



RIVER STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

THE NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT SURFACE WATER QUALITY BUREAU'S MISSION IS "TO PRESERVE, PROTECT, AND IMPROVE NEW MEXICO'S SURFACE WATER QUALITY FOR PRESENT AND FUTURE GENERATIONS."

PROGRAM GOAL

The River Stewardship Program is designed to enhance the natural functioning of New Mexico's streams and rivers by providing funds to plan, design, and construct projects that improve surface water quality and/or river habitat statewide.

RIVER STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM BENEFITS

This program addresses water quality issues including impacts from wildfires, floods, and drought and engages local stakeholders in restoration of their waters. New Mexico small businesses benefit both directly through awarded restoration contracts and indirectly via increased tourism and recreational opportunities. River Stewardship funds also ensure the necessary match for approximately \$2.3 million per year in federal Clean Water Act funding for New Mexico.

FUNDING SOURCES

The River Stewardship Program funds are sourced yearly from both legislative appropriations as well as from the Land of Enchantment Legacy Fund

ELIGIBILITY

Local and tribal governments, for-profit organizations, and non-profit organizations.

FUNDING CONDITIONS

Funding is awarded via cooperative agreements or service contracts to eligible entities through a Request for Proposals process, conducted annually or as funding availability permits.

Depending on how the appropriation is made, other rules for the use of funds may apply (e.g., Bond Project Disbursement, 2.61.2 NMAC; or bond sales conditions).

Successful River Stewardship Program proposals will:

- Describe projects that improve surface water quality and/or river habitat;
- Demonstrate a clear need for restoration actions based on a local, regional, state, or federal planning document;
- Demonstrate the support and commitment of the community and regional stakeholders;
- Describe a scientifically sound and sustainable project;
- Provide clear, measurable, and achievable objectives;
- Propose a budget that is justified, fair, and provides good value for project work.

Funding may be used to support implementation as approved in project work plans in the following ways:

- Reimbursement for project-related itemized hourly wages, supplies, equipment rentals, project management, travel, and subcontractor services at fair market rates.
- Implementation of on-the-ground measures to improve surface water quality and river habitat;
- Planning and partner coordination exclusively within the context of the project;
- Pre-implementation surveys of on-site conditions;
- Post-construction verification of completion and validation of environmental results within the agreement/contract period.
- Costs to prepare permit applications, clearances, and surveys that are required by law.
- Gross receipts tax.



At a Glance

Appropriations

Fiscal Year	DFA Code	Amount
2015	14-1706	\$2,300,000
2016	15-1069	\$500,000
2016	15-1086	\$500,000
2017	A16A2644	\$1,500,000
2019	A18C2723	\$500,000
2020	A19D2428	\$1,500,000
2021	A20E4102*	\$252,613
2021	A20E2223	\$1,250,000
2022	A21F2386	\$1,500,000
2022	ARPA SLFRF	\$10,000,000
2023	A22G2423	\$1,500,000
2024	A23H2493	\$1,500,000
2025	S7004	\$1,250,000
2025	A24I2464	\$2,000,000
	TOTAL	\$26,052,613

*Reauthorized funds from FY2017, not included in total.

Expenditures (As of 01/22/2025)

DFA Code	Expenditure YTD
14-1706	\$2,274,744
15-1069	\$494,200
15-1086	\$484,303
A16A2644	\$1,276,330
A18C2723	\$499,994
A19D2428	\$1,337,156
A20E4102	\$232,411
A20E2223	\$1,250,000
A21F2386	\$757,991*
A22G2423	\$502,866*
ARPA SLFRF	\$2,840,838*
A23H2493	\$0*
S7004	\$0*
A24I2464	\$0*

*Active projects incurring expenditures

40 projects completed, 38 projects in progress.

River Stewardship Program Projects 2015-2024

