

NM Land Grant Committee Pamela García July 14, 2025

Overview

- Funding and Policy
- Congressionally Directed Spending
- Constituent Services



Federal Funding for Acequias

• U.S. Department of Agriculture

- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
 - Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)
 - Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)
 - Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Program

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
 - Water Resources Development Act
 - Sec. 1113 Acequia Program

Congressionally Directed Spending

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Acequia Youth Corps
 - Supports youth work and organizations who have existing youth programs.
 - \$500,000 proposed for FY2025 CDS
 - FY2025 CDS projects were not funded



ACEQUIA Act

Acequia Communities Empowered by Qualifying Upgrades for Infrastructure (ACEQUIA) Act

This bill Senator Lujan introduced supports acequias by ensuring that they, like other agricultural systems, are able to access USDA disaster assistance programs. Specifically, this legislation amends the Non-insured Disaster Assistance Program to ensure that Parciantes qualify for drought assistance. Additionally, the legislation codifies current agency guidance that Parciantes do not need to obtain a special-use permit to perform routine maintenance or in-kind improvements on federal land.

Acequia Rehabilitation Working Group

- This working group brings together local, state, and federal leaders to identify new opportunities to protect and restore New Mexico's acequias.
- Previous topics have included the U.S. Army Corps Acequia Program and Disaster Recovery.



Constituent Services

- Referrals
 - To non-federal entities
- Congressional inquiries
 - Federal Agencies



- Examples for acequias and acequia associations:
 - FEMA Disaster Assistance
 - Emergency Watershed Protection status
 - SAMs numbers
 - Tax exempt status



Office Locations

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