



Water Security Planning Act Implementation Update

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Water Security Planning Act

Will transform and reinvigorate regional water planning in New Mexico.

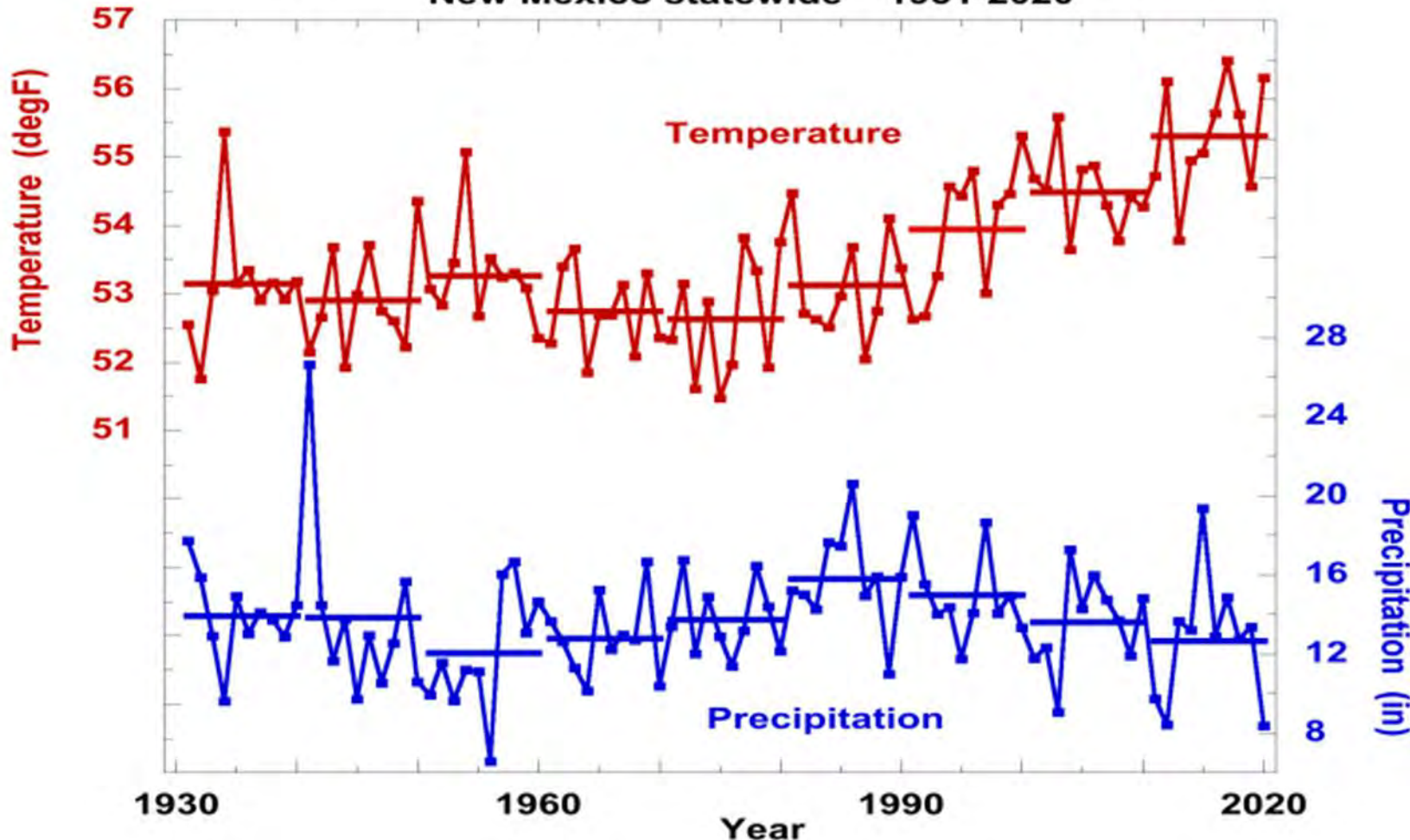
New statute requires that regional water planning will:

- Ensure scientific integrity through the best available data, science and models
- Support implementation through prioritization of projects and activities, and reporting mechanisms for decision-makers
- Build on and incorporate existing planning efforts, and not be redundant
- Be grounded in state water law, including respecting existing water rights and the doctrine of prior appropriation
- Be informed by an advisory council for taking into account tribal sovereignty, tribal water rights, and the needs of tribal communities – Water Security Tribal Advisory Committee (WSTAC)
- Involve robust public engagement every step of the way

Implementation of effective solutions requires community engagement.

