



*A Division of the Energy, Minerals &
Natural Resources Department*



OUR MISSION:

Protect and enhance natural and cultural resources, provide first-class recreational and educational facilities and opportunities, and promote public safety to benefit and enrich the lives of visitors

Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)



- Pass through federal funding for outdoor recreation land acquisition and facilities development
- Permanently funded through the federal off-shore oil leasing program: Stateside = *Formula* and *Outdoor Recreation Legacy Program (ORLP)*
- State Parks is New Mexico's designated agency to solicit and process proposals from municipalities, state subdivisions, and tribal organizations
- Markets the LWCF program each year, sets up the application and scoring process, works with NPS partners and other states
- Develops the 5-year Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) for New Mexico, which is used by the applicants to develop their proposals and guides scoring
- New Mexico has a LWCF State Liaison Officer (currently vacant) and an Alternate SLO (Robert Stokes, State Parks, Program Support Bureau Chief)

NEW MEXICO'S STATEWIDE COMPREHENSIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN

Strategic Plan for 2022-2026
December 2021



Prepared by:



Prepared for:



- The 2022–2026 SCORP: complements and supports LWCF outdoor recreation efforts
- Provides recommendations to guide outdoor recreation to achieve a common vision for outdoor resources in NM
- Identifies economic contributions of outdoor recreation to the state
- The SCORP is updated every five years to enable New Mexico to continue to receive federal funding from the Land and Water Conservation Fund
- To learn more about the SCORP and to download a copy of the final report, go to:
<https://www.emnrd.nm.gov/spd/statewide-comprehensive-outdoor-recreation-plan-scorp/>

New Mexico's Annual Allocations from the National Park Service

Every year, each state and territory receives notice of allocation from the NPS-LWCF to use for project awards

For the last four years, New Mexico has been allocated:

- 2020: \$2,500,656
 - 2021: \$3,328,933
 - 2022: \$3,057,906
 - 2023: \$3,193,100
- Total: \$12,080,595 Average: \$3,020,149*

Since 2020, we've reallocated:

- \$2,366,775 (\$1,616,775 for State Park projects and \$750,000 for one ORLP project [Apodaca Park, Las Cruces])

For the 2021 and 2022 application periods, we've received:

- 2021: 13 Formula applications (two were from Tribal organizations), 1 ORLP
- 2022: 14 Formula applications
- 2023: Currently open to December 29, with 80+ views of our LWCF home page so far

