herman@env.nm.gov
Katy DeYoe	6:56:19	416.32	katy.DeYoe@swca.com
LucasKamat, Susan, ENV	6:56:17	416.28	Susan.LucasKamat@env.nm.gov
Renz, Rachel	6:56:15	416.25	Renz.Rachel@epa.gov
Jankowitz, Rachel, ENV	6:56:14	416.23	rachel.jankowitz@env.nm.gov
Torres, David, ENV	6:56:11	416.18	David.Torres@env.nm.gov
Crosley, Davena, ENV	6:56:10	416.17	Davena.Crosley@env.nm.gov
Nelson, Dustin, ENV	6:55:46	415.77	Dustin.Nelson@env.nm.gov

Aaron Chavez	6:55:36	415.60	
Lea Knutson (Guest)	6:55:10	415.17	
PJ Chavez	6:54:31	414.52	pchavez@amafca.org
Rich Schrader	6:54:18	414.30	riversource1_gmail.com#EXT#@RiverSource.onmicrosoft.com
Goldstein, Sara, OSE	6:54:14	414.23	Sara.Goldstein@ose.nm.gov
Jacob Wilson	6:54:00	414.00	Jacob.Wilson@kewa-nsn.us
Kali Bronson	6:53:07	413.12	kbronson@bernco.gov
Littlefield, John -FS	6:53:13	413.22	john.littlefield@usda.gov
Anthony Colin	6:53:11	413.18	acolin@nmsu.edu
Max Henkels	6:52:07	412.12	mhenkels@nmsu.edu
Erin McElroy (Guest)	6:52:59	412.98	
Chandler, Kyla (she/her/hers)	6:52:51	412.85	Chandler.Kyla@epa.gov
Lacey, Kathryn, ENV	6:52:51	412.85	Kathryn.Lacey@env.nm.gov
Styer, Susan, ENV	6:52:45	412.75	susan.styer@env.nm.gov
Rick	6:52:38	412.63	
Elena Fernandez	6:51:39	411.65	ElenaFernandez@vermontlaw.edu
Griego, Antonio, NMDOT	6:50:25	410.42	Antonio.Griego@dot.nm.gov
Fontenot, Brian	6:49:49	409.82	Fontenot.Brian@epa.gov
Lisa Torres	6:49:32	409.53	lisa.torres@ibwc.gov
Kiesow, Micah -FS	6:49:25	409.42	micah.kiesow@usda.gov
Guevara, Daniel, ENV	6:48:53	408.88	daniel.guevara@env.nm.gov
Connie Maxwell	6:47:29	407.48	alamosa@nmsu.edu
Montoya, Miguel, ENV	6:47:23	407.38	Miguel.Montoya@env.nm.gov
Pueblo of Isleta R. Montoya	6:46:08	406.13	
Bloedel, Daniel - NRCS, Albuquerque, NM	6:36:03	396.05	daniel.bloedel@usda.gov
Guevara, Lynette, ENV	6:36:35	396.58	lynette.guevara@env.nm.gov
Gallegos, Robert	6:35:07	395.12	Robert.Gallegos@nnsa.doe.gov
Fullam, Jennifer, ENV	6:34:18	394.30	Jennifer.Fullam@env.nm.gov
Jan-Willem Jansens (Guest)	6:33:52	393.87	
Lemon, Shelly, ENV	6:21:08	381.13	Shelly.Lemon@env.nm.gov
Dentino1, Charles, ENV	6:07:40	367.67	Charles.Dentino1@env.nm.gov
Swartz, Allison, EMNRD	6:04:56	364.93	Allison.Swartz@emnrd.nm.gov
kathy verhage (Guest)	5:45:58	345.97	
Peter Bennett	5:42:53	342.88	pbennett@las-cruces.org
Stephanie Shumsky	5:41:20	341.33	sshumsky@tobnm.gov
Rachel Conn (Guest)	5:38:35	338.58	
Seamster, Virginia, DGF	5:35:31	335.52	Virginia.Seamster@dgf.nm.gov
OSCAR SIMPSON (Guest)	5:34:22	334.37	
19288717651	5:29:47	329.78	
Dorothy Redhorse	5:28:36	328.60	

Jaren Peplinski	5:21:31	321.52	
Holcomb, Sarah Sofia	5:20:26	320.43	sholcomb@lanl.gov
Norman, Laura M	5:15:32	315.53	lnorman@usgs.gov
Haffey, Collin, EMNRD	5:14:43	314.72	Collin.Haffey@emnrd.nm.gov
Henderson, Heidi, ENV	5:10:46	310.77	heidi.henderson@env.nm.gov
Dan Roper	4:56:51	296.85	Dan.Roper@tu.org
Karon McManus	4:38:54	278.90	Karon.McManus@mavresources.com
Gomez, Robert, EMNRD	4:32:58	272.97	Robert.Gomez@emnrd.nm.gov
Elizabeth Verdecchia	4:06:10	246.17	elizabeth.verdecchia@ibwc.gov
Steven Fry	3:52:29	232.48	
Sauter, Keith A	3:20:28	200.47	ksauter@blm.gov
Alexander Fernald	3:12:09	192.15	afernald@nmsu.edu
Ducker, George, EMNRD	2:59:56	179.93	George.ducker@emnrd.nm.gov
Allyson Siwik (Guest)	2:32:29	152.48	
Pederson, Jacob, EMNRD	1:38:40	98.67	Jacob.Pederson@emnrd.nm.gov
Howard Hutchinson	1:22:29	82.48	
Barnhill, Amy D.	1:19:03	79.05	ABarnhill@chevron.com
Ayoade Adegbite	0:38:18	38.30	
Norman Norvelle	0:23:34	23.57	
15053799243	0:17:46	17.77	
19283108955	0:07:54	7.90	
15056171360	0:00:11	0.18	

E. Breakout Session Facilitators

Engaging communities and improving environmental justice

Klatt, Alan	New Mexico Environment Department	Environmental Scientist and Specialist	::State government agency::
Redhorse, Dorothy	Navajo EPA WQ/NPDES Program	Sr. Environmental Specialist	::Pueblo or Tribal government::
Schrader, Rich	River Source	Director	::Non-governmental organization:Education or research organization::Private business::

Organizational capacity building for watershed groups

Bronson, Kali	Bernalillo County	Stormwater Program Compliance Manager	::County or local government agency::
Maxwell, Connie	NM WRRI	Post-doctoral researcher	::State government agency::

Technical capacity building for watershed groups

Fernald, Alexander	NM WRRI	Director	::State government

			agency::
Jones, Kerry	USFS	Water & Air Quality Specialist	::Federal government agency::
A Bennett, Peter	City of Las Cruces	Engineering Technician Sr.	::County or local government agency::

Improving surface water quality

Jemison, Roy	USFS-R3	Hydrologist	::Federal government agency::
Lucas Kamat, Susan	NMED	Point Source Program Manager	::State government agency::
Nikki Dictson	Contractor with NM WRRI		Private Company

Protecting ground water quality

Herman, Jason	NMED	Program Manager	::State government agency::
Sarah Holcomb	Triad National Security/Los Alamos National Laboratory	EPC-CP Water Quality Team Leader/Deputy Group Leader	
Jeanette Torres	NM WRRI		::State government agency::

Cooperation among agencies and tribes

Franklin, Abe	NMED-SWQB	Program Manager	::State government agency::
Mark Sheely	NM WRRI		::State government agency::

Planning for water quality protection and improvement

Knutson, Lea	Hermit's Peak Watershed Alliance	Executive Director	::Non-governmental organization (e.g. non-profit)::
Jemison, Roy	USFS-R3	Hydrologist	::Federal government agency::
Nikki Dictson	Contractor with NM WRRI		Private Company

Regulatory Programs

Klatt, Alan	New Mexico Environment Department	Environmental Scientist and Specialist	::State government agency::
Lucas Kamat, Susan	NMED	Point Source Program Manager	::State government agency::

Forest Health

Haffey, Collin	NM Forestry Division		::State government agency::
Jacob Pederson	NM Forestry Division		::State government agency::
Mark Sheely	NM WRRI		::State government agency::

Outstanding National Resource Water Protection

Franklin, Abe	NMED-SWQB	Program Manager	::State government agency::
Miller, Greg	Carson NF	Watershed Prog. Mgr.	::Federal government agency::
Jeannette Torres	NM WRRI		::State government agency::

Building climate resiliency

Lohmann, Maria	NM EMNRD	Sustainability and Resilience Officer	::State government agency::
Gomez, Robert	EMNRD ECMD	Resilience Coordinator	::State government agency::
Maxwell, Connie	NM WRRI	Post-doctoral researcher	::State government agency::

F. Breakout Session Questions

2023 NPS Workshop
Breakout Session Topics and Discussion Questions

Engaging communities and improving environmental justice (Morning Group,

1.) The Justice40 Initiative describes Disadvantaged Communities (DACs) as those communities that are marginalized, underserved, and overburdened by pollution, and includes a goal for 40 percent of Federal investments to flow to DACs. Is there an alternate term other than Disadvantaged Communities that the NPS Program might consider using?

2.) EPA has begun some preliminary analysis using % low-income, % minority population, and % linguistically isolated population to identify Disadvantage Communities. Are there other important factors for the NPS Program to consider in identifying DACs?

3.) What are some of the most important environmental justice issues in New Mexico?

4.) Should the NPS Program prioritize projects that benefit disadvantaged communities by awarding more points in subaward proposal scoring or other means. If so, how many additional points (e.g. 5%, 10%, 15+%

5.) Provided that programs like the River Stewardship Program continue to provide more than the required match for New Mexico's 319 grants, should the NPS Program consider a waiver of non-federal match requirements for projects in disadvantaged communities? Or perhaps reduce the required match?

6.) What are some other strategies that may be available to the NPS Program to advance environmental justice in NM?

7.) How can the NPS program increase its presence and involvement in the underrepresented parts of the state.

Organizational capacity building for watershed groups (Morning Group, Possible

1.) Does your community (including a group of people interested in a specific watershed) have a local watershed group?
2.) If not, do you think your community would be interested in forming a WS group?
3.) What are the biggest obstacles that local communities may have in forming or maintaining a WS group?
4.) What would be some strategies to overcome those obstacles?
5.) How might the NPS Program assist local WS groups in addressing organizational capacity issues?
6.) What are some outcomes that should be expected from a publicly-funded watershed group formation program?

Technical capacity building for watershed groups (Morning Group, Possible Group

1.) What are some of the technical challenges that WS groups face?
2.) What are some solutions to these challenges?
3.) How might the NPS program support WS groups with these technical challenges?
4.) What are some expected outcomes if NMED were to provide more help for partners to increase their technical capacity?
5.) How can the NPS program increase its presence and involvement in the underrepresented parts of the state?

Improving surface water quality (Morning Group, Possible Group Facilitators:

1.) Why is surface water quality important to you?

2.) What are some of the biggest threats to surface water quality?

3.) What are some effective strategies to improve surface water quality?

4.) What are some of the obstacles to improving surface water quality?

5.) How might the NPS Plan be revised to further improve surface water quality?

6.) What are some pros and cons for relying on EPA's Success Stories framework (basically, removal from the impaired waters list coupled with projects or management improvements that are expected to improve water quality) to measure success?

7.) From the implementer's perspective, what are some practical ways to demonstrate or measure project success?

Protecting ground water quality (Morning Group,

1.) Why is ground water quality important to you?
2.) What are some of the biggest threats to ground water quality?
3.) What are some effective strategies to protect ground water quality, particularly in regard to NPS pollution?
4.) What are some of the obstacles to protecting ground water quality, particularly in regard to NPS pollution?
5.) How might the NPS Plan be revised to further protect ground water quality from NPS pollution?

Cooperation among agencies and tribes (Morning Group, Group Facilitators:

1.) From your land management agency or tribal organization's perspective, what can NMED do to better support water quality planning and improvement projects in or upstream of your jurisdiction?

2.) From your perspective as an NGO or someone who isn't covered by Question 1, what can NMED do to better support or encourage water quality planning and improvement projects on public land?

3.) What can NMED do to better support or encourage water quality planning and improvement projects funded by other public agencies?

4.) What do SWCDs need in order to be able to carry out more water quality planning and improvement projects?

5.) What are some expected outcomes from improved interagency cooperation that NMED can use as reporting milestones?

Planning for water quality protection and improvement (Afternoon Group, Possible

1.) How many different types of planning documents address water quality?

2.) What are some of the biggest challenges in developing a planning document to improve water quality?

3.) Should NMED increase or decrease efforts to develop and implement the following types of plans: 1) Nine-element Watershed-Based Plans, 2) Wetlands Action Plans, 3) Flow improvement plans for Category 4C streams, 4) post-fire restoration plans.

4.) For each answer in question 3, why?

5.) How can NMED support more widespread adoption and implementation of Watershed-Based Plans or other plans mentioned in Question 3?

Regulatory programs (Afternoon Group)

1.) The 2019 NPS report identifies the following regulatory programs: onsite wastewater program (formerly known as the liquid waste program which regulates septic tanks), ground water discharge permits (NM Water Quality Act), disposal of refuse (20.6.2.2201 NMAC), petroleum storage tank regulations, hazardous waste management regulations (NM Hazardous Waste Act), solid waste management regulations (NM Solid Waste Act), NM Mining Act, Clean Water Act Section 402 and 404 permits, Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certifications, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, NM Forestry Division regulations (e.g. harvest permit), USFS special use permits and grazing permits, BLM Resource Management Plans, and local government programs and ordinances. Should any additional regulatory programs be added?

2.) Objective 3: Protect Water Quality of the 2019 NPS Management Plan says, "[SWQB] staff will assist other agencies and organizations, and the general public, with a variety of planning efforts where protection of water quality is an important consideration." Section 3.3.1 includes a list of activities to achieve this objective. Should any additional activities be added or revised?

3.) The 2019 NPS Management Plan says, "From a regulatory standpoint, NPS pollution is pollution not regulated through the Clean Water Act, other than through Section 319." What are some of the strengths and weakness of using CWA Section 319 to regulate NPS pollution?

Forest health (Afternoon Group)

1.) What can NMED do to better support Forestry or other agencies to promote forest health as a means of protecting water quality?

2.) What (if anything) should be done to encourage more applicants under the Forest and Watershed Restoration Act (FAWRA) to seek funds for riparian and wetland related projects?

3.) Are there opportunities for collaboration on Source Water Protection Projects between NMED, Forestry, or other agencies?

Outstanding National Resource Water Protection (Afternoon Group)

1.) What are the pros and cons of NMED developing a new type of plan for water quality protection, then funding implementation of the new plans?

2.) ONRWs have special protection in New Mexico's water quality standards to prevent degradation. What can NMED do to implement and enforce the standards?

3.) What level of evidence should be necessary to indicate that degradation has occurred?

Building climate resiliency (Afternoon Group)

1.) What are some of the risks that watersheds face in a changing climate?

2.) What are some examples of watershed restoration or watershed management practices that can increase watershed resiliency and help mitigate potential impacts associated with climate change?

3.) The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPPC) has developed documents and associated software used to establish the value of wetland restoration in carbon accounting systems. How can NMED use this information to promote carbon capture and wetland restoration in New Mexico?

G. Miro Instructions / tips

Getting to Miro, and getting signed up with a free account (so the link automatically works if you like): https://miro.com/

If you have not created a profile/account, please do so with your business/official email (should be pretty easy and self-explanatory). Each board has been set up with a link that anyone can access, so you can also get to them that way. The board owners (Connie Maxwell (alamosa@nmsu.edu), or Jeanette Torres (jttorres@nmsu.edu)) can also invite you to the board.

The advantage of boards being shared with you is that then you should see them on your "dashboard," which will automatically come up each time you open your browser to Miro. For those boards, you should have received an email from Miro (if you don't see it, check your junk mail).

Sharing the board: every board will have a link at the top that can be shared, and anyone can join if they like! The facilitators can add it to the chat for ambitious, tech-savvy participants. If you do, you may want to add these instructions as well.

The menu bar on the left has your key tools:

- Adding a sticky note: click on the sticky-note icon, pick a color, and click on the screen where you want to put it: 
- Adding text not on a sticky: click on the "T" icon: 
- Selecting items, click on the pointer icon: 
- To connect sticky notes: click on the arrow icon, then on the things you want to connect 

Navigating in miro:

- *Scroll* to zoom in and out
- *To move around on the screen/move the board around*, hold down your ***right*** mouse button (on the screen you will see the cursor turn into a little hand) and drag. If you are on a laptop and do not have a mouse but have an interactive screen, use two fingers to move the screen around. If you do not have an interactive screen, someone mentioned moving the cursor worked.
- *To move anything around,* select the items you want to move by clicking on the one item or dragging a rectangle around several (if you have been editing, you might need to click somewhere else first, then back on the text again), click on the item(s), and hold down and drag

Various miro actions:

- *To add text to a sticky,* just double-click on the center and you can start typing. The font size will change automatically as you type.
- *To format text,* select it or click within it to where you want to make the change, and the formatting options will appear
- *To copy something*, select it and hit ctrl c and ctrl v
- *To change the size,* click on the object, hover over either a side or a corner until you see arrows, and drag to your desired size.
- *To delete,* select the item and hit delete

Exporting your list:

- On the menu at the very top left, which starts with "Miro", click on the export icon  , and choose export to spreadsheet (CSV):
- The list will put items from rows in order from top to bottom (so from left to right, then the next row)

H: Final Workshop Agenda

New Mexico Nonpoint Source Management Program

Early Input Workshop

Wednesday, January 18, 2022

8:30 am **Event Sign-In**

9:00 am **Instructions for Polls (Nikki Dictson)**

9:15 am **Welcome and Workshop Overview (Abe Franklin)**

9:45 am **Overview of New Initiatives:**

- **NM Climate Plan & Resilience to Climate Change (Kate Lacey)**
- **Environmental Justice and Equity (Alan Klatt)**

10:15 am **Comparison with Surrounding States NPS Programs with Q&A (Nikki Dictson)**

10:30 am **Break**

10:45 am **Morning Breakout Groups**

- Improving surface water quality
- Engaging communities and improving environmental justice
- Organizational capacity building for watershed groups
- Technical capacity building for watershed groups
- Protecting ground water quality
- Cooperation among agencies and tribes

11:35 am **Morning Breakout Groups Report Back**

12:00 pm **Lunch Break**

New Mexico Nonpoint Source Management Program
Early Input Workshop
Wednesday, January 18, 2022

1:00 pm **Afternoon Breakout Groups**

- Planning for Water Quality Protection and Improvement
- Regulatory programs
- Forest health
- Outstanding National Resource Water Protection
- Building climate resiliency

1:55 pm **Afternoon Breakout Groups Report Back**

2:15 pm **Break**

2:30 pm **Actions Leading to Outcomes (interactive polling)**

- Plan for Water Quality Protection and Improvement
- Improve Surface Water Quality
- Protect Surface Water Quality
- Share Information on Surface Water Quality
- Protect Ground Water Quality
- Cooperate with other Agencies on Water Quality Protection and Improvement

3:45 pm **Wrap-Up & Program Evaluation**

4:00 pm **Adjourn**

The New Mexico Environment Department NPS Management Program is funded through a Clean Water Act Section 319(h) nonpoint source grant provided by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

