

FY23 BUDGET REPORT

NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF GAME AND FISH



CONSERVATION, STEWARDSHIP, RECREATION AND CONSERVATION

The New Mexico Department of Game and Fish brings nearly \$1 billion a year to the state's economy, often to rural areas where funds are needed most. Receiving no money from the state's General Fund, we are funded by our customers — the hunters, trappers and anglers who enable us to conserve wildlife and provide recreational opportunities that benefit everyone.

License sales annually provide approximately \$20 million, our primary funding source. This is supplemented by the federal Sport Fish and Wildlife Restoration Program which provides an additional \$12 million by matching on a three-to-one basis the dollars we invest in conservation. With these funds from hunting and fishing we provide services that extend far beyond license sales or simply patrolling for poachers.

- Our highly qualified biologists use the best science available to manage the state's wildlife for more than 100,000 hunters and 800,000 outdoor enthusiasts to enjoy annually.
- Millions of trout, catfish, walleye and other fish are stocked each year for the enjoyment of more than 250,000 anglers who visit our state's lakes and streams.
- Partnerships with private landowners, land management agencies and conservation groups to improve habitat and allow healthy populations of game and other species to thrive.
- More than 100 skilled and professionally trained conservation officers patrol the state to protect wildlife from poaching and other illegal activities, respond to human-wildlife



encounters, and keep people, property and wildlife out of jeopardy.

- By managing the state's Off-Highway Vehicle Program, we help riders safely and responsibly enjoy the outdoors through safety training, permit requirements and enforcement.
- Each year, thousands of New Mexico's youngsters learn about their wildlife heritage and wildlife conservation through our hunter safety courses, fishing clinics, public school outreach and the National Archery in the Schools Program.

The combined support of hunters, trappers and anglers in the field makes possible the programs and services that steward some of New Mexico's most precious natural resources.

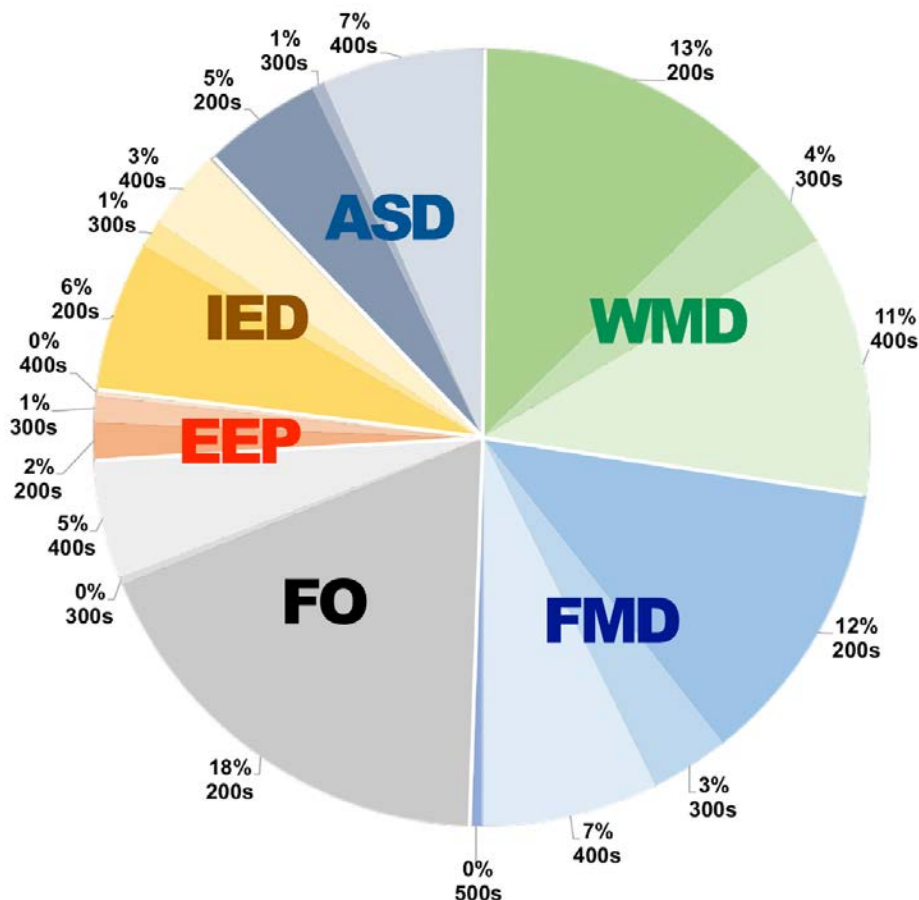


NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF GAME AND FISH

FULL TIME EMPLOYEES	307.50
TOTAL BUDGET	\$46,547,900
PERSONNEL SERVICES	\$26,902,700
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	\$4,677,600
OTHER COSTS	\$14,785,300
OTHER FINANCING COSTS	\$182,300

OVERVIEW

The New Mexico Department of Game and Fish is requesting \$46.5 million for fiscal year 2023 to provide objective and balanced conservation programs to benefit wildlife species and habitats statewide, to regulate and enforce wildlife laws, rules and regulations, to restore habitat and wildlife species statewide, provide outdoors skills-based education, and to promote New Mexico's wildlife-associated recreation including hunting and fishing.





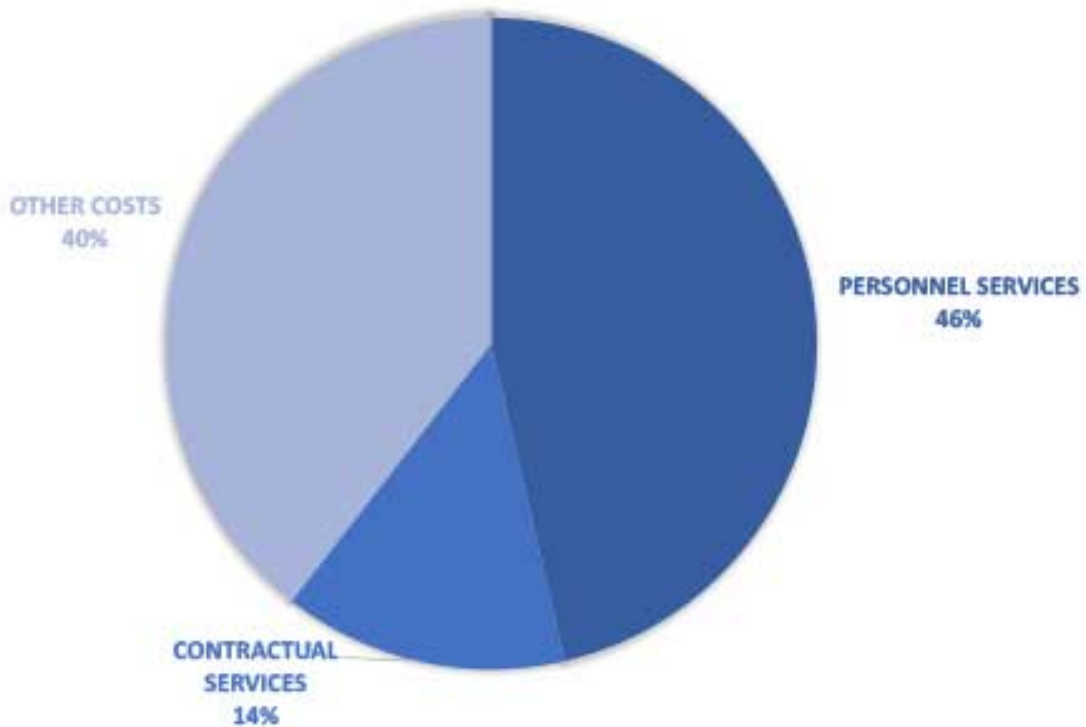
WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

FULL TIME EMPLOYEES	57.00
TOTAL BUDGET	\$11,510,624
PERSONNEL SERVICES	\$5,338,700
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	\$1,625,600
OTHER COSTS	\$4,546,324

OVERVIEW

The Wildlife Management Division (WMD) has 3 Sections that oversee Wildlife Management Areas, lands, and statewide habitat restoration; wildlife research, management, and restoration; and private lands and depredation, nuisance, and abatement programs. In addition, the Department pays for hunter and angler access to approximately 7 million acres of State Trust Lands.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT DIVISION



198-1100 GAME PROTECTION FUND

FULL TIME EMPLOYEES	25.00*
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*3 Positions supervised by the chief but work mostly with the Wildlife Section.

