

Wildfire Preparedness

Wildfire Mitigation Program (WMP), Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS), and Vegetation Management

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PNM OVERVIEW

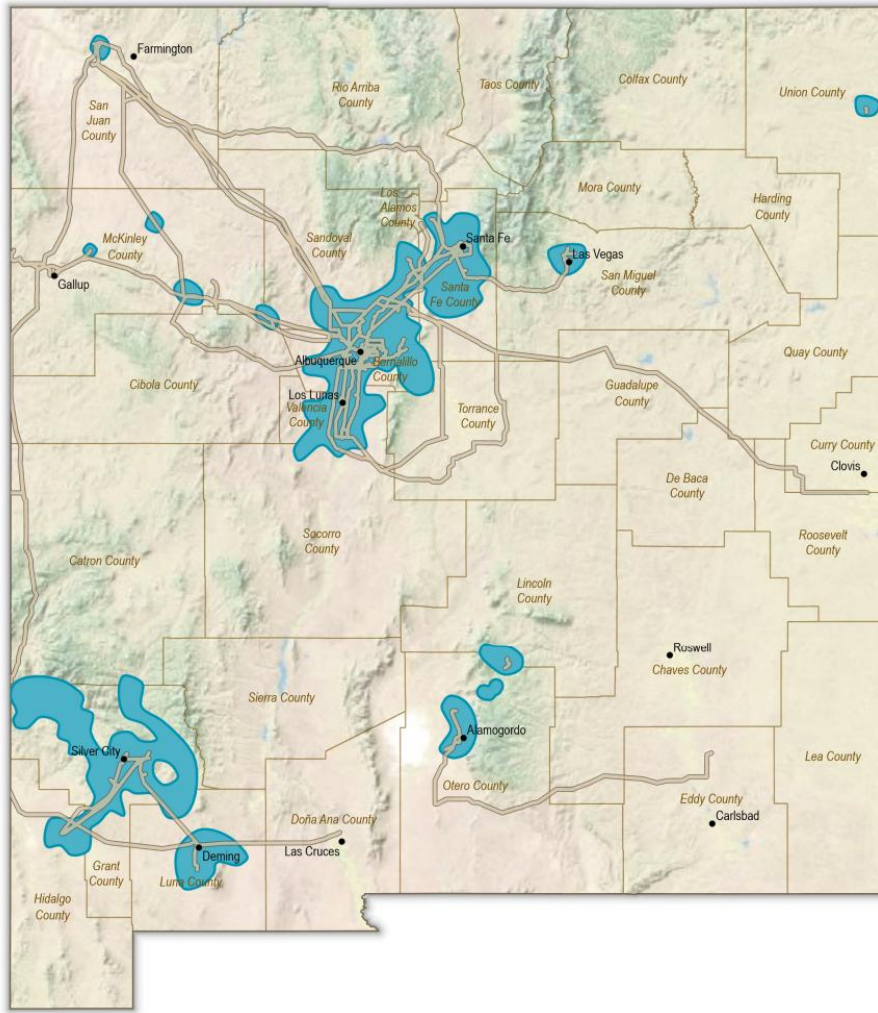
PNM has been serving the people and businesses of New Mexico since 1917. As the state's largest electricity provider, PNM plays a critical role in delivering safe, reliable, and affordable power to more than 550,000 residential and commercial customers across a broad and diverse service area. PNM serves numerous communities throughout the state, including:

Urban and suburban centers: Albuquerque, Rio Rancho, Los Lunas, Belen, and Santa Fe

Rural towns and smaller municipalities: Las Vegas, Alamogordo, Ruidoso, Silver City, Deming, Bayard, Lordsburg, and Clayton

Native American tribal lands: Including the Tesuque, Cochiti, Santo Domingo, San Felipe, Santa Ana, Sandia, Isleta, and Laguna Pueblos