I: Final PowerPoint Presentations

Heading and Breakout Slides 1/18/2023

1

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1


Overview of New Mexico's NPS Management Program

3


Overview of Objectives for NPS Pollution Control in New Mexico

4

2


Comparison with Surrounding States NPS Management Programs

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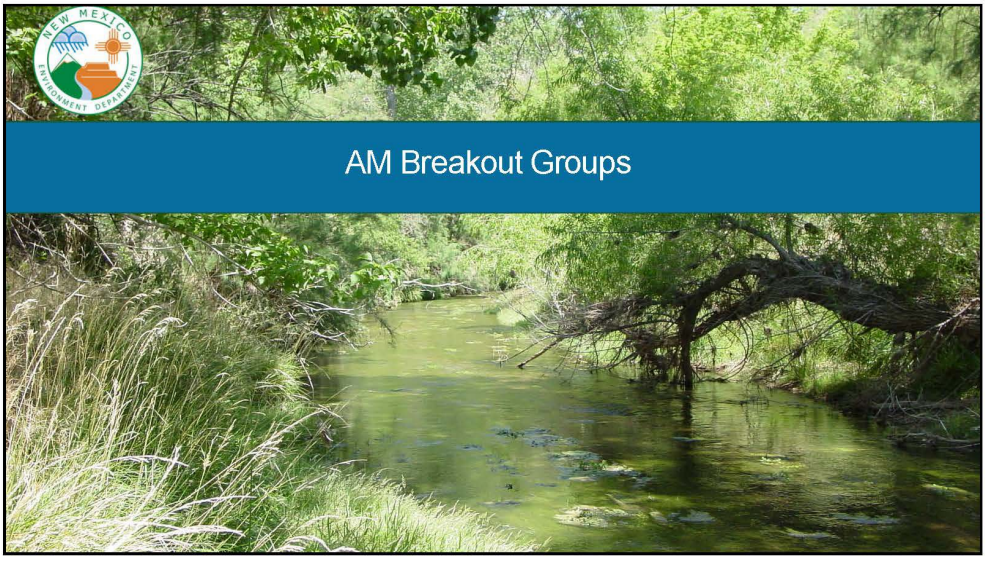
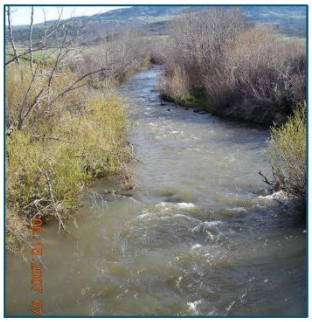

AM Breakout Groups

6

Breakout Groups

- Engaging communities and improving environmental justice
- Organizational capacity building for watershed groups
- Technical capacity building for watershed groups
- Improving surface water quality
- Protecting ground water quality



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Breakout Groups

- Planning for Water Quality Protection and Improvement
- Regulatory programs
- Forest health
- Outstanding National Resource Water Protection
- Building climate resiliency
- Cooperating with other agencies and tribes

9

New Initiatives: NM Climate Plan, Watershed Resilience, & Environmental Justice and Equity

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Heading and Breakout Slides 1/18/2023

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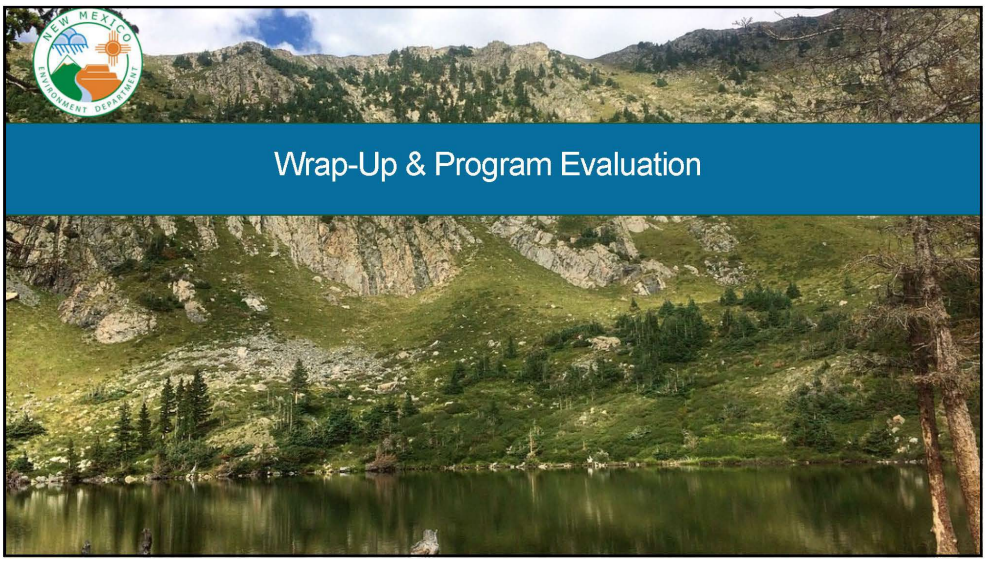

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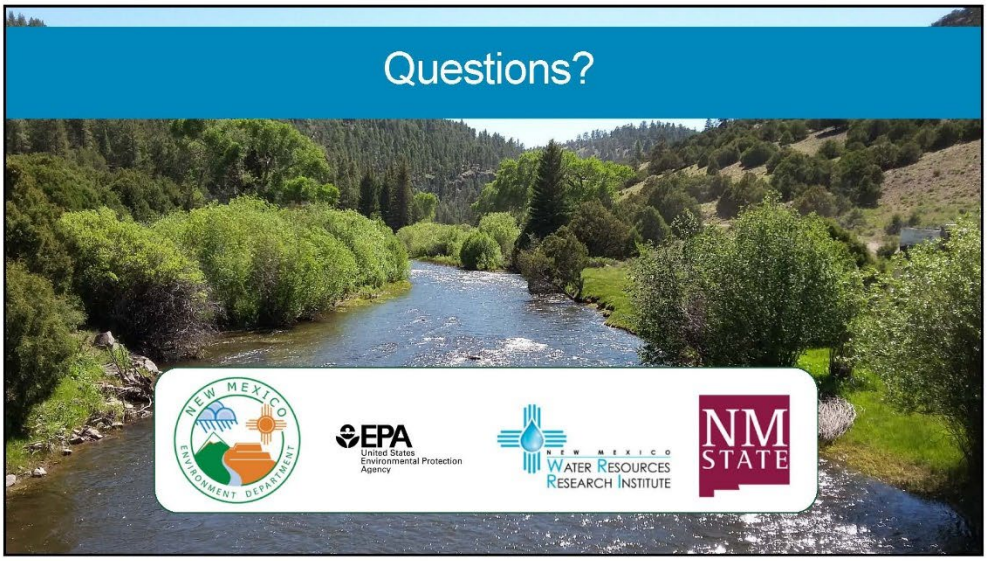
Questions?
NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
EPA
United States Environmental Protection Agency
NEW MEXICO WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH INSTITUTE
NM STATE

13


Workshop Materials
•Agenda
•2019 NM NPS Management Program
•Presentations
•Some helpful publications
Website: www.env.nm.gov

14

Slido Tutorial 1/18/2023

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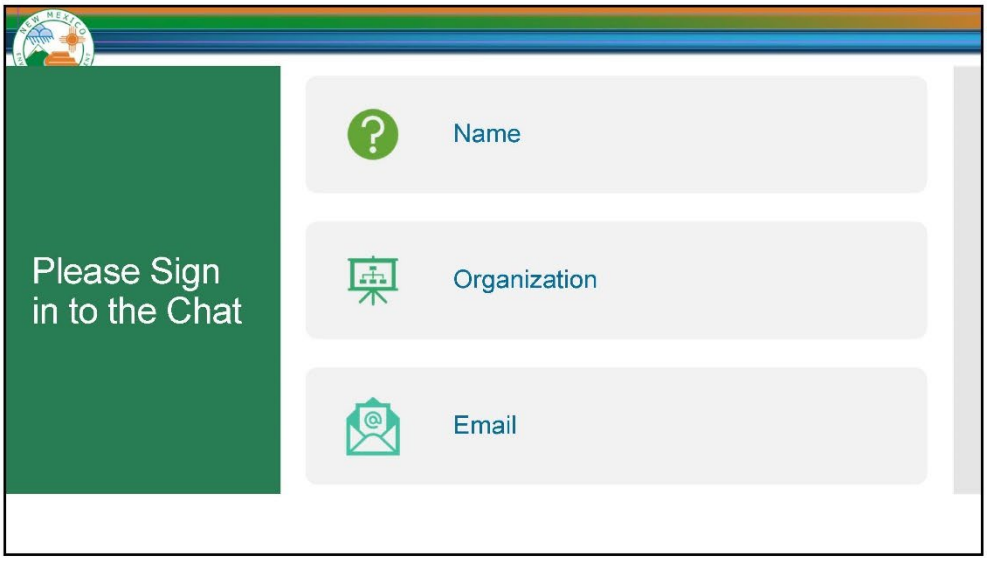
Slido Tutorial 1/18/2023



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Participant Feedback

- Type questions and comments in the chat
- Raise hand to ask questions or comment during discussions and Q&A
- Offer Ideas during breakout groups
- Respond to online poll questions throughout the day

5

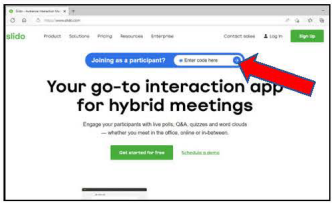
To access the workshop polls:

Scan the meeting QR code that will appear before polling begins:

OR

Navigate to slido.com in your mobile or desktop browser, and enter the meeting code: **2373426**

Mobile browser view



Desktop browser view

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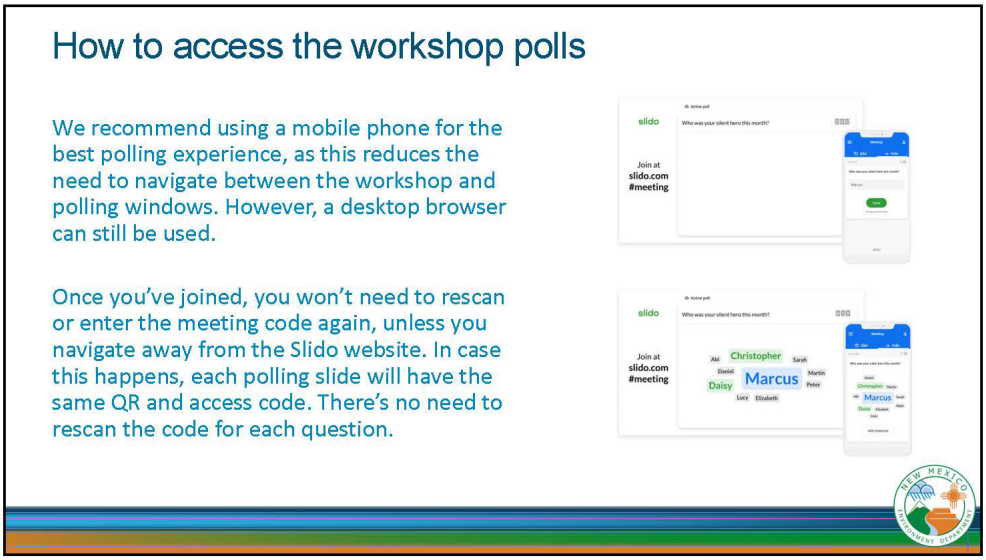
How to access the workshop polls
We recommend using a mobile phone for the best polling experience, as this reduces the need to navigate between the workshop and polling windows. However, a desktop browser can still be used.
Once you've joined, you won't need to rescan or enter the meeting code again, unless you navigate away from the Slido website. In case this happens, each polling slide will have the same QR and access code. There's no need to rescan the code for each question.
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Join at slido.com #meeting
Who was your silent hero this month?
Christopher
Marcus
Daisy

8

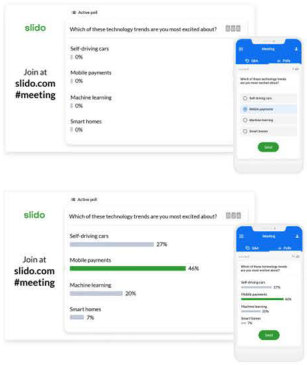
4

How to access the workshop polls

As new poll questions appear in the slide presentation, the response options will automatically appear on your device. You won't have to move forward or backward to access questions. If you don't see the current polling question on your device, try refreshing your browser.

While a poll question is still open, you should be able to edit your response, even after sending.

Polling responses are anonymous, and there's no need to create an account or download any software to use this feature.



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Where are you joining us from today?
ⓘ Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

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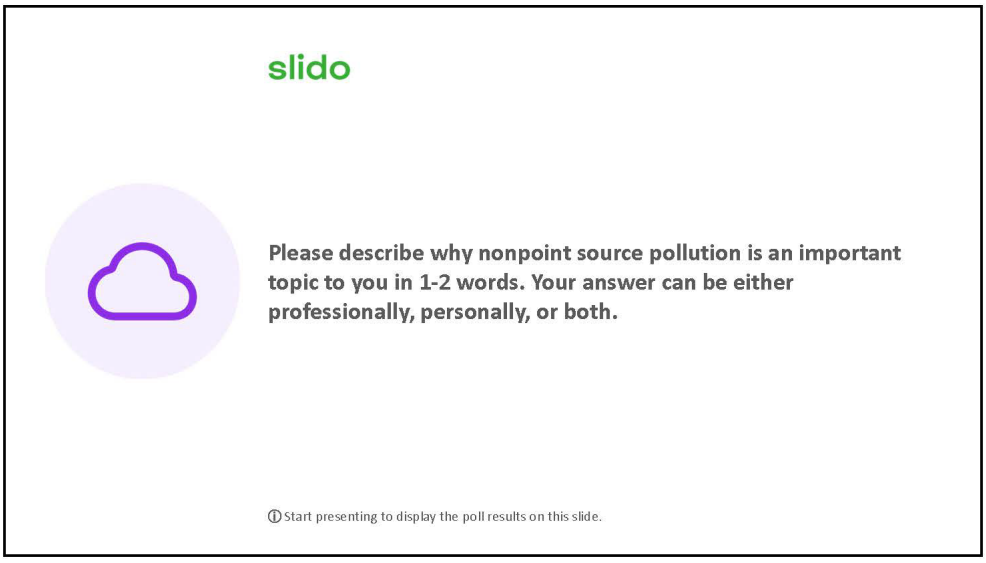
slido
Please describe why nonpoint source pollution is an important topic to you in 1-2 words. Your answer can be either professionally, personally, or both.
ⓘ Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

12


slido
How do you prefer to ask questions or make comments at hybrid meetings?
Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

13


Questions?
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EPA United States Environmental Protection Agency
NEW MEXICO WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH INSTITUTE
NM STATE

14


New Mexico Nonpoint Source Management Program
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United States Environmental Protection Agency
NEW MEXICO WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH INSTITUTE
NM STATE

1


NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
Welcome and Workshop Overview

2

1

NM Nonpoint Source Management Program Workshop

The New Mexico Environment Department NPS Management Program is funded partly through Clean Water Act Section 319(h) grants provided by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

EPA United States Environmental Protection Agency

3

NM Nonpoint Source Management Program Workshop

NMED has partnered with the New Mexico Water Resources Research Institute (NM WRRI) at New Mexico State University to help host and facilitate the virtual NPS Management Program Workshop.

NM WRRI (est. 1963) supports water research for improved water management. It is one of 54 national water institutes supported by the USGS (US Water Resources Research Act). NM WRRI is located at NMSU and serves all of New Mexico as the water research institute of the state (Statute NMSA 1978 21-8-40).

4

2

Early Input Workshop

- The New Mexico Environment Department's Surface Water Quality Bureau is beginning the process of revising New Mexico's program for managing nonpoint source pollution.
- Section 319 of the federal Clean Water Act requires states to assess Nonpoint source (NPS) pollution and develop management programs to control the sources identified.
- Our goal today is to provide an overview of the current program and we hope that you will share your experiences, suggestions on additional ideas, resources, activities and innovative solutions for improving water quality and updating the management program.
- We will have multiple ways that you can provide ideas including responding to polling, facilitated discussions, breakout groups, and a post workshop evaluation.

5

Agenda

New Mexico Nonpoint Source Management Program

Early Input Workshop

Wednesday, January 18, 2022

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10:00 p.m. Comparison with Surrounding States NPS Programs with Q&A (Nikki Dictson)

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10:30 a.m. Break

10:45 a.m. Morning Breakout Groups / Groups Report Back
- Improving surface water quality
- Engaging communities and improving environmental justice
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12:00 p.m. Lunch Break

1:00 p.m. Afternoon Breakout Groups / Groups Report Back
- Planning for Water Quality Protection and Improvement
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- Forest health
- Outstanding National Resource Water Protection
- Building climate resiliency

2:15 p.m. Break

2:30 p.m. Actions Leading to Outcomes (interactive polling)
- Plan for Water Quality Protection and Improvement
- Improve Surface Water Quality
- Protect Surface Water Quality
- Share Information on Surface Water Quality
- Protect Ground Water Quality
- Cooperate with other Agencies on Water Quality Protection and Improvement

3:45 p.m. Wrap-Up & Program Evaluation

4:00 p.m. Adjourn

6

New Mexico's NPS Management Program Overall Goal

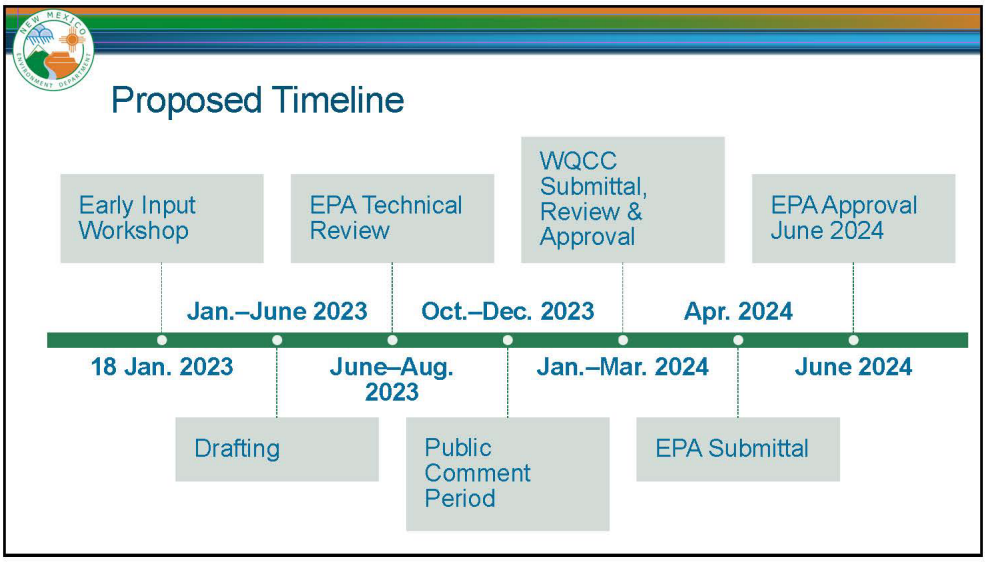
To implement an adaptive watershed-based restoration and protection program with the active assistance of stakeholders, for all watersheds within New Mexico, to meet and maintain water quality standards and designated uses of surface water, and to protect ground water resources.

7

Clean Water Act Section 319(b)(1)

"The Governor of each State, for that State or in combination with adjacent States, shall, after notice and opportunity for public comment, prepare and submit to the Administrator for approval a management program which such State proposes to implement in the first four fiscal years beginning after the date of submission of such management program for controlling pollution added from nonpoint sources to the navigable waters within the State and improving the quality of such waters."