TOTAL BUDGET	~\$4,626,000
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PERSONNEL SERVICES	~\$2,221,000
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CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	~\$755,000
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OTHER COSTS	~\$1,650,000
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772-1100 BIG GAME ENHANCEMENT FUND

TOTAL BUDGET	\$841,700
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PERSONNEL SERVICES	\$101,700
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CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	\$430,000
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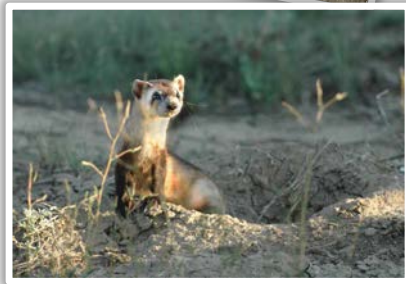
OTHER COSTS	\$310,000
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WILDLIFE SECTION

- Helicopter and fixed-wing airplane surveys for deer, elk, pronghorn, bighorn, oryx, ibex, and waterfowl to monitor population trends and dynamics. This is used in setting harvest limits and other aspects of the hunting seasons.
- Radio-collar cougars and place cameras in the field to estimate cougar density and habitat use in the Gila. Data will be used in an Integrated Population Model and in setting harvest limits.
- Use hair-snares and cameras to estimate bear density in the Gila and the greater Dry Cimarron. Data will be used in setting harvest limits.
- Trap and transplant ungulates from areas of high densities to suitable habitat that is vacant or has low numbers. Pronghorn and Rocky Mountain bighorn are potential species for transplants.
- Complete data analysis and report writing for a multi-year movement and migration study for deer, elk, and pronghorn in northern New Mexico. Understanding how ungulates move across the landscape will enable targeted habitat protection and enhancement, especially during sensitive times of the year.
- Investigate opportunities to use drones to survey and monitor wildlife species.
- Laboratory analysis of bear and cougar tooth to determine age of hunter-harvested animals. Data is used to monitor population structure and set appropriate harvest limits.
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- Laboratory analysis of bear and cougar tooth to determine age of hunter-harvested animals. Data is used to monitor population structure and set appropriate harvest limits.
- Remove cougars to protect bighorn sheep herds where cougar predation is preventing reaching management goals.
- Maintain captive desert bighorn facility at Red Rock. This population serves as a primary source herd for desert bighorn sheep transplants to vacant or low-density habitat.
- Cooperate with NM Ranch Properties for joint management of the desert bighorn sheep herd on the 100% privately owned Fra Cristobal Mountains. This contributes to surveys, cougar removal, monitoring, and other management activities.
- Provide support for the NMSU Cooperative Research Unit. These funds are used on research projects of interest to NMDGF, and for staff time for consulting on statistics and other technical issues.
- Collect biological samples from hunter-harvested cervids and test them for chronic wasting disease (CWD). This information is used in monitoring the prevalence and spread of the disease, and to inform hunters if their harvested deer or elk is positive.



- Investigate disease outbreaks to determine cause and treatment if possible.
- Interact with the public through emails, phone calls, and public meetings to answer question and address concerns.
- Participate in rule development. This includes data analysis, internal discussion, public meetings, and meeting the requirements of the rule making process.
- Participate in interagency collaboration with BLM, USFS, USFWS, SLO, NMED, DOD, BOR, State Parks, and other agencies. Interactions include reviewing proposals and environmental assessments, developing and implementing joint research and management actions, and coordinating on-the-ground efforts.
- Participate in technical committees and attend professional meetings. These meetings provide educational opportunities for staff and allow them to engage in management on a regional or national level.
- Collaborate with the USFWS on threatened, endangered, and proposed species management. This includes participating in Species Status Assessment development, commenting on proposals, and providing data to help inform listing decisions.
- Analyze hunter harvest data. These metrics are used to help set harvest seasons that will meet population management goals.
- Conduct herp surveys (including Jemez and Sacramento Mountains salamanders, several leopard frogs (Chiricahua, lowland, plains, northern), bull frogs, turtles (Big Bend slider), Gila Monster, watersnakes, and western massasauga. Data is used to monitor population trend, delineate geographic extent, develop recovery plans and inform management actions, develop survey techniques, identify preferred habitat characteristics.
- Test amphibians for chytrid fungal disease. Given its the contagious and lethal nature, we are testing animals for the fungus to understand where it is present and what species are impacted.
- Conduct Chiricahua leopard frog restoration. This includes identifying suitable habitat, translocating animals, and conducting surveys to monitor existing and new populations.
- Conduct narrow-headed and Mexico garter snake surveys. Information is used to plan translocations and other restoration activities.
- Conduct Western river cooter surveys and life history research. Data will be used to inform the federal endangered species listing decision, and direct management activities.
- Receive boreal toad tadpoles from Colorado Parks and Wildlife, release them in ponds in northern New Mexico, and monitor survival and reproduction.
- Conduct Gila Monster research to better understand distribution and habitat needs.



- Radio-collar bobcats and place cameras in the field to estimate bobcat density and habitat use in the general Ojito Wilderness area. Data will be used to assess population status.
- Survey streams for beavers and assess beaver habitat to identify potential reintroduction sites. This will allow for non-lethal beaver control options and contribute to riparian restoration.
- Band mourning doves to estimate annual harvest and survival rates, provide information on distribution and movement, and estimate population size. This is used to monitor populations and in setting harvest regulations.
- Conduct mandatory hunter check stations in the Middle Rio Grande to ensure that we do not exceed our harvest limit of the Lesser Sandhill Crane.
- Conduct small mammal surveys for species such as least shrew and AZ montane vole. The surveys help us identify distribution and habitat needs for these cryptic species.
- Engage in black-footed ferret recovery efforts. This includes collaborating on transplants, distributing vaccine pellets, conducting surveys and habitat assessments, and working with private landowners.
- Engage in bat monitoring and survey technique development to better understand distribution, population status, and habitat needs of various bat species.
- Survey upland game surveys (quail, pheasant, dusky grouse) to monitor population trends. These data are used to inform management including setting hunting seasons.
- Engage in Gould's turkey recovery efforts. These include trapping and attaching transmitters to birds, conducting surveys to obtain minimum and estimated population size, GPS data analysis, assessing habitat use, distribution, nesting success, and survival rates.
- Conduct dusky grouse research in the Gila. This will include trapping and attaching transmitters to individuals to better understand distribution, populations size, habitat requirement, and survival rates.
- Conduct nongame bird surveys. These include general surveys on WMAs and cooperative surveys such as the Breeding Bird Survey. It also includes species-specific surveys for species such as Mexican spotted owl, willow flycatcher, yellow-billed cuckoo, curlews, and pinyon jays. These surveys monitor species population trends, elucidate habitat needs, and identify important areas for conservation.
- Conduct research on Virginia's warbler to monitor the population and identify habitat needs. This information will be used in planning habitat improvement projects so that they benefit this species.
- Conduct research on yellow-billed cuckoo habitat use, occupancy, and geographic distribution. This information will be used in planning habitat restoration projects.



- Provide support for a partner biologist in Clayton in collaboration with NRCS and Bird Conservancy of the Rockies. This position reaches out to landowners to provide information, guidance, and secure funding, for habitat restoration and wildlife-friendly ranching/agricultural practices in northeastern New Mexico.
- Conduct lesser prairie chicken population and habitat surveys and assessment. These surveys monitor trend and impacts of restoration activities on the population.
- Participate in the Interstate Working Group and other collaborative organizations for lesser prairie chicken conservation across the species' range.
- Engage in Mexican gray wolf recovery efforts including population monitoring, cross-fostering, surveys, and density estimates. Work with private landowners to haze wolves and use other non-lethal means for protecting livestock.
- Conduct research in various types of pinyon-juniper habitat to identify bird species using the landscape, and identify habitat needs for priority bird species.
- Conduct research on elk-wolf interactions in the Gila. This study, in collaboration with AZDGF estimates adult and juvenile elk survival and causes of mortality, determines seasonal kill rates and prey composition of Mexican wolves, and the influence of Mexican wolves on habitat selection by elk. These data will be used to develop management plans, including appropriate elk harvest levels, for these species.
- Conduct research on the newly translocated ptarmigan population in the Pecos Wilderness. This includes identifying habitat use and needs, survival rates, comparing these metrics to the source populations in Colorado, and evaluating if the habitat is suitable to sustain ptarmigan populations.

198-1100 GAME PROTECTION FUND

FULL TIME EMPLOYEES	19.00
TOTAL BUDGET	~\$2,980,000
PERSONNEL SERVICES	~\$1,665,000
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	~\$100,000
OTHER COSTS	~\$1,215,000

494-1114 HABITAT MANAGEMENT FUND

TOTAL BUDGET	\$400,000
PERSONNEL SERVICES	\$0
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	\$150,000
OTHER COSTS	\$250,000

097-1115 SIKES ACT FUND

*Does not include capital outlay

TOTAL BUDGET	\$396,500
PERSONNEL SERVICES	\$111,300
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	\$0
OTHER COSTS	\$285,200

HABITAT AND LANDS SECTION

Much of the work conducted by this Section is supported by the use of capital outlay funds. As of November 2021, approximately \$11 million (federal and state dollars) is earmarked for habitat restoration and WMA management projects.