Following the Data = Drier/More Variable

Annual Average Observed Temperature and Precipitation
New Mexico statewide 1931-2020



- Average temperatures are projected to increase at least 5-7° F in the coming 50 years
- Precipitation levels are expected to remain highly variable
- Precipitation patterns and snowmelt are expected to change

Climate Change: National Water Stress Index

- The eastern half of the country can expect more water
- The western half can expect more water stress

Projected change in water stress by mid-century (2040-2061) compared to historical average (1900-2068 1970). Lindsey, 2013.

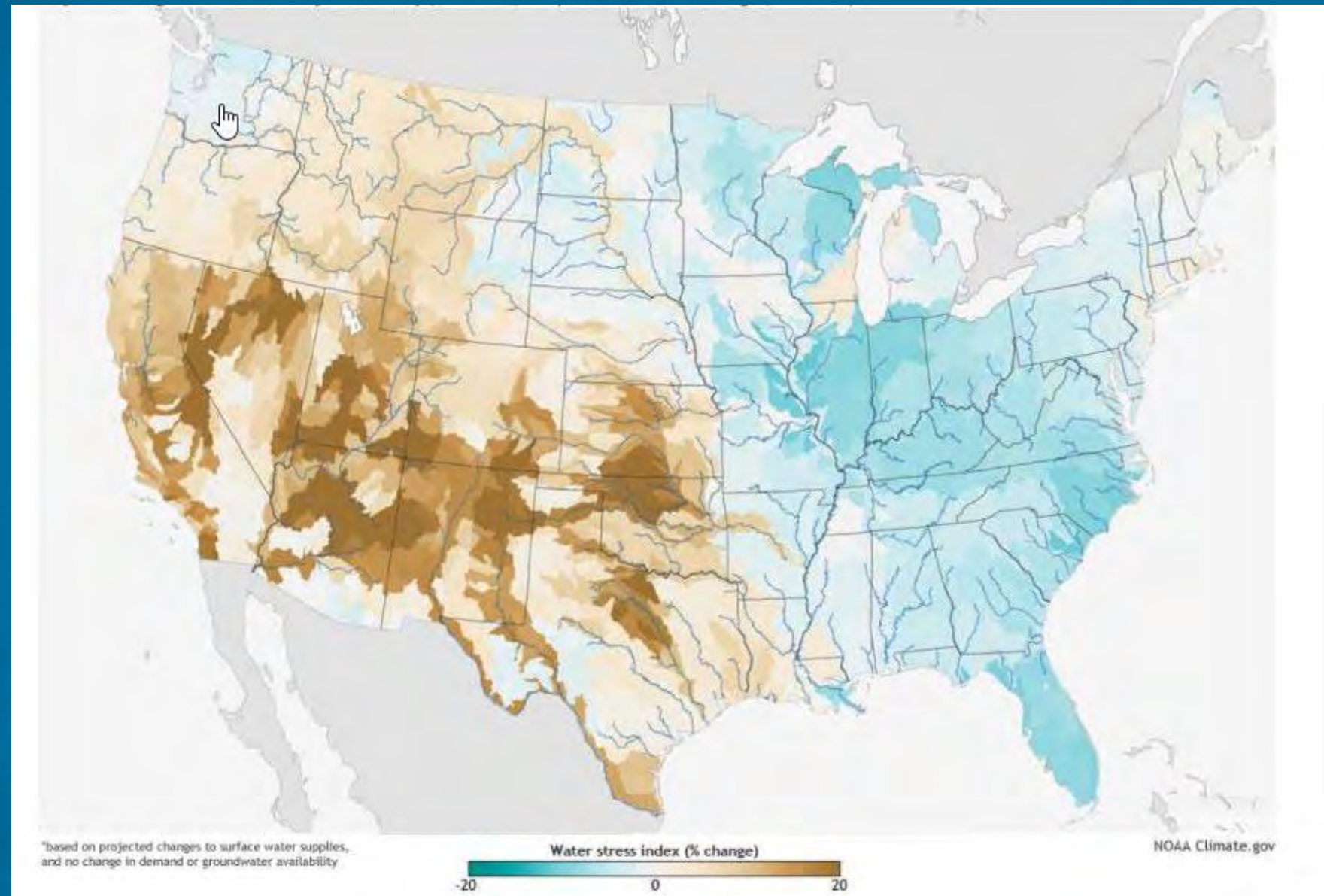
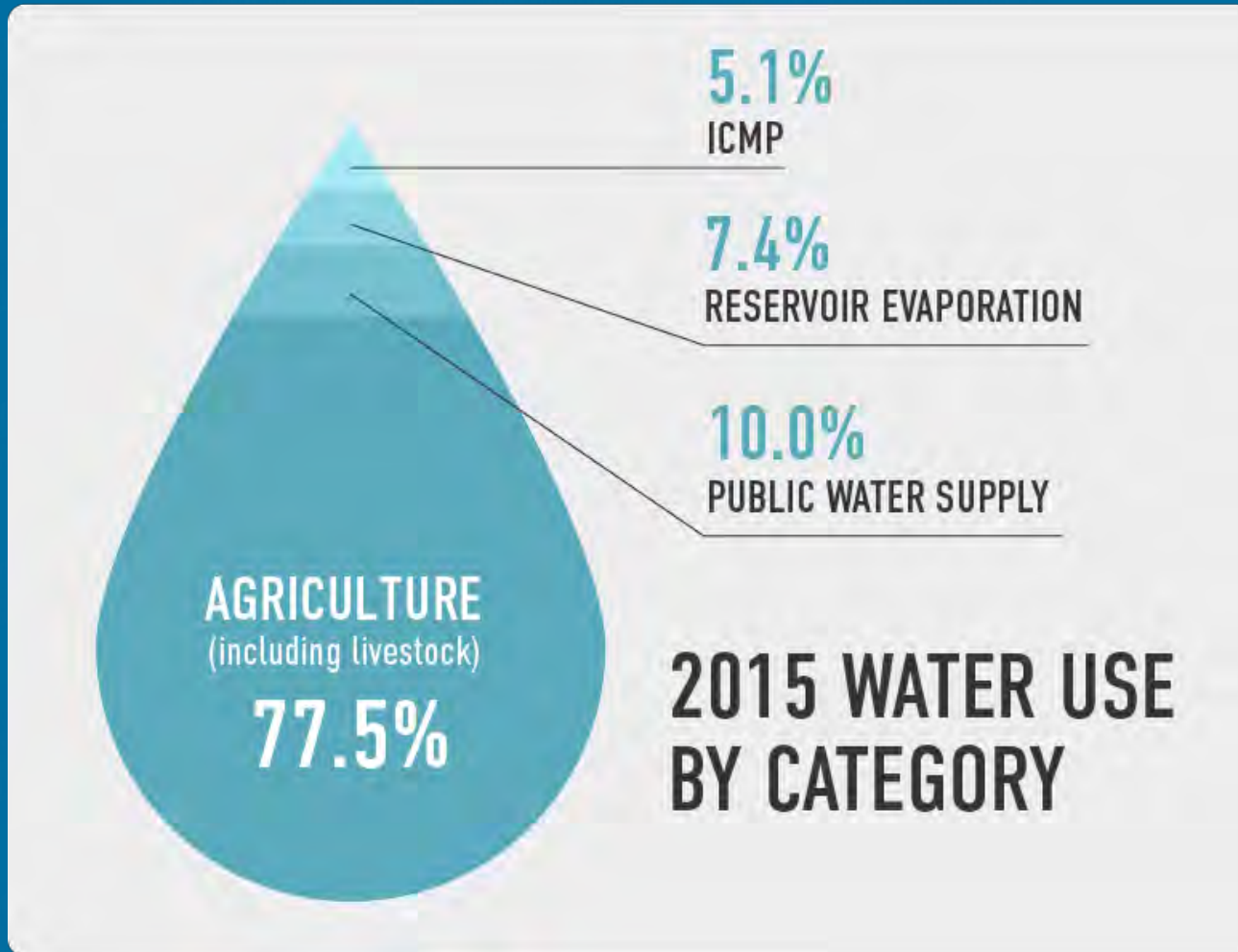