8


Proposed Timeline
Early Input Workshop
EPA Technical Review
WQCC Submittal, Review & Approval
EPA Approval June 2024
Jan.–June 2023
Oct.–Dec. 2023
Apr. 2024
18 Jan. 2023
June–Aug. 2023
Jan.–Mar. 2024
June 2024
Drafting
Public Comment Period
EPA Submittal

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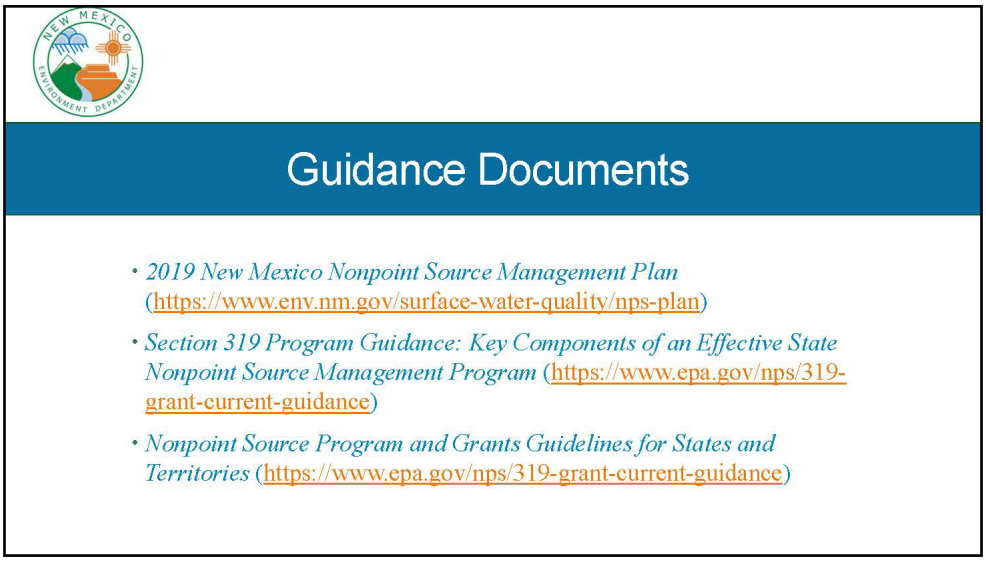
Guidance Documents
• 2019 New Mexico Nonpoint Source Management Plan (https://www.env.nm.gov/surface-water-quality/nps-plan)
• Section 319 Program Guidance: Key Components of an Effective State Nonpoint Source Management Program (https://www.epa.gov/nps/319-grant-current-guidance)
• Nonpoint Source Program and Grants Guidelines for States and Territories (https://www.epa.gov/nps/319-grant-current-guidance)

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Join at slido.com
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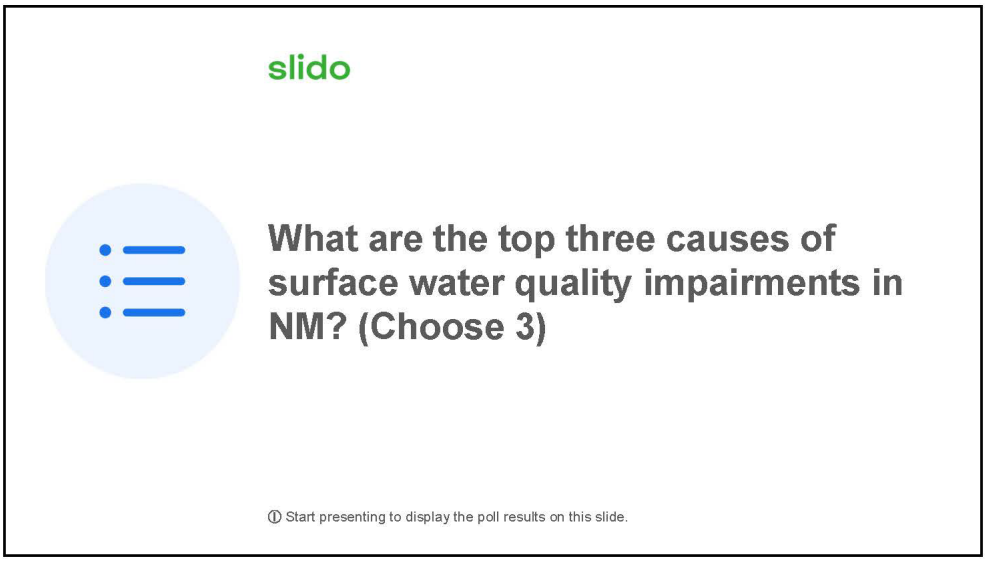
slido
What are the top three causes of surface water quality impairments in NM? (Choose 3)
ⓘ Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

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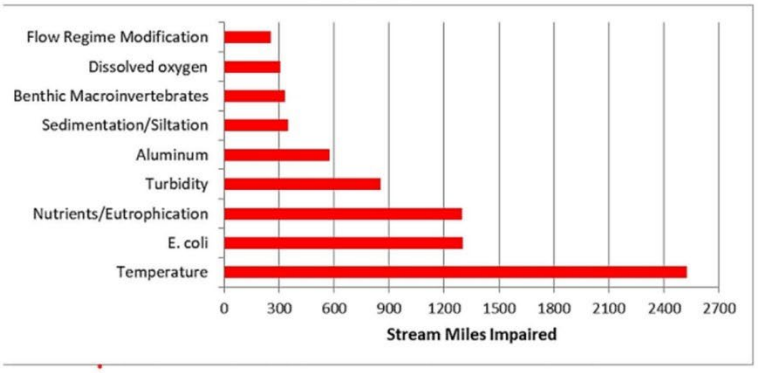
Top Causes of Water Quality Impairments in NM

Temperature	*E. coli*	Nutrients/Eutrophication

13

Top Causes of Surface Water Impairment for Rivers and Streams



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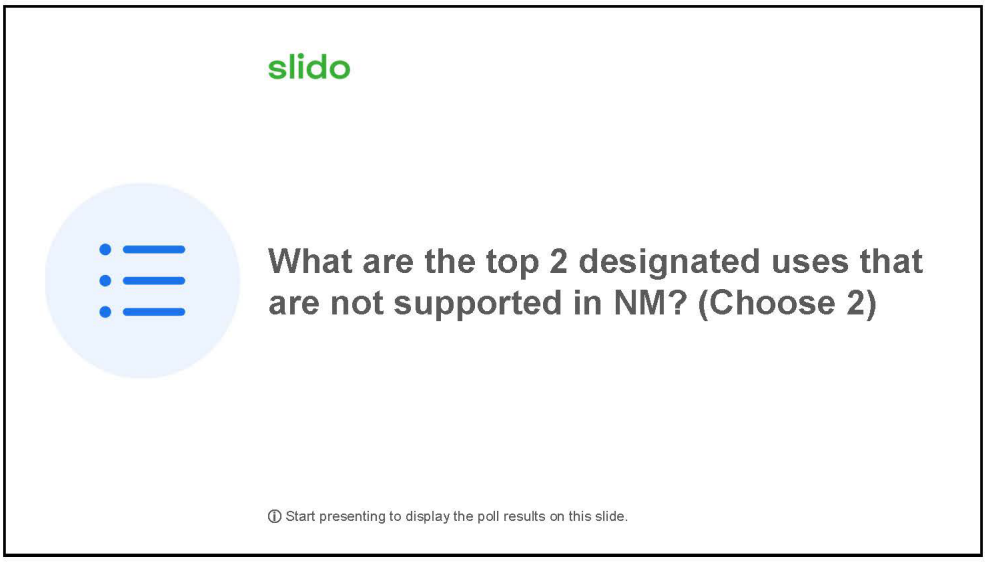
slido
What are the top 2 designated uses that are not supported in NM? (Choose 2)
ⓘ Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

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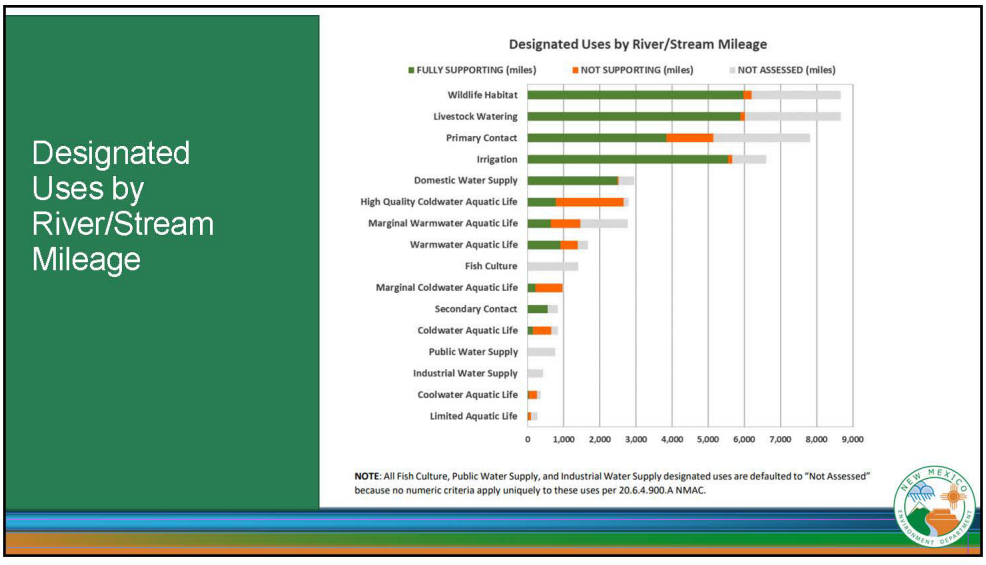
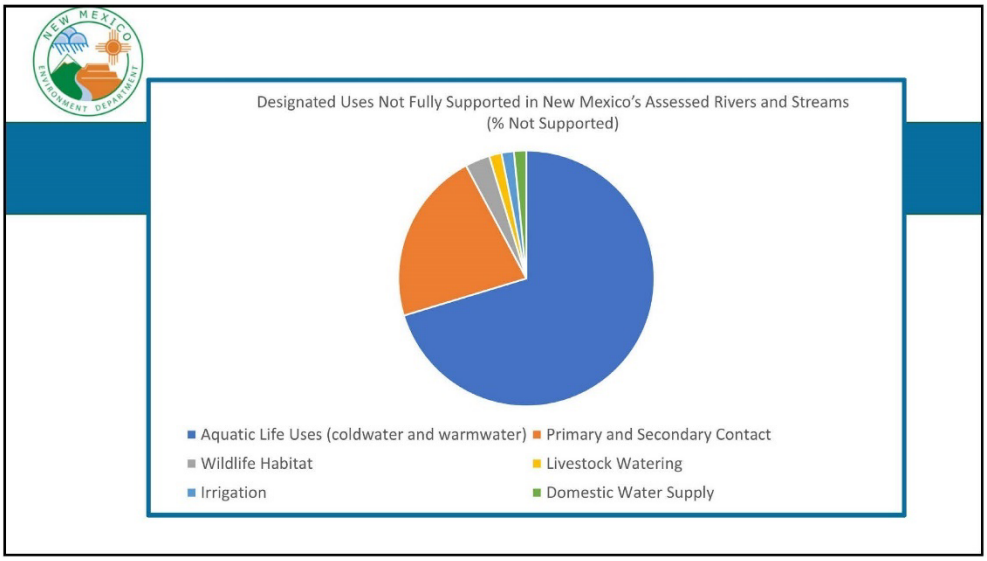
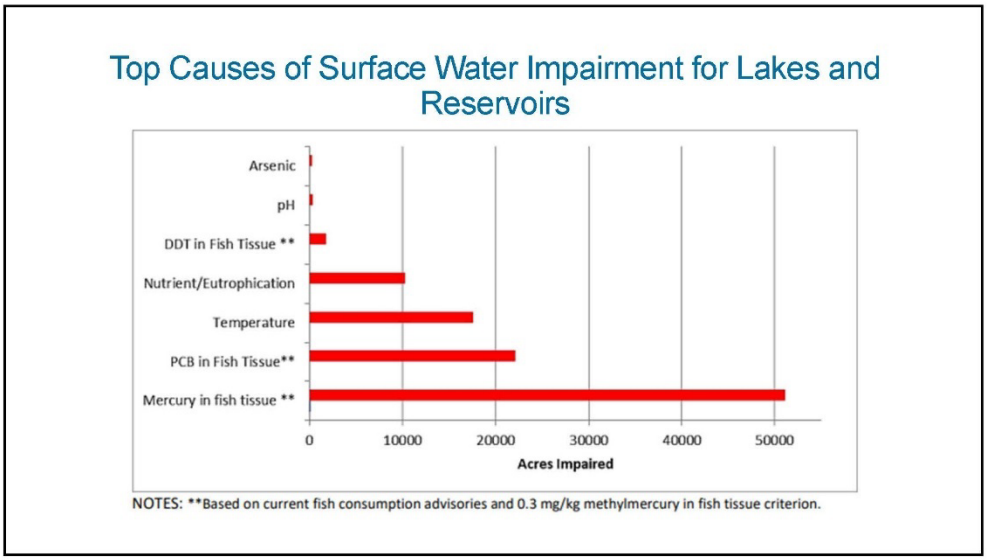

Designated Uses by River/Stream Mileage
Designated Uses by River/Stream Mileage
FULLY SUPPORTING (miles)
NOT SUPPORTING (miles)
NOT ASSESSED (miles)
Wildlife Habitat
Livestock Watering
Primary Contact
Irrigation
Domestic Water Supply
High Quality Coldwater Aquatic Life
Marginal Warmwater Aquatic Life
Warmwater Aquatic Life
Fish Culture
Marginal Coldwater Aquatic Life
Secondary Contact
Coldwater Aquatic Life
Public Water Supply
Industrial Water Supply
Coolwater Aquatic Life
Limited Aquatic Life
0
1,000
2,000
3,000
4,000
5,000
6,000
7,000
8,000
9,000
NOTE: All Fish Culture, Public Water Supply, and Industrial Water Supply designated uses are defaulted to "Not Assessed" because no numeric criteria apply uniquely to these uses per 20.6.4.900.A NMAC.

16


Designated Uses Not Fully Supported in New Mexico's Assessed Rivers and Streams
(% Not Supported)
Aquatic Life Uses (coldwater and warmwater)
Primary and Secondary Contact
Wildlife Habitat
Livestock Watering
Irrigation
Domestic Water Supply

17


Top Causes of Surface Water Impairment for Lakes and Reservoirs
Arsenic
pH
DDT in Fish Tissue **
Nutrient/Eutrophication
Temperature
PCB in Fish Tissue**
Mercury in fish tissue **
0
10000
20000
30000
40000
50000
Acres Impaired
NOTES: **Based on current fish consumption advisories and 0.3 mg/kg methylmercury in fish tissue criterion.

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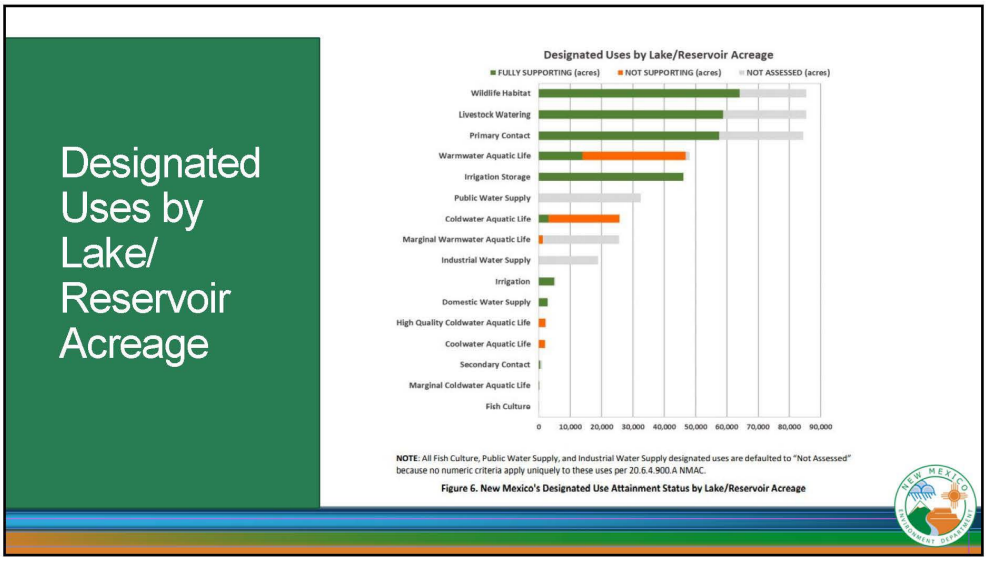
Designated Uses by Lake/ Reservoir Acreage
Designated Uses by Lake/Reservoir Acreage
FULLY SUPPORTING (acres)
NOT SUPPORTING (acres)
NOT ASSESSED (acres)
Wildlife Habitat
Livestock Watering
Primary Contact
Warmwater Aquatic Life
Irrigation Storage
Public Water Supply
Coldwater Aquatic Life
Marginal Warmwater Aquatic Life
Industrial Water Supply
Irrigation
Domestic Water Supply
High Quality Coldwater Aquatic Life
Coolwater Aquatic Life
Secondary Contact
Marginal Coldwater Aquatic Life
Fish Cultura
0
10,000
20,000
30,000
40,000
50,000
60,000
70,000
80,000
90,000
NOTE: All Fish Culture, Public Water Supply, and Industrial Water Supply designated uses are defaulted to "Not Assessed" because no numeric criteria apply uniquely to these uses per 20.6.4.900.A NMAC.
Figure 6. New Mexico's Designated Use Attainment Status by Lake/Reservoir Acreage

19


Top 3 Water Quality Impairments in Lakes:
Mercury
PCBs
Temperature

20

Leading probable Sources of Impairment in NM Rivers and Streams With TMDLs or Alternative Planning include:

- Agricultural practices (including grazing)
- Channelization
- Drought related impacts
- Loss of riparian habitat
- On-site liquid waste treatment systems (septic)
- Road/Bridge runoff
- Rural development
- Streambank modifications or destabilization
- Waterfowl
- Wildlife

21

The Current NPS Management Plan lists *activities* for each of these NPS Program *objectives*:

1. Plan for Water Quality Protection and Improvement
2. Improve Surface Water Quality
3. Protect Surface Water Quality
4. Share Information on Surface Water Quality
5. Protect Ground Water Quality
6. Cooperate with Other Agencies

22

CONTEXT

Building climate resiliency

- In the current NPS Management Plan, climate change is only mentioned in public comments and NMED responses, e.g. regarding whether some standards are attainable.

23

CONTEXT

Engaging communities and improving environmental justice

- The current NPS Management Plan is very limited in this regard. The only mention is an activity:

  Encourage participation of all stakeholders in watershed planning efforts, including those in other states, Indian nations, pueblos, and tribes when watersheds cross jurisdictional boundaries, and incorporate TMDLs or water quality standards and assessments prepared by these jurisdictions into WBPs when appropriate.

24

CONTEXT

Planning for Water Quality Protection and Improvement

- The current NPS Management Plan allows NMED to fund implementation of five types of plans with Section 319 grants, consistent with EPA's guidelines:
  - Nine-element watershed-based plans (WBPs)
  - Plans to address hydrologic impairment in Category 4C (flow impaired) streams
  - Wetland Action Plans
  - Post-fire restoration plans
  - Category 4B demonstrations (only one in NM currently)

25

CONTEXT

Improving surface water quality

- A very important indicator of success in the current NPS Management Plan is the NPS Success Story framework administered by EPA. In this framework, success is indicated when waters are "delisted" because of projects and/or changes in land management.
- Of the five plan types listed in the previous slide, three are geared towards delisting waters.
- The current emphasis of WBPs is on TMDL implementation (i.e., for us to fund a WBP, a TMDL must have been completed).

26

Regulatory programs

Myth: Section 319 and NPS Programs are completely voluntary.

Reality: Several states include regulatory activities in their NPS programs. Section 319 cannot be used to implement Section 402 (point source permitting).

NMED staff time on Section 401 review and certification, some Mining Act reviews and certification, and some ground water discharge permitting are funded under Section 319.

27

CONTEXT

Outstanding National Resource Water Protection

The current NPS management plan identifies priority watersheds for water quality protection as those 12-digit watersheds containing or draining directly to ONRWs, but lists only one specific activity to protect ONRWs:

"Assist designated management agencies with developing procedures to ensure that proposed actions will not result in degradation of water quality in ONRWs."

