

Conservation Easement Funding Opportunity

- 2010 Legislature HB5 Shifted \$5 million Severance Tax Bond capital funding to restoration and conservation easements statewide
- Funds available FY11-FY14
- Project administered by Energy Minerals and Natural Resources Department
- Panel selected recommended projects and final decision by Secretary of EMNRD



Awards

- H Bar V Ranch (Catron Co.) – NMDGF and Badger Creek Corporation (\$997,990)
- Garcia Farmland (Sandoval Co.) – NM Dept. of Ag and Rio Grande Agricultural Land Trust (\$647,550)
- Vallecitos High Country Ranch (Rio Arriba Co.) – EMNRD State Forestry Division, U.S. Forest Service, and Trust for Public Land (\$631,917)
- River Ranch on the Mimbres (Grant Co. and Luna Co.) – EMNRD State Parks Division and New Mexico Land Conservancy (\$450,000)
- Galisteo Springs (Santa Fe Co.) – NM Dept of Cultural Affairs and Santa Fe Conservation Trust (\$350,000)
- Martinez Farmland (Taos Co.) – Taos Soil & Water Conservation District and Taos Land Trust (\$218,425)
- Shortes XX Ranch (Catron Co.) – EMNRD State Forestry Division, NRCS, and New Mexico Land Conservancy (\$200,000)

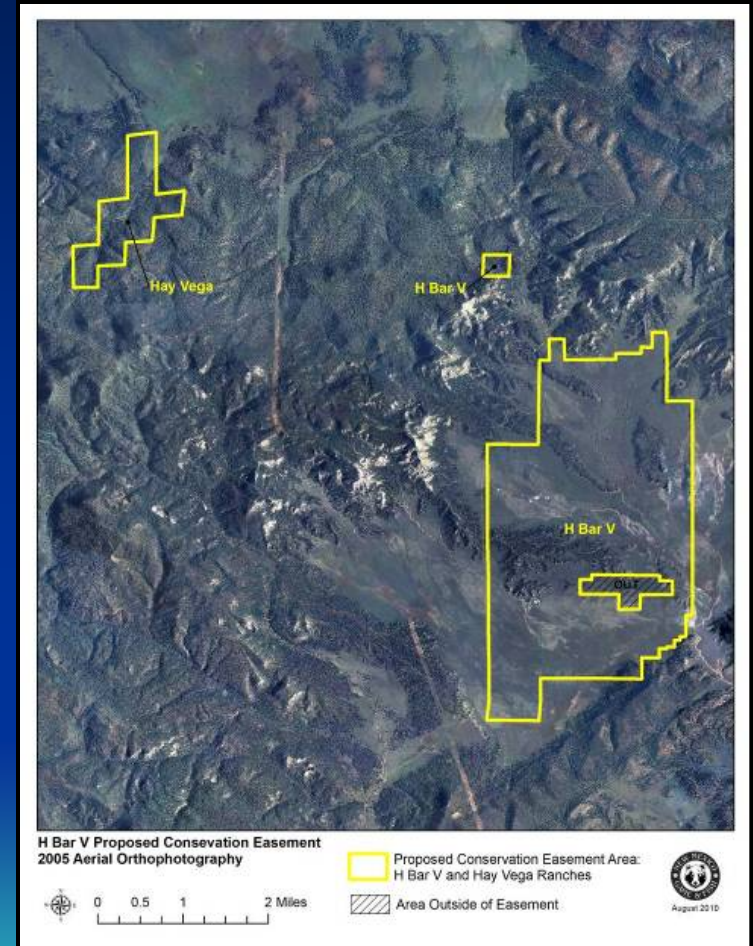
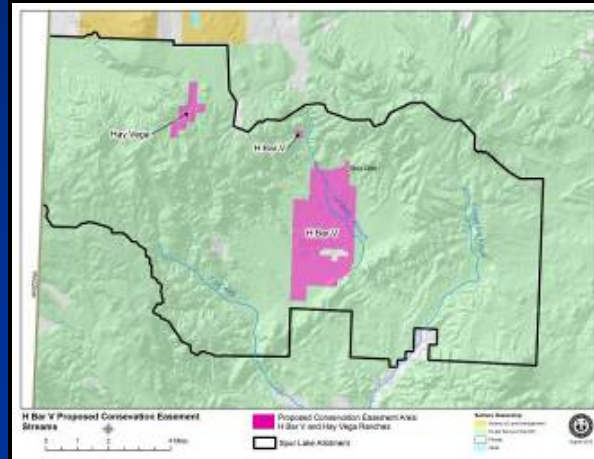


H Bar V Conservation Easement

- Department was contacted by Nelson Shirley/Badger Creek Corp. (501 c3 nonprofit) the landowner
- BCC owns two ranches in the same area
- H Bar V ranch is base property for Spur Lake Grazing Allotment on Apache Nat. Forest
- Hay Vega Ranch (also within Spur Lake Allotment) was purchased to facilitate innovative livestock management
- Department worked with him to prepare and submit an application covering both ranches



Location and Boundaries



H Bar V Ranch



Hay Vega Ranch



Costs / Benefits

- Estimated total value \$2,516,650
- Badger Creek contribution \$978,660
- EMNRD award \$997,990
- State Wildlife Grant \$540,000
- Protect 4,959 deeded acres from development
- Potential to improve wildlife habitat on 80,000 acre grazing allotment



Details

- Department has finalized the Government Services Agreement language defining payment and reporting requirements
- Department and BCC/TNC have developed draft easement and purchase agreement language
- BCC/TNC will need to complete due diligence including Phase 1 environmental, yellow book appraisal, mineral survey, possibly property survey
- State Game Commission would co-hold conservation easement with The Nature Conservancy
- The Nature Conservancy would be the party responsible for monitoring compliance with easement terms



Source of Funds - State Wildlife Grants SWG

Revenues collected from Outer Continental Shelf Oil & Gas royalties are deposited into the Land and Water Conservation Fund and apportioned annually based on a formula that takes into account each state's size and population.

Previous discussions:

December 2010 Commission meeting.

July 2011 Commission meeting.