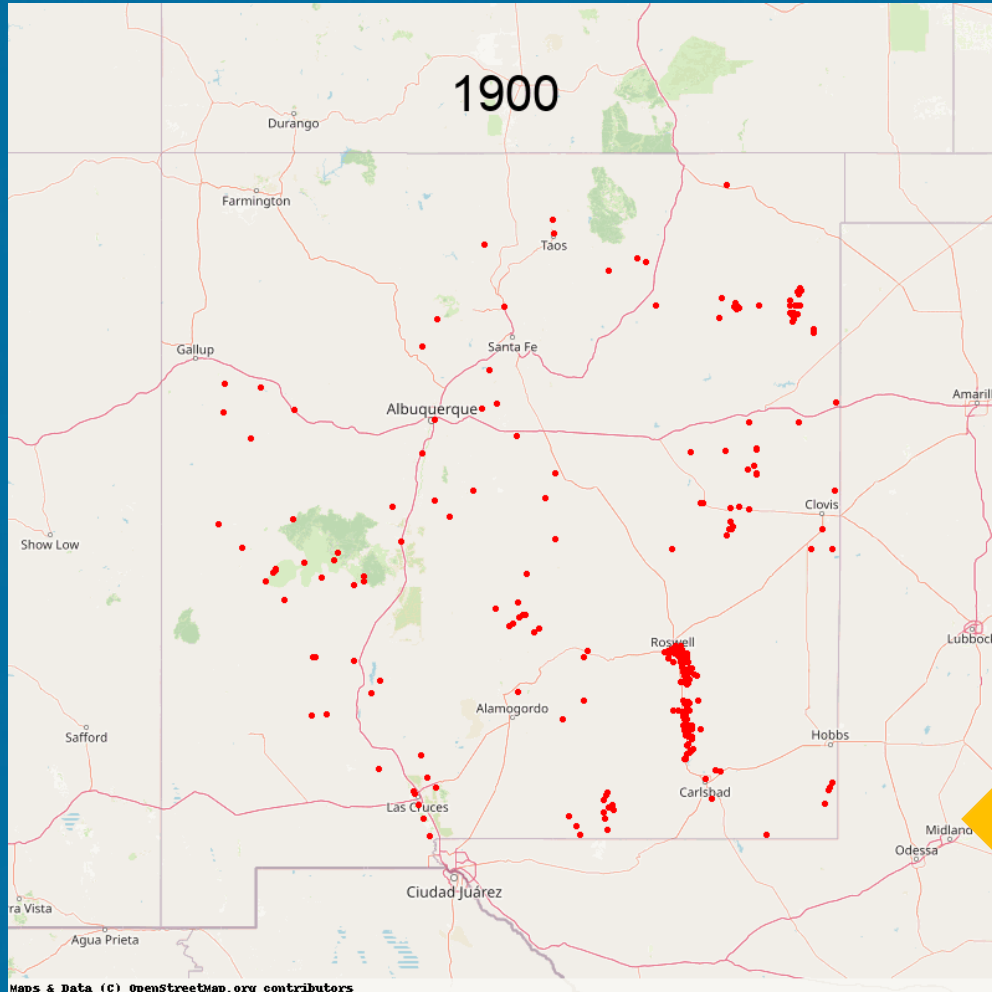
Image from Climate Change in New Mexico over the Next 50 Years: Impacts on Water Resources

Water Use by Categories 2015



- Agriculture is the largest water user in New Mexico
- Evaporation rates are projected to increase
- Levels of groundwater use are not sustainable
- Interstate compacts and endangered species flow requirements exist

Groundwater Use In New Mexico



- Groundwater use is a new demand in the past 100 years
- Many communities in NM are entirely reliant on groundwater
- Recharge rates, already very low, are likely to decrease by more than 25% with projected changes