PNM SERVICE AREA



WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN

PNM prioritizes the safety of our customers, communities, and employees. To achieve this, PNM developed a Wildfire Mitigation Plan (WMP) which placed an emphasis on:

- Risk Intelligence – Use of AI tools and data to better define and analyze High Fire Risk Areas (HFRAs)
- Enhancement of situational awareness (SA)
- Year-round vegetation management; Cyclical in HFRAs over next 5 yrs
- Hardening of the electrical grid and ignition reduction practices
- Ongoing emergency preparedness and response activities
- Wildfire Safety Mode (WSM) - Enhanced Seasonal & Situational System Protective Settings
- Last resort: Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS)

ENHANCED SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

- **66 weather stations** installed statewide
- Fire detection cameras:
 - 2 in Santa Fe
 - 6 in Silver City
- Combined with State investment:
 - **19 ignition detection cameras total**
- Enables **faster detection and response**
- **Advanced fire risk** modeling tools
- Added staff meteorologist for detailed analysis of weather conditions



VEGETATION MANAGEMENT OVERVIEW

- **Working on five-year cyclical clearing of High Fire Risk Areas (HFRAs) (year 2 of 5)**
- Workplan informed by:
 - Annual satellite imagery
 - Ground inspections
 - 2026 field reviews
- Activities prioritized and sequenced based on **fire risk and inspection results**



RESILIENCY PRIORITIES

Pole Replacement Program:

HFRA pole testing and treatment completed in 2024

Poles replacements prioritized:

Priority 1 - Urgent: Completed in 2025

Priority 2 – Need Attention: Ongoing statewide

Priority 3 – Further Inspection Needed: Now being addressed

- Silver City and East Mountains nearing completion of P2 workload

RESILIENCY PRIORITIES

Distribution System Enhancements:

- Hospital hardening projects:
 - Silver City, Santa Clara, Ruidoso
- Continued deployment of:
 - Fault indicators on outage-prone feeders
 - HFRA equipment upgrades: pole wraps, heavy-duty crossarms, heavy-duty poles, non-expulsive fusing, bird guarding
- **WSM** settings during high fire risk periods

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

- Annual PSPS and emergency response activities
- Coordination with state and local EOCs
- Account Managers notify potentially impacted critical customers
- Critical infrastructure lists based on information from state and local agencies
- Applies to:
 - Medical facilities
 - Telecommunications providers
 - Water and wastewater systems
 - Emergency Services

EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLANNING

- Long-lead spare equipment secured in advance
- Alliance agreement with primary equipment distributor
- Participation in **Western Region Mutual Assistance Program**
- Contracts in place for:
 - Helicopter inspections
 - Drone damage assessments
- Developed detailed inspection and restoration plans
- All to support accelerated restoration and re-energization

PARTNER & AGENCY COORDINATION

- Ongoing coordination with:
 - Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department
 - Homeland Security and Emergency Management
 - Local government emergency managers
- Regular tabletop exercises and outreach
- Active, year-round coordination with tribal partners for land access
- Active coordination with land management agencies for access (BLM, USFS, State Lands)