2021 and 2022 Formula and ORLP application locations

2021: 13 Formula
2021: 1 ORLP
2022: 14 Formula

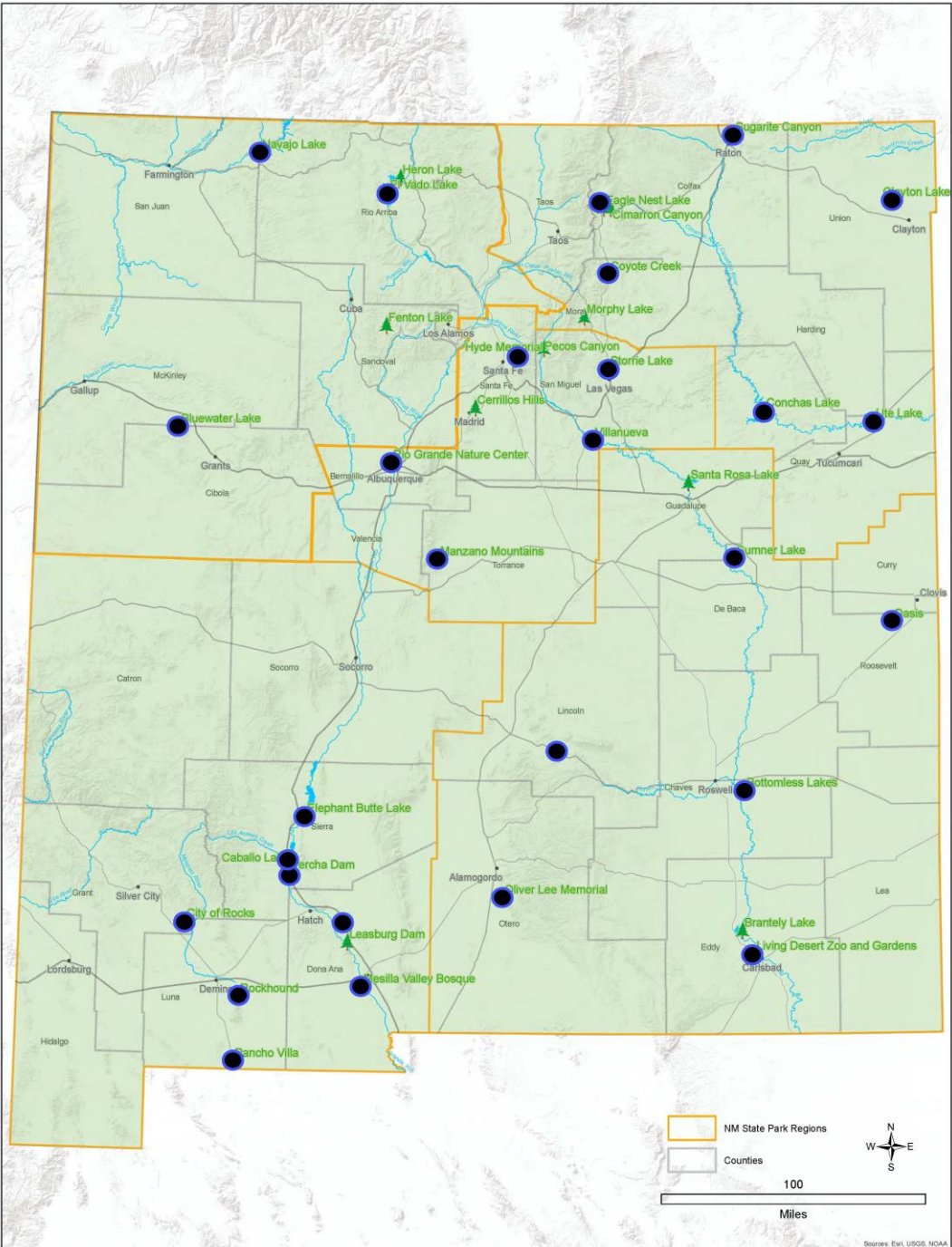


2020 ORLP: Apodaca Park Improvements, Las Cruces



- Total Project Cost \$1,500,000
- Awarded August 8, 2020
- Not Completed (scheduled by March 31, 2025)
- Improvements include:
 - Demolition of several existing structures
 - New aquatic playground, playground refurbishment, trail system, irrigation system, landscape plantings
 - New picnic shelters, restrooms, park and LWCF signage

State Parks Division Completed LWCF Projects



Recent Examples: Coyote Creek State Park Improvements



- Total Project Cost \$3,500,000
- Awarded June 1, 2018
- Completed September 30, 2023
- Improvements included:
 - New campground loop with RV campsites and cabins
 - Grading, drainage, and road improvements at existing campground loop
 - New tent sites including an accessible site with a pathway to the accessible vault toilet

Eagle Nest Lake State Park Campground Improvements



Eagle Nest Lake State Park

Comfort Station Design: 42 Marina Wy, Eagle Nest, NM 87718
Date: 2/20/2023



- Total Project Cost \$2,104,300
- Awarded September 23, 2019
- Expires September 30, 2024
- Improvements include:
 - Water System Improvements, add water to each campsite
 - Electrical Upgrades, add electric to each campsite
 - New comfort station including septic system and leach field

Sugarite State Park Cabin Project



- Total Project Cost \$1,136,025
- Awarded September 23, 2019
- Expires September 30, 2024
- Improvements include:
 - Construction of 5 cabins with front porch
 - Each cabin has a wood burning stove, interior wood platforms for sitting, sleeping, and dining, and an exterior picnic table

Hyde Memorial State Park Water and Wastewater Improvements



- Total Project Cost \$750,000
- Awarded September 23, 2019
- Expires September 30, 2024
- Improvements include:
 - New drinking water well
 - New water treatment system
 - Upgrade restroom next to the Historic Lodge from composting to flushing toilets

Bottomless Lakes State Park Improvements



- Total Project Cost \$1,755,106
- Awarded September 23, 2019
- Expires September 30, 2024
- Improvements include:
 - Redevelopment of the Lea Lake Day-use Area including new picnic sites, upgrades to the group shelter, installation of a vault toilet, trail development, and accessibility improvements
 - Comfort station renovations
 - New entrance station
 - Electrical upgrades

Navajo Lake State Park Crusher Hole Campground Phase II



- Total Project Cost \$636,045
- Awarded March 9, 2020
- Expires March 8, 2025
- Improvements include:
 - New day-use area
 - New tent camping area