**Thank You Water
Data Act!**

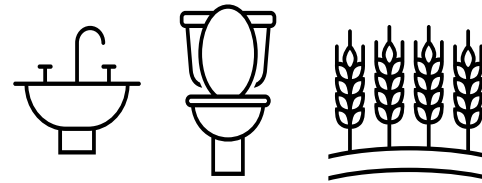
New Mexico needs to find a new Water Balance

Water Availability



=

Water Need



WATER BALANCE

Water Security Planning Act Implementation



**Early
2023**

Passage of the
Water Security
Planning Act



2024

Public & Tribal
Input
Create Water
Security Tribal
Advisory Council
(WSTAC)



**2025 -
2028**

Finalize Rules and
Guidelines Based
on Input &
Initiate Regional
Planning
WSTAC Ongoing



**2029 -
Beyond**

Iterative, Staggered
Regional Water
Planning
WSTAC Ongoing

Water Security Tribal Advisory Council WSTAC

a)

Interim Committee

Short-term committee comprised of water leaders and technical staff whose goal is to develop a framework for WSTAC. Membership and process are being coordinated with the NM Indian Affairs Department.

b)

Tribal Advisory Council

Initial steps for the Council will include providing input for rules and guidelines, consideration of tribal-specific rules and guidelines, determining ongoing role and process, and engaging in regional planning.

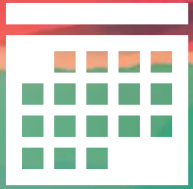
WSPA Implementation: Rules & Guidelines

Outreach & Input for Rules & Guidelines:

- Open-House events were hosted in all 16 existing water planning regions. Each event is the same.
- Events had stations with targeted questions about regional boundaries, stakeholders and leadership of regional water planning, goals for successful implementation, and more.
- All input opportunities were available online at MainStreamNM.org from June – mid-August in both English and Spanish.
- Input collected through this process will be the basis for proposed rules and guidelines.



Water Security Planning Act Open House Events ✓



April 22: Region 13 – Estancia ✓

April 23: Region 1 – NE New Mexico ✓

April 24: Region 8 – Mora-San Miguel ✓

May 13: Region 9 – Colfax ✓

May 14: Region 14 – Rio Chama ✓

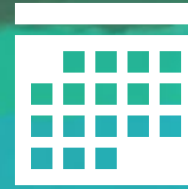
May 15: Region 3 – Jemez y Sangre ✓

May 16: Region 7 – Taos ✓

June 10: Region 16 – Lea ✓

June 11: Region 10 – Lower Pecos ✓

June 12: Region 5 – Tularosa-Sacramento ✓



July 22: Region 15 – Socorro-Sierra ✓

July 23: Region 4 – SW New Mexico ✓

July 24: Region 11 – Lower Rio Grande ✓

August 5: Region 6 – NW New Mexico ✓

August 6: Region 2 – San Juan ✓

August 7: Region 12 – Middle Rio Grande ✓

**Thank you,
New Mexico,
for engaging with us
this summer!**

December 4, 2023 - August 14, 2024

Main Stream New Mexico Campaign Highlights

12

7.4 Million
Impressions

Online ads on Meta and Google platforms were seen 7.4 million times.

72,000
Web Visitors

Over 72,000 users visited MainStreamNM.org, visiting over 105,900 pages on the website.

Open House Participation:

700+
In person

Over 700 people attended Open Houses in FY24 and more than 1,000 people participated in the online Open House survey.

1,000+
Online

6,000+
Blog Reads

Over 6,000 readers visited our blog articles, accessing vetted information relevant to regional water planning.

3000+
Newsletter Subscribers

We gained over 3,000 newsletter subscribers and maintained an average 39% open rate.

