



# New Mexico Environment Department

Watershed Protection Assistance Program  
Samantha Ferguson, River Stewardship Coordinator  
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# Watershed Protection Assistance Program

## WPAP

Provide support for projects that directly or indirectly improve surface water quality and river habitat





# Why the program was established

- To get funding on the ground!
- To assist with activities that aren't competitive for other NMED funding opportunities.
- Help prepare projects to be competitive for larger funding opportunities.
- To assist on small projects where immediate assistance is needed.

*The program is not to fund multi-phase projects.*



# Small Funding Opportunity

Up to \$75,000 can be requested

- Eligible applicants
  - Statewide price agreement
  - Local public bodies (municipalities, counties, or political subdivisions of state or local governments)
- Two application opportunities per year
  - **April 15 and October 15**
  - 6-month or 1- year agreement terms



McCrystal Creek Restoration, Cimarron Watershed Alliance (WPAP)



# Eligible Activities

- Project planning: e.g., to collect baseline information such as watershed assessments, or to complete permitting and other environmental clearances
- Designs: to complete preliminary or final designs for a project
- Construction: to complete on-the-ground work that improves surface water quality, riparian habitat or aquatic habitat
- Maintenance: to conduct maintenance on a previous project
- Monitoring: to monitor water quality around a completed or prospective project





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## Watershed Protection

[Surface Water Quality Bureau Home](#)[Monitoring, Assessment and Standards](#)[Point Source Regulation](#)[Watershed Protection](#)

The Surface Water Quality Bureau protects New Mexico's watersheds through managing nonpoint source pollution and projects to address it. Funds are available annually through requests for proposals to support [watershed-based planning](#) and implementation of watershed-based plans. The Bureau also supports in-house activities for water quality protection, education and outreach, protection of groundwater, and interagency coordination.

The [Wetlands Program](#) is funded through the Clean Water Act for mapping, monitoring, restoration, and water quality standards development for wetlands in New Mexico. Project-specific funds are used for implementation of Wetlands Program components through requests for proposals.

[River Stewardship Program](#) projects are state-funded efforts to improve water quality and riparian habitat. Eligible applicants for the River Stewardship Program include local agencies (including cities and towns and Soil and Water Conservation Districts), for-profit and not-for-profit organizations, and Indian Nations, Pueblos, and Tribes.

### Key documents-

- [Funding Opportunities](#)
- [Current list of Section 319 and River Stewardship Program projects in New Mexico](#)
- [Nonpoint Source Management Plan](#)
- [Nonpoint Source annual reports](#)
- [Clearing the Waters newsletters](#)
- [Wildfire impacts on water quality](#)
- [Clean Water Act Section 404 and 401-Dredge and Fill Activities](#)
- [2023 U.S. Forest Service and NMED Memorandum of Understanding](#)



### Contact us

Ph: 505-827-0187 Find a list of Surface Water Quality staff contacts [here](#).

### How to access:

<https://www.env.nm.gov/surface-water-quality/funding-opportunities/>

or

Google Search:

NMED Watershed Protection



# Application Process



## Watershed Protection Assistance Program New Mexico Environment Department Surface Water Quality Bureau

1. Requester Information	
Contractor Name:	Price Agreement #:
Address:	Phone:
Project Type: <input type="text" value="Project Type"/>	Email:
Amount Requesting:	Total Project Cost:
2. Project Location	
Waterbody:	Project Title:
County: <input type="text" value="County"/>	
Coordinates: Latitude:	Longitude:
HUC 12:	
Landowner(s):	
Estimated acreage or miles of improvement:	
3. Purpose of the Project:	
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# Application Process

- <https://www.env.nm.gov/surface-water-quality/funding-opportunities/>
- Applications are due April 15<sup>th</sup> and October 15<sup>th</sup> each year.
- Submit application to:  
[wpsprogram.manager@env.nm.gov](mailto:wpsprogram.manager@env.nm.gov)
- Contracts start January 1<sup>st</sup> or July 1<sup>st</sup>





# Questions

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