



Colorado River Forum



New Mexico's Water Past, Present and Future: The 50 Year Plan and Growing Water Literacy and Leaders



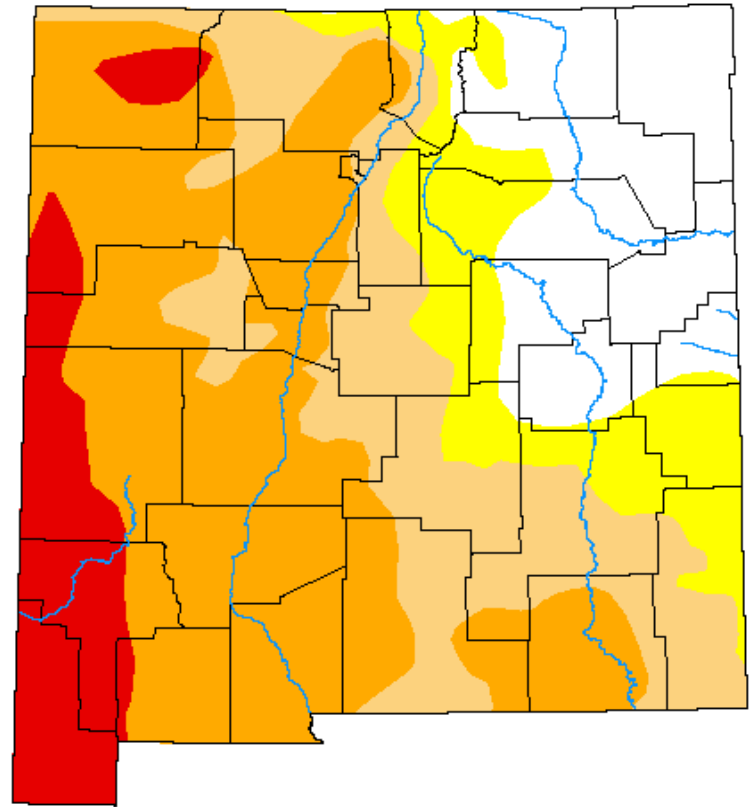
Tanya Trujillo, Office of the State Engineer, Deputy State Engineer
Stacy Timmons, Associate Director of Hydrology Programs
New Mexico Bureau of Geology, New Mexico Tech

November 13, 2025



U.S. Drought Monitor New Mexico

October 21, 2025
(Released Thursday, Oct. 23, 2025)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	18.26	81.74	69.25	47.30	10.16	0.00
Last Week 10-14-2025	19.19	80.81	68.35	46.20	10.37	0.60
3 Months Ago 07-22-2025	7.23	92.77	77.53	62.84	31.81	5.99
Start of Calendar Year 01-07-2025	43.30	56.70	35.22	19.69	5.37	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-30-2025	19.91	80.09	68.67	47.53	14.45	2.41
One Year Ago 10-22-2024	21.24	78.76	33.19	19.25	6.52	0.00

Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

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droughtmonitor.unl.edu



NEW MEXICO BUREAU OF GEOLOGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES

Bulletin 164

2022

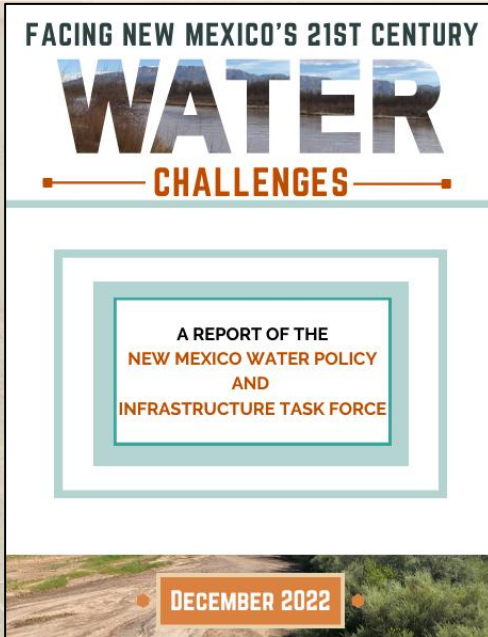
Climate Change in New Mexico Over the Next 50 Years: Impacts on Water Resources