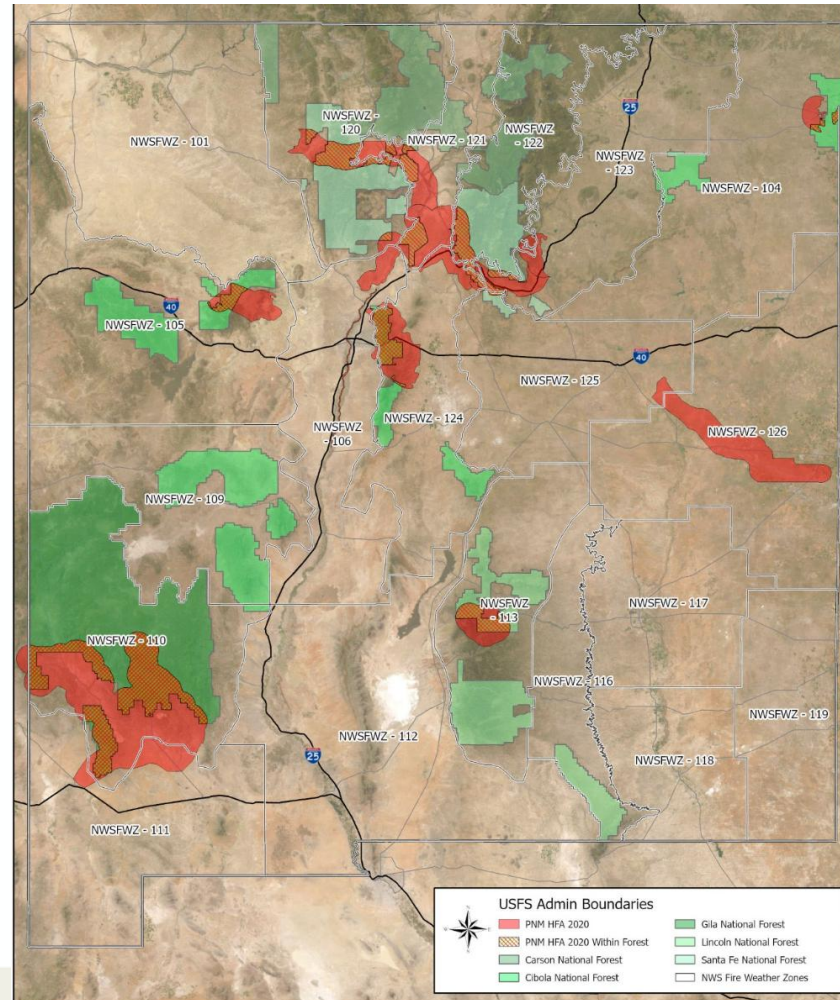
2027 WILDFIRE SEASON OUTLOOK

- Winter 2025 and Summer of 2026 were the **warmest on record in New Mexico**
- Wildfire risk is now a year-round concern
- Contributing factors:
 - Lower annual precipitation prior to fall of 2026
 - Increasing precipitation starting in September of 2026
 - Dry air and low relative humidity during wildfire season
 - Generally higher temperatures statewide
- Downward trend in risk for the remainder of 2026 and uncertain risk in 2027 due to potential understory growth due to precipitation
- PNM conducts **year-round wildfire risk monitoring**

SB 161/HB 267 WILDFIRE UTILITY MITIGATION AND LIABILITY ACT

- Creates a framework for electric utilities to develop, implement, and report on wildfire mitigation plans that include Public Regulation Commission (PRC) approval, annual compliance reports, cost recovery mechanisms, and public transparency.
- The act is pertinent to both investor-owned utilities and electric cooperatives.
- Specifies that utilities are generally not liable for fires caused by vegetation outside their easement unless they were notified and unreasonably refused action.
- Provides liability protections to public power shutoffs if use conforms with mitigation plan or was done in good faith.
- PNM collaborating with Tri-State, Coops, Xcel Energy and El Paso Electric on legislation based on SB 161/HB 267 for upcoming 2027 60-day legislative session.
- PNM agrees for the most part with draft legislation.
- PNM has concerns on the Certificate of Compliance and 180-day wait for certificate and already having a required approved wildfire mitigation plan.
- PNM is committed to continue to work on edits and agreement prior to the session.

PNM HIGH FIRE RISK AREAS



VEGETATION MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Clayton / Las Vegas

19+ miles in Clayton, 23 miles in Las Vegas
Cleared in 2025

Albuquerque East Mountains

300+ miles scheduled 2026

Ruidoso

100 additional miles planned 2027

Silver City

916 additional miles planned 2027/2028

Santa Fe

634 miles scheduled annually 2029

Hazard Trees

133 mitigated year-to-date
204 identified (Ruidoso & Silver City)