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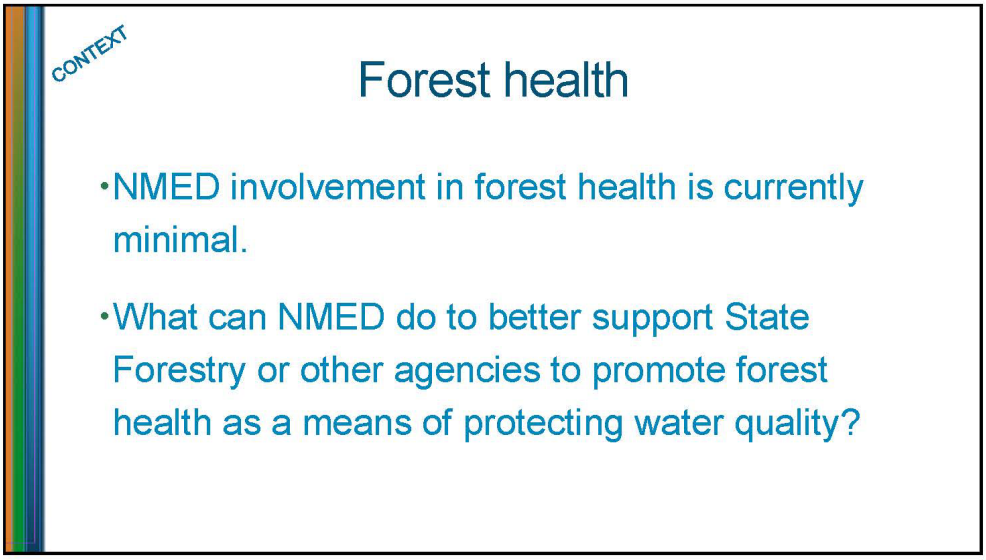
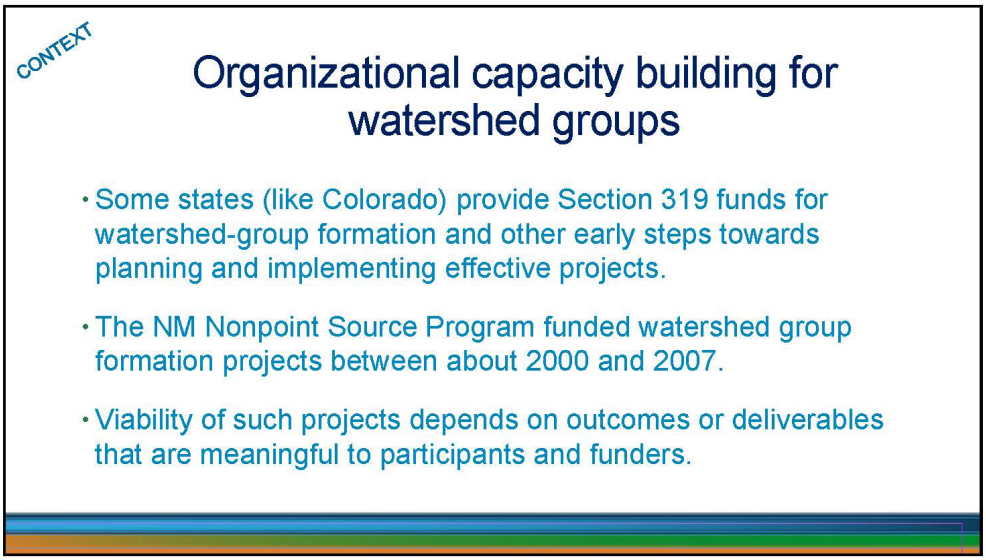

CONTEXT
Forest health
•NMED involvement in forest health is currently minimal.
•What can NMED do to better support State Forestry or other agencies to promote forest health as a means of protecting water quality?

29


CONTEXT
Organizational capacity building for watershed groups
• Some states (like Colorado) provide Section 319 funds for watershed-group formation and other early steps towards planning and implementing effective projects.
• The NM Nonpoint Source Program funded watershed group formation projects between about 2000 and 2007.
• Viability of such projects depends on outcomes or deliverables that are meaningful to participants and funders.

30

CONTEXT

Technical capacity building for watershed groups

- The current NPS management plan directs NMED staff to:
  - Provide technical support to stakeholder groups who have successfully applied for WBP funding, to assist them with preparing WBPs.
  - Prepare WBPs in-house (i.e., with NMED leadership) with stakeholder participation.
  - Use scientific methods and weight-of-evidence reporting to measure and document effectiveness of efforts towards achieving water quality standards.
- The Watershed Protection Section has been discussing developing a technical curriculum on water quality monitoring and modeling.

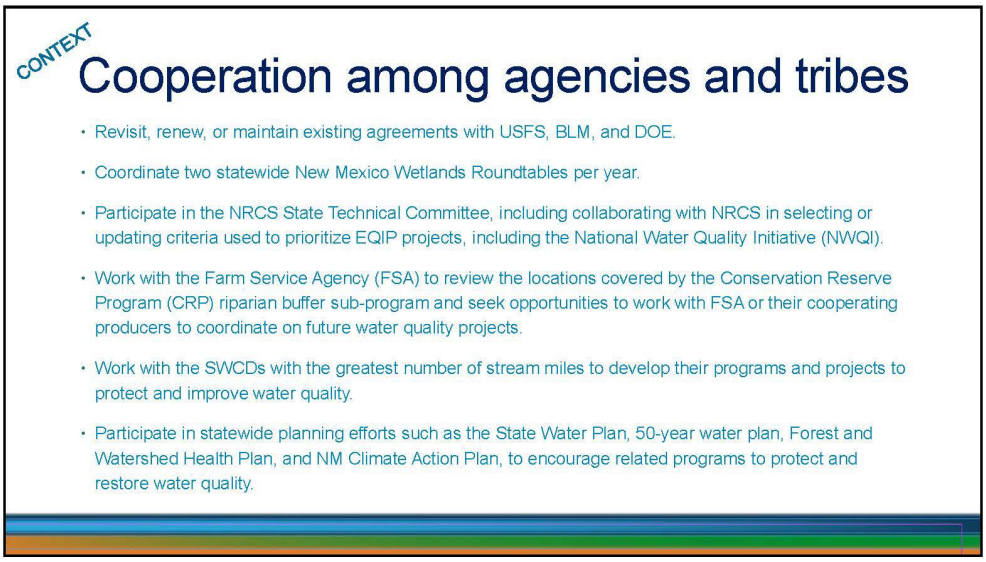
31

CONTEXT

Protecting ground water quality

- Section 319 of the Clean Water Act specifically allows $150,000 per year in Section 319 funds for "carrying out groundwater protection activities."
- GWQB currently uses these funds for a portion of their discharge permit program and for water fairs for domestic well water testing.

32


CONTEXT
Cooperation among agencies and tribes
• Revisit, renew, or maintain existing agreements with USFS, BLM, and DOE.
• Coordinate two statewide New Mexico Wetlands Roundtables per year.
• Participate in the NRCS State Technical Committee, including collaborating with NRCS in selecting or updating criteria used to prioritize EQIP projects, including the National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI).
• Work with the Farm Service Agency (FSA) to review the locations covered by the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) riparian buffer sub-program and seek opportunities to work with FSA or their cooperating producers to coordinate on future water quality projects.
• Work with the SWCDs with the greatest number of stream miles to develop their programs and projects to protect and improve water quality.
• Participate in statewide planning efforts such as the State Water Plan, 50-year water plan, Forest and Watershed Health Plan, and NM Climate Action Plan, to encourage related programs to protect and restore water quality.

33


Questions?
NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
EPA United States Environmental Protection Agency
NEW MEXICO WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH INSTITUTE
NM STATE

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New Mexico Nonpoint Source Management Program
NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
EPA
United States Environmental Protection Agency
NEW MEXICO WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH INSTITUTE
NM STATE

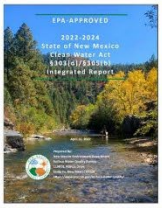
1

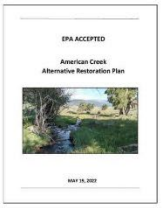

NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
New Initiatives: NM Climate Plan, Watershed Resilience

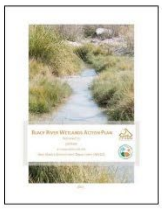
2

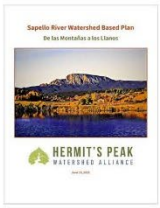
Current Actions: Watershed Resiliency and Climate

- **Reporting:** 2022 – 2024 Clean Water Act (CWA) §303(d) / 305(b) Integrated Report
- **Planning:** Watershed-Based Plans, Wetlands Actions Plans, Alternative Plans
- **Projects:** Implementation and restoration projects for §319 and River Stewardship Program to improve surface water quality and restore watersheds









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NMED Wetlands Program – Promoting Wetland Protection and Beaver Habitat Restoration as Climate Adaptation Tools in New Mexico

The presence of dam-building beaver:

- Reduce high flows and flash flooding that can cause destructive erosion
- Provide more constant seasonal flows
- Reduce fire hazard
- Elevate the water table
- Improve riparian habitat

These activities are critical to effective climate change adaptation in New Mexico

Wetland Protection and Beaver Habitat Restoration as Climate Adaptation Tools in New Mexico (epa.gov)

El Rito Creek (Carson National Forest)

4

State Actions for Building Climate Resiliency

- 50-Year Water Plan (https://engagenmwater.org/new-mexico-50-year-water-plan)
  - Leap Ahead Analysis
- Climate Change Task Force (https://www.climateaction.nm.gov/)
  - Executive Order 2019-003
  - Includes 9 interagency Climate Action Teams and a Technical Advisory Group
- NMED – Climate Change Bureau Created
  - Primary focus is reducing greenhouse emissions by at least 45% (of 2005 levels) by 2030
- New Mexico 30 x 30
  - Executive Order 2021-052
  - Biden's Executive Order 14008

5

Leap Ahead Analysis

6

Climate Impacts across Four Regions of NM

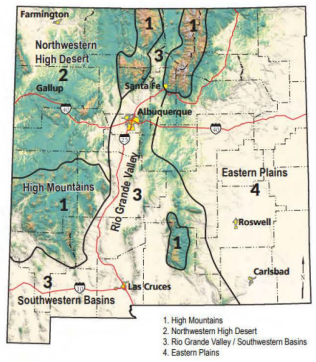


Figure 10.2. Regions of the state expected to experience similar impacts to water resources from a changing climate over the next 50 years. Modified from the New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources website (NMBGMR, Geologic tour of New Mexico, accessed 2021).

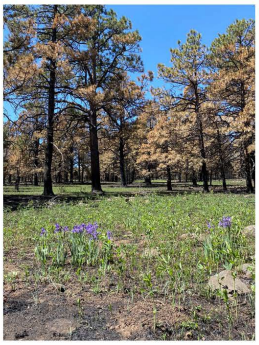
The topographic complexity of New Mexico will lead to some prevalent impacts within four distinct regions:

- **1. High Mountains**—less snowfall and higher evapotranspiration, fires, and erosion, and loss of vegetation
- **2. Northwestern High Desert**—loss of soil, increased dustiness, possible arroyo incision and change in vegetation patterns
- **3. Rio Grande Valley and Southwest Basins**—lower river flows (25% decrease in Rio Grande flow in 50 years) and greater loss of water from reservoirs
- **4. Eastern Plains**—loss of soil, desertification, increased dustiness and possibly higher incidence of extreme precipitation events

7

Climate Impacts on Water Quality

- Likely water quality impacts may include:
  - Increased water temperature
  - Increased pollutant concentrations due to reduced flows
  - Enhanced algal production from increased nutrients
  - Decreased dissolved oxygen concentrations
- Other factors impacting water quality resulting from climate change:
  - Loss of riparian vegetation
  - Increasing concentrations of *E. coli*
  - Wildfire-induced runoff and debris flows



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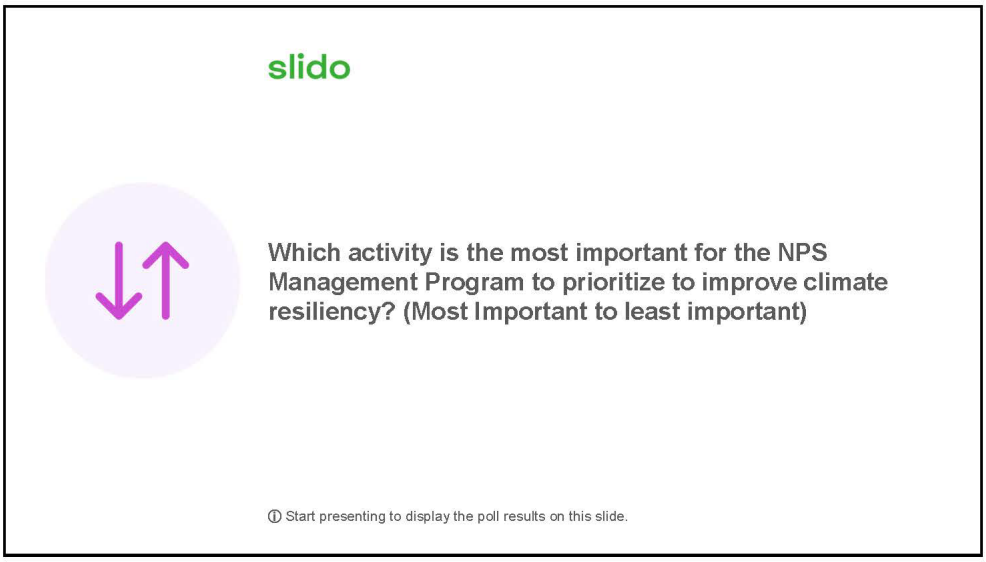
slido
Which activity is the most important for the NPS Management Program to prioritize to improve climate resiliency? (Most Important to least important)
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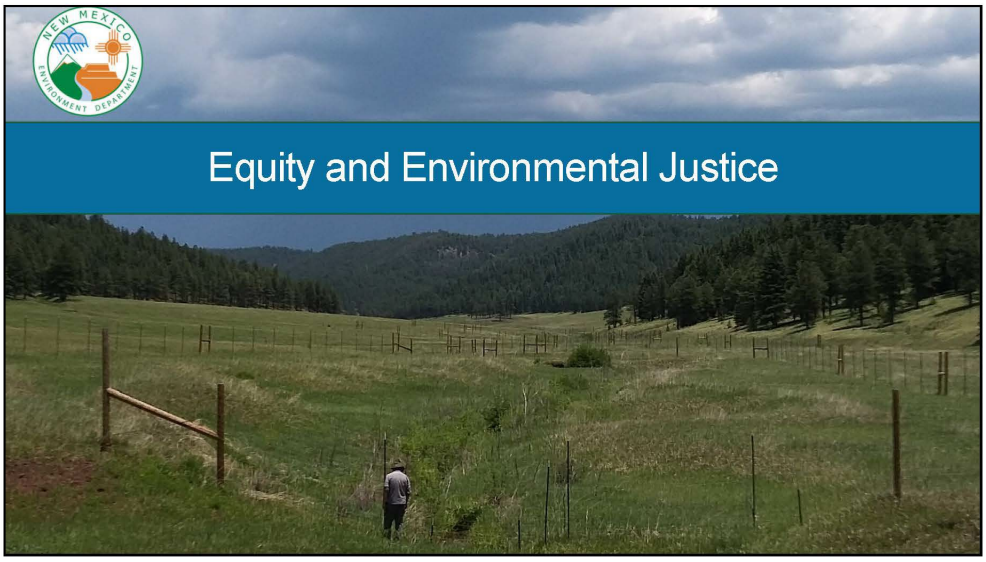
NM NPS Program Workshop
Climate and Equity

1/18/2023



1

Equity at NMED

- The State of New Mexico is committed to equity for all New Mexicans, including the protection of public health and the environment. New Mexicans must have fair treatment and meaningful opportunities for involvement in the development, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws and regulations regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, gender, disability, religious or political affiliation, income or educational level.
- NMED's commitment to equity in the communities we serve is guided by our non-discrimination and environmental justice programs
- More information on our civil rights programs, policies and procedures is available at https://www.env.nm.gov/general/environmental-justice-in-new-mexico/

2

1

Environmental Justice at NMED

- Environmental justice is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.
- Fair treatment means no group of people should bear a disproportionate share of the negative environmental consequences resulting from industrial, governmental and commercial operations or policies.
- More information on our environmental justice programs, policies and procedures, is available at https://www.env.nm.gov/general/environmental-justice-in-new-mexico/

3

Equity and Environmental Justice and the Federal Government

- Executive Order 13985 - Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government
  - EO 13985 directs the EPA and other federal agencies to assess whether underserved communities and their members face systemic barriers in accessing benefits and opportunities available pursuant to EPA's policies and programs (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Equity Action Plan).

4

Equity and Environmental Justice at the Federal Government

- Executive Order 14008 - Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad
  - EO 14008 Introduces the Justice40 Initiative: the Federal Government has made it a goal that 40 percent of the overall benefits of certain Federal investments flow to disadvantaged communities that are marginalized, underserved, and overburdened by pollution.
    - The CWA §319 program is considered a covered program by the Justice40 Initiative

5

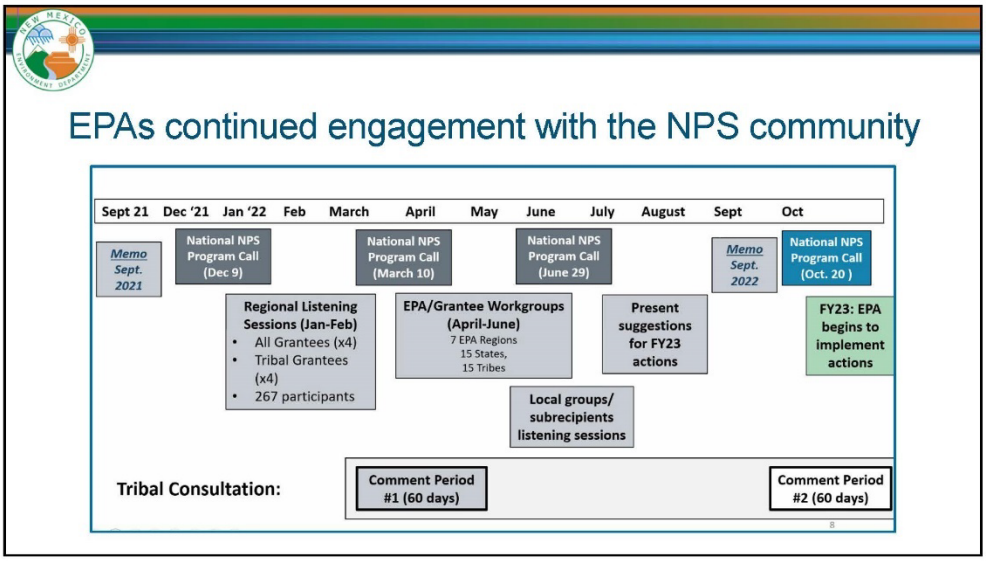
Equity and Environmental Justice in the National Nonpoint Source Program

- The national nonpoint source program recognizes the importance of environmental justice and is exploring how the program may expand investments for pollution reduction projects that ensure fair and equitable access to improved water quality. The program is making strides to understand how:
  - past benefits have been distributed across the landscape,
  - to address challenges that disadvantaged communities are facing in the Clean Water Act Section 319 grant process, and
  - to bring historically silenced voices to the conversation about water quality benefits.

