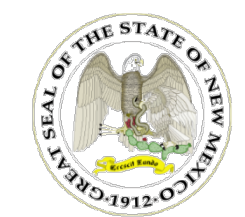


Overview of New Mexico's 50-Year Water Action Plan

Rebecca Roose
Office of Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham

Tanya Trujillo
Office of the State Engineer

Water and Natural Resources Committee
August 26, 2024

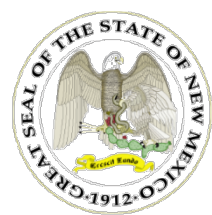
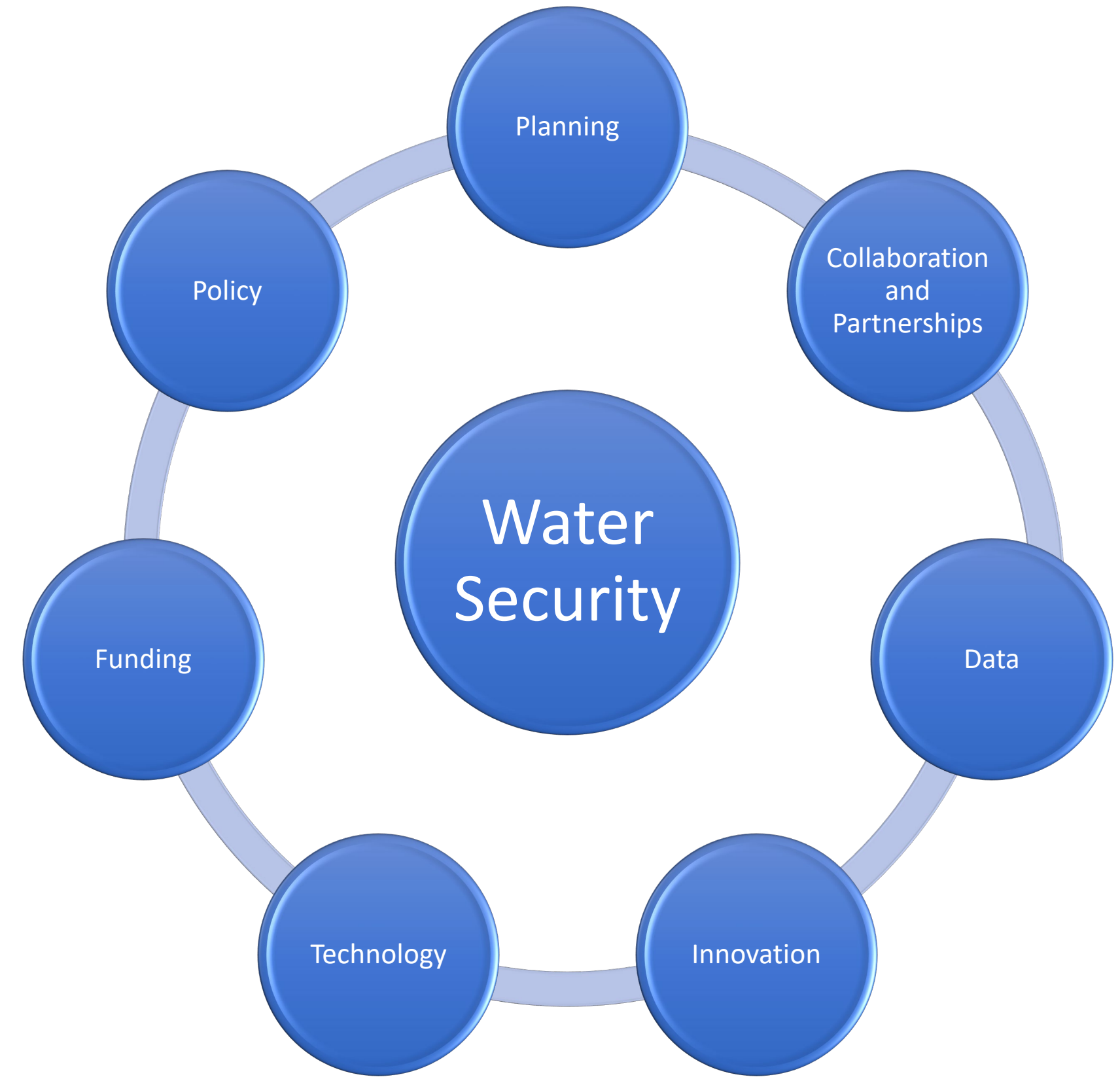


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Water Security Challenges and Opportunities

“If you always do what you’ve always done, you’ll always get what you’ve always got.” - Anonymous



50YWAP: Science and Policy Underpinnings

Read or download the 50-Year Water Action Plan at <https://www.nm.gov/water-security-in-new-mexico/>.