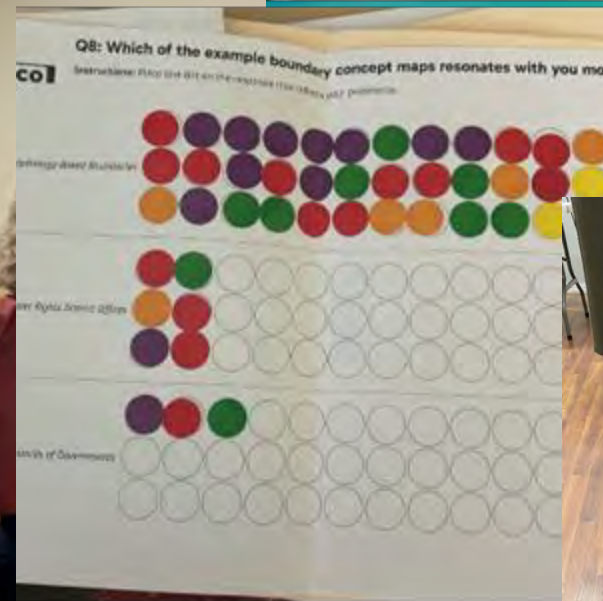
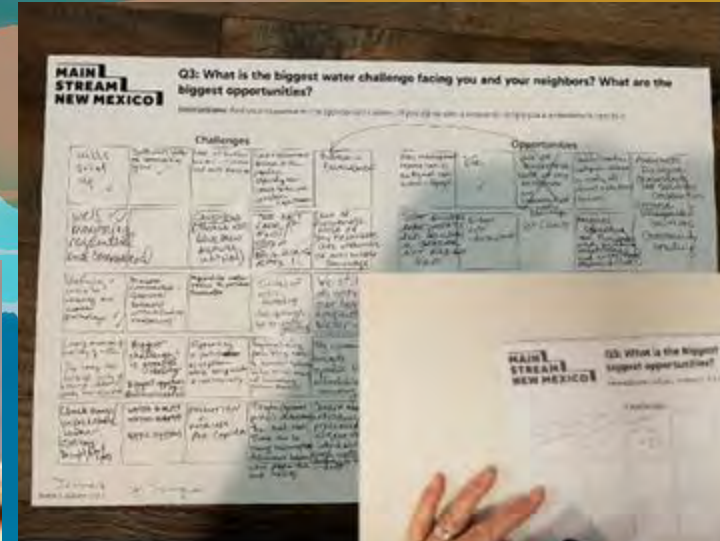
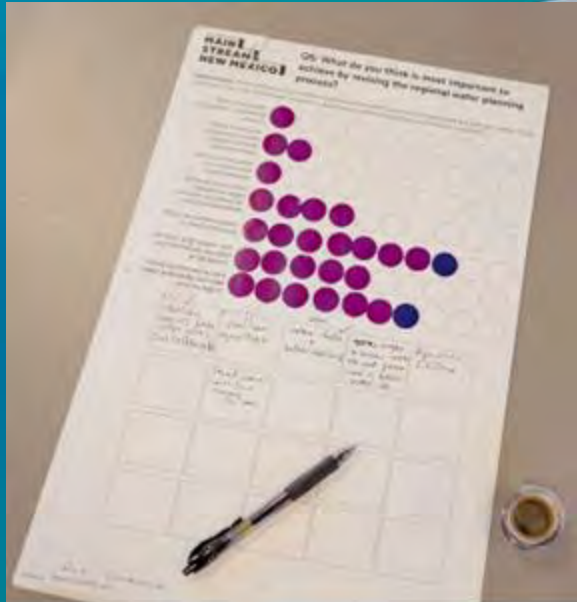
70
Advertisements

Statewide advertising included 46 radio ads and 24 newspaper ads, promoting regional and online Open Houses across New Mexico.

6
Newspaper Stories

Main Stream and the Open Houses were featured in 5 stories in local newspapers including the Santa Fe New Mexican. We also landed 1 op-ed.

Open House Events



Please visit MainStreamNM.org to dig in results!

Regional Water Planning Reports And References

New Mexico Water Security Planning Act: Engagement Report

[Appendix I - Display Boards and Worksheets](#)
[Appendix II - Advertising Report](#)
[Appendix III - Detailed Results](#)

