



**NIMDA**

# Land of Enchantment Legacy Fund

*Healthy Soil Program  
Soil and Water Conservation District Program  
Noxious Weeds Program*

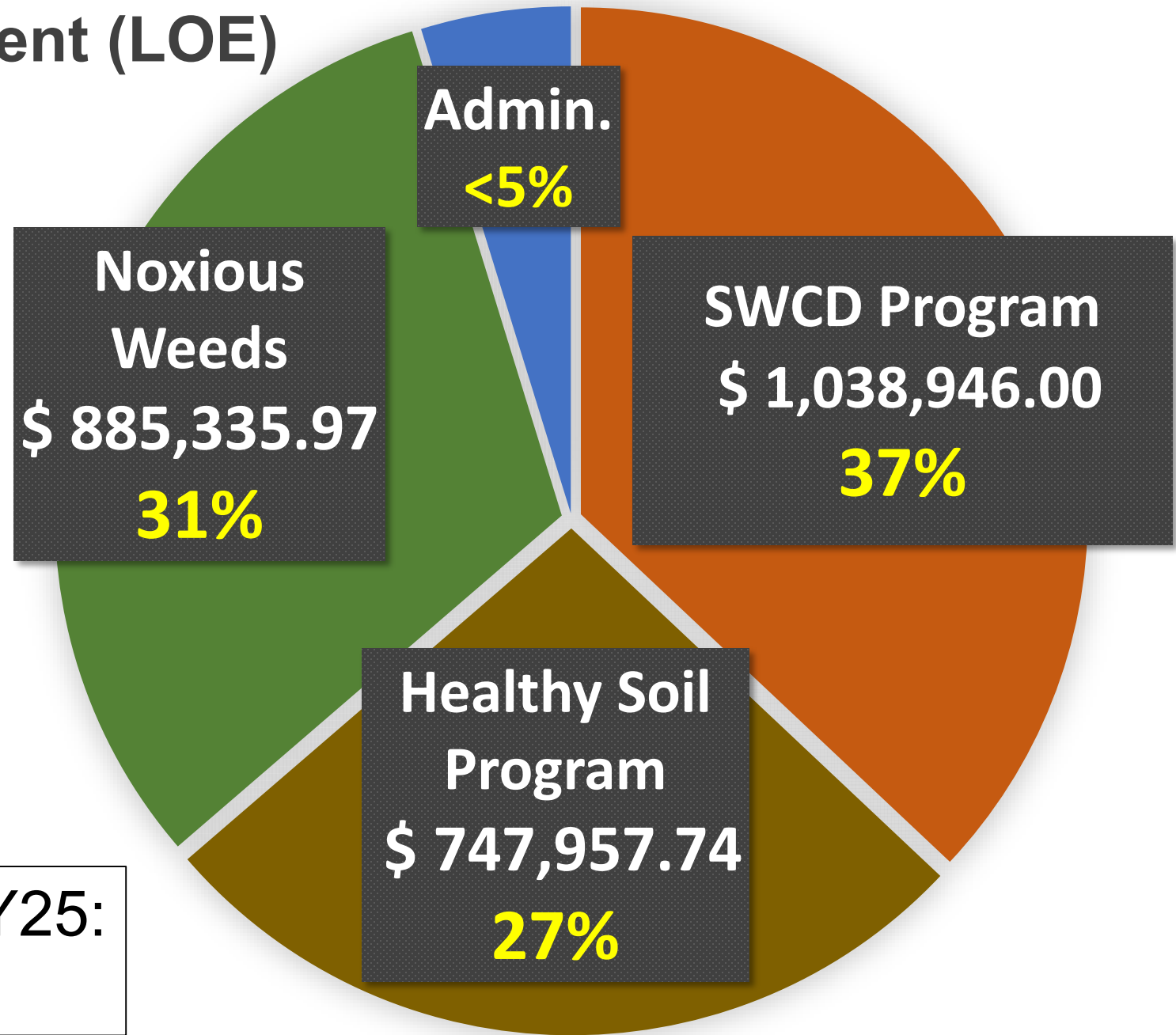
Presented to the Water & Natural Resources Committee  
September 26, 2024

# NMDA Land of Enchantment (LOE) Legacy Fund Programs Allocations FY25

NMDA receives 22.5% of annual LOE Legacy Fund disbursement and allocates funding between three programs:

- Healthy Soil Program
- SWCD Program
- Noxious Weeds Program

NMDA Disbursement in FY25:  
\$ 2,812,500.00





# NMDA's Healthy Soil Program

The purpose of the Healthy Soil Program is “to promote and support farming and ranching systems and other forms of land management that increase soil organic matter, aggregate stability, microbiology and water retention to improve the health, yield and profitability of the soils of the state.”