Editors and Contributing Authors: Nelia W. Dunbar, David S. Gutzler, Kristin S. Pearthree, Fred M. Phillips, Paul W. Bauer

Contributing Authors: Craig D. Allen, David DuBois, Michael D. Harvey, J. Phillip King, Leslie D. McFadden, Bruce M. Thomson, Anne C. Tillery

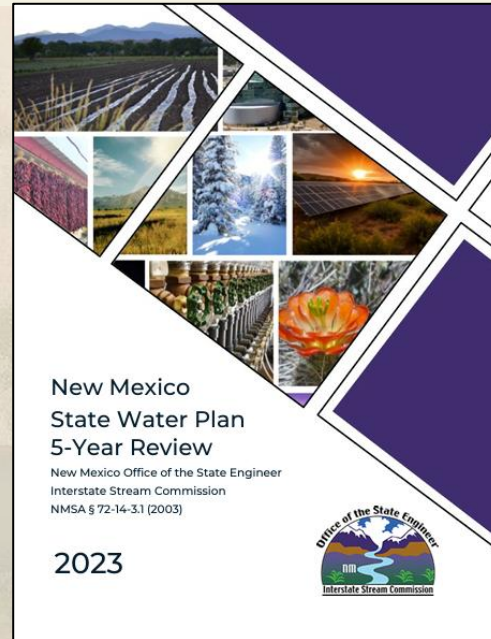


WATER RESOURCES



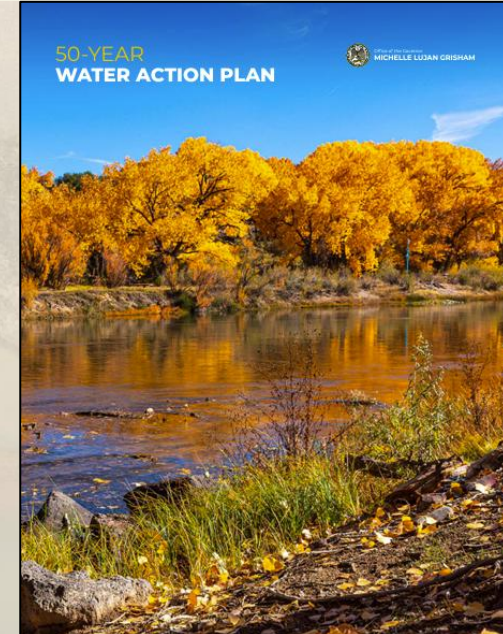
2022 Water Policy & Infrastructure Task Force