6

NM NPS Program Workshop
Climate and Equity

1/18/2023



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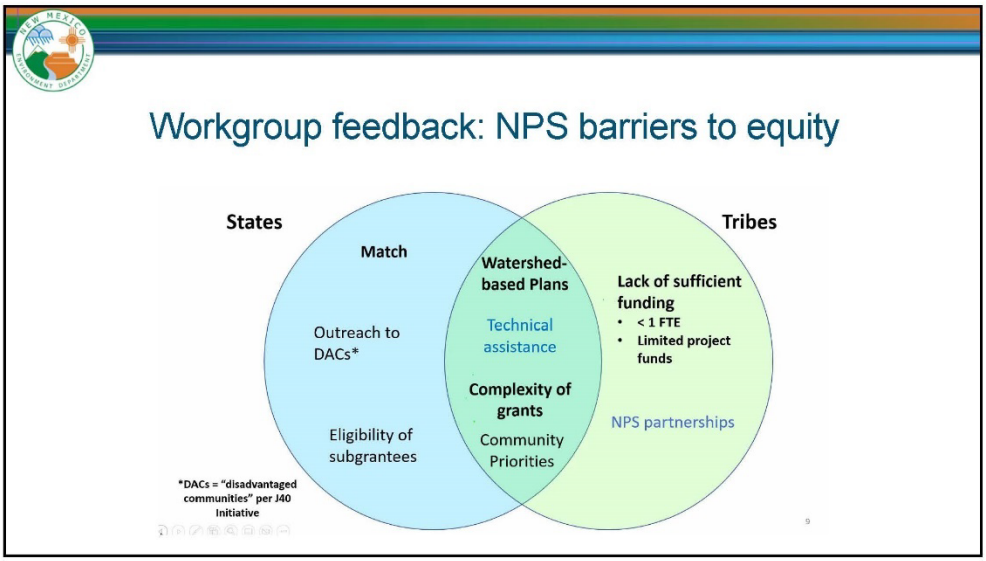

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4

Overview: EPA September 30, 2022 NPS Equity Memo

- EPA is developing new NPS program flexibilities & expectations for state and tribes
  - Expectations
    - Support national NPS Program goal of 40% investments in DACs
    - NPS annual reports are to include efforts to advance EJ
  - Flexibilities
    - Use "project" dollars to support WBP development and capacity building in DACs
    - Ability to implement on-the-ground work while developing a WBP in DACs when the impairment source is known
    - An EPA-approved, up-to-date Tribal NPS management program plan can be considered an acceptable alternative to a 9-element watershed-based plan

9

Actions for states to enhance equity into §319 programs

- Prioritize projects that benefit disadvantaged communities by awarding more points in subaward proposal scoring or other means.
- Conduct capacity building in disadvantaged communities to enhance their ability to engage in NPS projects and grants (e.g., funding a local community "ambassador" to coordinate community engagement in watershed efforts).
- Provide a full or partial waiver of non-federal match requirements for projects in disadvantaged communities.
- Include Tribes as eligible entities in §319-funded watershed project solicitations to expand the communities that may benefit from these projects.
- Undertake an analysis of NPS projects in the state relative to EJSCREEN or state data layers on income, linguistic isolation, or other factors. Use this analysis to determine the current allocation of funds to disadvantaged communities, and then develop program plans to increase funding to these communities.
- Develop and implement targeted outreach to disadvantaged communities when updating 5-year NPS Management Plans that describe state NPS priorities and priority watersheds

10

Next Steps

- EPA to revise state/territory CWA §319 guidelines
- EPA will continue engaging the national NPS community to help facilitate and refine equity efforts
- NPS actions and program enhancements will be implemented incrementally

11

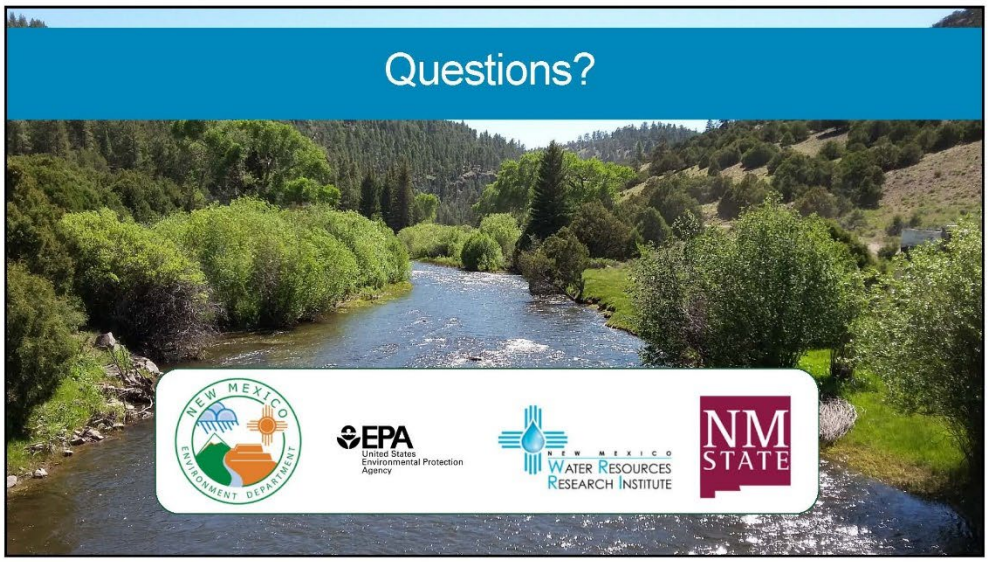
References

- EPA Equity Action Plan (https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/equity-action-plan)
- EPA Environmental Justice (https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice)
- EPA Equity and Environmental Justice in the Nonpoint Source Program (https://www.epa.gov/nps/equity-resources)
- NMED Equity and Environmental Justice (https://www.env.nm.gov/general/environmental-justice-in-new-mexico/)

12

NM NPS Program Workshop
Climate and Equity

1/18/2023



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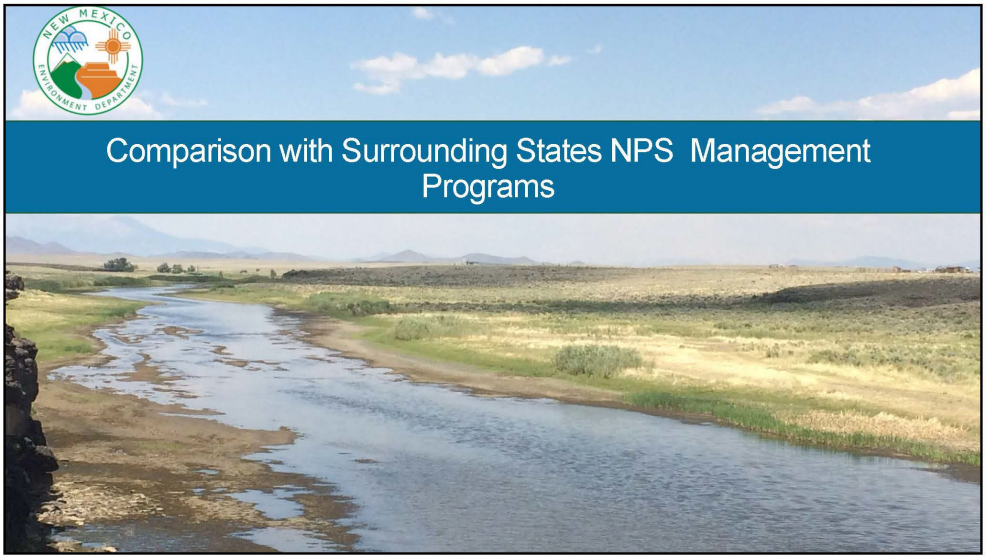


1

Arizona Dept. of Environmental Quality Commissioned an NPS Benchmarking Survey

- A total of eight states – all of which have existing NPS programs – provided input to ADEQ's survey
- States: California, Colorado, Hawaii, Indiana, Nevada, New Mexico, Texas, and Utah.
- Report recently completed - September 2022

2

Comparison with Surrounding States Programs

1/18/2023

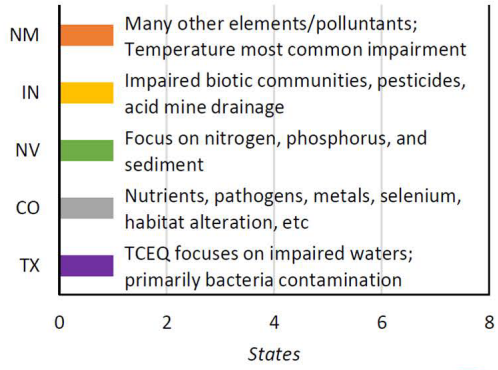
Program Goals across all States

- Delist waters per the EPA Success Stories framework
- Restore waters impaired by nonpoint source pollution and prevent new impairments
- Maintain water quality in healthy watersheds through locally led partnerships
- Meet and maintain water quality standards for designated uses
- Improve water quality through a voluntary, incentive-based approach
- Administer a grant program that focuses on reducing NPS pollution to targeted waterbodies
- Evaluate success by tracking program activities, pollutant load reductions, and water quality improvements.

3

Program Components

- All of the responding states include TMDLs as an NPS program component, and most also include *E. coli*, sediment, and nutrient best management practices.



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2

Stakeholder Engagement Methods

- CO For the voluntary work the Nonpoint Source Program conducts, it is a mix of connecting with local communities and watershed groups, outreach events through NPS partners and the NPS Alliance, 1-on-1 outreach to specific entities, and various stakeholder/forum/partnership groups.
- HI Working in Hawaii, they have learned that comments and questions will not come out in public meetings, so one-on-one follow-up with key stakeholders is crucial. They tied other agencies into their plans, partly to protect them.
- NV NPS Staff regularly collaborates with working groups across the state as appropriate. Nevada encourages grass-roots efforts at managing NPS pollution. Staff becomes engaged and offers technical assistance, and if appropriate, suggests plans and/or projects that may be supported with 319(h) grant funding.
- UT In general we have convened a water quality task force, which is a voluntary group of agency and NGO partners, but we are looking at different ways to better engage stakeholders.
- NM On an as-needed basis and through individual projects. We have a quarterly newsletter and an email list of about 2,000 people.

5

Nonpoint Source Programs: Advisory Groups

- Colorado: The Nonpoint Source Program relies on its partnership group, the NPS Alliance (previously known as the NPS Task Force), to promote public/stakeholder outreach as the state's program is developed and implemented.
- UT The Utah Nonpoint Source Program was developed as a multi-stakeholder process through an interagency task force.
- CA Developed a technical advisory committee of over 150 people as public and private representatives for all of the potential sources.

6

Regulatory Enforcement Mechanisms

- California and New Mexico are also the only states whose NPS programs include regulatory enforcement mechanisms.
- For the other states, compliance is essentially voluntary.

7

Local Decisionmakers (Utah)

- Likely unaware of the program.
- The lack of understanding of nonpoint sources of pollution by local decisionmakers has implications on land use decisions as well as the water quality impacts of those decisions.
- Our program could greatly improve the outreach to these bodies.

8

Comparison with Surrounding States Programs

1/18/2023

Match Requirements

All states require grant recipients (with the exception of a portion of recipients in Texas) to provide matching funds or in-kind resources. Most states also follow the 40% non-federal source match

- NM: 40% of total project costs must be from non-federal sources.
- NV All Subgrantees are required to provide match at a rate of 50 Percent of the Total Project Cost. Total Project Cost = Subgrant Award + Inkind Match + Cash Match.
- CO: is piloting 25% Match in response to feedback from Program partners. The pilot program allows non-state entities who receive 319 funding assistance to contribute 25% of total project cost non-federal match. This approach is only an option when the Nonpoint Source Program receives state Water Quality Improvement Fund to augment the match contributed by these entities.

9

Match Requirements

- CA: All funded projects must supply match funds in the amount of **25%** (or 75%, for eligible septic system upgrades or conversions) of the total project, unless the project qualifies and is approved for a full or partial match waiver. Waivers are available for projects in disadvantaged communities, which are defined by the state.
- TX: TCEQ Awarded watershed groups have challenges meeting required 319 match, state requires 60/40 match on every invoice (can be a challenge for awarded partners).
- TX: TSSWCB – awarded groups requires total project 60/40 but also has match that can be provided by state

10

5

Colorado's Strategies for Climate Resiliency and Environmental Justice

- Watershed planning and implementation projects are opportunities to expand partnerships to communities that have been disproportionately impacted by economic and environmental impacts.
- The NPS Program will provide technical and financial assistance to disproportionately impacted communities and participate in ongoing discussions with EPA on identifying actions to support these communities.
- Climate resiliency: The NPS Program will prioritize protection projects that help mitigate Colorado's changing climate and landscape.

11

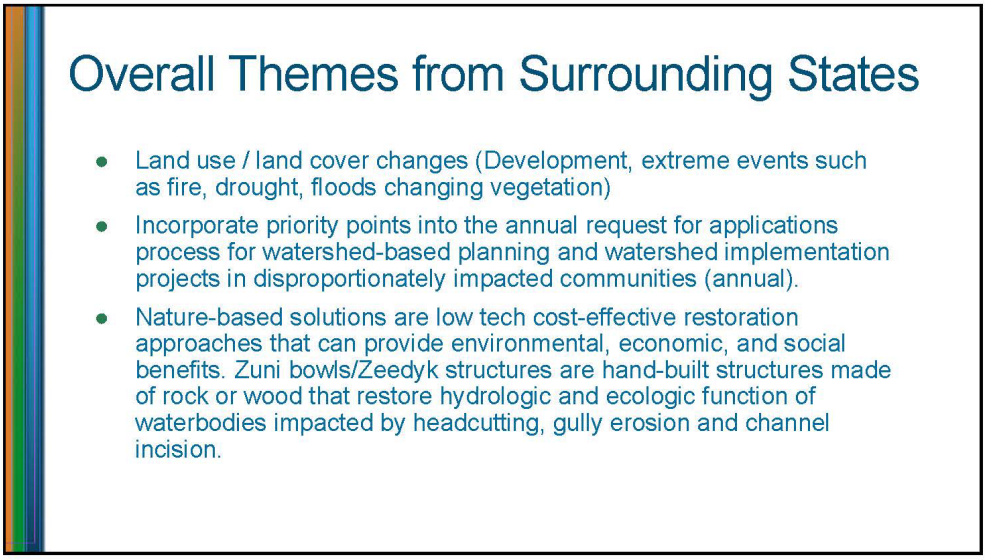
Overall Themes from Surrounding States

- Not enough funding per state, rising inflation, many more proposals than funding available.
- Outreach and Education is key to ensure you have informed stakeholders and decisionmakers
- Build effective relationships to identify or develop shared water quality restoration priorities, capitalize on existing programs and leverage funding
- Planning funding for recovery from disasters including: drought, large wildfires and runoff, flood events, etc.

12

Comparison with Surrounding States Programs

1/18/2023



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NM NPS Management Program - Actions Leading to Outcomes 1/18/2023

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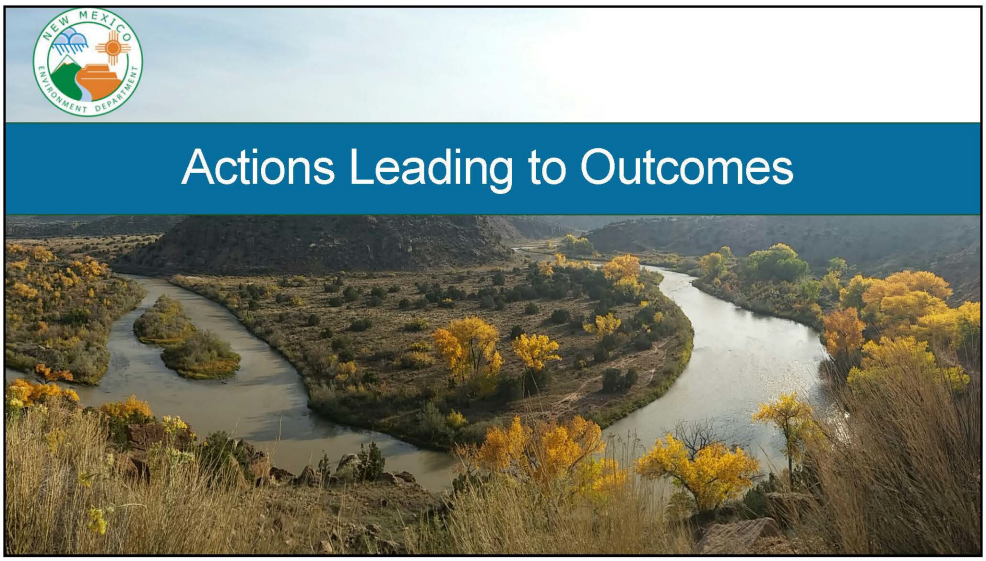

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1

NM NPS Program Objectives:

Objectives are specific, verifiable targets or conditions selected to meet the goal of the program. These are from the 2019 Plan but are subject to revision:

1. Complete WBPs to Enable Effective Implementation
2. Improve Water Quality
3. Protect Water Quality
4. Share Information on Surface Water Quality
5. Protect Ground Water Quality
6. Cooperate with Other Agencies

3

Objective 1: Complete WBPs to Enable Effective Implementation

Section 319(h) watershed project funds will only support on-the-ground projects in watersheds with nine-element WBPs or alternatives to WBPs.

4

NM NPS Management Program - Actions Leading to Outcomes

1/18/2023

Activities in Support of Objective 1

- Conduct a Solicitation for Applications (SFA) at least once every other year for projects to revise existing or develop new WBPs.
- Provide technical support to stakeholder groups who have successfully applied for WBP funding.
- Prepare WBPs in-house with stakeholder participation.
- Conduct procurements as necessary for technical and outreach components of primarily in-house WBP efforts.

5

Activities in Support of Objective 1

- Provide information to help USFS or other agencies develop Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) plans or other post-fire plans to be used as WBP alternatives.
- Work with SWQB Monitoring, Assessment, and Standards Section (MASS) to complete in-house WBPs as alternatives to TMDLs.
- Encourage participation of all stakeholders including those in other states, Indian Nations, pueblos and tribes when watersheds cross jurisdictional boundaries.

6

3

NM NPS Management Program - Actions Leading to Outcomes

1/18/2023

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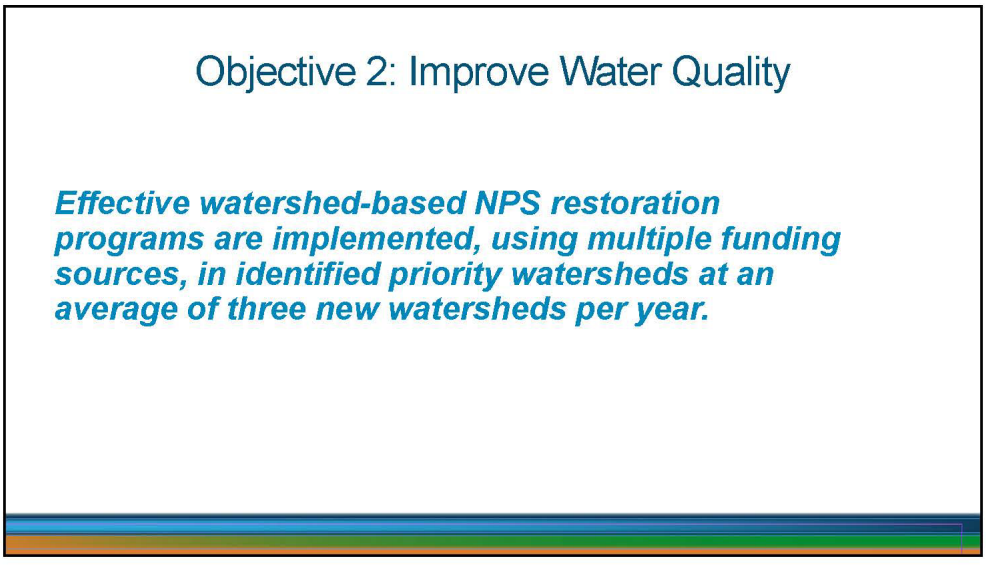

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4

NM NPS Management Program - Actions Leading to Outcomes

1/18/2023

Activities in Support of Objective 2

- Conduct Solicitation for Applications (SFAs) at least every other year for watershed implementation projects outlined in WBPs and WBP alternatives, to be funded with Section 319 watershed project funds.
- Conduct smaller procurements for specific, targeted projects that will implement WBPs and WBP alternatives, to be funded with Section 319 watershed project funds.
- Develop, manage, and provide oversight of state-funded watershed and riparian restoration projects (e.g. through the River Stewardship Program).
- Work with the NMED Construction Programs Bureau and local government entities to pursue the use of the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) to address water quality problems.
- Use scientific methods and weight-of-evidence reporting to measure and document effectiveness of efforts towards achieving water quality standards.

9

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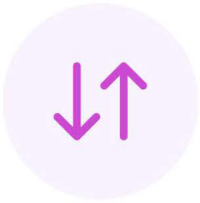

Please rank the following activities from Objective 2 with the top being most important ordered to the bottom or least important.

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5

Objective 3: Protect Water Quality

The quality of surface water resources is maintained through coordinated activities, permitting programs, and technical assistance provided to assist cooperating agencies and landowners with efforts to understand water quality and protect surface waters from NPS pollution.

11

Activities in Support of Objective 3

- Work with NMED's Office of General Counsel to document procedures to enforce regulations pertaining to ground and surface water protection at Section 20.6.2.2201 of the New Mexico Administrative Code (NMAC), to prevent or abate disposal of refuse in watercourses.
- Within two years of any major wildfire, with severity outside the natural range of variability for the affected forest types, occurring in the watershed of one or more streams with a high quality coldwater, coldwater, or cool water aquatic life designated use, a portion of Section 319 watershed project funds are used for implementing WBP alternatives that are post-fire response plans.
- Evaluate applications for permits to discharge fill, as required under Section 404 of the CWA. Conditionally certify these activities to protect water quality standards, as allowed under Section 401 and under state law (e.g., 20.6.2 NMAC).

