

# Why do we need the NM Agriculture and Natural Resource Trust Fund?



**New Mexico  
Association of  
Conservation  
Districts**

*Debbie Hughes  
Executive Director*



*Why should we care about  
Invasive Species in NM?*







## MULTIPLE BENEFITS

- Increase water availability for a variety of uses and native species-WATER SECURITY
- Healthy lands with healthy wildlife populations
- Agricultural Sustainability
- Decrease sediment loads into streams

## MULTIPLE REASONS

- To prevent the listing of candidate wildlife species
- To improve water quality & quantity
- To keep oil & gas industry & Agriculture productive
- To improve the health of rangeland and reduce erosion
- Sustain economic viability within communities

**LARGE LANDSCAPE SCALE WATERSHED PROJECTS  
REMOVING INVASIVE SPECIES  
TO IMPROVE HABITAT FOR HEALTHY ECOSYSTEMS**



***LANDSCAPE SCALE PROJECTS  
ONLY SUCCESSFUL AT LOCAL LEVEL***

**BLM funded 10 MILLION  
DOLLAR GRANT IN 2006  
to NMACD through  
NM SWCDS**

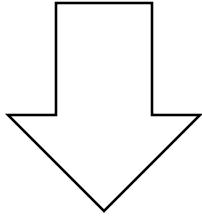




# Bare Ground

**51.7%**

1994



**12.7%**

2009

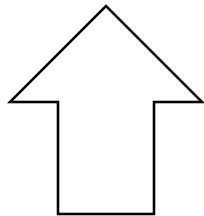




# Vegetation

5.3%

1994



22.0%

2009



1994

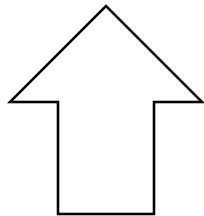


2009



**Production**  
**173.0 lb/acre**

1994



**391.4 lb/acre**

2009





# Results

Composition %

Shrubs 78 → 1

Grasses 5 → 99

## Species Diversity

Pre-

Post-

Burrograss

Burrograss

Blue

Blue Grama

Grama

Black Grama

Sideoats Grama

Three-Awn

Fluffgrass

6-weeks grama

Bush Muhly

Ear Muhly

Nine-Awn

Sand Dropseed



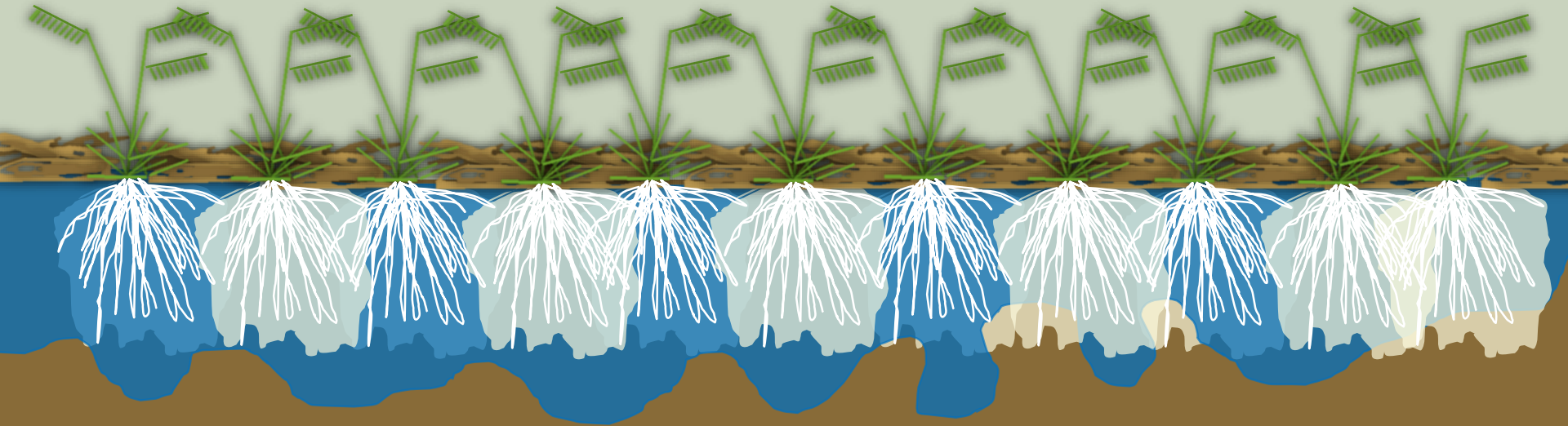
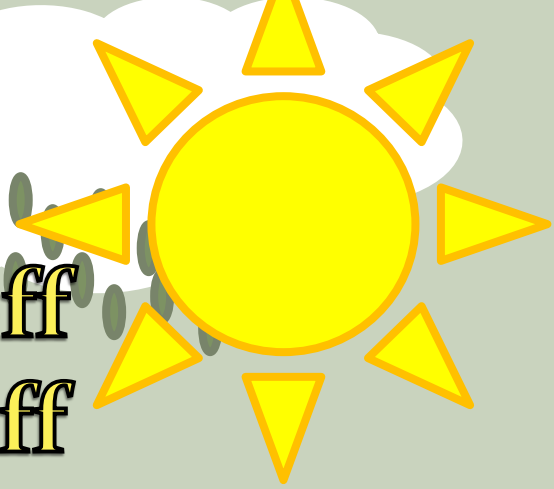