## Popular projects funded by Healthy Soil Program grants:

- **FARMLAND:** cover cropping, compost application
- **RANGELAND:** intensified grazing management, bale grazing

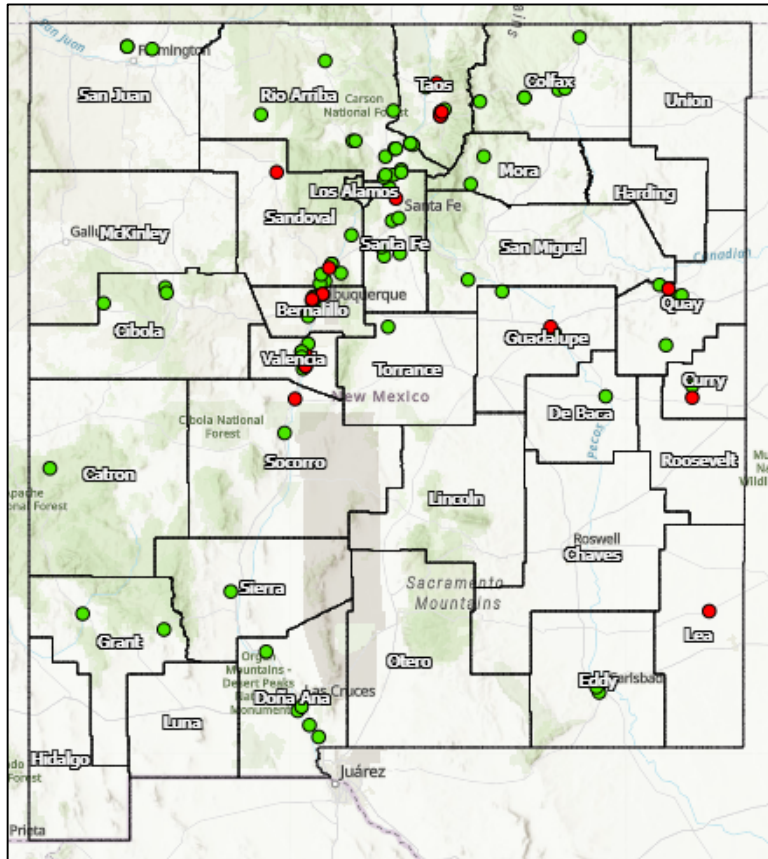
## Who can apply for Healthy Soil Program grants:

- **Eligible Entities:** pueblos, tribes, and nations; acequias; land grants; soil and water conservation districts (SWCDs); NMSU—Cooperative Extension Service; and other **local governmental entities with “proven land management capacity to support healthy soil”**
- **Individual Applicants:** individuals, businesses, and nonprofits **engaged in farming, ranching, or another form of land management**





# Legacy Funding for NMDA's Healthy Soil Program



Healthy Soil Program projects funded in Fiscal Years 2020-2024:

- Eligible Entity-led project
- Individual Applicant-led project

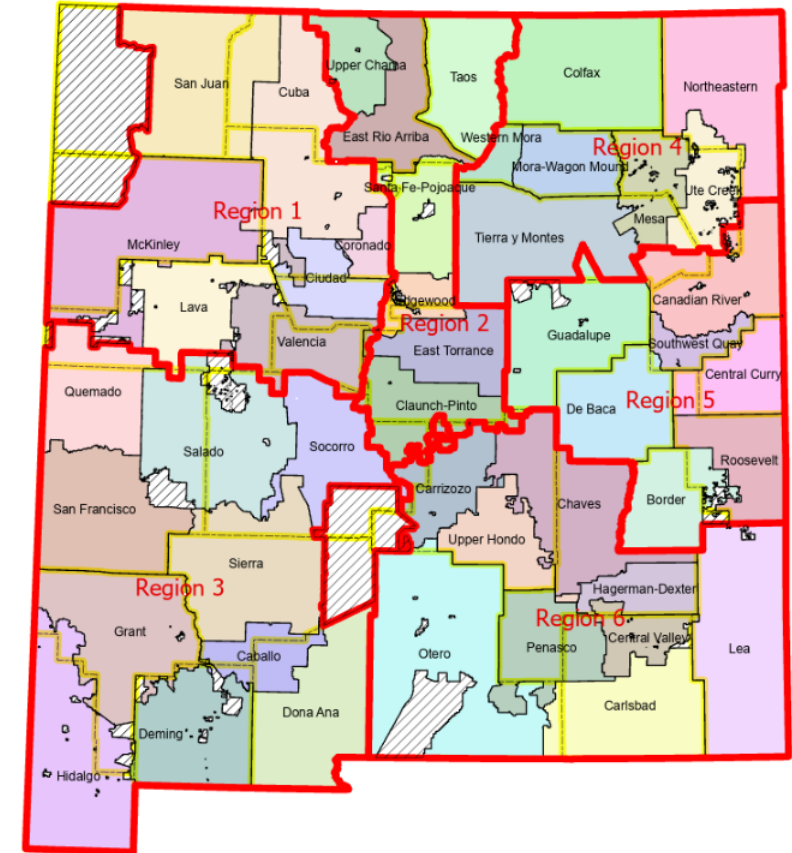
In Fiscal Year 2025, NMDA's Healthy Soil Program:

- Received **88 applications** totaling **\$1,814,529** in funding requested
- Awarded grants to **53 on-the-ground projects** totaling **\$1,416,087** in funding
  - This includes \$354K in recurring state monies, plus \$490K in match funding from NRCS
- Separately, the Healthy Soil Program awarded a contract to study compost generation and use, funds ongoing soil health research, and hosted the state's first-ever soil health conference