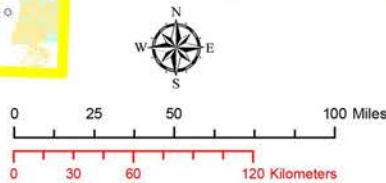
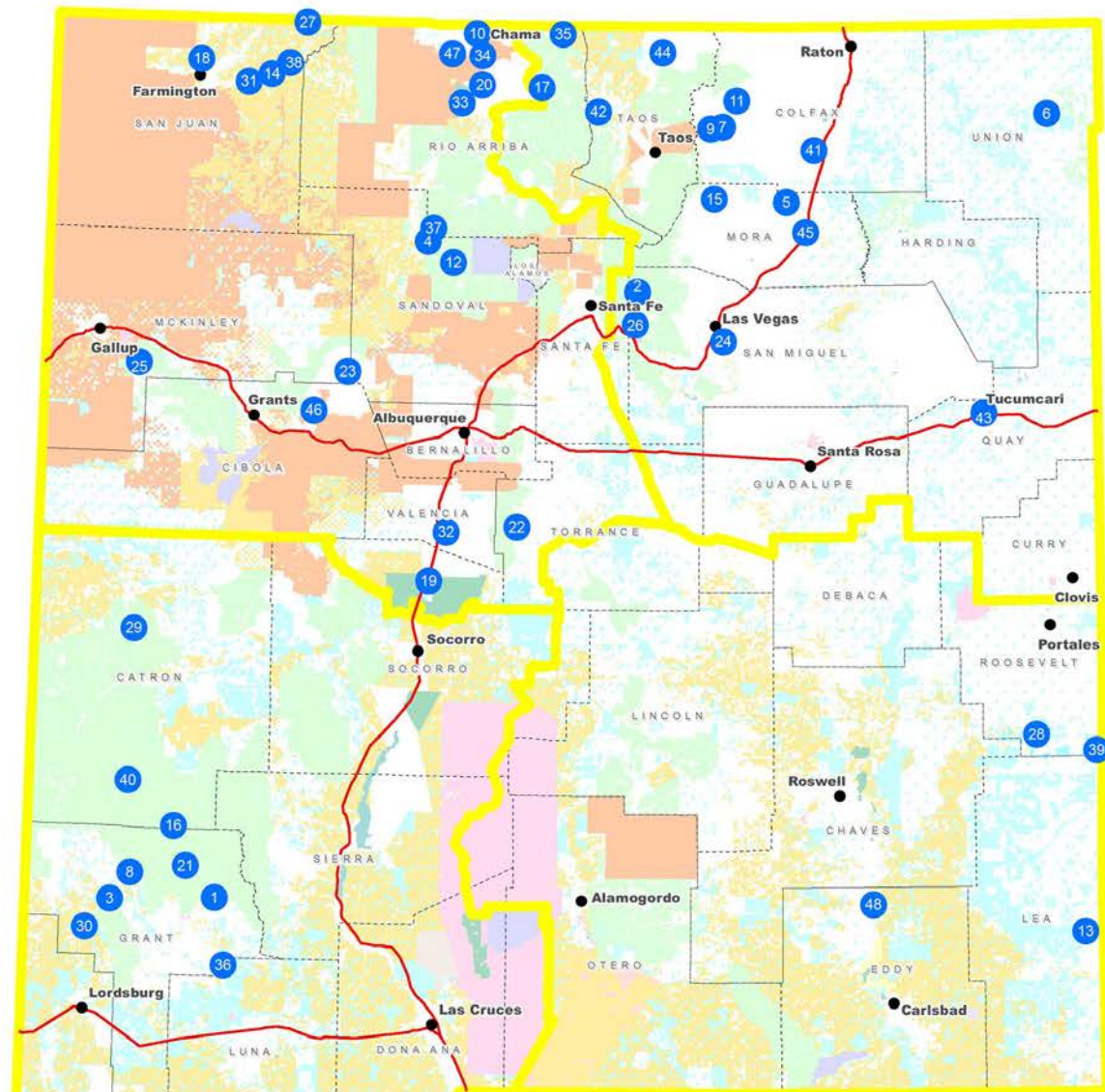
Annual Operations and Maintenance Activities on Ladd S. Gordon, William S. Huey, and Jackson Lake Management Areas:

- produce 850 acres of agricultural crops for wintering waterfowl and other wildlife.
- sustain 1,250 acres of wetland habitat and 4 miles of riparian habitat along the Pecos River.
- maintain irrigation and wetland infrastructure including miles of concrete irrigation ditch, two pivots, and six water wells.
- manage infrastructure for public access and recreation including tour routes, hunting blinds, roads, trails, signs, and information kiosks.
- maintain 30 pieces of agricultural machinery and heavy equipment.
- continue contract on Jackson Lake WMA to produce 160 acres of crops for wildlife and maintain associated irrigation and access infrastructure.

Wildlife Management Areas (**approximately 198,000 acres throughout New Mexico separated into 97 independently managed land parcels**):

- Maintain roads, signs, gates, and other public access infrastructure on WMAs across the state.
 - Implement 20 miles of road maintenance on WMAs.
 - Continue replacing 1000s of entrance and boundary signs on WMAs to update information and standardize sign design.
- Develop aquatic and riparian restoration plans for Chamita and Nabor Creeks on Sargent WMA.
- Continue forest restoration and wildfire mitigation activities on Sargent, Colin Neblett, Urraca, and Rio Chama WMAs.
- Move and upgrade main water well as part of crane roost ponds upgrade at Huey WMA.
- Begin construction of significant enhancements to wetland habitat and associated infrastructure on over 800 acres of wetlands on Bernardo WMA.
- Contract with Ducks Unlimited for future wetland improvements on La Joya WMA.
- Remove mesquite to improve LPC habitat on Prairie Chicken WMAs.
- Build a statewide fence maintenance strategy for WMAs. Fence replacement/construction will include 40 miles of Prairie Chicken Areas and an additional 50 miles statewide beginning in FY23.

Wildlife Management Areas



- 36 Wildlife Management Areas
- County Boundaries
- NMDGF_RegionalAreas
- New Mexico Ownership**
- Surface Ownership**
- Bureau of Land Management
- Bureau of Reclamation
- Dept. of Agriculture
- Dept. of Defense
- Dept. of Energy
- Forest Service
- Fish & Wildlife Service
- Tribal
- National Park Service
- Private
- State
- State Game & Fish
- State Park
- Valles Caldera National Preserve



November 2021

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. BEAR CANYON LAKE 2. BERT CLANCY 3. BILL EVANS LAKE 4. BLUEBIRD 5. CHARETTE LAKES 6. CLAYTON LAKE 7. COLIN NEBLETT 8. DOUBLE E RANCH 9. EAGLE NEST LAKE 10. EDWARD SARGENT 11. ELLIOTT S. BARKER 12. FENTON LAKE | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 13. GREEN MEADOW LAKE 14. HAMMOND TRACT 15. HAROLD BROCK COYOTE CREEK 16. HEART BAR 17. HOPEWELL LAKE 18. JACKSON LAKE 19. LADD S GORDON COMPLEX 20. LAGUNA DE CAMPO 21. LAKE ROBERTS 22. MANZANO LAKE 23. MARQUEZ 24. MCALLISTER LAKE | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 25. MCGAFFEY LAKE 26. MONASTERY LAKE 27. PINE RIVER TRACT 28. PRAIRIE CHICKEN AREAS 29. QUEMADO LAKE 30. RED ROCK 31. RETHERFORD TRACT 32. RIO ABAJO 33. RIO CHAMA 34. RIO CHAMA EASEMENT 35. RIO DE LOS PINOS 36. RIVER RANCH | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 37. SAN GREGORIO LAKE 38. SAN JUAN RIVER EASEMENT 39. SANDHILLS PRAIRIE 40. SNOW LAKE 41. SPRINGER LAKE 42. TRES PIEDRAS 43. TUCUMCARI, HUDSON, DRY LAKES 44. URRACA WMA 45. WAGON MOUND 46. WATER CANYON 47. WILLIAM A. HUMPHRIES 48. WILLIAM S. HUEY |
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- Continue to abstract water rights across SGC owned WMAs.
- Support archeological surveys and clearances on upcoming ground disturbing projects. Includes tribal consultation to meet the requirements of state and federal laws.
- Collaborate with the city of Tucumcari, National Audubon Society, Quay County, and Mesa Lands Community College on long-term restoration of Tucumcari Lake WMA.
- Complete yellow-book appraisal, appraisal review, boundary survey, phase 1 environmental survey, purchase agreement, and other associated needs for any SGC approved land acquisition projects.