NEW MEXICO'S WATER FUTURE:


Scientists predict over the next 50 years...



New Mexico will have approximately 25% less water available in rivers and aquifers



New Mexico will be hotter and drier



Historical weather patterns, including precipitation, will change significantly



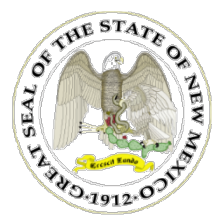
There will be more significant weather events, such as fires, flooding and drought



Without action, New Mexico will not have enough water to meet our needs

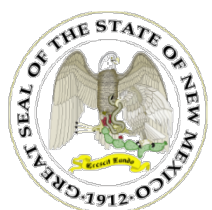
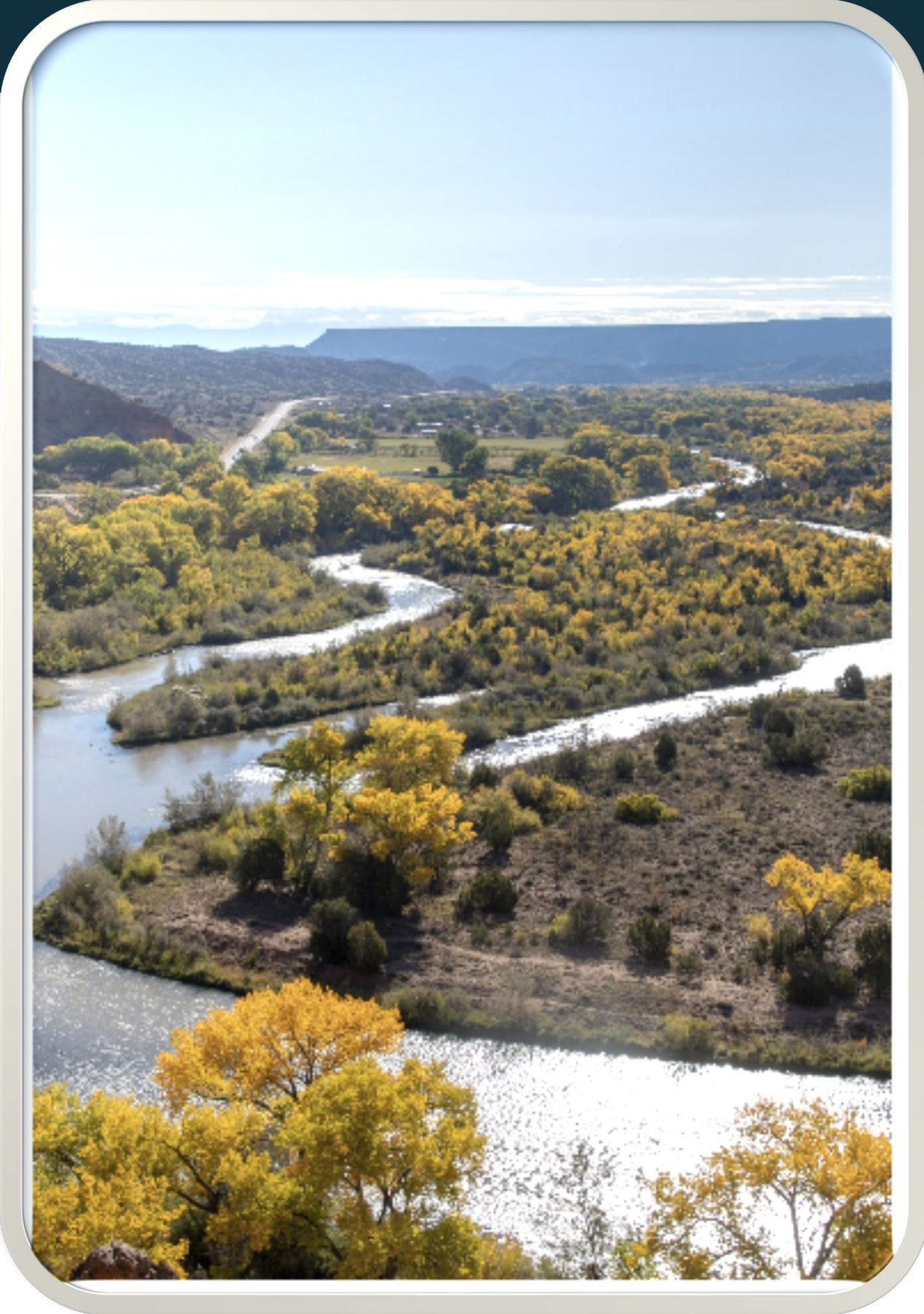
Within the next 50 years New Mexico will have a shortage of **750,000 acre feet of water**

