



Office of the Governor

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Land of Enchantment Bond: Conserving New Mexico's natural resources

New Mexico has a rich history of agricultural, cultural, and recreational land and water use. It is critical that we invest in conserving these lands for future generations. A \$50 million general obligation bond for investments in state programs that protect and preserve our lands and waters would have a transformational impact on conservation on public and private lands in New Mexico by giving agencies the sustainable funding they need to plan long-term impactful projects.

WHY NOW

In the face of a changing climate, we must take care of our lands and waters – and building the resilience of our natural resources is essential to ensuring water security and economic prosperity now and into the future. Drought, heat, and longer and more intense fire seasons are already taking their toll. By investing in effective land management practices today, we can prevent the worst impacts of climate change and preserve our traditional land uses.

The programs the bond would fund are already authorized but have either received no funding or little funding for years. The Land of Enchantment Bond would make it possible to consistently fund many of the programs that protect and preserve our lands and waters.



Protecting and preserving New Mexico's lands and waters with the Land of Enchantment Bond

HOW IT WORKS

The **\$50 million general obligation bond** would be distributed among several state agencies and supplement existing programs aimed at:

- Reducing wildfire risks
- Restoring forests and watersheds
- Expanding outdoor recreation opportunities including hunting, fishing, hiking and camping
- Improving wildlife habitat and carbon sequestration through responsible land management
- Expanding and improving state wildlife management areas
- Enhancing partnerships supporting conservation and landscape improvement initiatives on private working lands.

Numbers by department:

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| • Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources: \$12,000,000 | • Agriculture: \$12,000,000 |
| • Economic Development, Outdoor Recreation Division: \$9,500,000 | • Environment: \$7,000,000 |
| • Game and Fish: \$2,500,000 | • Cultural Affairs: \$7,000,000 |

The Land of Enchantment bond will be included in the general obligations bond bill during the legislative session. Once passed by the Legislature, the bond proposal will be decided by New Mexico voters on a statewide ballot in 2022.