# Runoff

10% V/L  $\approx$  73% Runoff

37% V/L  $\approx$  14% Runoff

60-75% V/L  $\approx$  2% Runoff





**BLM AWARDS NMACD 20 MILLION DOLLARS  
GRANTS in 2011 & 2015**





**NM SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION  
DISTRICTS do “COLORBLIND” restoration  
across state, private, and public lands.**

**Before Creosote Treatment**



**After Creosote Treatment**





*2 year after treatment*





# *Riparian Restoration*

## *Salt Cedar Removal*





# Salt Cedar Treatments on the Delaware River, SE New Mexico

**Before**

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**After**

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# *Brush Treatments*

## *Benefits to Wildlife Habitat*





# **SWCD & PARTNERS RESTORATION TREATMENTS**

**Restore NM acres treated since Inception:**

**Over 3.5 million acres of public, private & state lands**





**Over \$69,705,855 Million spent on Restore NM  
in 13 years**







NM REGIONAL  
CONSERVATION  
PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM  
(RCPP)

Through USDA-NRCS Farm  
Bill Programs

❑ **2015 - 4 million dollars to NM  
for Ranches with Federal lands**

❑ **2017 New Mexico Range and Forest  
Soil Health Initiative- NMACD  
7 million dollars.**





**NM ACEQUIA REVITALIZATION  
(NMAR)**

**NMACD administering  
1.2 Million-2015  
3 Million-2016  
\$2,907,670 -2017  
utilizing the "alternative funding  
agreement"**





## CANADIAN RIVER RIPARIAN RESTORATION

- WTB \$600,00 for 12 years
- NM G & F -2 mil
- 2015 RCPP- 2 mil
- 2017 CRWRP-3.6 mil
- Canadian River & Ute Creek SWCDs
- Benefits Lesser Prairie Chicken Habitat





Pretty Happy about RCPP in NM

## NMACD, SWCDS & PARTNERS

NMACD  
gets \$00000  
dollars  
for administration  
Of RCPP GRANTS

### 3 Year RCPP Total

# \$31,426,890







## Oil and Gas Industry: Key to establishing Agreements

### Conservation Agreements and Agreements with Assurances

- Precluded the need to list sagebrush sand dune lizard
- Instrumental in enhancing grassland habitats throughout lesser prairie chicken range
- Millions of dollars in voluntary conservation of grassland species and habitat