Conservation, protection of existing water resources and development of new water resources will be required to meet this shortfall



50YWAP: Built on Foundation of Ongoing Efforts

- Drawing from the recommendations of the **2022 Water Policy and Infrastructure Task Force**;
- Advancing **Indian water rights settlements** to build on the strong progress made in recent years to negotiate and implement agreements that resolve outstanding claims and secure water supplies for more communities;
- Robust regional water planning to implement the **Water Security Planning Act** of 2023;
- Implementing the **Land of Enchantment Legacy Fund**;
- Continued funding and reforms for the **Water Trust Board**;
- Improving opportunities for communities to leverage **capital outlay funding to complete water projects**;
- Advancing regionalization approaches that increase critical capacity for managing drinking water and wastewater systems, including through the **Regional Water System Resiliency Act** of 2023;
- Implementing the **New Mexico Water Data Initiative**; and
- Broader investments in **local capacity building and the water workforce**.



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50YWAP: 11 Priority Actions

WHAT WE ARE DOING TO INCREASE WATER SECURITY:

50-Year Water Action Plan.

The Water Plan actions will help address the reality of a reduced supply in the future.

Water Conservation

EST. IMPACT:
660,000 AF PER YEAR

- A1** Develop a public education campaign
- A2** Incentivise agricultural water conservation
- A3** Reduce leaks in drinking water infrastructure and increase municipal conservation
- A4** Improve water storage and delivery systems

New Water Supplies

EST. IMPACT:
150,000 AF PER YEAR

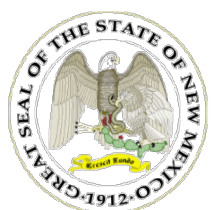
- B1** Establish a \$500M strategic water supply to spur investments in desalination and wastewater treatment
- B2** Adopt policies to expand potable and nonpotable water reuse
- B3** Improve groundwater mapping and monitoring

Water and Watershed Protection

- C1** Cleanup contaminated groundwater sites
- C2** Protect surface water by controlling pollution through a discharge permitting program
- C3** Modernize wastewater treatment plants and stormwater infrastructure
- C4** Protect and restore watersheds

3

For each action, the Plan provides a short synopsis, immediate next steps, and a measurable target Return on Investment.



50YWAP: Implementation Activities



Coordination among State Agencies that own priority action(s): OSE/ISC; NMED; EMNRD; Dept. of Ag; and NMT/Bureau of Geology

Also coordinating with partners at Indian Affairs Dept. and Econ. Dev. Dept.



Supporting active program implementation activities and ongoing integration with regional water planning



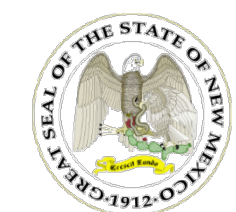
Funding analysis and budget requests for 50YWAP implementation



Dashboard to engage the public and show progress (under development)



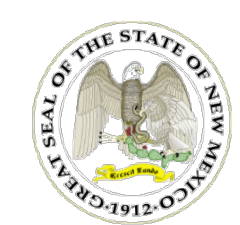
Ongoing discussions with stakeholders, legislators and other partners



Considerations to Fund 50YWAP Implementation

- Identify funding needs (how much?)
- Evaluate existing funds or creation of new fund (where does it live?)
- Determine model and mechanics for administering funds (who manages it?)
- Analyze revenue sources (money from where?)

Objective: Support transformational investments in water programs in alignment with the [50-Year Water Action Plan](#), [2023 Water Security Planning Act](#), and [NM Water Data Initiative](#) in the near-term and generate sustained revenue for the long-term.



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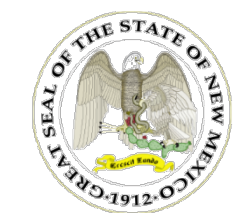
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Photo credit: New Mexico Acequia Association



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