



New Mexico Environment Department Surface Water Quality Bureau *River Stewardship Program*

The River Stewardship Program is designed to enhance and restore the natural functions 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.

The objectives of the River Stewardship Program:

- Enhance the economic benefits of healthy river systems, such as improved recreation opportunities to hunt, fish, float and view wildlife.
- Restore and maintain the hydrology of streams and rivers to better regulate flows and reduce flooding downstream.
- provide match funds that ensure approximately \$2.25 million per year in federal funds are awarded to New Mexico under federal Clean Water Act programs for watersheds, surface water quality and wetlands.

Combined Environmental and Economic Benefit

New Mexico has set standards that ensure surface water quality is sufficiently supporting fish and other aquatic life, recreational uses, irrigation, and municipal water supplies. Many of New Mexico's streams and rivers fail to meet these water quality standards. The River Stewardship Program projects help to ensure that water quality supports these social, economic and ecological uses.

The River Stewardship Program

- addresses water quality issues including impacts from wildfires, floods, and drought and engages local stakeholders in restoration of their waters.
- benefits New Mexico small businesses both directly through awarded restoration contracts and indirectly via increased tourism and recreational opportunities.



FUNDING SOURCES

Funds are sourced 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 competitive process conducted annually or as funding availability permits.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:



WSPPROGRAM.MANAGER@ENV.NM.GOV



New Mexico Environment Department Surface Water Quality Bureau *River Stewardship Program*

What waters are eligible for funding?

All surface waters of the state as defined by New Mexico Administrative Code (NMAC) 20.6.4.7 are eligible for funding. Contractors will perform services that include project development, management, design, permitting, and construction/implementation of restoration techniques, and pre-and post-implementation monitoring and reporting.

Evaluation criteria ensure that projects are technically sound, community-based and stakeholder driven

Project activities may include but are not limited to:

- surveying for current site conditions
- environmental monitoring
- post-fire rehabilitation
- earthmoving
- construction
- fencing
- removing non-native vegetation
- and planting native vegetation

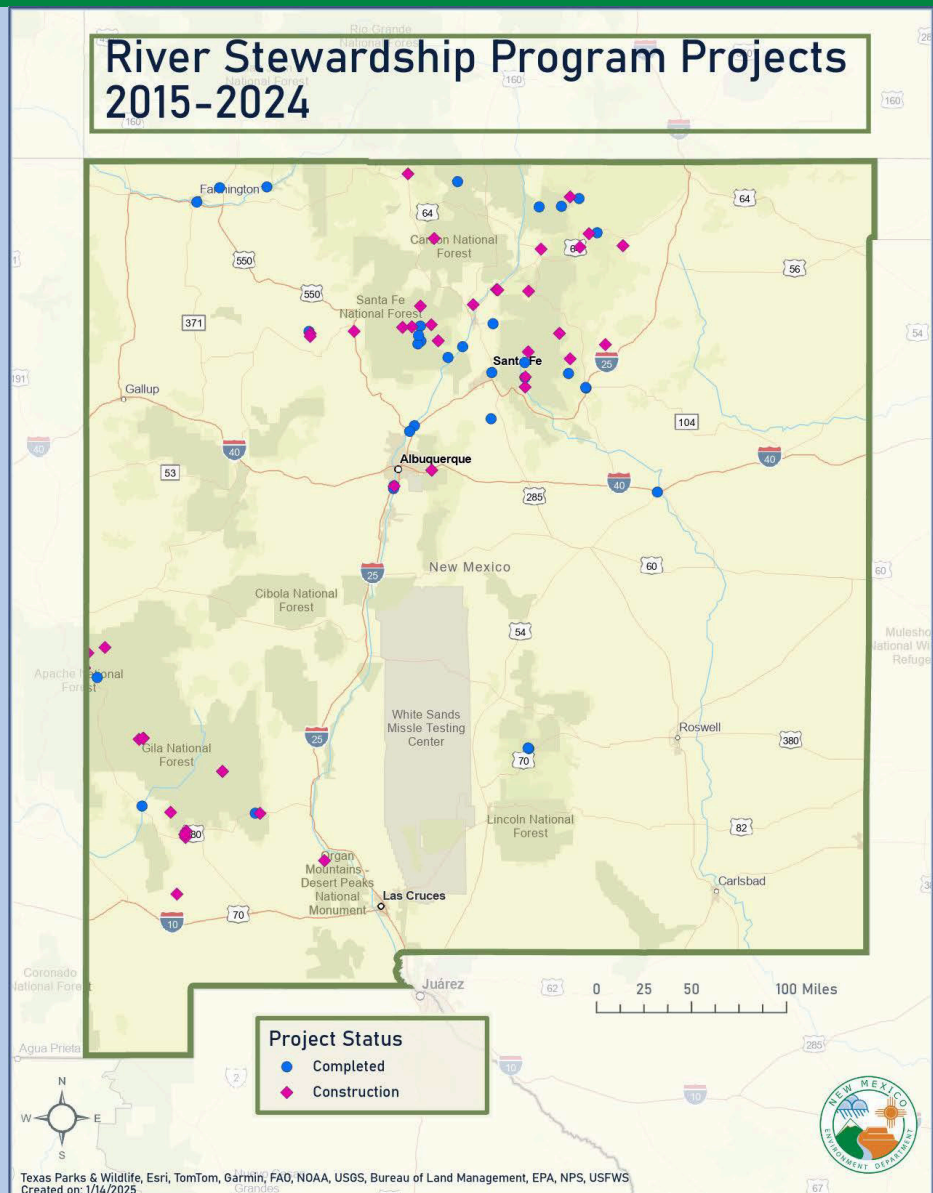
Evaluation criteria favor projects that improve water quality, enhance fish and wildlife habitat, support local economies, and that reduce downstream flood hazard



Chihuahuan Creek



San Antonio Creek



VISIT US ONLINE AT:
[HTTPS://WWW.ENV.NM.GOV/SURFACE-WATER-QUALITY/RIVER-STEWARDSHIP-PROGRAM/](https://www.env.nm.gov/surface-water-quality/river-stewardship-program/)

40 PROJECTS COMPLETED
38 PROJECTS IN PROGRESS