

# Funding Sources for Watershed Protection/Improvement Projects.

Watershed health affects people of all backgrounds, including (but not limited to) communities, companies, schools, institutions, farmers, ranchers, and governments. Many different organizations exist to provide assistance in watershed protection efforts, and this list is meant to provide greater awareness of the funding sources that are available to benefit projects in New Mexico. The programs and grants in this document vary in mission and targeted audience, but all focus on improving environmental conservation efforts. Further information can be found by using the link or contact provided.

If you have information about a program that you feel should be added to this list, please contact: Meg Hennessey, Environmental Scientist NMED, [meg.hennessey@state.nm.us](mailto:meg.hennessey@state.nm.us)

Web site addresses are current as of April 2016.

## 1. American Canoe Association/L.L. Bean: Club Fostered Stewardship Program

[http://www.americancanoe.org/?page=LLBean\\_CFS\\_Grant](http://www.americancanoe.org/?page=LLBean_CFS_Grant)

The Club Fostered Stewardship (CFS) Program provides funding and logistical assistance to local paddling clubs that undertake stewardship projects on local waterways. The purpose of the program is to support volunteer stewardship efforts, and encourage local clubs to take an active role in helping to protect and improve the nation's recreational waterways. CFS grants are available for projects that utilize volunteers in efforts to protect, maintain or restore recreational waterways, provide for or improve public access, or enhance safe navigation.

## 2. Blue Moon Fund

<http://www.bluemoonfund.org/eligibility/>

The Blue Moon Fund makes grants to nonprofit organizations that have developed innovative, holistic approaches to improving human quality of life in harmony with the natural world. The Balancing Human and Natural Ecosystems initiative promotes new economic and culture approaches to reducing resource pressure and preserving biodiversity. The Blue Moon Fund is primarily concerned with the value of diverse ecosystems for human quality of life. The fund seeks economically sustainable development models that do not displace humans or take advantage of market forces.

## 3. Captain Planet Foundation

<http://captainplanetfoundation.org/>

The mission of the Captain Planet Foundation is to fund and support hands-on, environmental projects for children and youths. The Foundation's objective is to encourage innovative

programs that empower children and youth around the world to work individually and collectively to solve environmental problems in their neighborhoods and communities.

#### **4. Charles A. and Anne Morrow Lindbergh Foundation**

<http://www.lindberghfoundation.org/>

The Foundation is dedicated to furthering Charles and Anne Morrow Lindbergh's shared vision of a balance between technological advancement and environmental preservation. The Foundation seeks to support present and future generations in working toward such a balance, that we may "...discern nature's essential wisdom and combine it with our scientific knowledge..." (Charles A. Lindbergh) and "balance power over life with reverence for life" (Anne Morrow Lindbergh). Lindbergh Grants are made in the following categories: agriculture; aviation/aerospace; conservation of natural resources; education; exploration; health; and waste minimization and management.

#### **5. Cottonwood Foundation**

<http://www.cottonwoodfdn.org/>

The Cottonwood Foundation is dedicated to promoting empowerment of people, protection of the environment, and respect for cultural diversity. The foundation focuses its funding on committed, grass roots organizations that rely strongly on volunteer efforts and where foundation support will make a significant difference.

#### **6. Corporation for National Community Service, Learn and Serve grants**

<http://www.learnandserve.gov/>

Learn and Serve America provides direct and indirect support to K-12 schools, community groups and higher education institutions to facilitate service-learning projects by: providing grant support for school-community partnerships and higher education institutions; providing training and technical assistance resources to teachers, administrators, parents, schools and community groups; collecting and disseminating research, effective practices, curricula, and program models; and recognizing outstanding youth service through the Presidential Freedom Scholarship, President's Volunteer Service Awards and other program.