Support collaborative forest, shrubland/grassland, and wetland habitat restoration across tens of thousands of acres within the following active restoration landscapes:

- Carson National Forest
 - Rio Tusas, Tio Gordito, Valle Vidal Northeast, Valle Vidal, Jarita Mesa/Alamosa, El Rito Canyon
- Cibola National Forest
 - Black Mesa, Bluewater, Baney, Thunderbird, Chato, David Canyon, Sulfer, Canadian River Corridor
- Gila National Forest
 - Slaughter Mesa, East Centerfire, Reserve, Salt Lick, Upper Moraga, Burro, Indian Peaks, Area 74, Burro Mountain, Signal Peak, Upper Mimbres
- Lincoln National Forest
 - Southern Sacramento Restoration Project, Jim Lewis,
- Santa Fe National Forest
 - Ojitos Mesa, Mesitas, Moya, Rio Chama, Golondrino, Blanco, Chaparral, SW Jemez, Gallinas, Pacheco, Rowe Mesa, French Mesa
- Bureau of Land Management
 - Mesa Chivato, Mertz Ranch, El Malpais, Pelona Mountain, SW Grasslands, SE Grasslands, Taos Plateau

Collaborate with US Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and Citizens Advisory Committee to implement landscape-scale terrestrial and aquatic habitat restoration as part of the Habitat Stamp Program.

Continue to emphasize projects that benefit fish as part of the Habitat Stamp Program. Current collaborative projects include:

- Willow Creek, Costilla & Comanche Headwaters, Jack's Creek Barrier, Polvadera, Riga Penas Negras, Rio San Antonio/Lagunitas Creek, Rio Hondo Tributaries, Chicuhuenos Creek, Chama River.

On NM State Land Office lands (associated with NMSLO/NMDGF Access Easement):

- Build three wildlife water guzzlers and associated grazing exclosures in the Potrillo Mountains.
- Convert 3 miles of netwire fence to wildlife-friendly design in the Macho Landscape to reconnect pronghorn grassland habitat.
- Continue to plan and implement collaborative forest restoration treatments on SLO landscapes including Whites Peak, Ocate, Luera Mtns, Chupadera Mesa, Clines Corners, and Black Mesa.
- Plant thousands of additional native riparian plantings of willow, cottonwood, boxelder, and Goodding's willow on prioritized terraces within Alamita canyon to address the lack of riparian recruitment.

Conduct playa lakes and associated grasslands restoration in eastern New Mexico. This includes filling pits, removing sediment, and channel remediation which will result in playas holding more water more often.



198-1100 GAME PROTECTION FUND

FULL TIME EMPLOYEES	11.00
TOTAL BUDGET	~\$960,000
PERSONNEL SERVICES	~\$650,000
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	~\$60,000
OTHER COSTS	~\$250,000

198-2000 BIG GAME DEPREDATION FUND

TOTAL BUDGET	\$599,000
PERSONNEL SERVICES	\$470,200
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	\$105,700
OTHER COSTS	\$86,100

549 BIG GAME DEPREDATION FUND

TOTAL BUDGET	\$525,000
PERSONNEL SERVICES	\$0
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	\$25,000
OTHER COSTS	\$500,000

PRIVATE LANDS, NUISANCE AND ABATEMENT SECTION

- Manage the Open Gate Program which works with landowners to allow access for hunters and anglers on approximately 55,000 acres of private land, 155,000 acres of public land opened up, 10 private stream miles accessed, and 750 private surface acres. In FY23, there are plans to significantly grow the program including expanding into big game access agreements.
- Manage the E-Plus Program including coordinating with landowners, developing agreements, providing authorization statements, and conducting ranch evaluations for approximately 3,700 enrolled properties and evaluating approximately 300 new properties, annually.
- Working with local governments to reduce human-bear conflict by partnering on purchase of bear-resistant trash receptacles and providing education materials to the public.
- Maintain Geographic Information System databases, including mapping E-Plus properties, providing a public interface for unit-wide ranch maps, mapping habitat projects such as Habitat Stamp projects, and mapping wildlife location and movement data.
- Agreement with USDA Wildlife Services to remove feral hogs to prevent establishment in New Mexico. Assist with resolving depredation and predation issues. Provide “range-riders” in an effort to reduce wolf-livestock conflict.
- Maintain contracts for racoon control in the Albuquerque area.
- Work with landowners to purchase wildlife fencing materials to prevent wildlife depredation on agricultural resources.
- Procure supplies for depredation and nuisance abatement including bear traps, rubber bullets, immobilization drugs and delivery systems, pepper balls, etc.



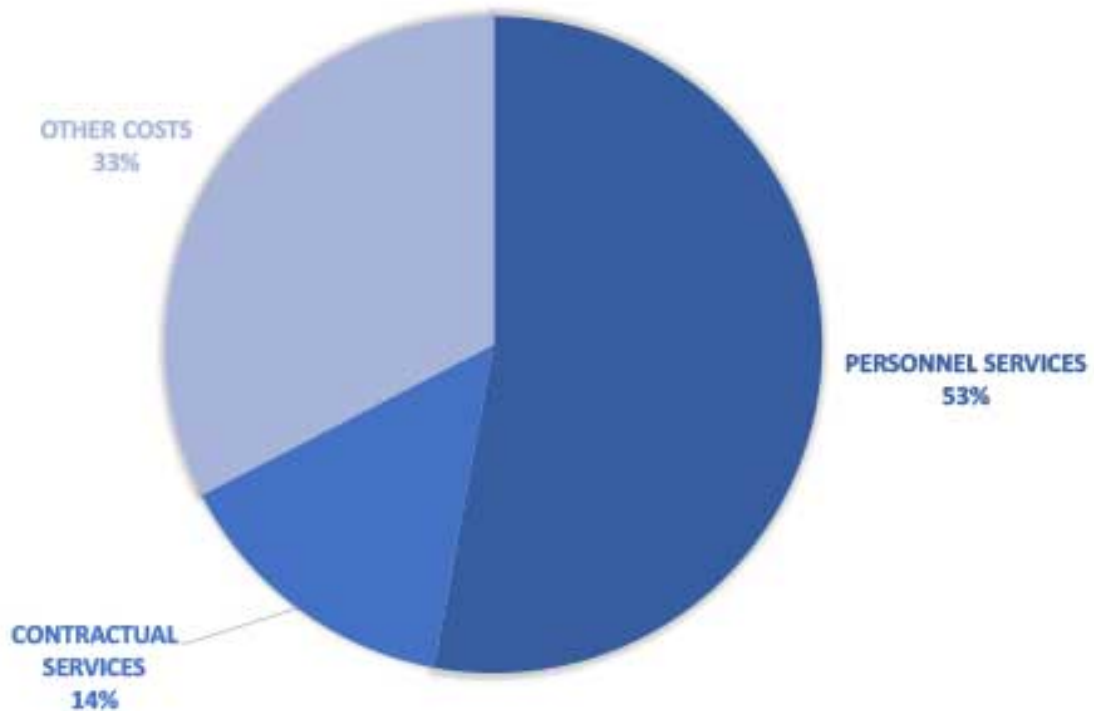
FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

FULL TIME EMPLOYEES	64.00
TOTAL BUDGET	\$9,687,200
PERSONNEL SERVICES	\$5,029,500
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	\$1,379,400
OTHER COSTS	\$3,096,000
OTHER FINANCING COSTS	\$182,300

OVERVIEW

The Fisheries Management Division (FMD) has 3 Sections that oversee angler satisfaction, federal grants, research and management and hatchery operations.

