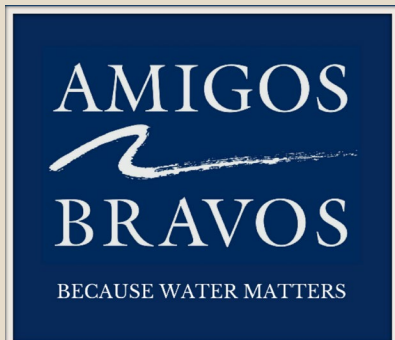


STRATEGIC WATER RESERVE STATUTE AMENDMENT



Steven Fry
Policy and Projects Specialist
sfry@amigosbravos.org
425-213-3906





Strategic Water Reserve

WHAT IT IS

Tool that provides mechanism for state to purchase or lease water rights and hold in public trust.

ESTABLISHED IN 2005

The SWR was established through broad bipartisan support nearly 20 years ago.

AUTHORIZED PURPOSES

The SWR can be used for three purposes to promote compact compliance, benefit endangered species, including to prevent the listing of new species, and now passive aquifer recharge

KEY COMPONENTS



VOLUNTARY TRANSACTIONS



NO ACQUISITION THROUGH
CONDEMNATION



ACEQUIA PROTECTIONS



WATER RIGHT SENIORITY AND
BENEFICIAL USE



EXPLICIT APPROVAL BY THE
COMMISSION FOR ALL
TRANSACTIONS



SB37 – STRATEGIC WATER RESERVE FUND

SPONSORS:

Sen. Stefanics

Rep. Dixon

Rep. McQueen

Sen. Wirth

Thank you
Legislators!

UPDATES TO THE PROGRAM:

- Creation of the Strategic Water Reserve Fund
- 3rd Purpose - Passive Aquifer Recharge
- Prioritizing Multiple Benefits



Understanding The Changes

ADDING GROUNDWATER AS A THIRD PURPOSE

This would not be direct infiltration like many aquifer recharge projects and contains a specific ban on any conversion of surface water to groundwater.

PRIORITIZING MULTI-BENEFIT TRANSACTIONS

This would allow, but not require, ISC to prioritize those transactions that benefit one or more authorized purpose and one or more supplementary benefit, including traditional and cultural uses.

STRATEGIC WATER RESERVE FUND

Securing leases and purchases take time, historically funds allocated have been retracted, this secures the funding so the program can enter negotiations confident the funds will be there for intended use.



Programming with ISC

WELCOME PAM HOMER

- First program Technical lead
- Outreach & Education
- Coordination with Basin Managers
- Transaction tracking and Fund updates

OPPORTUNITIES FOR INTEGRATION

- Regional Water Planning
- Aquifer Mapping
- Rio Grande Basin Study



NEW MEXICO'S WATER FUTURE BY THE NUMBERS

7°

New Mexico is set to experience an average temperature increase of 5°F to 7°F over the next 50 years.

20%

Observed snowpack in the headwaters of the Rio Grande has declined 20%.

25%

Runoff and recharge is projected to decline across the state by about 3-5% per decade in the next 50 years.

80%

80% of imperiled species across the state spend some portion of their life cycle in riverine environments.

3.1

Water withdrawals account for a little over 3 million acre-feet per year, about 52% of which come from surface water.



Questions?