#### **7. Educational Foundation of America**

<http://www.efaw.org/>

The Educational Foundation of America (EFA) was established in 1959 to preserve the lifelong altruistic commitment of its founders, Richard Prentice Ettinger and his wife, Elsie P. Ettinger. EFA provides grants for specific projects. EFA's priorities in environmental funding are the protection and restoration of land and water, and projects that focus on renewable energy, energy conservation, and sustainable production and consumption. The Foundation also funds: air

quality protection, recycling programs, the conservation of parks and trails, ecological conservation, and technical assistance and training for environmental groups, policy-makers, and the public.

## **8. EPA Brownfields and Land Revitalization Program**

<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/>

Brownfield sites are real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. The program objectives are to provide funding: (1) to inventory, characterize, assess, and conduct planning and community involvement related to brownfield sites; (2) to capitalize a revolving loan fund (RLF) and provide subgrants to carry out cleanup activities at brownfield sites; and (3) to carry out cleanup activities at brownfield sites that are owned by the grant recipient.

## **9. EPA Environmental Education Grants**

<http://www.epa.gov/enviroed/grants.html>

Environmental Education Grants support environmental education projects that enhance the public's awareness, knowledge, and skills to help people make informed decisions that affect environmental quality. EPA's current educational priorities are for projects that: build State capacity to deliver environmental education programs; use EE to advance State education reform goals; improve teaching skills; educate the public through community-based organizations; educate teachers, health professionals, community leaders, and the public about human health threats from pollution, especially as it affects children; and promote environmental careers.

## **10. EPA Environmental Justice Grants**

<https://www3.epa.gov/region9/funding/funding-sources/enviro-justice.html>

The Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Cooperative Agreement Program provides financial assistance to eligible organizations working on or planning to work on projects to address local environmental and/or public health issues in their communities. The Environmental Justice Small Grants Program provides financial assistance to eligible organizations to build collaborative partnerships, to identify the local environmental and/or public health issues, and to envision solutions and empower the community through education, training, and outreach.

## **11. EPA Five Star Restoration Grant Program**

<http://www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands/restore/5star/>

The Five Star Restoration Program brings together students, conservation corps, other youth groups, citizen groups, corporations, landowners and government agencies to provide

environmental education and training through projects that restore wetlands and streams. The program provides challenge grants, technical support and opportunities for information exchange to enable community-based restoration projects.

## **12. EPA Targeted Watersheds Grant Program**

<https://www.epa.gov/wetlands/wetland-program-development-grants>

The Targeted Watersheds Grant program is designed to encourage successful community-based approaches and management techniques to protect and restore the nation's watersheds. Implementation Grant projects focus on a broad array of methods for addressing watershed concerns including water quality trading, agricultural BMPs, wetland and riparian restoration, nutrient management, fish habitat restoration and public outreach and education.

## **13. Freeport-McMoRan**

<http://www.freeportinmycommunity.com/nonprofits/search-our-grants#grants>

Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold lends its knowledge, business experience, and the generosity of employee volunteers to community programs. Grants are made under five focus areas: Education; Community Safety; Environment; Arts and Culture; and Community/Civic Development. Under the Environment focus area, Freeport-McMoRan provides funds to organizations or programs that fall under one of the following environmental focus areas: Environmental Quality, Conservation & Management; and Environmental Education.

## **14. Jessie Smith Noyes Foundation**

<http://www.noyes.org/>

The Jessie Smith Noyes Foundation promotes a sustainable and just social and natural system by supporting grassroots organizations and movements committed to this goal. Some funding interests are in environment and legal rights, volunteers, water and/or toxicity; reproductive and/or women's rights; community development; and sustainable agriculture.

## **15. Lorrie Otto Seeds for Education Fund**

<http://www.for-wild.org/sfecvr.html>

Wild Ones members and chapters have worked with schools and nature centers to plant and maintain natural landscapes. Projects must emphasize involvement of students and volunteers in all phases of development and increase the educational value of the site. The use of and teaching about native plants and the native plant community is mandatory, and they must be appropriate to the local ecoregion and the site conditions (soil, water, sunlight).