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT DIVISION



ADMINISTRATION BUDGET	
FULL TIME EMPLOYEES	7.00
TOTAL BUDGET	\$2,164,716
PERSONNEL SERVICES	\$1,048,273
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	\$592,593
OTHER COSTS	\$341,550
OTHER FINANCING COSTS	\$182,300

RESEARCH & MANAGEMENT	
FULL TIME EMPLOYEES	22.00 <small>*Does not include 4 seasonal AIS Technicians</small>

SPORTFISH	
TOTAL BUDGET	\$1,027,317
PERSONNEL SERVICES	\$769,410
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	\$84,370
OTHER COSTS	\$173,537

NATIVE FISH	
TOTAL BUDGET	\$1,346,945
PERSONNEL SERVICES	\$769,410
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	\$403,998
OTHER COSTS	\$173,537

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES	
TOTAL BUDGET	\$200,637
PERSONNEL SERVICES	\$173,949
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	\$10,699
OTHER COSTS	\$15,988

ADMINISTRATION

- Oversee FMD operations including Federal Grants
- Complete Annual Angler Satisfaction Survey
- Draft Statewide Hatchery Management Plan
- Administer federal and state environmental and cultural compliance activities
- Administer statewide fish importation program
- Participate in state and regional aquatic conservation programs

**NOTE: Other Financing Costs provide funding for dam operation at Eagle Nest Lake and the Ute Lake lease.*

RESEARCH AND MANAGEMENT SECTION

- Maintain fish health certification for six state fish hatcheries and two wild fish populations
- Design habitat improvement projects in two lakes and one river
- Coordinate 40,000 aquatic invasive species inspections and 150 decontaminations of high-risk watercraft
- Conduct native trout restoration activities in the Rio Costilla basin and stock Rio Grande cutthroat trout into Willow Creek (Pecos) and Peralta Creek
- Stock Gila trout into the Whitewater Creek restoration area
- Complete 50 surveys for fisheries and aquatic species including game and non-game species
- Complete research activities focused on YY brook trout evaluation, effects of northern pike on trout and salmon fisheries in Eagle Nest Lake, population dynamics of Chihuahua chub, evaluate contribution of largemouth bass stocked into Trophy Bass Lakes, and a pilot study for introducing striped bass x white bass hybrids into Caballo Lake
- Participate or lead 10 non-gamefish conservation programs or recovery teams



HATCHERIES BUDGET

FULL TIME EMPLOYEES	35.00
TOTAL BUDGET	\$4,947,586
PERSONNEL SERVICES	\$2,268,458
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	\$287,740
OTHER COSTS	\$2,391,388

HATCHERY SECTION

- Stock 640,000 lbs. of fish from Department hatcheries
- Maintain and operate 6 hatcheries
- Maintain Rio Grande cutthroat trout and largemouth bass captive broodstock programs and complete field spawning operations for walleye and kokanee
- Oversee capital improvement projects at two hatcheries
- Maintain National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System compliance for six state fish hatcheries
- Purchase new stocking truck
- Complete improvements to hatchery housing
- Rear and stock YY brook trout and initiate development of YY brown trout in cooperation with other western fish and wildlife agencies

NMDGF Fish Hatcheries





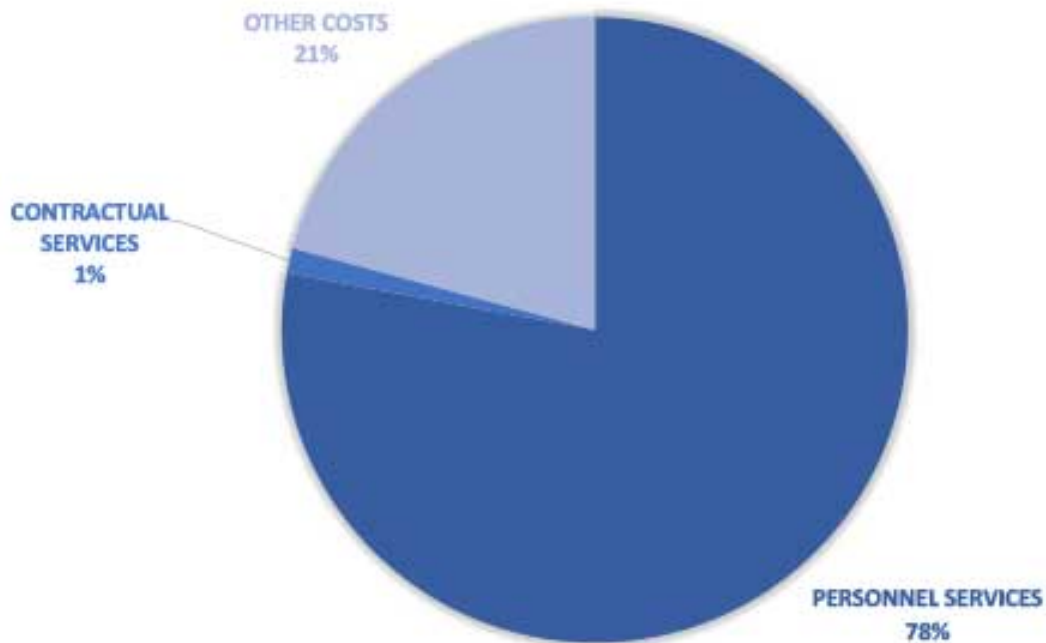
FIELD OPERATIONS

FULL TIME EMPLOYEES	99.00
TOTAL BUDGET	\$10,900,300
PERSONNEL SERVICES	\$8,416,700
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	\$128,700
OTHER COSTS	\$2,354,900
OTHER FINANCING COSTS	\$0

OVERVIEW

The Field Operations Division (FO) has 3 Sections that oversee law enforcement, guides and outfitters, special permits and revocations.

FIELD OPERATIONS DIVISION



LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

FULL TIME EMPLOYEES	13.00
TOTAL BUDGET	\$3,952,100
PERSONNEL SERVICES	\$2,026,300
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	\$126,000
OTHER COSTS	\$1,799,800
OTHER FINANCING COSTS	\$0

ADMINISTRATION

Depredation Complaints

- Total Complaints: **598**
- Southeast Region Complaints: **59**
- Southwest Region Complaints: **124**
- Northeast Region Complaints: **226**
- Northwest Region Complaints: **189**

Outfitters and Guides

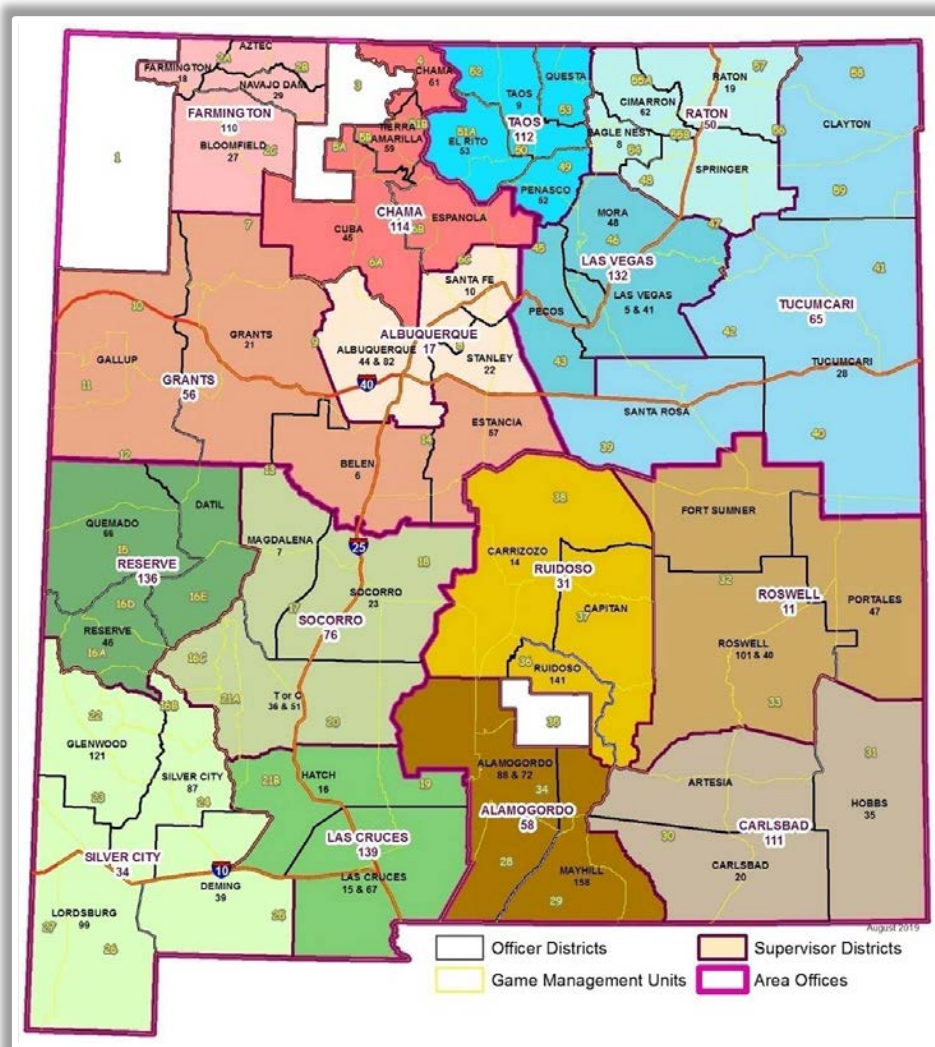
- Registered Outfitters: **261**
- Registered Guides: **1,813**