12

Activities in Support of Objective 3

- Conduct water quality reviews at active and proposed mining sites. Review Mining Act permit applications, inspect mine sites, and ensure that mining activities will not result in water quality standards exceedances.
- Assist designated management agencies with developing procedures to ensure that proposed actions will not result in degradation of water quality in ONRWs.
- Assist federal agencies with development and selection of alternatives for proposed projects by participating in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. NEPA for permitted grazing in the watersheds of high quality coldwater, coldwater, and coolwater streams will be a priority for these federal consistency reviews.

13

Activities in Support of Objective 3

- Participate in collaborative forest restoration efforts by providing information related to water quality and forest ecology, as a means of preventing impacts to water quality from unnaturally intense wildfire.
- Assist the SWQB MASS with planning and implementing water quality surveys, providing available information relevant to sources of NPS pollution, and with completion of water quality assessments and TMDLs.
- Direct a portion of Section 319 watershed project funds to implementation of WAPs, to protect and restore wetlands and to protect downstream water quality.
- Work with the NMED Construction Programs Bureau to pursue the use of Clean Water SRF to protect water quality.

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Please rank the following activities from Objective 3 with the top being most important ordered to the bottom or least important.
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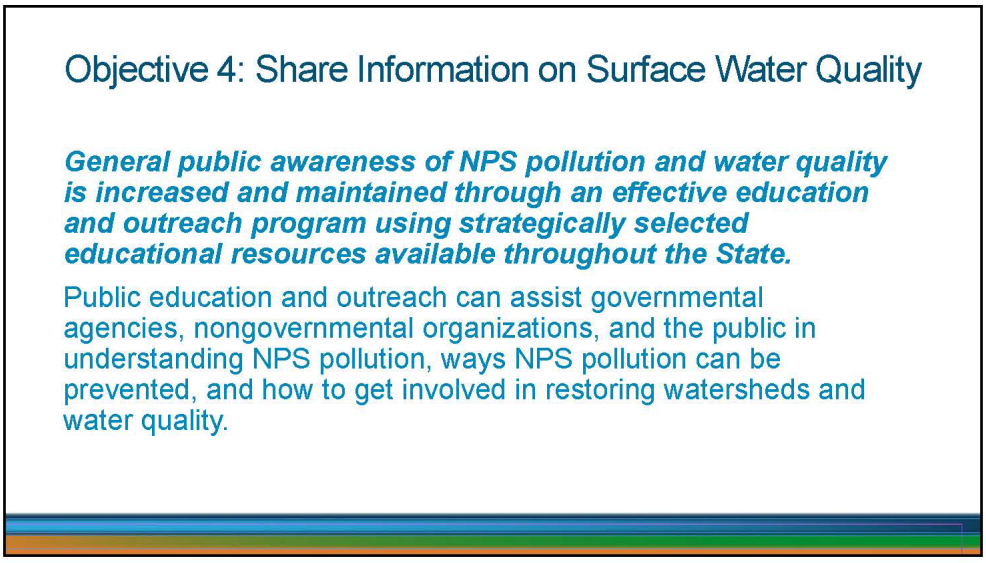
Objective 4: Share Information on Surface Water Quality
General public awareness of NPS pollution and water quality is increased and maintained through an effective education and outreach program using strategically selected educational resources available throughout the State.
Public education and outreach can assist governmental agencies, nongovernmental organizations, and the public in understanding NPS pollution, ways NPS pollution can be prevented, and how to get involved in restoring watersheds and water quality.

16

Activities in Support of Objective 4

- Promote and develop volunteer monitoring and data sharing to support more frequent and detailed water quality assessment and awareness of local water quality.
- Participate as active members in watershed groups, providing critical information about water quality programs as new developments occur, and assisting with technical aspects of watershed planning and project design as needed.
- Publish *Clearing the Waters*, a quarterly newsletter detailing lessons learned of Section 319(h) projects and other NPS news. The SWQB newsletter currently informs approximately 1,600 readers of NPS related issues and activities in New Mexico.

17

Activities in Support of Objective 4

- Directly fund small publication projects to produce brochures and booklets describing Best Management Practices (BMPs) for landowners and land management agencies.
- Support education and outreach components of WBPs and alternatives to WBPs, with Section 319 watershed project funding. The application process for on-the-ground projects that implement acceptable watershed plans will clearly specify that education and outreach components of the plans are eligible for funding.
- Provide educational opportunities for the public and private sector by coordinating with other state and federal agencies, soil and water conservation districts (SWCDs) and the New Mexico Association of Conservation Districts, local schools and youth programs, hosting information sessions, and conducting public site tours of demonstration projects and BMP implementation sites.

18

NM NPS Management Program - Actions Leading to Outcomes

1/18/2023

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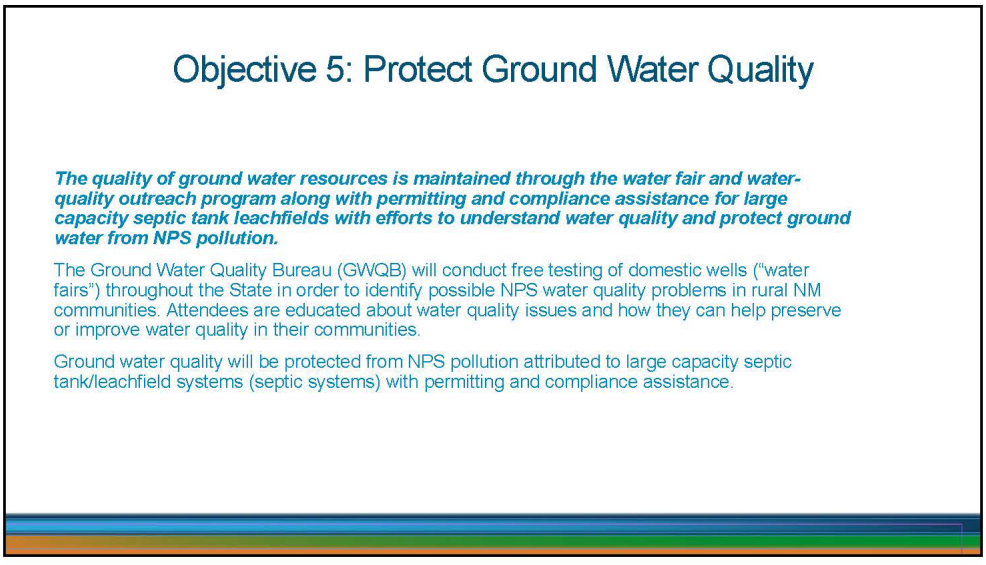

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Activities in Support of Objective 5

- Conduct free testing of water samples from private domestic wells for nitrate, iron, sulfate, fluoride, conductivity, and pH using portable analytical equipment.
- Conduct educational outreach activities on water quality issues through informative brochures, displays and individual contact with NMED staff.
- Conducting compliance inspections and file reviews.
- Hold compliance meetings and teleconferences.
- Draft and issue enforcement letters such as Notices of Non-Compliance, Notices of Violation, Discharge Permit Required and Abatement Plan Required.
- Issue new and renewal Discharge Permits to facilities discharging without a Discharge Permit and facilities renewing their Discharge Permits.

21

Activities in Support of Objective 5

- Draft and issue Compliance Orders.
- Testify in administrative and judicial appeals.
- Participate in settlement negotiations.
- Create and distribute outreach materials to assist permit holders in understanding requirements.

22


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Please rank the following activities from Objective 5 with the top being most important ordered to the bottom or least important.
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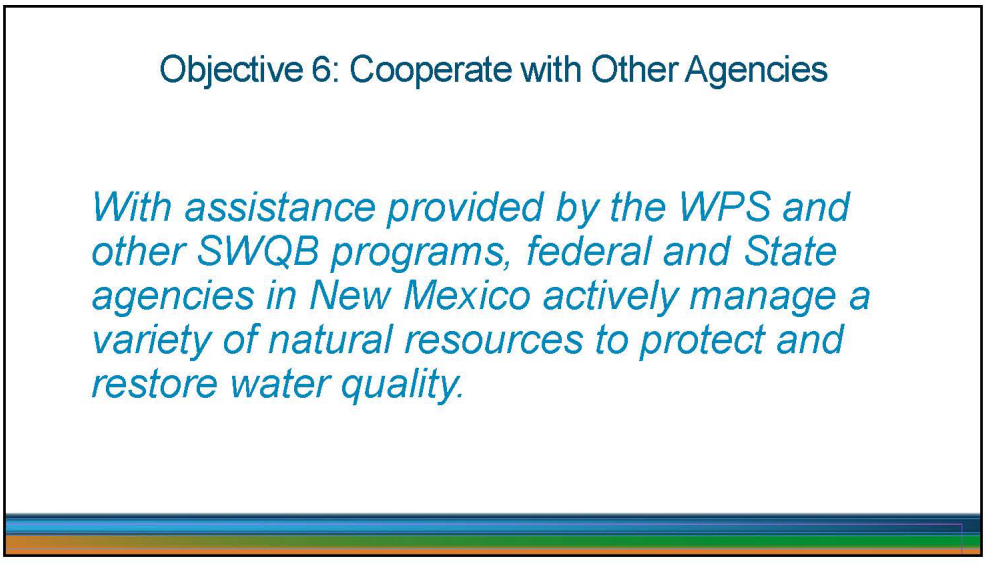

Objective 6: Cooperate with Other Agencies
With assistance provided by the WPS and other SWQB programs, federal and State agencies in New Mexico actively manage a variety of natural resources to protect and restore water quality.

24

NM NPS Management Program - Actions Leading to Outcomes

1/18/2023

NM Land Management Statistics

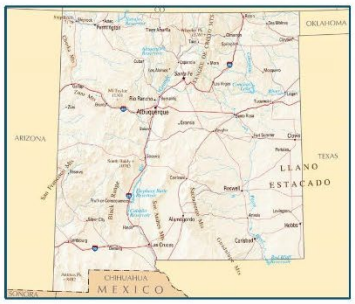
New Mexico has a total area of 121,607 square miles.

Approximately 34% of lands in New Mexico are owned by the public and managed by the Federal Government.

An additional 12% of lands are managed directly by State agencies.

Over 10% lies within the lands of Indian nations, pueblos, and tribes

The remaining 44% is owned or managed by local governments and private landowners.



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Activities in Support of Objective 6

- Revisit, renew, or maintain existing agreements with the USFS Southwestern Region, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) New Mexico State Office, and United States Department of Energy (DOE).
- Coordinate two New Mexico Wetlands Roundtable meetings per year.
- Participate in the State Technical Committee and any subcommittees or work groups of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). One major purpose of this participation is to collaborate with NRCS in selecting or updating criteria used to prioritize proposed projects funded under the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), including the National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI), which address water quality problems.

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NM NPS Management Program - Actions Leading to Outcomes

1/18/2023

Activities in Support of Objective 6

- Work with the Farm Service Agency (FSA) to review the locations covered by the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) riparian buffer sub-program and seek opportunities to work with FSA or their cooperating producers to coordinate on future water quality projects.
- Work with the SWCDs with the greatest number of assessed stream miles to develop their programs and projects to protect and improve water quality.
- Participate in statewide efforts related to water resources planning such as revision of the State Water Plan (coordinated by the Office of the State Engineer), and the Forest and Watershed Health Plan (Coordinated by the Forestry Division of EMNRD). The aim of this participation will be to communicate applicable regulations and information generated by SWQB programs, and to encourage related programs to protect and restore water quality.

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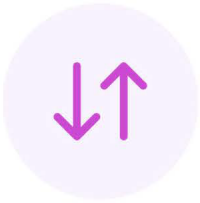

Please rank the following activities from Objective 6 with the top being most important ordered to the bottom or least important.

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14

NM NPS Management Program - Actions Leading to Outcomes

1/18/2023

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15

J: Slido Polling Results

NPS Workshop Slido

16 - 23 Jan 2023

Poll results

slido

Table of contents

- Please rank the following activities from Objective 1 with the top being most important ordered to the bottom or least important.
- Please rank the following activities from Objective 2 with the top being most important ordered to the bottom or least important.
- Please rank the following activities from Objective 3 with the top being most important ordered to the bottom or least important.
- Please rank the following activities from Objective 4 with the top being most important ordered to the bottom or least important.
- Please rank the following activities from Objective 5 with the top being most important ordered to the bottom or least important.
- Please rank the following activities from Objective 6 with the top being most important ordered to the bottom or least important.
- Where are you joining us from today?
- Please describe why nonpoint source pollution is an important topic to you in 1-2 words. Your answer can be either professionally, personally, or both.
- How do you prefer to ask questions or make comments at hybrid meetings?

slido

Table of contents

- What are the top three causes of surface water quality impairments in NM? (Choose 3)
- What are the top 2 designated uses that are not supported in NM? (Choose 2)
- Which activity is the most important for the NPS Management Program to prioritize to improve climate resiliency? (Most Important to least important)

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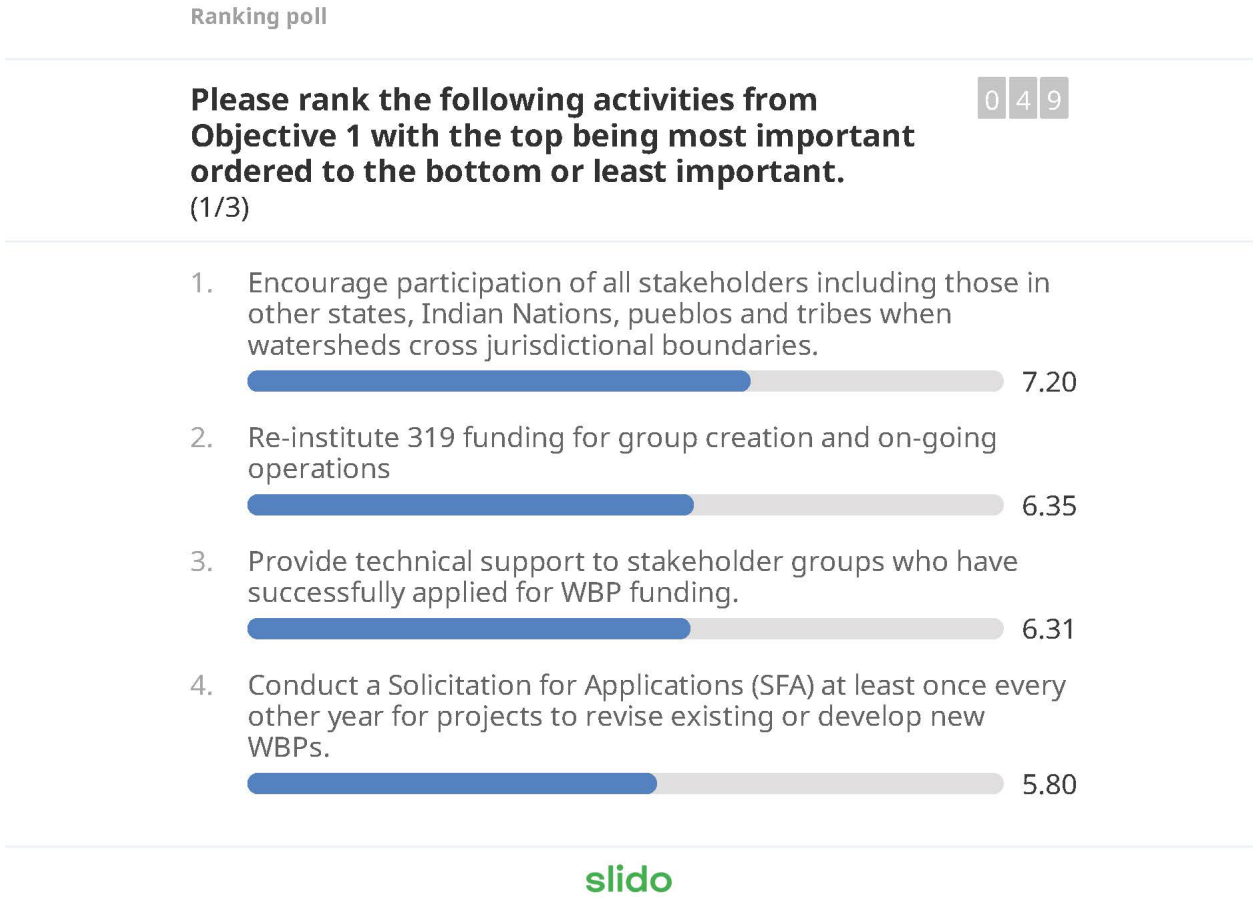
Ranking poll
Please rank the following activities from Objective 1 with the top being most important ordered to the bottom or least important.
(1/3)
0 4 9
1. Encourage participation of all stakeholders including those in other states, Indian Nations, pueblos and tribes when watersheds cross jurisdictional boundaries.
7.20
2. Re-institute 319 funding for group creation and on-going operations
6.35
3. Provide technical support to stakeholder groups who have successfully applied for WBP funding.
6.31
4. Conduct a Solicitation for Applications (SFA) at least once every other year for projects to revise existing or develop new WBPs.
5.80
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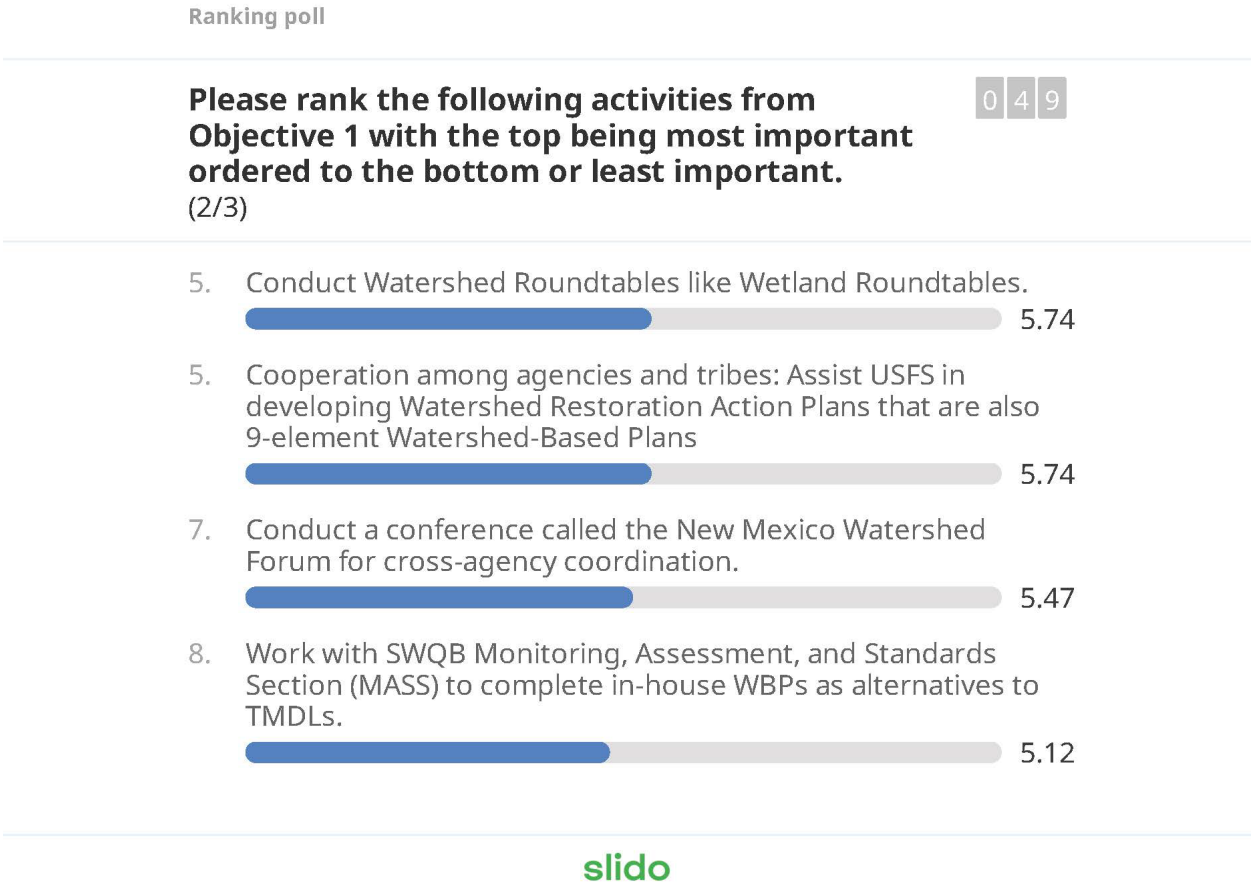
Ranking poll
Please rank the following activities from Objective 1 with the top being most important ordered to the bottom or least important.
(2/3)
0 4 9
5. Conduct Watershed Roundtables like Wetland Roundtables.
5.74
5. Cooperation among agencies and tribes: Assist USFS in developing Watershed Restoration Action Plans that are also 9-element Watershed-Based Plans
5.74
7. Conduct a conference called the New Mexico Watershed Forum for cross-agency coordination.
5.47
8. Work with SWQB Monitoring, Assessment, and Standards Section (MASS) to complete in-house WBPs as alternatives to TMDLs.
5.12
slido