## **16. Maki Foundation**

<http://www.makifoundation.org/>

The Maki Foundation, established in 1981, makes grants for environmental protection in the western United States. In particular, the foundation is concerned with protection and preservation of the Rocky Mountain West's remaining wild lands, rivers, and wilderness, as well as the wildlife that depends on these lands. The Maki Foundation's geographic area of interest includes New Mexico, Colorado, Utah, Idaho, Wyoming, and Montana.

### **17. Marisla Foundation**

<https://online.foundationsource.com/public/home/marisla>

The Marisla Foundation's Environment Program concentrates on activities that promote the conservation of biological diversity and advance sustainable ecosystem management. The Environment Program also supports the search for solutions to health threats caused by toxic chemicals.

### **18. Max and Anna Levinson Foundation**

<http://www.levinsonfoundation.org/>

The Foundation makes grants to individuals and groups committed to developing a more just, caring, ecological and sustainable world. The Environment Area of Interest includes the following themes: Protection of Ecosystems and Biological Diversity; Alternative Energy and Conversion from the Oil Economy; Alternative Agriculture and Local Green Economic Development; Breaking the Link Between Resource Extraction, Civil and International Conflict, and Markets; and the Development of Environmental Movements.

### **19. McCune Charitable Foundation**

<http://www.nmmccune.org/>

The Marshall L. and Perrine D. McCune Charitable Foundation is dedicated to enriching the health, education, environment, and cultural and spiritual life of New Mexicans. The Foundation memorializes its benefactors through proactive grantmaking that seeks to foster positive social change. The Foundation's Programs include: Creating Prosperity in New Mexican Communities, New Energy Economy, Supporting Grassroots Economic Development, and the Arts Economy.

### **20. Merck Family Fund**

<http://www.merckff.org/>

The Merck Family Fund's goals include restoring and protecting the natural environment and ensuring a healthy planet for generations to come, and strengthening the social fabric and the physical landscape of the urban community.

## **21. National Fish and Wildlife Foundation: Bring Back Natives, Keystone Initiative**

<http://www.nfwf.org/>  
<http://www.nfwf.org/spirit/Pages/home.aspx>

NFWF provides funding on a competitive basis to projects that sustain, restore, and enhance our nation's fish, wildlife, and plants and their habitats.

## **22. National Park Service: Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program**

<http://www.nps.gov/orgs/rtca/index.htm>

The Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program is the community assistance arm of the National Park Service. RTCA staff provides technical assistance to community groups and nonprofit organizations, community groups, Indian Nations, Pueblos, and Tribes or their governments, and local, State, or federal government agencies so they can conserve rivers, preserve open space, and develop trails and greenways.

## **23. Natural Resources Conservation Service: Funding Programs**

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/nm/programs/>

NRCS's natural resources conservation programs help people reduce soil erosion, enhance water supplies, improve water quality, increase wildlife habitat, and reduce damages caused by floods and other natural disasters.

## **24. New Mexico Environment Department: Clean Water State Revolving Fund**

<https://www.env.nm.gov/cpb/CWSRFPPage.htm>

NMED maintains a revolving loan fund to provide a source of low-cost financing for a wide range of wastewater or storm drainage projects that protect surface and ground water. Funds may also be used for projects that control nonpoint source water pollution, such as solid waste and septic tank installations.

## **25. New Mexico Environment Department: EPA Wetland Program Development Grants**

[http://water.epa.gov/grants\\_funding/wetlands/grantguidelines/](http://water.epa.gov/grants_funding/wetlands/grantguidelines/)

Wetland Program Development Grants (WPDGs) provide eligible applicants an opportunity to conduct projects that promote the coordination and acceleration of research, investigations, experiments, training, demonstrations, surveys, and studies relating to the causes, effects, extent, prevention, reduction, and elimination of water pollution.