Permits

- Wildlife Rehabilitators: **11**
- Scientific and Education Permit Holders: **182**

Other (Statewide)

- Special Operations (Artificial Wildlife Operation, Roadblocks, Plain Clothes Patrols, etc.): **115**
- Education and Outreach Events (Conservation Education, Fairs, Expos, etc.): **21**



SOUTHEAST AREA	
FULL TIME EMPLOYEES	21.00
TOTAL BUDGET	\$1,626,500
PERSONNEL SERVICES	\$1,501,700
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	\$0
OTHER COSTS	\$124,800
OTHER FINANCING COSTS	\$0

SOUTHEAST REGION

Law Enforcement Effort

- Total non-traffic citations issued: **624**
- Total hours per citation: **18.06**
- Total contacts per citation: **18.57**
- Total field contacts: **11,587**
- Total hours: **11,268.5**
- Total search warrants: **13**
- Total arrest warrants: **8**

State Land Patrol Effort

- Total non-traffic citations issued: **5**
- Total hours per citation: **189.60**
- Total contacts per citation: **106**
- Total field contacts: **530**
- Total hours: **948**
- Total verbal warnings: **5**
- Total investigations: **6**

SOUTHWEST AREA	
FULL TIME EMPLOYEES	21.00
TOTAL BUDGET	\$1,929,900
PERSONNEL SERVICES	\$1,730,700
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	\$0
OTHER COSTS	\$199,200
OTHER FINANCING COSTS	\$0

SOUTHWEST REGION

Law Enforcement Effort

- Total non-traffic citations issued: **707**
- Total hours per citation: **22.5**
- Total contacts per citation: **24.83**
- Total field contacts: **17,553**
- Total hours: **15,910**
- Total search warrants: **12**
- Total arrest warrants: **6**

State Land Patrol Effort

- Total non-traffic citations issued: **18**
- Total hours per citation: **76.5**
- Total contacts per citation: **40**
- Total field contacts: **720**
- Total hours: **1,377**
- Total verbal warnings: **13**
- Total investigations: **26**



NORTHEAST	
FULL TIME EMPLOYEES	21.00
TOTAL BUDGET	\$1,645,100
PERSONNEL SERVICES	\$1,521,900
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	\$1,500
OTHER COSTS	\$121,700
OTHER FINANCING COSTS	\$0

NORTHEAST REGION

Law Enforcement Effort

- Total non-traffic citations issued: **871**
- Total hours per citation: **14.85**
- Total contacts per citation: **24.45**
- Total field contacts: **21,300**
- Total hours: **12,937**
- Total search warrants: **23**
- Total arrest warrants: **5**

State Land Patrol Effort

- Total non-traffic citations issued: **34**
- Total hours per citation: **28.41**
- Total contacts per citation: **18.06**
- Total field contacts: **614**
- Total hours: **966**
- Total verbal warnings: **25**
- Total investigations: **11**

NORTHWEST	
FULL TIME EMPLOYEES	23.00
TOTAL BUDGET	\$1,746,700
PERSONNEL SERVICES	\$1,636,100
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	\$1,200
OTHER COSTS	\$109,400
OTHER FINANCING COSTS	\$0

NORTHWEST REGION

Law Enforcement Effort

- Total non-traffic citations issued: **501**
- Total hours per citation: **28.22**
- Total contacts per citation: **36.56**
- Total field contacts: **18,316**
- Total hours: **14,139.5**
- Total search warrants: **8**
- Total arrest warrants: **2**

State Land Patrol Effort

- Total non-traffic citations issued: **0**
- Total hours per citation: **0**
- Total contacts per citation: **0**
- Total field contacts: **445**
- Total hours: **475**
- Total verbal warnings: **0**
- Total investigations: **0**





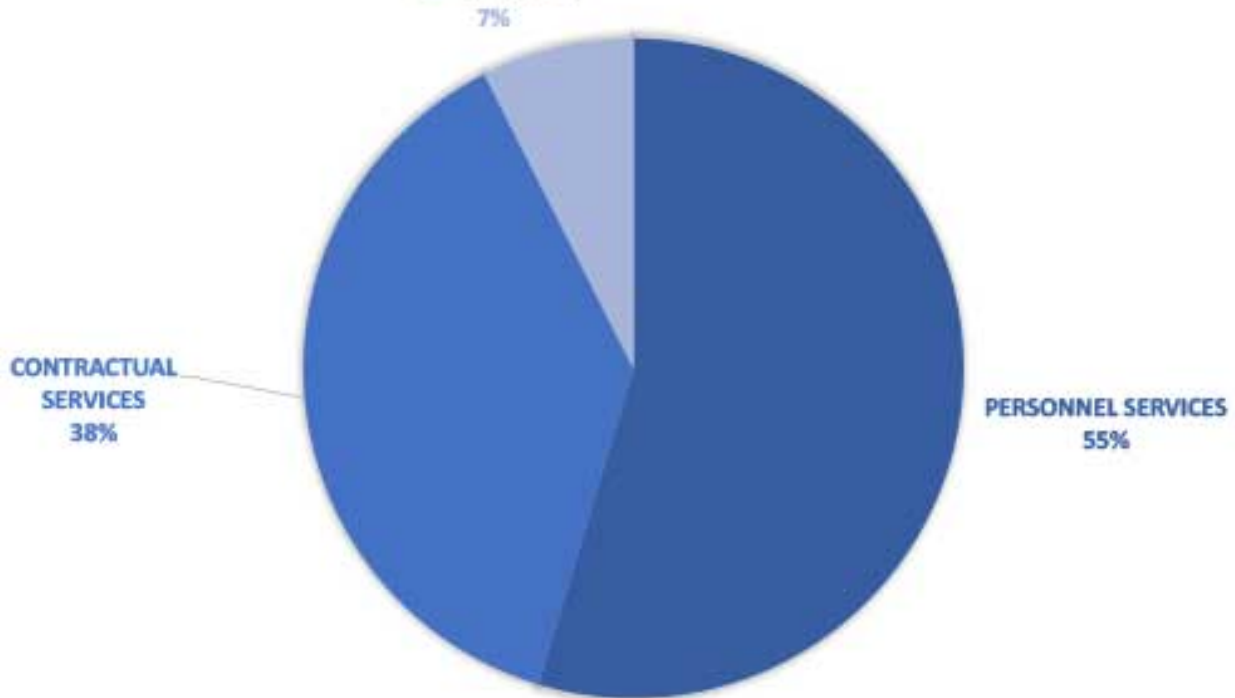
ECOLOGICAL & ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

FULL TIME EMPLOYEES	7.00
TOTAL BUDGET	\$1,194,000
PERSONNEL SERVICES	\$652,600
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	\$452,300
OTHER COSTS	\$89,100
OTHER FINANCING COSTS	\$0

OVERVIEW

The Ecological and Environmental Planning Division (EEP) has 2 Sections that oversee technical guidance, BISON-M, State Wildlife Action Plan, Environmental Review Tool, Statewide Riparian Map, Crucial Habitat Assessment Tool and the Share with Wildlife program.

ECOLOGICAL & ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING DIVISION
OTHER COSTS



198-1300 GAME PROTECTION FUND

FULL TIME EMPLOYEES	7.00
TOTAL BUDGET	\$994,000
PERSONNEL SERVICES	\$652,600
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	\$252,300
OTHER COSTS	\$89,100
OTHER FINANCING COSTS	\$0

ADMINISTRATION

- Provide representation for the Department on statewide groups and state-federal collaborations including Middle Rio Grande Endangered Species Collaborative Group (MRGESCG), South Central Climate Adaption Science Center, Western Regional Partnership, Mining Commission, Climate Change Taskforce, and Wildlife Diversity Program Managers.
- Each year an average of 700 items are entered into the Environmental Review Tool by technical guidance staff or proponents. Of those an average of 100 custom letters are prepared, reviewed, and signed and several hundred no effect or best practice letters are generated.
- Provide direction on information system design, development, and implementation for BISON-M, State Wildlife Action Plan, Environmental Review Tool, Statewide Riparian Map, and Crucial Habitat Assessment Tool.
- Review terrestrial habitat related proposals including National Forest Plans, Forest Travel Plans, military base Natural Resource Management Plans, Wildlife Corridors Act Plan, annual waterfowl survey flights.
- Review riparian or aquatic habitat related projects, guides the development of the Statewide Riparian Map, provides technical expertise to the MRGESCG subcommittees, reviews Water Trust Board watershed and endangered species proposed projects, and contributed to the latest Outstanding Natural Resource Waters proposal.
- Review mining and energy related permit applications, and new renewable energy development projects.
- Track the Sun Zia Transmission Line, Western Spirit Energy Transmission Line, Copper Flat mine development, and deals with the Pecos canyon remediation for the Terrero Mine site, El Molino mill site remediation, and the testing and remediation for the Lisboa Springs Fish Hatchery.