Ranking poll

Please rank the following activities from Objective 1 with the top being most important ordered to the bottom or least important.
(3/3)

0 4 9

9. Prepare WBPs in-house with stakeholder participation.
5.10

10. Conduct procurements as necessary for technical and outreach components of primarily in-house WBP efforts.
3.90

11. Provide information to help USFS or other agencies develop Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) plans or other post-fire plans to be used as WBP alternatives.
3.71

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Ranking poll

Please rank the following activities from Objective 2 with the top being most important ordered to the bottom or least important.
(1/3)

0 4 9

1. Develop, manage, and provide oversight of state-funded watershed and riparian restoration projects (e.g. through the River Stewardship Program).
4.96

2. Conduct Solicitation for Applications (SFAs) at least every other year for watershed implementation projects outlined in WBPs and WBP alternatives, to be funded with Section 319 watershed project funds.
4.31

3. Use scientific methods and weight-of-evidence reporting to measure and document effectiveness of efforts towards achieving water quality standards.
4.14

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Ranking poll

Please rank the following activities from Objective 2 with the top being most important ordered to the bottom or least important.
(2/3)

0 4 9

4. Conduct smaller procurements for specific, targeted projects that will implement WBPs and WBP alternatives, to be funded with Section 319 watershed project funds.
3.76

5. Work with the NMED Construction Programs Bureau and local government entities to pursue the use of the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) to address water quality problems.
3.41

6. NMED Surface Water Quality Bureau will work with NMED Construction Programs Bureau to reduce E. coli impairments through wastewater treatment centralization.
3.31

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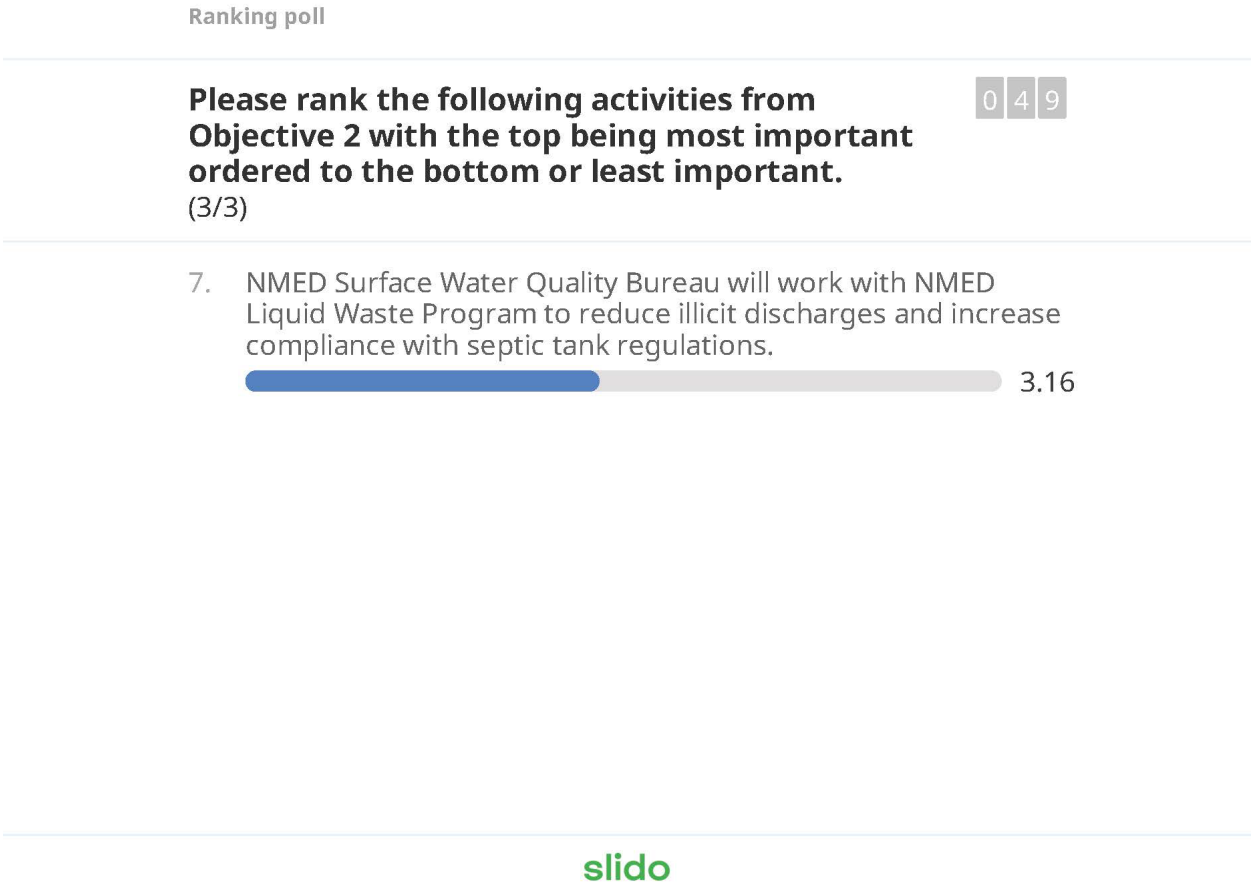
Ranking poll
Please rank the following activities from Objective 2 with the top being most important ordered to the bottom or least important.
(3/3)
0 4 9
7. NMED Surface Water Quality Bureau will work with NMED Liquid Waste Program to reduce illicit discharges and increase compliance with septic tank regulations.
3.16
slido

Ranking poll

Please rank the following activities from Objective 3 with the top being most important ordered to the bottom or least important.
(1/4)

0 5 1

1. Participate in collaborative forest restoration efforts by providing information related to water quality and forest ecology, as a means of preventing impacts to water quality from unnaturally intense wildfire.
7.57

2. Develop New Mexico specific guidance and provide training for completing element i. (A monitoring component to evaluate the effectiveness of the implementation efforts over time, measured against the criteria established under element h.) in WBPs.
7.31

3. Direct a portion of Section 319 watershed project funds to implementation of WAPs, to protect and restore wetlands and to protect downstream water quality.
6.84

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K: Compiled Breakout Group Summaries

Summary Session 1: Improving Surface Water Quality

Water is an important and limited resource that we need to protect to have sustainability in the future. Climate change has led to extended droughts and more intense rainfall / runoff events. Forests help provide clean water, but forest fires create pollution. Functional riparian areas are critical to water quality and quantity. There will be hard future decisions with less water and vegetation. It will be critical to educate citizens on reducing potential pollution to protect water quality, especially in urban areas. Water quality is important for staying in compliance with permits and we need to understand and protect surface to groundwater connections for water quantity.

The biggest threats of water quality include: Climate change causing less precipitation and stormwater is more concentrated (less dilution of pollution); Increase of effluent dominated streams (cumulative impacts of river systems); and lack of all resources, funding and staff for managing and monitoring water; emerging contaminants and PFAS and treatment; landuse impacts such as farming, grazing, increased urbanization, and unregulated activities to water quality. Resources have been diverted to other issues such as homelessness and crime and there seems to be a lack of political will to prioritize water issues.

Some strategies to try to improve these issues that were discussed included: reclamation and restoration of impacted watersheds to allow riparian and hydrologic systems to heal and become properly functioning again; Implement programs to reduce pollutant discharges from farming, grazing, oil and gas, and otherwise unregulated activities; monitoring of return flows and inputs to the river to better understand water quality issues; increase green infrastructure to reduce pollution and peak flows. The obstacles to these strategies discussed are the lack of political will to prioritize the resources of funding, staff, and equipment needs as well as require education to the public and decision makers to improve. To increase the adoption and use of green infrastructure we need better guidance and the removal of obstacles that make it hard to receive permits such as long multi-department reviews, engineering requirements, FEMA requirements, etc.

Summary Session 2: Engaging Communities and Improving Environmental Justice

The Justice40 Initiative describes Disadvantaged Communities (DACs) as those communities that are marginalized, underserved, and overburdened by pollution. It was discussed if there was an alternative term that Colorado uses - disproportionally impacted communities, but the group felt this is a self-identifying question. NPS SWQB program should engage with intertribal organizations to increase tribal participation.

The top down, national approach has limitations, especially with NM having public lands where it can be difficult to mobilize federal agencies and find non-federal match. It will be important to know how to identify DACs with the new goal of 40 percent of federal investments. It was brought up that gentrification and people with second homes have different values than those who have been living in NM for generations. Grazing has a cultural value of over 400 years. This makes it important to be apolitical to bring community members together. DACs need capacity

for leadership in the communities, and resources like a place to meet. Many other organizations, nonprofits, local governments and SWCDs are limited in their capacity to support DACs with resources. The nonprofit organizations trying to help lack leverage as outsiders. This creates the cycle of under-represented communities. Look into if DOE may have any local or technical resources? Currently relying on Region 6 EPA Office in Texas. Extension office could also help conduct outreach.

Start by asking the community what they see as the problem, what they need and ask how first, to be an ally, so the solutions resonate with the community. Rural Communities have land but are limited by funding that makes non-federal match a barrier to accessing federal funds, including CWA Section 319 funds. Some of the most important environmental justice issues in New Mexico include: large percentage of public lands; fire, drought and water scarcity; springs and wetlands; introduction of beaver vs water for irrigation or livestock watering; views of landscape function differ – effects of climate change and how to address equitably; land use and historic properties; need inclusion of all types of stakeholder groups (ranchers, acequia, and local non-profits); rural communities may have to travel long distances for rental equipment and plant materials, resulting in increasing costs.

It was discussed that the NPS program should prioritize projects that benefit disadvantaged communities, and it was discussed that points may not be enough as a solution but should be 15 points or more. It was discussed that match reduction would certainly help but needs to be part of a larger strategy of easing the process for DACs. NMED should start with having inclusive conversations with all parties involved to determine strategies to advance environmental justice. NMED should help build capacity and support local watershed groups.

Define disadvantaged communities and their barriers include technical and capacity issues. Meet communities where they are – go to them to build a relationship. Cultural values and the importance of historical cultural identities, be apolitical, get people together to work on these issues. Lack of np in parts of the state, lack of rental equipment in parts of the state contribute to difficulties. Ask communities what they perceive as the problem or issues and what they value from the landscape.

Summary Session 3: Organizational capacity building for watershed groups

Local watershed groups vary across the state, from areas that have multiple watershed groups (i.e., Albuquerque, Santa Fe, and Hatch and Mesilla Valley); areas with other groups focused on other water or fire issues such as acequia associations; to those who are interested to start one. At all levels, they need the resources to build capacity for funding for staff, expertise, and funding for planning. Interest is always there, but they lack capacity especially in rural areas and small towns. May need to utilize existing functional groups to help build capacity. The biggest obstacles for local communities in forming and maintaining watershed groups is needing support building capacity to fund new entities and staff capacity. Another struggle is diversity and how to engage those more connected to river health, but lack time to get involved, as well as the need for compensation for nonprofits and communities working on these issues. There is a lack of stable funding for continuous staff and maintenance crews.

Some strategies suggested to overcome the obstacles included: while some thought SWCDs might be a good way to fund and house watershed coordinator positions, others said in most areas they are already overtaxed and that an overlying organization should lead that effort or even develop regional working groups and stable funding.

Having the capacity and funding to support a watershed group is really challenging, even in areas like Albuquerque where there are a lot of different groups - how to bring all of them together on water issues. In higher population areas we have lots of water related groups, but they are not talking to each other or focusing on watershed planning. Obstacles: lack of stable funding and stable staff to build capacity. Strategies include: being flexible and adaptable to get stakeholders involved and motivated may need to continue remote meetings, etc.

Lots of multipurpose plans can we overlap between agency requirements and simplify the process. Need to document and be able to show importance of environmental services. An example is Santa Fe's living river ordinance where people are charged on utility bill and funds are used to support watershed restoration projects. How do you accommodate working folks to participate more. Lots of groups but not all are working on watershed-based planning. Forming and supporting regional working groups Reinstitute 319 funding for group formation and capacity, especially in rural areas. Outcomes: supply groups with a template on how to build your group, how to be successful, education and outreach, meeting with local and elected leaders to receive their support.

Summary Session 4: Technical capacity building for watershed groups

For watershed groups, rural water users, MS4s, small agencies also need tech capacity. More hands-on workshops to provide guidance on projects and proposals especailly and technical aspects, planning and implementation.

The complexity of regulations is difficult for volunteer groups, such as navigating NEPA, USACE, NPDES requirements. There is a disconnect between NPS program and other fed agencies, i.e. Highway administration, EPA even between 319 and MS4 etc. NMED should work with US EPA and NMDOT to engage with Highway Administration on NPS issues. NMED help with modeling for groups or suggest the correct models and training on models. Groups need NMED to offer more technical assistance with projects and proposals. Modeling and monitoring training and assistance especially with modeling assistance to predict load reductions and determining locations for restoration. Other technical challenges include: help with selecting and being more efficient with practices; need to incorporate GSI/LID approaches into local level requirements as well as funding for maintenance of GSI/LID improvements; federal and state land responsibility for compliance with MS4 monitoring and compliance as well as NPS. NGOs are the boots on the ground to do the work and often the monitoring, modeling and load reduction calculations all detract from the on-the-groundwork. NGOs are not necessarily hydrologists and monitoring experts.

Solutions to challenges include: more hands-on workshops that can provide guidance for project planning and implementation; support for enforcement with MS4 related issues for sand/gravel and other land issues; NMED or others do modeling for groups? or suggest correct model and train groups in their use; training for monitoring is also critical to cover optimizing monitoring, sharing knowledge, and lessons learned. More guidelines on where and when to monitor in

collaboration with other water impacts like irrigation districts. Need a task force, legislation, and funding for watershed technical assistance, which needs to begin with developing proposals. Technical Curriculum is needed for modeling, monitoring, and implementation to identify best treatments and find the best locations for treatments to target implementation.

Outcomes: more modeling support would lead to better informed modeling and monitoring. When and where to test in collaboration with others. Watershed Roundtables for NPS/MS4s every 6 months like Wetland Round Tables. Bringing stakeholders together with more technical content is critical.

Engaging youths – tie into school STEM and envirothon programs, add to science curriculum that adds participation in outdoor watershed projects to bring more awareness and get kids involved outside in watershed projects.

Summary Session 5: Protecting Ground Water Quality

Forest service main mission is to deliver clean water to the public. Treatment is more expensive than prevention and groundwater is a critical resource concern. GW management is critical to future climate change issues and is extremely important for Aquatic Resources.

The biggest threats for groundwater in NM was discussed as septic tanks and leaking underground storage tanks, mineral testing and development /fracking, concerns of PFAS, Landuse in agriculture and irrigation practices, and population growth's impact on water supply for domestic uses. Changes in federal administration and how waters are managed also has an effect.

Effective strategies discussed included: Public outreach and education, Replace older infrastructure, co-alignment of state fed regulations, and financial assistance for conservation practices.

Obstacles to protecting groundwater include: noncompliance of state and fed regulations (mainly related to point source), individuals may be unaware of basic regulations they need to comply with, OSE more involved in groundwater extraction. Financial incentives and specifically lobbying effects how NPS is managed on a nationwide scale.

How to revise the NPS Plan to further protect groundwater: connect NEPA review process to NPS plans, other programs that could be integrated into NPS plans include: UICs could be integrated in wells and wellhead protection, requirement, and funding for abandoned wells to be decommissioned.

Summary Session 6: Cooperation Among Agencies and Tribes

Perspective from Land management agencies: ISC and Isleta Pueblo discussed needing to do better with integration of our plans and cross coordination – once a year meeting for cross agency coordination could help communication and collaboration. NMED should check if prioritization or lack of TMDLs is not making potential projects ineligible / consider prioritization not based solely on TMDLs.

The USFS is starting new Watershed Restoration Action Plans (WRAPs) and it would be great if these were also Watershed Based Plans (9 elements). Would be a great example location to try to develop a plan that would meet both WBPs and WRAPs requirements.

NGO perspective of what NMED could do to better support or encourage water quality planning and improvement projects on public land discussion included: move to centralized wastewater treatment and retire septic systems. More permitting of septic systems by NMED Environmental Health Bureau as wastewater formerly liquid waste program and more enforcement against illicit discharges. Assistance in more illicit discharge assessments. There is concern about illicit discharges from ageing septic systems that need to be retired and updated to centralized wastewater systems. Also concern of point source spills and SSOs elevating *E. coli* in irrigation systems.

What can NMED do to better support or encourage water quality planning and improvement projects funded by other agencies? Communication is critical, there is a need for better communication between agencies, tribes and watershed groups on planning/improvement projects. Better interaction between all could make sure work is not being duplicated and everyone knows what tasks are expected of other agencies as well as it would increase water quality implementation. Creation of a centralized location to deposit or access plans, map layers, data, etc., from multiple agencies and NGOs would help with interagency cooperation and reporting milestones. Share resources or what's already been done or is available, so we don't duplicate and focus on what still needs to be done. It was also suggested an annual meeting would help cross-agency coordination. Formal agreements such as Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) can reduce the difficulty of projects on public lands and dealing with staff turnover.

Increased Communication and collaboration:

- Engage Army Corps of Engineers on levee improvement projects in Middle Rio Grande. The entire segment of the Rio Grande between Isleta's exterior boundaries will be affected (if & when levees are improved).
- Rio Puerco Management Committee on long-term hiatus – suggested NMED should talk with BLM about assisting with restarting it by opening nominations again.
- SWCD's need organizational and technical capacity as well as funding.
- USFS will be doing a Watershed Restoration Action Plans (WRAPs) on the Rio Chama, suggested as a pilot to try to make it also fulfill requirements of WBPs.
- Some agency staff had been unaware of tasks designated to their agency in the current NPS plan.
- Help keep tribal & public agencies informed of planning/improvement projects on the Rio Puerco and other locations.
- NEPA, EA and other planning processes required or instituted by Federal agencies do not easily align with the time scale of NMED projects.

What do SWCDs need to be able to carry out more water quality planning and improvement projects? The discussion included that watershed improvement is holistic in nature, while federal programs typically have a singular purpose, requiring outside the box thinking. The watershed protection section can more actively participate and learn about active projects to help other groups find where a water quality component could be added to existing projects. SWCDs need

more funding and education as well as additional staff as many local staff are already overwhelmed by the basic tasks of assisting farmers and ranchers.

Improved interagency cooperation could lead to creating of a centralized location to deposit or access plans and data from multiple agencies and NGO's.

Communication is critical, there is a need for better communication between agencies, tribes, and watershed groups on planning/improvement projects. Better interaction between all could make sure work is not being duplicated and everyone knows what tasks are expected of other agencies as well as it would increase water quality implementation. Creation of a centralized location to deposit or access plans from multiple agencies and NGOs would help with interagency cooperation. It was also suggested an annual meeting would help cross-agency coordination. Formal agreements such as Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) can reduce the difficulty of projects on public lands. USFS will be doing a Watershed Restoration Action Plans (WRAPs) on the Rio Chama, suggested as a pilot to try to make it also fulfill requirements of WBPs. There is concern about illicit discharges from ageing septic systems that need to be retired and updated to centralized wastewater systems. Also concern of point source spills and SSOs elevating *E. coli* in irrigation systems.