# *Oil and Gas Reclamation*

## *Caliche Pit*





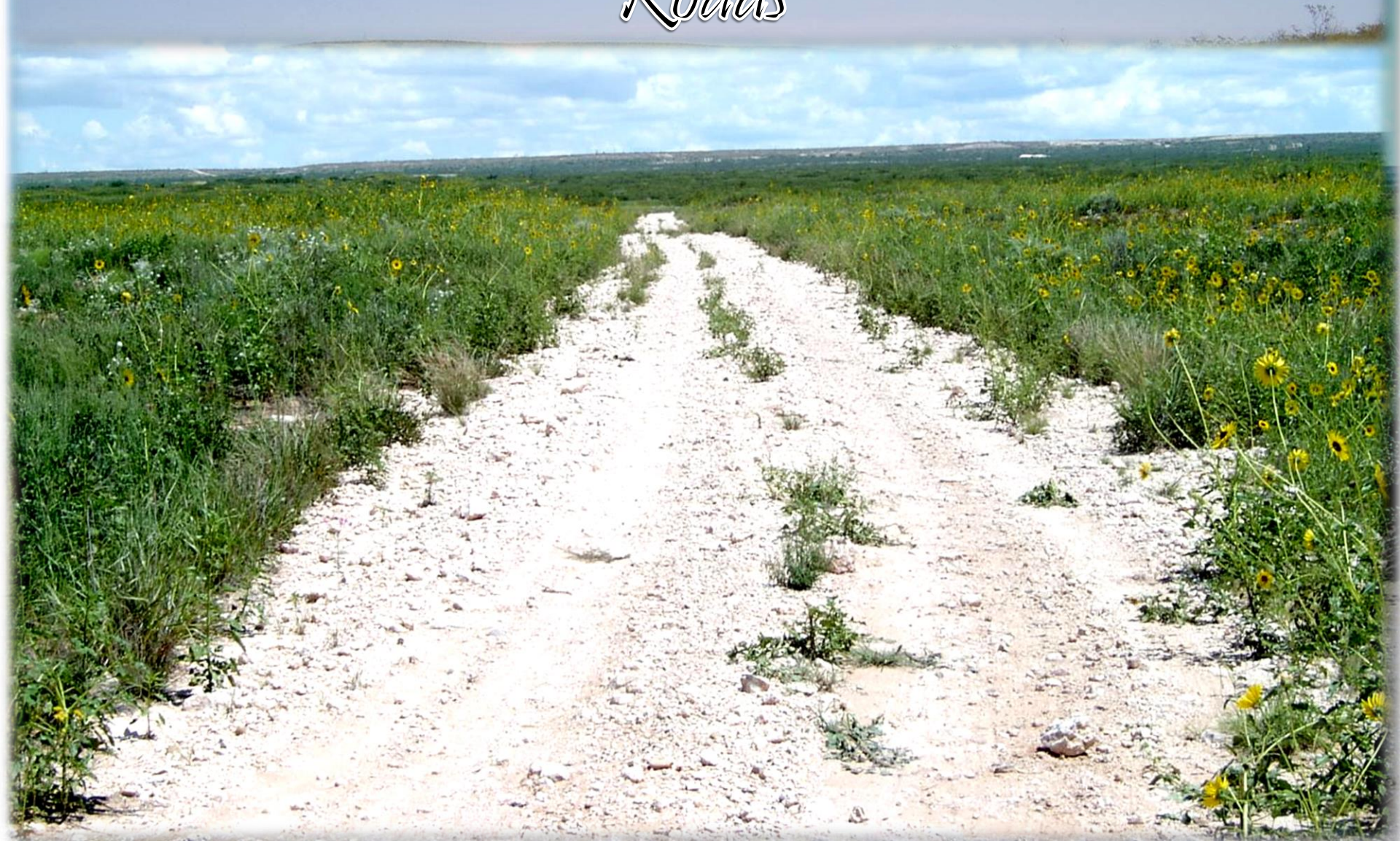
# *Oil and Gas Reclamation*

## *Caliche Pit*





# *Oil and Gas Reclamation Roads*





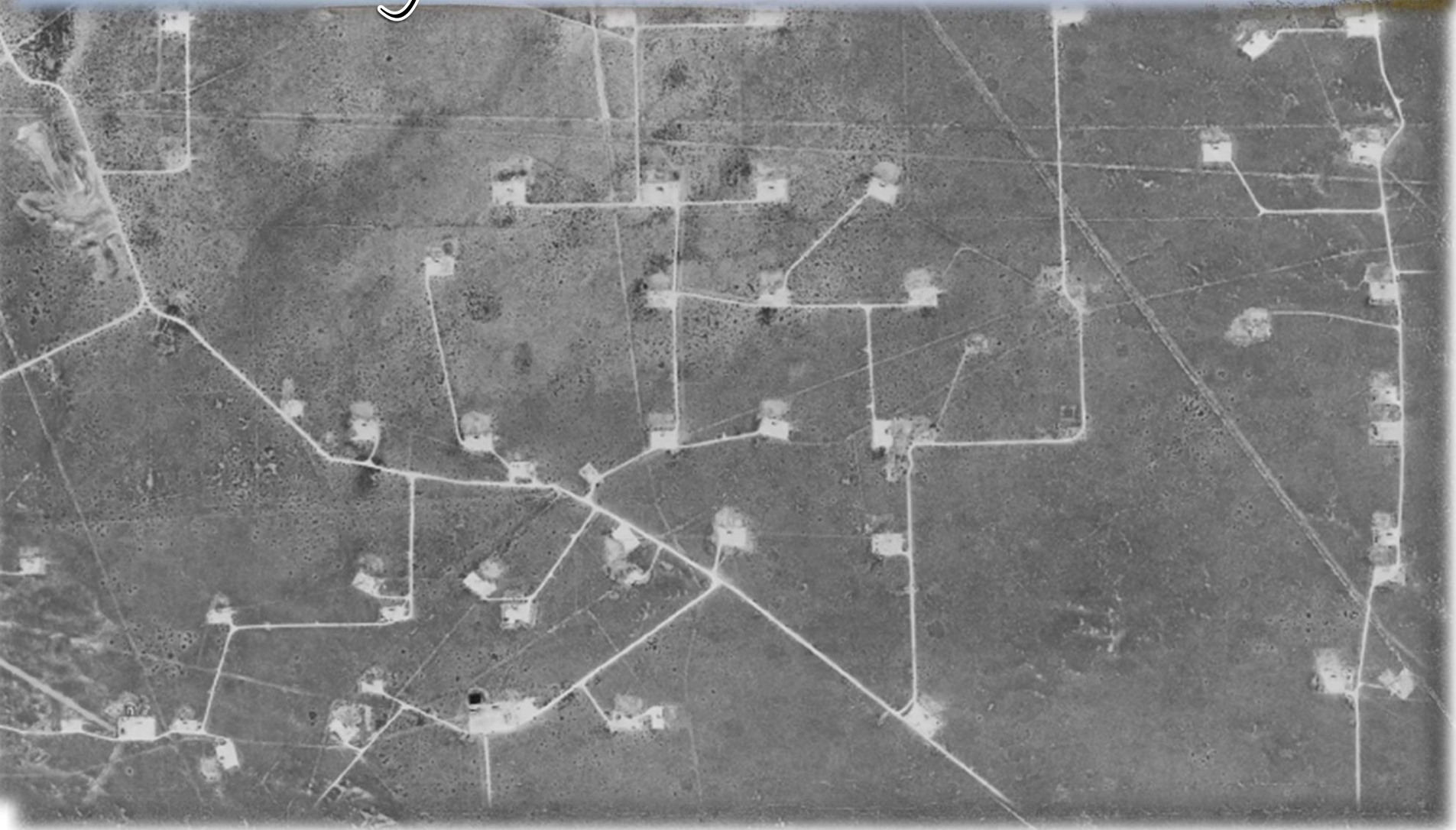
# *Oil and Gas Reclamation Roads*





# *Oil and Gas Reclamation*

## *Recovering Habitat and Watershed Health*





# *Oil and Gas Reclamation*

## *Recovering Habitat and Watershed Health*





## NEWS RELEASE

### Last Remaining Native Mussel in New Mexico to be listed as endangered

- **Southwest Region (Arizona • New Mexico • Oklahoma • Texas) [www.fws.gov/southwest/](http://www.fws.gov/southwest/)**
- **For Release:** February 8, 2018
- Interested landowners or industry can enroll in the CCA or CCAA until March 12, 2018, the effective date of the listing. The CCA and CCAA will be in effect for 30 years and cover conservation activities that take place on federal and non-federal lands in the Black and Delaware Rivers in Eddy County, N.M. and Culberson County, Texas.







NFWF

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Partners  
with Permian Basin Oil and Natural Gas Companies to Conserve  
Pecos Watershed  
in Texas and New Mexico

- Anadarko Petroleum Corporation, Chevron, ExxonMobil subsidiary XTO Energy Inc., Noble Energy, Occidental Petroleum and Shell Oil have together committed more than \$3.5 million over three years in initial funding for on-the-ground conservation projects. Working with other funding partners, including the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service in Texas and New Mexico, NFWF will match the companies' funding, boosting the total conservation impact to at least \$7 million.





NMACD & SWCDS  
working with  
US Forest Service

- USDA-NRCS
- RCPP funded
- 9 Ranches with FS permits in 2015 & 10 ranches in 2017.
- Almost \$2 million in contracts on national Forests





New Mexico SWCDs are Thinning  
on Private, State and Federal Land

- Soil & Water Conservation Districts are Using the “Power and Authority” within state law!
- Districts work on watershed scale!



The background of the image is a photograph of a lush green field, possibly a meadow or pasture, with some taller grasses and small yellow flowers. The sky is a clear, light blue. The text is overlaid on this background in a white, cursive font with a black outline.

*What is the State  
Investing in our Natural  
Resources and Food &  
Water Security?*