# Soil and Water Conservation District Program

- There are **47 soil and water conservation districts (SWCDs) in New Mexico**. As political subdivisions of the state, they're governed locally by boards of supervisors, both landowners and residents.
- SWCDs are authorized by the Soil and Water Conservation District Act to **conserve and develop the natural resources of the state, provide for flood control, preserve wildlife, and protect the tax base**
- SWCDs coordinate assistance from all available sources – public and private; local, state, and federal – to **develop locally driven solutions to natural resource concerns**





# Legacy Funding for Soil and Water Conservation District Program

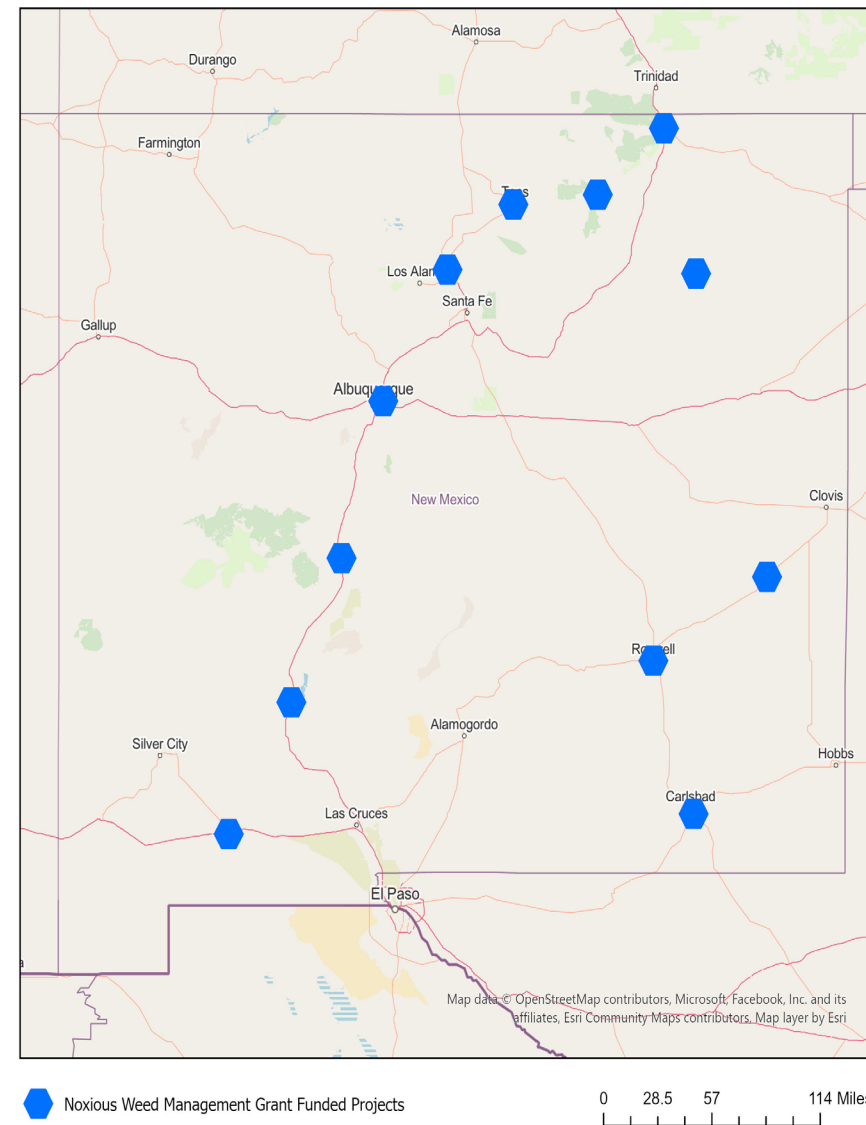
- SWCDs and watershed districts submitted **57 projects** totaling **\$3,520,000** in funding requests
- NMDA awarded funding to **31 projects** totaling **\$1,038,946**
- **Categories of projects selected for funding:**
  - Capacity Building Projects
  - Conservation Planning Projects
  - Landscape-Scale Restoration Projects
  - Community Outreach & Education Projects

# Legacy Funding for Noxious Weeds Program

NMDA coordinates integrated noxious weed management programs in New Mexico

## In FY25, NMDA's Noxious Weed Management Grant

- Received **15 applications** totaling **\$829,089** in funding requested
- Awarded grants to **12 projects** for a total of **\$685,336**
- Demand could scale with available funding
- Separately, a contract was awarded for up to **\$200K** to map noxious weeds in the state





**NMDA**

*The Healthy Soil Program, Soil and Water Conservation District Program, and Noxious Weed Program all reside in **NMDA's Agricultural Programs & Resources (APR) Division.***

Learn more:

[www.nmdeptag.nmsu.edu/  
agricultural-programs-and-resources.html](http://www.nmdeptag.nmsu.edu/agricultural-programs-and-resources.html)

**575-646-2642**