DOWNLOAD DOCUMENT



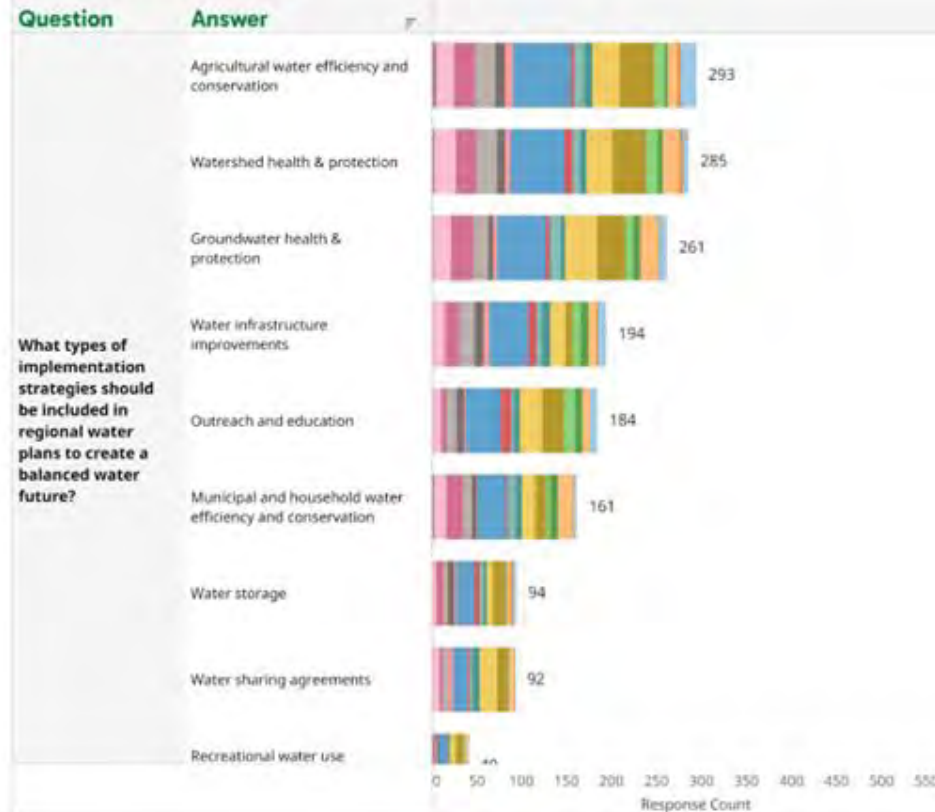
New Mexico Regional Water Planning Engagement by Region

The public was invited to regional open houses and asked to vote on the issues that are important to them. Filter results using the dropdowns, or click on the map to filter by region.

Question

Region Name

Responses by Region



Response Results Map





Water Security Planning Act: What the rules will address

- The boundaries & numbers of regions
- Criteria for ISC approval of regional water security plans
- Procedure for regional water planning entities to develop and notify the ISC of regional public welfare issues
- Composition of the regional water planning entities
- Procedure for regional water planning entities to consider public welfare values and the needs of future generations

This list is a minimum only

Water Security Planning Act: What the guidelines will address

- How stakeholders will be identified
- Requirements for public input, proposal contents and collaboration with state agencies
- Process for approval of grants or loans for planning activities
- Metrics for reporting
- Procedure and scheduling for regional plan implementation

This list is a minimum only



Reports in Development

In keeping with requirements by the Water Security Planning Act, ISC is focused on transparency of what was heard and how the input is used in the development of pre-draft rules and guidelines



1

Engagement Summary Report

The purpose of this report is to describe what we did as part of this outreach effort and what we heard as part of this outreach effort. This report is focused on reporting out the data as it came in.

2

Observations and Considerations Report

The purpose of this report is for the contractor to provide observations and considerations as to what should be considered for the development of the water security planning act's rules and guidelines. This report will draw conclusions based off the data collected in the input opportunity, which is summarized in the *Engagement Summary Report*.

3

Summary Report

The purpose of this report will summarize the process and key considerations for the development of pre-draft rules and guidelines associated with the water security planning act. This report will be a high-level summary which is focused on communicating our findings to the public and legislators.

Next Steps:

Spring/ Summer 2024

- In-Person Open House Events
- Online Open House Events

Fall/Winter 2024

- Evaluation of Feedback and Development of Pre-Draft Rules and Guidelines

Winter 2024/2025

- Public Comment Period and Capturing Input

Winter/Spring 2025

- Promulgation of Draft Rules and Adoption of Guidelines



Thank you!

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