

FY26 Budget and Statutory Recommendations for a Secure Water Future

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NM's Water Challenges: Aridification, Drought, Wildfire, and Flooding

NEW MEXICO BUREAU OF GEOLOGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES

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

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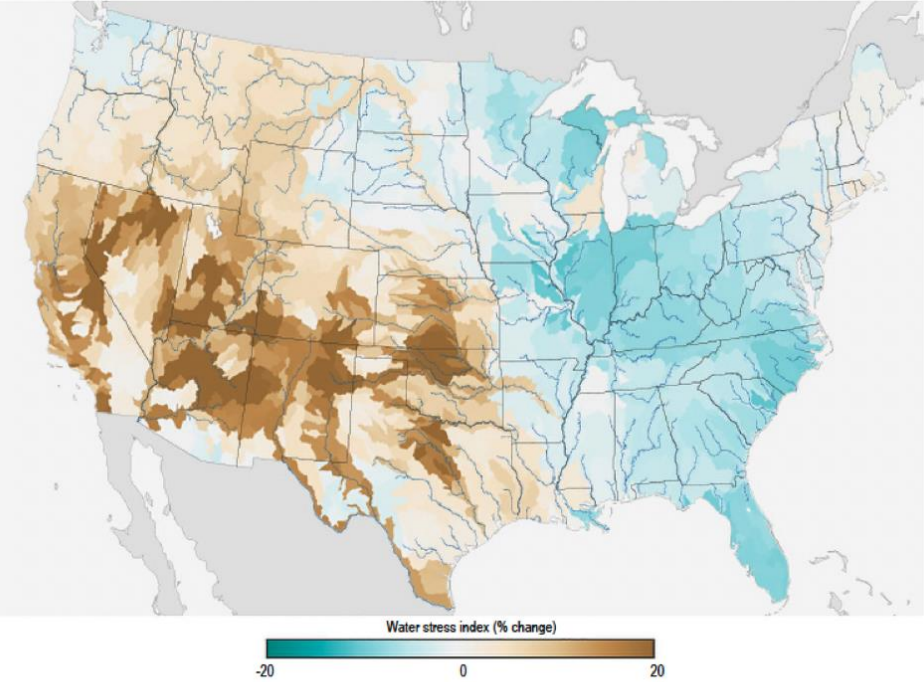


Figure 7.1. Projected change in water stress by mid-century (2040-2061) compared to historical (1900-1970) average (Lindsey, 2013).

FACING NEW MEXICO'S 21ST CENTURY

WATER

CHALLENGES

A REPORT OF THE
NEW MEXICO WATER POLICY
AND
INFRASTRUCTURE TASK FORCE

DECEMBER 2022

50-YEAR
WATER ACTION PLAN

MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

Appropriations

\$ 360.1M Total

Invested to meet urgent needs and build the resilience of our water systems.



1. Water for families and farms

\$161.2M

• Community water systems: regionalization and infrastructure	\$100M	NMFA / Water Trust Fund
• Indian water right settlements: state funding to leverage billions in federal funds	\$40M	OSE/ISC
• Agricultural water resilience: support for new technologies and practices	\$10M	NMDA
• Acequias and community ditches: disaster recovery funds, leverage for federal funds	\$11.2M	ISC

2. Water for nature

\$147M

• Wildfire, flooding, and drought disaster recovery: loans and matching funds	\$100M	DFA
• Forest Action Plan implementation	\$32M	EMNRD
• River Stewardship Program	\$10M	NMED
• Strategic Water Reserve	\$5M	ISC

3. Modernizing water management

\$51.9M

• Aquifer mapping and monitoring	\$28.7M	NMBGMR/HED
• Water Data Act implementation	\$5.2M	NMBGMR, OSE/ISC, NMED, EMNRD
• Technical support for regional water planning	\$5M	OSE/ISC
• Salary adjustments and new positions for priorities	\$5.75M <small>(recurring)</small>	OSE/ISC/NMED/ NMDA/IAD/DFA
• Water Data Act implementation	\$2.14M <small>(recurring)</small>	NMBGMR, OSE/ISC NMED, EMNRD
• Irrigation and acequia trust funds	\$2.5M <small>(recurring)</small>	OSE/ISC
• Data analysis and hydrogeologic modeling	\$1.5M <small>(recurring)</small>	NMBGMR/HED
• Community engagement in regional water planning	\$800,000 <small>(recurring)</small>	OSE/ISC
• Agricultural water resilience coordinator position	\$175,000 <small>(recurring)</small>	NMDA
• Staff for the NM Acequia Commission	\$170,000 <small>(recurring)</small>	DFA

Statutory Reforms

- **Amend the Water Quality Act** to authorize a state surface water permitting program that protects streams and wetlands, filling the gap created by the removal of federal protections from most of New Mexico's waterways.
- **Expand the uses of the Strategic Water Reserve** to increase flexibility and effectiveness in addressing local water needs.
- **Modernize water law enforcement** by increasing monitoring and fines while protecting the rights of vulnerable communities.

A Strategic & Integrated Approach to our Water Challenges

Water for Families, Farms, & the Economy

Drinking Water , Food, & Economic Security



Total: \$161.2 million

- **Community water systems** - regionalization and infrastructure - NMFA/Water Trust Fund \$100M
- **Indian water right settlements** - state funding to leverage >\$3B in federal funds - OSE/ISC \$40M
- **Agricultural water resilience** – support for new technologies and practices - NMDA \$11.2M
- **Acequias and community ditches** - disaster recovery funds, leverage for federal funds - ISC \$10M

Water for Nature

Watershed, River, Wetland, & Aquifer Health



Total: \$147 million

- **Wildfire, flooding, and drought disaster recovery** - loans and matching funds – DFA \$100M
- **Forest Action Plan implementation** – EMNRD \$32M
- **River Stewardship Program** – NMED \$10M
- **Strategic Water Reserve** – ISC \$5M

Modernizing Water Management

Science, Data, & Community-Driven Solutions



Total: \$51.9 million

- **Aquifer mapping and monitoring** – NMBGMR /HED \$28.7M
- **Water Data Act implementation** - NMBGMR, OSE/ISC, NMED, EMNRD \$5.2M
- **Technical support for regional water planning** – OSE/ISC \$5M

Recurring funds:

- Salary adjustments and new positions for water priorities – OSE/ISC/NMED/NMDA/IAD/DFA \$5.75M
- Water Data Act implementation – NMBGMR, OSE/ISC, NMED, EMNRD \$2.14M
- Irrigation and acequia trust funds – OSE/ISC \$2.5M
- Data analysis and hydrogeologic modeling – NMBGMR/HED \$1.5M
- Community engagement in regional water planning – OSE/ISC \$800,000
- Agricultural water resilience coordinator position – NMDA \$175,000
- Staffing for the NM Acequia Commission – DFA \$170,000

Statutory Reforms

Clean, Reliable Water for People and Nature



- **Amend the Water Quality Act (NMED)** to authorize a state surface water permitting program that protects streams and wetlands, filling the gap created by the removal of federal protections from most of New Mexico's waterways.
- **Expand the uses of the Strategic Water Reserve (ISC)** to increase its flexibility and effectiveness in addressing local water needs.
- **Modernize water law enforcement (OSE)** by increasing monitoring and fines while protecting the rights of vulnerable communities.

Recap: Water Can't Wait

Strategic, Integrated Appropriations & Reforms