Storrie Lake State Park Comfort Station Renovations



- Total Project Cost \$159,919.93
- Awarded August 4, 2021
- Completed June 30, 2023
- Improvements included:
 - New floors and walls with a specialty coating in the shower area
 - New sinks and shower parts
 - New LED lighting
 - New skylights
 - New exterior stucco

Coyote Creek State Park Improvements Phase II



- Total Project Cost \$2,581,474
- Next Grant Cycle January 2024
- Improvements include:
 - Vehicular Bridge over creek to access Group Shelter
 - Group Shelter renovations
 - Day-Use Area improvements
 - Accessible Fishing Pier
 - Electrical upgrades

Manzano Mountains State Park



- 2024 Application
- Proposed improvements:
 - New entrance gate and turnaround

Pancho Villa State Park



- 2025 Application
- Proposed Improvements:
 - Reconstruction of historic Meeting Hall
 - Campground Renovations

Oliver Lee Memorial State Park



- 2025 Application
- Proposed improvements:
 - Visitor Center renovation
 - Campground renovation

Challenges we face implementing the LWCF Program

1. Complex federal grant program with many components, such as environmental and cultural compliance, requiring completion PRIOR TO notice of award from the NPS; applicants assume the costs and risk
2. Each state is required to review the status of each previously awarded LWCF project every 5 years; New Mexico has had over 1,200 awards since the 1960s
3. The State Parks Division had no positions designated for this program since the mid-2000s, but used an existing agency position to hire an LWCF Program Coordinator in November 2020 to align with the Formula grant process
4. We've learned that this a major state/federal program that needs more capacity which has caused slowdowns, delays, lack of awarding, and partial loss of allocated grant money in 2021, 2022, and 2023

How can the state legislature help?

- Support our FY 25 Division budget request to improve dedicated program staff
- Support our effort and that of our State's congressional delegation to work with the National Park Service to streamline the application components and process
- Explore options to develop other state funds for small communities to access and augment their match requirements

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the State Parks Home page. The browser's address bar shows the URL emnrd.nm.gov/SPD/. The page features a navigation menu with the following items: Home, About, Contact, News, Public Notices, Publications, and a Search function. Below the navigation menu is a horizontal menu with categories: INDUSTRY OVERSIGHT, NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE, STATE PARKS, PROGRAMS & SERVICES, and EXPLORE BY DIVISION. The main content area has a large background image of a forested lake. The heading "State Parks Home" is prominently displayed, with a "Home" link below it. On the left side, there is a "State Parks" dropdown menu with the following options: State Parks, Activities, Plans & Grants, Park Plans, SCORP, LWCF, YCC Grant Information, Kids in Parks Grant Information, and Request for Proposals. The right side of the page contains the section "About the State Parks Division" with the following text: "Outdoor recreation is a driving force in New Mexico's economy and State Parks is a key player. Connected to communities statewide, our 35 state parks are often economic drivers for local businesses, towns, and cities. Many rural communities rely on a state park as a major source of economic development." Below this, it states: "The State Parks' mission is to protect and enhance natural and cultural resources, provide first-class recreational and education facilities and opportunities, and promote public safety to benefit and enrich the lives of visitors." and "State Parks is committed to this mission, employing professional, dedicated staff to ensure that parks are cared for and preserved to the highest professional standards. State Park programs provide safe, fun, and educational experiences for the whole family." The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the time as 3:40 PM on 10/17/2023.

<https://www.emnrd.nm.gov/SPD/>

State Parks Division - Home | The Land & Water Conservation Fund

emnrd.nm.gov/spd/the-land-water-conservation-fund/

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The Land & Water Conservation Fund

Home > The Land & Water Conservation Fund

State Parks

- State Parks
- Activities
- Plans & Grants
 - Park Plans
 - SCORP
 - LWCF**
 - YCC Grant Information
 - Kids in Parks Grant Information
 - Request for Proposals

Request for Proposals

The 2023 application period opens on October 2nd.
The application deadline is Friday, December 29, 2023.

- 2023 LWCF Application
- LWCF Application Instructions
- LWCF Application Line Instructions
- LWCF Application Checklist
- Open Projects Selection Process
- LWCF Federal Financial Assistance Manual, Vol. 71
- LWCF General Provisions
- LWCF Sample Memorandum of Agreement
- LWCF Sample Boundary Map

LWCF Contacts:

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LOCATIONS

- Bluewater Lake
- Bottomless Lakes
- Brantley Lake

<https://www.emnrd.nm.gov/spd/the-land-water-conservation-fund/>

Thank you for the
opportunity to discuss the
New Mexico LWCF
program.