198-1304 SHARE WITH WILDLIFE FUND

FULL TIME EMPLOYEES	0.00
TOTAL BUDGET	\$200,000
PERSONNEL SERVICES	\$0
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	\$200,000
OTHER COSTS	\$0
OTHER FINANCING COSTS	\$0

SHARE WITH WILDLIFE

BISON-M

- An average of over 150 documents are entered for data entry to BISON-M annually for the 6,862 species accounts. The BISON-M website was used by over 1,800 individuals in the last 180 days. BISON-M is constantly updated with new taxonomy, research, and status information.

Share with Wildlife Program

- The Share with Wildlife Program selects 10-12 projects a year to fund with its \$200,000 budget. Two habitat projects have been funded since 2015. Ten to 12 more projects will be selected for funding beginning January 1, 2023. On average, about 70-75% of the budget goes to research projects, the remainder evenly split between education and rehabilitation.



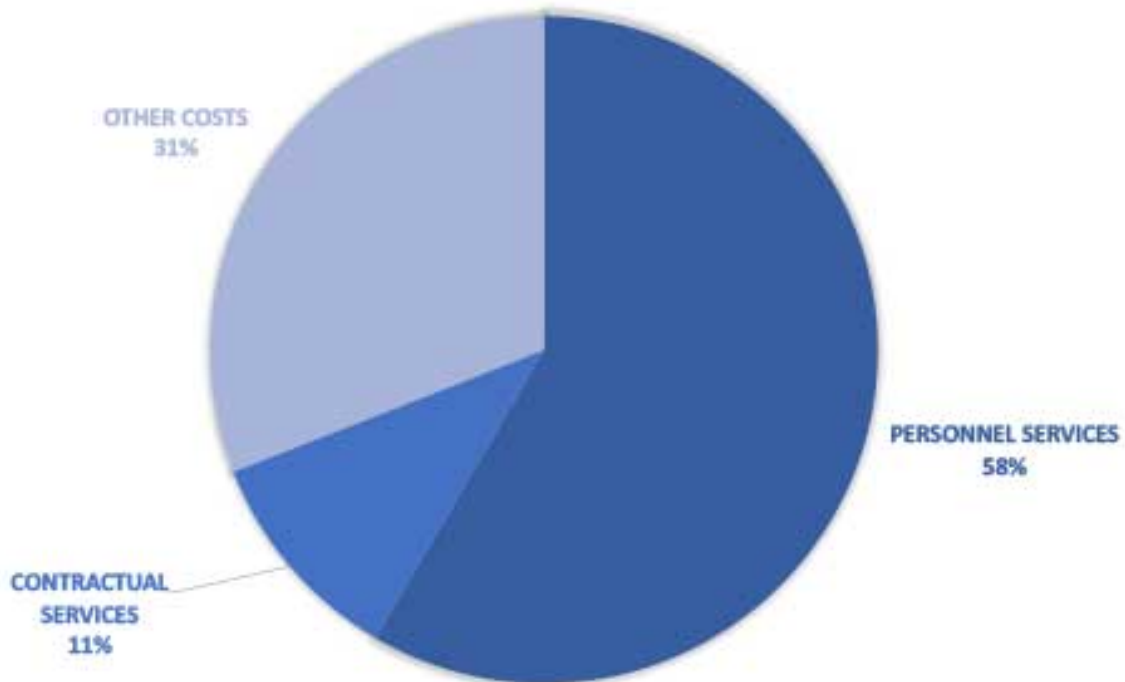
INFORMATION & EDUCATION

FULL TIME EMPLOYEES	29.00
TOTAL BUDGET	\$4,521,500
PERSONNEL SERVICES	\$2,642,400
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	\$479,600
OTHER COSTS	\$1,399,500
OTHER FINANCING COSTS	\$0

OVERVIEW

The Information and Education Division (IED) has 3 sections that oversee the Department’s marketing, advertising, media relations, Information Center and education programs which include Conservation Education, Aquatic Resource and Sportfish Education, Hunter Education, Youth Shooting Sports and Off-Highway Motor Vehicles programs.

INFORMATION & EDUCATION DIVISION



198-1800 GAME PROTECTION FUND

FULL TIME EMPLOYEES	26.00
TOTAL BUDGET	\$3,660,300
PERSONNEL SERVICES	\$2,262,600
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	\$429,600
OTHER COSTS	\$968,100
OTHER FINANCING COSTS	\$0

INFORMATION

Press Releases and Weekly Fishing Report

- Produced 72 press releases/public announcements between March 1, 2021 and November 5, 2021, reaching a total audience of 8,718,593.
- Weekly fishing report sent to average of 281,252 subscribers each week since March 2, 2021; opened by average of 61,303 subscribers (21.8% open rate).

Publications

- Total printed publications: 435,472 (Big Game, Fishing, Furbearer RIBs, Survey Postcards)
- Digital publication downloads/unique opens: 1,398,476 (Newsletters, Digital Magazines, Digital RIBs)
- Total printed and digital downloads/unique opens: 1,833,948

Social Media, Website & Mass Email

- Wildlife portal: 10,095,009 pages visited.
- Wildlife PDF downloads: 1,264,971 downloads.
- Magazine site: 198,552 pages visited.
- On average, our Facebook posts reach 202,500 people a month, sees 55,000 post engagements, gets 8,076 reactions to posts, 1,100 comments on our posts, 859 post shares, 18,800 photo views and 6,800 clicks on links we post. To date, we have 48,000 followers.
- On average, our Twitter page gets 180 profile visits a month, 10 mentions and 5,689 tweet impressions. To date, we have 5,250 followers.
- On average, our TikTok page gets 33.1k video views, 701 profile views, 2,573 likes, 61 comments, 190 shares bi-monthly. To date, we have 6,547 followers.
- On average, our YouTube page gets 130,000 views with a watch time average of 3 minutes, 10 seconds for more than 6,800 hours of air time. 130 videos are added annually.

New Mexico Wildlife Podcast

- The New Mexico Wildlife Podcast launched November 25, 2020, dropping new episodes monthly, with a focus on providing information on Department programs and projects as well as a R3 focus with how-to and DIY information.
- Monthly episodes dropped each month, averaging 1 hour in length (15 dropped in year 1; initially launched with 3 episodes)
- Approximately 6,500 listens annually.
- The podcast has been listed on at least 20 podcast platforms including Google Podcasts, Spotify, Apple Podcasts, Pandora, iHeartRadio, SoundCloud, Stitcher, TuneIn, Deezer, Pocket Casts, Podcast Addict, Radio Public, Overcast, CastBox, Breaker and others.

New Mexico Wildlife Magazine

Monthly online publication that informs constituents of various projects the Department is undertaking, as well as keeping them informed of changes to rules and regulations and providing a behind-



the-scenes look at the Department and the people who work there. Articles and photography are largely generated in-house, and over the past couple months, efforts have begun to provide all content in both English and Spanish.

- Produce 14 newsletters each year (12 monthly editions plus two special editions)
- Most recent monthly edition (September-October): 78,177 unique opens from 311,903 recipients (25.1% open rate); 1,642 clicks on English-language articles; 188 clicks on Spanish-language articles.
- Fishing special edition (September): 64,739 unique opens from 419,277 recipients (15.4% open rate); 3,281 clicks on English-language articles; 144 clicks on Spanish-language articles.

New Mexico Fishing Challenges

- The Trout Challenge, the more popular of the two sees around 100-150 completions a year, and around 250-300 entries a year.
- The Bass Challenge sees around 15-20 completions a year and around 50-60 entries per year.
- The Master Angler Program sees around 15 entries a year. This program has seen an increase in the number of entries every year for the past two years.

Information Center

- Provides phone and email assistance to the Department's customer base with the explanation of rules for hunting and fishing, trapping, vending of licenses, submitting draw applications, submitting of harvest reports, account updates and customer access troubleshooting, taking wildlife calls for service for the officers, provide general and accurate information for a multitude of situations, take payments for citations and revocation reinstatement fees, perform testing on new computer codes for draw efficiency, audit accounts for accuracy and merge duplicate accounts as needed.
- Answer more than 208,000 calls annually with an average of 17,400 per month and peaks of up to 40,000 calls.
- The information email account (ISPA) receives and is responded to more than 15,000 emails yearly.
- Mails more than 900 tags, licenses, rules books and requested forms to customers.
- Vends more than 5,000 licenses totaling nearly \$1 million in sales annually.