Summary Session 7: Plan for Water Quality Protection and Improvement

The first discussion listed plans that address water quality in New Mexico of which the group listed 19 different planning documents:

- Forest Service watershed restoration action plan
- Conservation plans including individual and watershed
- Watershed based plans
- TMDLs
- County and City comprehensive land use plans
- Mercury minimization plan (ABCWUA)
- Burned area emergency recovery / Fire Recovery Plans
- Hazard mitigation plans
- Watershed plans for category 4C streams
- Source water protection plans
- Wetlands action plans
- Regional water plans by the office of the state engineer
- Allotment management plans
- MS4 Stormwater management plans
- Plans to protect threatened and endangered species
- Wildlife Action Plans NMGF
- forest plans
- Statewide water quality management plan
- Basin plans - utilized in CA informed local regulations

Some of the biggest challenges discussed included: Modeling and the need for tools and capacity to do the modeling, difficulty of doing the modeling necessary for load reductions of the BMPs included in the plan. An additional huge issue is determining costs of the projects with current rising costs and inflation and difficulty sourcing materials. Taking climate change into consideration and being able to model those potential changes with uncertainty in the future climate. Landowners want to get started and long planning efforts make it hard to keep involved and the importance of having watershed champions that help stakeholders understand and implement the plan. The continued need for outreach to the local stakeholders.

Plans are fairly complicated and technical, so need to simplify that information so that the general public can digest and understand, also makes it difficult for new organizations to get involved with complicated regulations and language. There is a need to get something on the ground that can start implementation watershed wide even before approval.

All 4 of the plan types are very important but we need to do a better job of collaborating on multiple needed plans. Developing a template for plans and technical assistance contacts for help would be very beneficial. Many plans need the same information and data so collaborating on a larger scale would reduce redundancy and allow focus. The 9 Element plans are important but are very involved and require resources. NMED could support widespread adoption and implementation of plans – need more information out there to the public so needing workshops or outreach and education. NMED should attend more local meetings. Simpler version of WBPs for public consumption more executive summary (i.e., Story map, PowerPoint presentation, trifold brochure, executive summary). Better Informed public will help create the watershed champions to help with implementation.

Highlights and successes of these past plans and how they benefited the local communities would help increase implementation. Share plan information so that others can also apply for funding to help implement watershed-based plans.

Summary Session 8: Regulatory Programs

The 2019 NPS report identifies regulatory programs in New Mexico. The group suggested three regulatory programs were suggested to be added to the section: Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Act – forum meetings; 20.6.2.4000 NMAC - Prevention and Abatement of Water Pollution as groundwater also can potentially impact agriculture; Groundwater cleanup projects of the Chevron Mine and Shumway Arroyo were also mentioned. The Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Act forum is an opportunity for NMED to participate. Salinity is included in EPA's NPDES permitting – mostly on individual Permits not general permits. Salinity is important also for the San Juan to Lake Powell and the Navajo-Gallup- Water Supply Project. Additional activities suggested for NMED to assist others is for the SWQB staff to attend the GWQB Water Fairs as DOH does.

A weakness of the CWA Section 319 is stormwater which also falls under Section 402 permits and MS4 permits, while the science and regulatory definitions do not fully align. More outreach is needed to explain this to the public. More effort is needed to deal with stormwater runoff outside of NPDES permits, e.g., dairies, land use, landfills, WIPP, etc.

Strengths of the CWA Section 319 is it can facilitate outreach and education to engage volunteer participation, as there are no enforcement consequences. It can address waters of the state (not limited to WOTUS). To improve the NPS plan it was discussed that it should include how NPS pollution links to the existing Antidegradation policy (20.6.4.8.A.(2) NMAC), and additionally the state shall encourage the use of watershed planning to protect surface waters of the state. Plan update should include the identification and addition of new BMPs. EPA's Success Stories framework to measure success provides an educational opportunity (pro) but requires considerable time and effort or "resources" needed to demonstrate a success (con).

Summary Session 9: Forest Health

NMED could better support Forestry or other agencies to promote forest health as a means of protecting water quality by working to coordinate and align grant opportunities, such as when RFP are done everyone can help share communications. Share proposals that may be better funded by other agencies so helpful to communicate as well as share responsibility to track projects. It would also be very beneficial to set up template MOUs or cooperative agreements between agencies for contracting. A standard or template would make it easier to kickoff 319 grant projects on public lands. NMED does have Master agreements MOUs (such as thinning MOUs) could this be used for 319 projects that can be added to include new work plans and task orders for any new project? It would also be very beneficial to ID priority areas for forest health overlapping with priority reaches for streams, also ID burn areas or priorities for Proposals. There is a very important nexus between forest health and water quality. We could bring NMED into the New Mexico Shared Stewardship Portal – NMSSP.org so that any assets for GIS layers that would be useful could be used and layers from NMED on water quality could be added. Prioritization is incorporated into the Forest Action Plan.

There is an opportunity for interagency conversation regarding match and catastrophic wildfires. Could there be a grant application process that is shared by key players in the forestry and water space (EMNRD, ENV, Game and Fish, etc.?

The discussion included assisting with outreach and advertisement of Forest and Watershed Restoration Act (FAWRA) to seek funds for riparian and wetland related projects. How do we deal with private/public land projects = issue with anti-donation clause. We have FAWRA projects on private lands but only with fire, so we need to include more on water quality and how to work with the anti-donation clause.

Collaboration on Source water protection projects between NMED, forestry and other agencies could include ID critical areas to concentrate money for project and 2-hour panel conversations on information sharing and solutions to work together between local water and forest managers. It would be great if we could integrate source water protection plans, community wildfire protection plans, and hazard mitigation plans – reducing resources necessary by meeting to complete all three at same time.

Summary Session 10: Outstanding National Resource Water Protection

Great idea to fund Water Quality plans for ONRWS tier 3 watersheds and tier 2 waters. Review what is working in other areas and refine that for NM use. It is easier and less expensive to keep something clean than having to clean it up something. The pros of developing water quality protection plans would include more guidance for the implementation of ONRW protections and it would support the effort of ONRW protections.

The discussion included things that NMED could do to implement and enforce the standards including: increased water quality sampling; adopt ONRW implementation procedures; provide guidance on how to monitor for degradation; include watershed groups in collecting data; increase awareness of the Water Quality Data Portal and opportunities to submit data by other agencies for NMED's review. NMED should be more proactive in providing information to local watershed groups, municipalities, local governments and acequias. Develop concrete steps to be taken if degradation is detected in ONRWs – meet with stakeholders to ID sources, increase monitoring, make it a restoration priority, etc. Preferential funding for grants like River Stewards if work in ONRW stream. The solutions may increase SWQB staff needs. Could also train students or interns to assist.

What level of evidence should be necessary to indicate degradation? It could include Rapid Assessment Methods for ONRW wetlands would show a decrease in wetland condition score or if water quality shows a trend moving towards impairment. NMED would need good baseline condition data to detect future degradation trends. Water Quality data for ONRWs should be housed in one place and easily searchable.

Summary Session 11: Building Climate Resiliency

The first discussion was what are some of the risks that watersheds face in a changing climate. In Upper Tijeras Creek Watershed you can already see the changes of less water, obvious impacts to water quality, reduction in water availability, and runoff earlier. In Cities, like Albuquerque and Santa Fe we've seen increased localized flooding due to more intense storm events and inadequate storm drainage infrastructure. We are seeing dieback of riparian vegetation leading to potential fire risk and needing bioengineering functions of riparian vegetation to stabilize stream banks. Restoration and flood management structures need to be rethought to handle new flood event risks. Increased development has unintentional consequences including increased temperatures and diminished water quality. Dewatering of the alluvial aquifer and decreasing the amount of water supply for domestic use. The cycle of diminished soil moisture and thus vegetation in upper watersheds increases resulting effects of extreme events and scouring floods. Irrigated areas are dealing with increased temperatures and reduced water quantities resulting in increased water salinity levels.

Examples of watershed restoration that can increase watershed resiliency include: Climate ready trees list, for trees and vegetation that will be resilient in 20-40 years should be used in restoration. Scaling up more rainwater harvesting efforts to take advantage of excess water that could be harvested at times. Restoring hydrology where river channels have better access to floodplains and increase the function of storing water in the soils increasing the proper functioning condition. Need to evaluate and update land use codes to reduce impermeable

surfaces and use on potable water. Need to incorporate diversity and other uses including of the 22 tribes, 19 have water quality standards so important to work with tribes and pueblos. Citizen groups are actively working on reducing invasive species to improve native species. Acequia restoration supports riparian vegetation and recharging aquifers.

It is important to find a way to normalize green infrastructure as part of stormwater infrastructure on a wide scale as it would help with resiliency and create benefits for urban wildlife. Increasing the spatial and temporal diversity of upper watersheds would increase resiliency to fire, by having varying ages and distribution of trees. Upland watersheds can be more resilient with the use of small-scale decentralized structures built to slow and spread flows. Working ag lands could benefit from different soil health practices such as cover crops, reduced tillage, organic amendments, which would all improve water hold capacity and reduce erosion.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPPC) has developed documents and associated software used to establish the value of wetland restoration in carbon accounting systems. NMED use this to promote carbon capture and wetland restoration by first collecting carbon as a metric and developing best practices for measuring. Los Alamos is working with post masters' students on carbon capture process from building, sequestration, harnessing what can be sequestered and developing the knowledge. More education about carbon accounting systems and sequestration would provide a better understanding to help move projects forward. Opportunities for collaboration include - NMDA and EMNRD involved in Natural and Working Lands Climate Action Team, NMSU interested in carbon sequestration across different landscapes, Dr. Marcy Litvak with UNM is focused on carbon research. It was also discussed that the carbon data is difficult to collect but Ameriflux is U.S. network to measure on a larger scale.

It would be key for NMED to support and fund regional working groups to increase collaboration and support regional dynamics. It would also be helpful to have NPS webinars or brown bag forums that could cover issues like carbon capture and climate resilience. Increased understanding and increased collaboration among agencies can help us meet the executive order that came out of the Climate Change Task Force. The ISC – Regional water planning approach could be a good synergy/ collaboration. A liaison with the climate bureau and NMED might be able to help facilitate coordination with stakeholder groups or is there another way to provide information for better coordination and understanding. EMNRD is hoping to do an all-hands approach.

L: Compiled Attendee Input Highlights from Workshop Chat Log

Steven Fry: Peter Bennett - there is a special appropriation request of $680K in NMED's budget this year for surface water permitting program development. if received, this would help create a program that would hopefully secure primacy down the road

Peter Bennett, City of Las Cruces: Thank you for your response. This is needed for a comprehensive program throughout the state.

Shelly Lemon, NMED: Peter Bennett MS4 is a Section 402 program (NPDES permit). NMED is scoping and looking at developing a program and have requested some seed money from the legislature (mentioned above) to start outreach and communications regarding primacy (for a state surface water permit program). If we are consistently funded then we could implement a full-program in about 6-10 years... it depends on how much support we receive from the legislature to develop a program.
[…]

Abraham Franklin, NMED: Rachel, I would need to look into the numbers more closely to understand your comment about 45% impaired vs. a much larger number. For addressing impairment, the NPS program has prioritized waters with TMDLs and which remain impaired for the parameters analyzed in the TMDLs. The NPS Management Plan will provide discussion and statistics regarding impaired waters to hopefully address your concern.

Abraham Franklin, NMED: ...and we are open to expanding the focus of implementation beyond TMDLs, but we do need to prioritize. Defining priority watersheds is a requirement of NPS programs.

Dan Roper, Trout Unlimited: For state actions that build climate resiliency, the Land of Enchantment Legacy Fund is worth a mention. It would invest a portion of the state's budget surplus in a new fund for existing conservation and habitat restoration programs, including the River Stewards Program, forest and watershed restoration, healthy soils, etc.

Kathryn Lacey, NMED: Adding a note here to plug for thoughts and discussions later - if the River Stewardship Program receives extra state funding, could our NPS program use extra/leftover RSP state funds to create a 319 grant matching program? We already use RSP as match for our overall 319 grant to NMED, but would there be an opportunity to help watershed groups meet the 40% match within a 319 project using extra RSP by creating a "grant match program"? My thinking here is an application- based program to get additional state match where need is demonstrated. For example, where gaining enough local match is an issue for a new or small watershed group?

[…]**Elena Fernandez, Amigos Bravos**: Should there be a separate EJ Department within NMED to help coordinate the internal agencies, do outreach and provide technical assistance?

Elena Fernandez, Amigos Bravos: The Council for Environmental Quality and EPA do have those resources, however, they are only regional. Perhaps it would be best for NM to have a local office and regional satellite offices for EJ.

[…]

Lea Knutson, Hermit's Peak Watershed Alliance: Can NMED reinstate a Watershed Forum to support Watershed Groups?

[…]

Ramona Montoya, Pueblo of Isleta: My ranking on collaborative forest restoration was influenced by US Forest Service's CFRP. I was thinking NMED does not need to do USFS's job

[..]

Jan-Willem Jansens: For objective 3, the item listed #1 reads better if you combine it with the item listed #10.

[…]

Ramona Montoya, Pueblo of Isleta: My reaction as poll results come in is that NMED is strong on Activities 1 through 3 (3:46 pm)

Ramona Montoya, Pueblo of Isleta: My reaction as poll results come in is that NMED is strong on Activities 1 through 3

Ramona Montoya, Pueblo of Isleta: Did the group discuss groundwater recharge galleries? groundwater as a storage mechanism across a relevant period of time?

Ramona Montoya, Pueblo of Isleta: I am also interested whether UIC includes fracking, which could be increasing in the State

[…]

Kali Bronson, Bernalillo County: I think that working with SWCDs on many of these issues is a great fit. However, it sounds like many of the SWCDs are under-funded and over-tasked. I think looking for a way to create more funding and support for SWCDs would be a worthwhile effort.

M: Compiled Post-Workshop Evaluations and Additional Input

1. Overall, how would you rate the workshop?

- Fair – 1
- Average – 3
- Good – 7
- Excellent – 5

2. Tell us what you thought was most useful about the workshop.

- Collaboration and sharing of ideas across different agencies and stakeholders
- I mostly attended the AM presentations regarding the NPS program. I definitely learned more about the program from these presentations.
- it was great to get feedback from the group via surveys
- I think many participants learned quite a lot about the nonpoint source pollution program.
- audience participation in topic suggestion and ranking suggested comments
- Hearing what is needed in our state.
- Getting an overview of the breadth of NPS issues the SWQB has to manage and reconcile in terms of limited staff, time, and funds, amid regulatory requirements and public needs, etc...
- I thought there was a good mix of lecture, breakout, and polling.
- Interaction and discussion about watershed management.
- It was easier for many people to comment and vote.
- Presentations by NMED staff
- the report backs from the breakout groups
- good opportunity to think about the NM NPS management plan in a holistic manner
- participation by breakouts
- Learning the timeline for the revision of the NPSMP
- Latest information

3. Tell us what you thought could have been improved about the workshop.

- Better questions for breakout sessions -some were too wordy and made no sense to attendees
- Some of the back and forth in the chat was a bit confusing since there were some people, not from NMED, expressing opinions on what was included in the NPS program as facts.
- The material seems pretty technical - participants may not have understood many of the

questions asked of them.

- accessing whiteboard. share the link in advance.
- Given us more time to fill out survey or pre-event homework, tons of hard decisions needed to be made on the fly. Not sure if the survey is truly how people felt.
- I felt that the breakout sessions were too short or too fully stocked; the input process with the tag board did not work well for many (I did not have a problem initially, but later did not get any access). The afternoon session was not effective. There were too many options to choose from, and many options were too complex to address in the format provided. Or the issues were outside my field of expertise to judge. Furthermore, the quasi democratic process is inappropriate: the makeup of participants skews the results and may not make any sense from a more rational management perspective.
- I feel that we often talk about how to support watershed groups, but not a lot of movement. We may need more time and better examples to get our state to recognize the non-point impacts more. Perhaps, bring in examples from other states could spark something different.
- The break-out rooms could have been more accessible.
- Felt rushed to comment or vote, not sure what we were voting on in some circumstances.
- Too many polls and too many wordy options for each poll.
- more time to ask questions after the morning presentations
- keep to the main points
- If the questions for the break-out groups and the final polls had been provided in advance I could have provided more thoughtful input.
- Interactive session, I was unable to fill the online survey, may be network connection from my end

4. Do you have any recommendations for new actions that could be implemented by NMED Regarding Objective 1 of the current NPS plan? (Plan for water quality protection and improvement)

- I wish I could offer substantial feedback on this. This topic is too complex and nebulous to answer in the form of a simple evaluation survey response.
- Heading the right direction. See comments in last question.
- From my own experience from Nigeria, there is need for functional and strict laws and regulations framework with input from all stakeholders

5. Do you have any recommendations for new actions that could be implemented by NMED Regarding Objective 2 of the current NPS plan? (Improve surface water quality)

- Any further support for/encouragement of riparian habitats, given their value in

filtering out water prior to it entering the stream, would be beneficial - can also benefit wildlife. This may ultimately be more relevant for protecting surface water quality.

- Not a new idea, but think training on Best Management Practice for inspectors and builders is always helpful. Making sure to include the importance of NOIs. I find this confusing for new inspectors, project managers, builders, here in Santa Fe.

6. Do you have any recommendations for new actions that could be implemented by NMED Regarding Objective 3 of the current NPS plan? (Protect surface water quality)

- The emphasis on coordination with EMNRD/state forestry on watershed protection actions (especially in the context of wildfires) is good; would also encourage coordination with NMDGF to help in prioritizing where to do watershed protection work in terms of benefits for fish and wildlife

7. Do you have any recommendations for new actions that could be implemented by NMED Regarding Objective 4 of the current NPS plan? (Share information on surface water quality)

- Any spatial data that NMED has on surface water quality that can be incorporated to the Environmental Database and isn't already there would be a good addition to this publicly accessible website/data repository

8. Do you have any recommendations for new actions that could be implemented by NMED Regarding Objective 6 of the current NPS plan? (Cooperate with other agencies on water quality protection and improvement)

See above comments on Objective 3 (The emphasis on coordination with EMNRD/state forestry on watershed protection actions (especially in the context of wildfires) is good; would also encourage coordination with NMDGF to help in prioritizing where to do watershed protection work in terms of benefits for fish and wildlife).

9. Please provide any additional workshop or NPS program comments below:

- thanks for a job well done!
- I already provided my recommended comments. Black box with comments were left over the noted questions and it was hard to read comment for survey.
- The entire workshop and this survey give me the impression that my/our feedback is not taken seriously and only pro forma for NMED to check a box that they have requested stakeholder input for the NPS plan update. In my view, an update of the NPS plan would require multiple meetings with select stakeholder and / or focus groups to hash out details; to educate the stakeholders (like myself) about the context of the issues to

enable us to offer well considered feedback and to offer us a sense of being heard. At this time, I don't feel I learned what I had wanted to know; I don't feel my feedback is very substantial or effective, and don't feel effectively heard about concerns I have, because there was not space to offer them in the strict format. I am a contractor, and I believe that much of the NPS program hinges on non-profits, contractors, and community groups to help implement the NPS program on the ground. Yet, the workshop appeared most concerned with inter-agency coordination issues and procedural issues, while issues about contracting challenges, effective community involvement, project effectiveness, durability of project results on the ground, etc. did not get enough attention or space to be discussed. SWQB has had several input sessions in the last 25 years and this one was better than any one before, but still more top-down and not inclusive enough to be meaningful to me as a participant to spend my time on any more of these meetings. SWQB needs to realize that a 6-7 hour meeting costs any entity around $500 (or more) per staff person in deferred income (donated time). Therefore, certain NGO/business/community entities cannot afford to participate if not compensated; this means that the process is not sufficiently inclusive. For those who did participate and donated their time, like me and my staff, the return (in terms of learning, networking, or feeling heard) was not sufficient to be motivated to participate again in any next gathering.

- It is great opportunity to connect with other agencies. I'm happy that you offer it each year, it gets better every time. Thank you for your work.
- Great workshop! We need more like this. Also, the state should manage all aspects of regulatory and permitting for stormwater and watershed management. The EPA has been ineffective. Permittees will only become more complacent and uncompliant if there is no regulatory oversight. We can do a better job on our own.
- Good job on inclusive participation for an online meeting which can be very tricky. It seems that we could have more frequent workshops or listening sessions especially with the practitioners who face the challenges and may have insight on the ways to improve the program as a whole. I really like the idea of an annual conference to share ideas and exchange information. By supporting those who are doing this work, the program willbe stronger and the outcomes and partnerships will have a better chance of being successful. Thank you!