## **26. New Mexico Game and Fish Department: Various programs to protect wildlife,**

**enhance habitat while providing education programs for individuals and agencies.**

<http://www.wildlife.state.nm.us/conservation/comprehensive-wildlife-conservation-strategy/>

NM Game and Fish Department's mission is to conserve, regulate, propagate and protect the wildlife and fish within the state of New Mexico using a flexible management system that ensures sustainable use for public food supply, recreation and safety; and to provide for off highway motor vehicle recreation that recognizes cultural, historic, and resource values while ensuring public safety. Habitat Stamp and Big Game Enhancement Restoration Funds allocate available resources through multi-agency, multi-year collaborative agreements.

## **27. New Mexico Soil and Water Conservation Grant Program**

These funds are awarded by the SWCC through the Water Quality and Conservation Grant Program. The goal of the grant program is to promote the health of New Mexico's watersheds and conserve the water resources they produce. A limited number of projects addressing one or more of the following areas will be funded over the next fiscal year; Watershed Improvement/Management, Irrigation Efficiency, Riparian Restoration, Natural Resource Information and Education, Ground Water Protection/Conservation. New Mexico's Soil and Water Conservation Districts have to be active participants in the proposal.

Contact [pdepner@nmda.nmsu.edu](mailto:pdepner@nmda.nmsu.edu) for details.

## **28. New Mexico State Legislature: Water Trust Board**

<http://www.nmfa.net/governance/water-trust-board/>

The Water Trust Board was established in 2001 to recommend water projects to the State Legislature for appropriation of funding, in the form of grants or loans, from the Water Project Fund. These water projects must be for: water storage, conveyance, or delivery of water to end users; implementation of federal Endangered Species Act of 1973 collaborative programs; restoration and management of watersheds; flood prevention; or water conservation.

## **29. New Mexico State Forestry Division: Various programs for communities, forests, plants and resource management.**

<http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us/SFD/index.html>

New Mexico State Forestry is responsible for wildfire suppression on all non-federal, nonmunicipal, non-tribal and non-pueblo lands. We also provide technical advice on forest and resource management to private landowners, and may include a commercial timber harvest to enhance wildlife habitat, increase water yield, reduce the hazard of insect infestation, diseases or fire including various programs to assist in resource enhancement, management and wildland urban interface fire protection for homeowners.

### **30. New Mexico State Parks Division: Land and Water Conservation**

<http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us/SPD/Landandwater.html>

State Parks administers the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) federal grant Program. Funds are provided through the U.S. Department of Interior's National Park Service. The LWCF Program is a 50 % federal and 50 % local matching grant program. The LWCF Fund Act of 1965 created a program to stimulate, encourage and assist state and local governments to acquire, develop and improve viable outdoor recreation areas and facilities.

### **31. New Mexico Department of Transportation: Recreational Trails**

The NM Department of Transportation is responsible for administering the Recreational Trails Program (RTP). The RTP is a federal assistance program made possible through the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration. The RTP provides up to 80% of project funds to develop, improve and maintain trails and trail-related facilities for motorized and non-motorized recreational trail uses.

For more information contact: Aaron Detter, Scenic Byway Coordinator, email: [aaron.detter@state.nm.us](mailto:aaron.detter@state.nm.us)

### **32. Patagonia :Environmental Grants**

<http://www.patagonia.com/web/us/patagonia.go?assetid=2927>

Patagonia has pledged 1% of sales to the preservation and restoration of the natural environment. Patagonia makes grants to grassroots organizations that identify and work on the root causes of environmental problems and that approach issues with a commitment to long-term change and to making a difference in their local communities.

### **33. Turner Foundation**

<http://www.turnerfoundation.org/>

The Turner Foundation is a private, independent family foundation committed to preventing damage to the natural systems - water, air, and land. The Foundation makes grants in the areas of the environment and population and focuses on four main components: Safeguarding Habitat; Growing the Movement; Creating Solutions for Sustainable Living; and Healthy Planet, Healthy Communities.