- 17 Recommendations
- 106 strategies
- Multi-year phased implementation



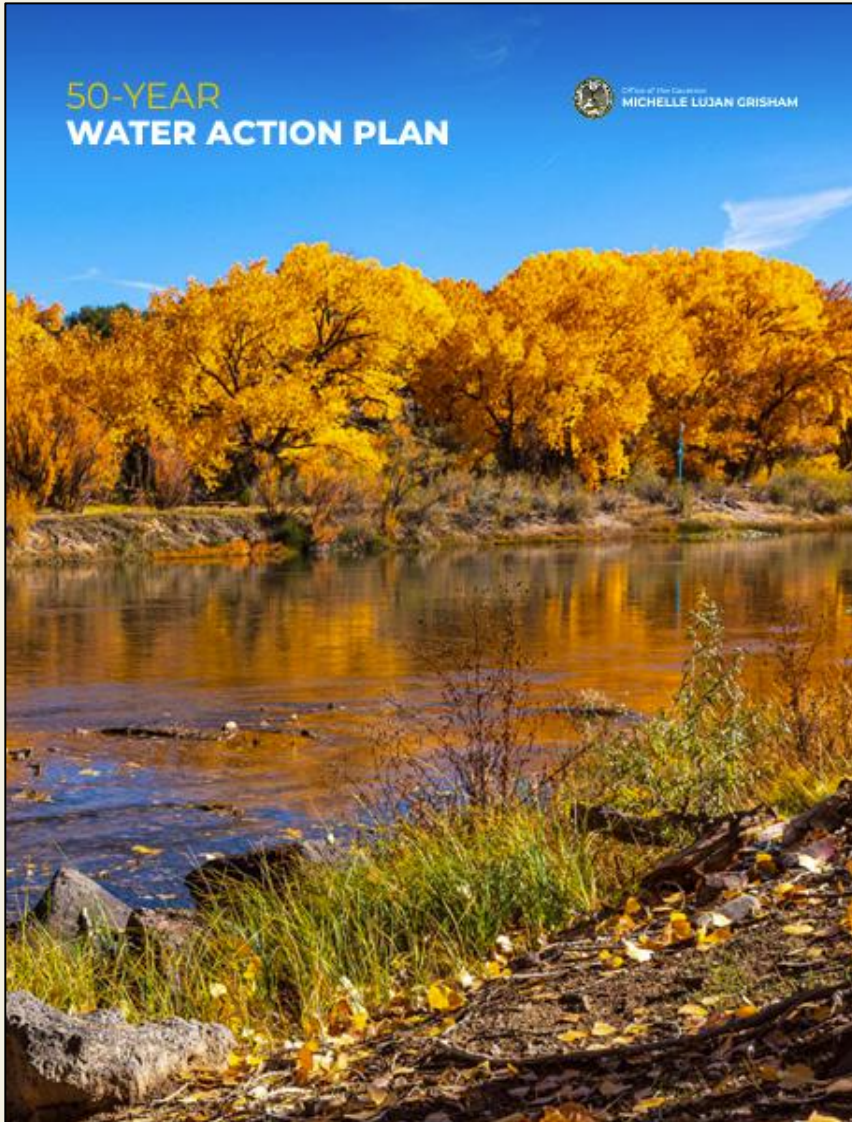
2023 State Water Plan Review

- Updates 2018 Plan
- Recommends investing in revitalized regional water planning



2024 Governor's 50-Year Water Action Plan

- Water conservation
- New water supplies
- Water & watershed protection



Water Conservation

- A1 Education program development
- A2 Incentivize agricultural water conservation
- A3 Reduce leaks in drinking water infrastructure/ increase municipal conservation
- A4 Improve water storage and delivery systems

New Water Supplies

- B1 Strategic Water Supply to develop treated brackish water (initial \$40M appropriation)
- B2 Adopt policies to expand potable and non-potable water reuse
- B3 Improve groundwater mapping and monitoring

Water and Watershed Protection

- C1 Clean up contaminated groundwater sites
- C2 Develop a surface water discharge permitting program
- C3 Modernize wastewater treatment plants & stormwater infrastructure
- C4 Protect & restore watersheds



Forward Progress: Water Wins in 2025 Legislative Session (BUDGET - \$393M)



<p>Conservation & Infrastructure (\$272M)</p>	<p>\$200M – water project fund \$25M – Indian water rights settlements \$15M – Rural Infrastructure Program Fund \$6M – water planning and education \$5M – ag water conservation projects</p>
<p>New Sources (\$57.5M)</p>	<p>\$40M strategic water supply \$8M brackish water tech, research & NMSU lab \$7.5M aquifer monitoring and mapping \$2M water data act</p>
<p>Protection & Restoration (\$63.7M)</p>	<p>\$20M – clean up contaminated sites \$20M – forest management and restoration \$15M – natural resources damage assessments & restoration \$5.7M – Superfund sites \$3M – address PFAS contamination</p>

Amounts on this slide are new nonrecurring appropriations in House Bill 2 (2025).

Not included: recurring agency funding, capital outlay bill, and Public Project Revolving Fund appropriations.



Action A1 – Water Education – Spotlight on Implementation of the Water Security Planning Act



Water Security Planning Act Implementation



Passage of the Water Security Planning Act



Public & Tribal Input
Create Water Security Tribal Advisory Council (WSTAC)



Finalize Rules and Guidelines Based on Input & Initiate Regional Planning
WSTAC Ongoing



Iterative, Staggered Regional Water Planning
WSTAC Ongoing



50 Year Water Action Plan

