

Funding the 50-Year Water Action Plan

Water sustains our communities and fuels our economy. Action is needed this session for implementing Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham's 50-Year Water Action Plan to ensure New Mexico's water future.

The 50-Year Water Action Plan outlines eleven priorities across three key areas: **conservation, innovation, and protection**. It represents a comprehensive approach to water management across multiple state agencies and incorporates expertise from New Mexico's leading academic institutions and stakeholders from all sectors.

One-time Appropriations:

The Governor seeks over **\$270 million** in nonrecurring funding to implement the 50-Year Water Action Plan through targeted programs and complementary efforts. These investments will secure water resources, develop new supplies, and protect critical ecosystems.

Conservation: \$76.8M

Save Our Precious Water Resources

\$35M

to advance Indian water rights settlements that improve infrastructure (**OSE/ISC**)

\$15M

for rural water infrastructure projects (**NMED**)

\$10M

to fund water-saving practices and support agricultural resilience (**NMDA**)

\$9M

to enhance efficiency in major river systems (**OSE/ISC**)

\$5M

for water planning and education (**OSE/ISC**)

\$2.75M

to support regional water system consolidation (**NMED**)

Innovation: \$107.75M

Develop New Water Supplies Using Best Available Science

\$75M

to launch the Strategic Water Supply initiative, treating brackish water and reusing treated produced water to support economic development without straining freshwater resources (**NMED, OSE/ISC, EMNRD**)

\$28.75M

for aquifer monitoring and mapping (**NM Tech**)

\$4M

for brackish water and produced water treatment research (**NMSU**)

Protection: \$87.7M

Restore our Watersheds and Protect and Remediate Groundwater

\$50M

to clean up contaminated groundwater at neglected sites (**NMED**)

\$20M

for wildfire mitigation (**EMNRD**)

\$12M

to address PFAS contamination, aka "forever chemicals" (**NMED**)

\$5.7M

to continue Superfund site cleanup efforts (**NMED**)



Agencies have important recurring requests in addition to the one-time requests highlighted here. Funding those requests will ensure progress on meeting the goals of all of the action items in the 50-Year Water Action Plan.

New Mexico needs our commitment to water. Now is the time to make strategic investments and ensure New Mexico's continued economic development and diversification in the face of increasing water scarcity. Smart, visionary water management can build a more resilient, prosperous New Mexico for generations to come.

Additional Statewide Capital Outlay Investments

\$25M for critical water programs, including wastewater treatment systems, river and watershed health, stormwater management, and acequia improvements.

“We have the time, resources, and technology to secure a strong water future.”

—Governor Lujan Grisham