### **34. United States Bureau of Reclamation: Various water conservation programs**

<http://www.usbr.gov/WaterSMART/>

The Bureau of Reclamation is seeking proposals for its WaterSMART Water and Energy Efficiency Grant funding opportunity. Projects that are eligible must conserve water or result in

other improvements that address water supply sustainability in the West.

### **35. USDA Agriculture and Food Research Initiative: Various competitive grants for education, community, agriculture and resource enhancement and management.**

<https://nifa.usda.gov/funding-opportunity/agriculture-and-food-research-initiative-water-agriculture-challenge-area>

The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) is an agency within the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), part of the executive branch of the Federal Government. Congress created NIFA through the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008. NIFA replaced the former Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (REE). The USDA-REE agencies provide federal leadership in creating and disseminating knowledge spanning the biological, physical, and social sciences related to agricultural research, economic analysis, statistics, extension, and higher education.

### **36. USDA National Forest: Collaborative Forest Restoration Program**

[http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/r3/workingtogether/grants/?cid=fsbdev3\\_022022](http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/r3/workingtogether/grants/?cid=fsbdev3_022022)

Since 2001 the Collaborative Forest Restoration Program (CFRP) has funded 175 projects including close to 500 partners in planning and implementing collaborative forest restoration and small diameter utilization projects in 20 counties across New Mexico. These projects have restored over 30,000 acres and created over 700 jobs.

### **37. USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service: Financial Assistance Programs**

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial>

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) offers voluntary programs to eligible landowners and agricultural producers to provide financial and technical assistance to help manage natural resources in a sustainable manner. Through these programs the agency approves contracts to provide financial assistance to help plan and implement conservation practices that address natural resource concerns or opportunities to help save energy, improve soil, water, plant, air, animal and related resources on agricultural lands and non-industrial private forest land. Several of these programs have been funded under legislation commonly referred to as the Farm Bill.

### **38. USDA Rural Development**

[http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/RD\\_Grants.html](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/RD_Grants.html)

Financial programs support such essential public facilities and services as water and sewer systems, housing, health clinics, emergency service facilities and electric and telephone service. Rural Development promotes economic development by supporting loans to businesses through banks, credit unions and community-managed lending pools. They offer technical assistance and

information to help agricultural producers and cooperatives get started and improve the effectiveness of their operations. Rural Development provides technical assistance to help communities undertake community empowerment programs.

### **39. USDI Bureau of Land Management: Restore NM**

[http://www.blm.gov/nm/st/en/prog/restore\\_new\\_mexico.html](http://www.blm.gov/nm/st/en/prog/restore_new_mexico.html)

In 2005, the New Mexico Bureau of Land Management (BLM) launched the Restore New Mexico initiative with the goal of restoring disturbed lands on a landscape scale through an ambitious partnership approach. What began as a concept has become a widely-successful restoration and reclamation program involving numerous agencies, organizations, ranchers and industry groups. Landscape restoration in New Mexico has focused on controlling invasive brush species, improving riparian habitat, reducing woodland encroachment, and reclaiming abandoned oil and gas well pads.

### **40. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service: Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program**

[http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/NewMexico/PFW\\_home.cfm](http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/NewMexico/PFW_home.cfm)

The Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program is a voluntary partnership program that provides technical and financial assistance to non-federal landowners to improve fish and wildlife habitats for federal trust species (e.g., threatened, endangered, and candidate species, migratory birds, and other declining species).

### **41. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service: Standard and Small Grants Program**

<http://www.fws.gov/birds/grants/north-american-wetland-conservation-act/small-grants.php>

<http://www.fws.gov/birds/grants/north-american-wetland-conservation-act/standard-grants.php>

The Standard and Small Grant Programs are competitive, matching grant programs that support public-private partnerships carrying out projects in the United States that further the goals of the North American Wetlands Conservation Act. These projects must involve long-term protection, restoration, and/or enhancement of wetlands and associated uplands habitats for the benefit of all wetlands-associated migratory birds.

