



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



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.

A scenic view of a river flowing through a forested area. In the foreground, a small dam or weir structure made of logs and rocks is visible, with water cascading over it. The river flows towards the background, surrounded by dense evergreen trees. The sky is blue with some clouds.

San Antonio Creek



40 PROJECTS COMPLETED
38 PROJECTS IN PROGRESS