EDUCATION

Hunter Education and Bowhunter Education

- The Department provides instruction in the safe handling of firearms. Hunter education training is provided to new and existing hunters and offers a variety of education and skills, with a focus on safety and ethics. The Department's Mentored-Youth Hunting Program provides a structured mechanism to enable youth 8 to 17 years of age who are first time hunters, the opportunity to experience hunting in a safe,



controlled, environment with a licensed adult mentor without first having passed a state certified hunter education course. Bowhunter education training is provided to new and experienced archers with a focus on safety and ethics.

- More than 150 Hunter Education classes and 6 Bowhunter Education classes hosted annually.
- More than 3,500 youth and adults participate in Hunter Education annually with a graduation rate of 98%.
- Hosts up to 10 Hunter Education Camps annually to encourage families to take hunter education together.
- Hosts 2 youth incentive hunts to first time graduates.
- 550 youth registered in the MY program, 517 game hunting licenses purchased.
- Hosts hunter education to school students through an online after-school program.
- Produced 15 short educational video segments that are posted to YouTube to help further engage students, future students and hunters on how to behave safely, responsibly and ethically while hunting and shooting.

Responsible Hunter Program (Youth Shooting Sports)

- Provides shooting sports opportunities to the youth of New Mexico through participation in the Responsible Hunter Program, manage hunting and fishing camp opportunities and work with existing shooting ranges and other public entities to gain funds for enhancements to existing ranges or the development of new public ranges in New Mexico.
- Programs reach more than 5,000 youth and adults annually.
- Manage the Responsible Hunter Program, with 15 shotgun shooting teams in New Mexico, with a total of 735 shooters.
- Develop and host the state's largest shooting competition, the Youth Hunter Education Challenge (YHEC), with over 500 attendees. Teams compete in multiple disciplines including, shotgun, muzzleloader, .22 rifle and archery.
- Oversee the Tres Piedras range and the Stephen M. Bush range in Clayton.
- Increase the volunteer shooting coach/instructor base in New Mexico by offering three NRA certification classes per year for firearms coaches.

Archery Education Program

- Strives to increase the number of safe, ethical and responsible youth archers throughout New Mexico. The program utilizes two nationally recognized youth archery programs: National Archery in the School Program and the Scholastic 3D Archery Program.
- The National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP) is a target archery program designed to be taught during the school day so every child in grades 4-12 get a chance to learn. Currently New Mexico has 209 active coaches and well over 15,000 student participants.
- Scholastic 3-D Archery (S3DA) is considered the "next-step" archery program and is our newest addition to targeting youth archers. The goal of the S3DA program is to provide



archery and bow hunting opportunities to youth in an after-school setting. S3DA students participate in 3-D and target archery using compound and traditional archery equipment.

- Each year more than 160 classes are taught to more than 41,000 youth and adults.
- New Mexico NASP Archery State Tournament: More than 2,600 attendees
- NASP in-school Archery Program: More than 35,000 participants at 140 participating schools
- Virtual Archery Challenge Series: 306 youth participants

Aquatic Resource and Sportfish Education Program

- Increases awareness of sport-fishing resources and aquatic life in New Mexico through hands-on training in angling skills, aquatic biology and fisheries biology. The program emphasizes safety, outdoor ethics, the public's understanding of our scarce water resources, and the aquatic life that depends on these resources.
- Provides more than 90 classes to more than 7,000 youth and adults annually.
- Works with K - 12 schools, Boys and Girls Clubs, 4H, Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, and Girl Scouts of America, and church and other youth groups statewide.
- Works in partnership with NM Trout Unlimited with the Trout in the Classroom Program at 15 - 20 schools with 450 - 600 students directly, and hundreds more indirectly participating annually.

Conservation Education Program

- Provides lesson plans, wildlife education trunks, coloring books and sheets, wildlife notes, and even a virtual careers academy for teachers and students annually. Educational content is available on the department's website.
- More than 70 wildlife presentations are given at public venues, schools, and youth groups each year.
- 119 wildlife notes are continually updated and made available online for the public to print and use.
- Wildlife trunks are checked out 20-30 times a year by staff and educators.
- 5 lesson plans focused on wildlife management, wild turkeys, elk, food webs, and a career as a conservation officer have been produced and published online. Additionally, a new lesson on wild turkey hunting and 10 lesson plans, designed to meet state standards are available.
- 8 how-to projects have been created and are available online. Projects include birds feeders, making a turkey call, taxidermy and braiding.

Wildlife Conservation Volunteer Program

- Oversees all Department volunteers and manages volunteers through the "Volunteer Manger" Internet based system.
- Total registered volunteers: 2,301
- Hunter Education Certified volunteer: 1,072
- Shooting Sports Program Certified volunteers: 361

- Archery Volunteers: 120
- Fishing/Conservation Education Volunteers: 163
- Off-Highway Vehicle Volunteers: 144
- Wildlife Management Division Volunteers: 285
- Fisheries Management Division Volunteers: 131
- Other Volunteers (Archaeology, Administration, Maintenance, etc.): 25

198-4000 TRAIL SAFETY FUND

FULL TIME EMPLOYEES	3.00
TOTAL BUDGET	\$861,200
PERSONNEL SERVICES	\$379,800
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	\$50,000
OTHER COSTS	\$431,400
OTHER FINANCING COSTS	\$0

OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE PROGRAM

The New Mexico Department of Game and Fish's Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Program provides leadership in the area of OHV recreation, implements effective and accessible safety education, coordinates and conducts statewide conservation and law enforcement efforts and balances recreational activities with conservation and protection of New Mexico's cultural and natural resources.

- There are approximately 28,000 resident OHV registrations issued by the New Mexico Motor Vehicle Division and approximately 3,400 non-resident user fee registrations issued by the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish.
- Provide OHV law enforcement and non-law enforcement grants annually \$210,000. OHV-LE grants pay overtime to officers of any law enforcement agency enforcing OHV laws in N.M. Non-LE grants pay entities that want to; restore or maintain OHV trails, build or close OHV trails, build OHV training areas, provide OHV public outreach or training, etc. There are approximately 14 grants awarded annually for the full amount of \$15,000.00 allowed per grant.
- Provide 14 OHV public displays throughout New Mexico; OHV simulator, OHV Safety Sam and Safety Sara robots, meet and greet, other.
- 750 penalty assessment citations are written annually and there are about 800 written warnings given; twice as many verbal warnings given. About 6,240 hours are utilized for OHV law enforcement by about 120 law enforcement officers throughout the state. On the average there are 750-780 OHV patrols conduct throughout the state. The OHV Program does provide overtime for OHV law enforcement to NMDGF officers in the amount of \$30,000.00.
- Provide hands-on OHV safety training to the public and professional (55 trainings annually with a greater than 98 percent graduation rate); OHVs and OHV safety equipment is provided for these trainings by the OHV Program. There is a total of 59 OHVs to support hands-on training; 37 ATVs, 14 dirt motorcycles, 4 ROV's and 4 snowmobiles. This OHV fleet also supports law enforcement efforts for OHV patrols, search and rescue, etc.
- Provide 10 OHV Act trainings to any law enforcement agency who requests it, these are in the classroom trainings. Most of these trainings are provided at the different law enforcement academies throughout the state with a 100 percent graduation rate.





ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

FULL TIME EMPLOYEES	31.00
TOTAL BUDGET	\$5,196,300
PERSONNEL SERVICES	\$2,183,400
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	\$448,500
OTHER COSTS	\$2,524,400
OTHER FINANCING COSTS	\$0

OVERVIEW

The Administrative Services Division (ASD) manages all financial operations, facilities, and human resources for the department. The FY23 budget for ASD is \$5.19 million and supports 31 FTE.

ASD includes the following seven sections: accounts payable, procurement, budget, department licensing operations, federal aid, facilities and human resources.

- The Budget Section (3 FTE) currently manages \$42.3 million and would potentially manage \$46.5 million in FY23.
- The Budget Section manages and completes the annual Department audit.
- The Federal Aid Section (3 FTE) collects approximately \$23 million from all department funds annually and manages approximately 91 federal grants. The total amount of active grants is \$55.2 million, which includes active grants.
- The Licensing Section (6 FTE) assists with serving approximately 127,308 customers and 283,113 applicants and is integral in generating revenue for the Department.
- The Licensing Section manages all sales of hunting and fishing licenses through its online licensing system, area offices and approximately 140 participating vendors.
- The Facilities Section (5 FTE) manages the maintenance and repairs of 3 department owned area offices, 11 dams across the State, and numerous other Department owned properties.
- The Procurement Section (4 FTE) processes and manages millions of dollars in contracts for the Department that include large RFP's for engineering, professional small services contracts, and all procurement regulations.
- The Human Resources Section (4 FTE) manages all personnel matters including new hires, promotions, terminations, etc.