### **42. Western Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) Grant**

<http://www.sare.org/Grants>

SARE is a program of the U.S. Department of Agriculture that functions through competitive grants conducted cooperatively by farmers, ranchers, researchers and ag professionals to advance farm and ranch systems that are profitable, environmentally sound and good for communities. SARE grants are used to increase knowledge about sustainable agricultural practices and to help farmers and ranchers adopt those practices.

### **43. Wilburforce**

<http://www.wilburforce.org/>

The Wilburforce Foundation protects wildlife and targeted wildlands in Western North America by actively supporting organizations and leaders advancing conservation solutions. The foundation supports efforts to create a network of protected core reserves, corridors and buffer zones across Western North America that will support ecologically effective landscapes and viable wildlife populations.

### **44. William and Flora Hewlett Foundation**

<http://www.hewlett.org/Programs/Environment/>

The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation makes grants to address the most serious social and environmental problems facing society. The Foundation places a high value on sustaining and improving institutions that make positive contributions to society. One of the goals of the Environment Program is to save the great ecosystems of the North American West.

### **45. William C. Kenney Watershed Protection Foundation**

<http://kenneybrosfdn.org/>

The Foundation funds projects that provide opportunity to change western water policy, defend environmental laws, or use a specific strategy to protect biologically important watersheds. Another program encourages research and analysis of western water issues, including water demand management alternatives, transfer mechanisms, and policy commentary.

## **Grant Search Resources**

### **Boise State University Environmental Finance Center Directory of Watershed Resources**

<http://efc.boisestate.edu/watershed/>

Environmental Finance Center (EFC) at Boise State University created the Directory of Watershed Resources; an on-line, searchable database for watershed restoration funding. The Directory includes information on funding programs available from federal, state, private, and other sources. Users can query the information through a detailed search or searching by agency sources or keyword.

### **EPA Catalog of Federal Funding Sources for Watershed Protection**

<https://ofmpub.epa.gov/apex/watershedfunding/f?p=fedfund:1>

The Catalog of Federal Funding Sources for Watershed Protection Web site is a searchable

database of financial assistance sources (grants, loans, and cost-sharing) available to fund a variety of watershed protection projects.

### **Foundation Center: Philanthropy News Digest**

[http://philanthropynewsdigest.org/rfps?search=1&tags\\_interest\[\]=environment](http://philanthropynewsdigest.org/rfps?search=1&tags_interest[]=environment)

Compilation of recent requests for proposals and/or funding opportunities in the area of environment, both for individuals and organizations.

### **Fundsnet Grant Directory**

<http://www.fundsnet.com/searchresult.php?sbcid=13>  
<http://www.fundsnet.com/searchresult/70/New-Mexico-Grants.html>  
:A collection of environment and conservation grants by Fundsnet.

### **National Council for Science and the Environment: National Library for the Environment**

<http://www.ncseonline.org/>

A compilation of foundations providing grants for environmental purposes.

### **Red Lodge Clearinghouse**

<http://rlch.org/>

Through case studies, funding information, handbooks, news stories, and summaries of laws, the Red Lodge Clearinghouse supports, connects and informs the partners of collaborative initiatives and others addressing natural resource challenges in their community.

### **River Network**

<http://www.rivernetwork.org/index.php>

River Network works to protect and restore America's rivers by building the capacity of grassroots organizations and acquiring threatened riverlands. River Network offers publications, fundraising tips, technical assistance and resources, and opportunities to network with other groups across the country. River Network's Resource Library provides tools on how to raise more money, build stronger organizations, and protect rivers and their watersheds.

### **USDA National Agriculture Library: Water Quality Information Center**

<http://wqic.nal.usda.gov/>

This resource offers a large selection of links for specific water quality funding programs and opportunities across the US government. The funding opportunities come from departments such as the DOI, EPA, FHA, NOAA, USDA, and USGS, among others.