

Content Summary

2003 State Water Plan

This handout provides an “at a glance” overview of New Mexico’s existing State Water Plan, developed in 2003. New Mexicans are invited to offer input on the content and structure of the next State Water Plan, being developed in 2017.

1. Common Priorities, Goals, and Objectives:
 - Ensuring that water is available for the continued and future economic vitality of the State
 - Ensuring a safe and adequate drinking water supply for all New Mexicans
 - Developing water resources to expand the available supply
 - Promoting conservation and the efficient use of water
 - Promoting drought planning
 - Protecting, maintaining, and enhancing the quality of the State’s waters
 - Providing for fish and wildlife habitat preservation and maintenance and for river restoration
 - Protecting senior water rights
 - Maintaining and enforcing interstate stream compact compliance
 - Preserving state administrative authority over the State’s waters
 - Completing water rights adjudications
2. Vision and policy direction for active management of the state’s waters
3. Inventory of the quantity and quality of the state’s water resources, population projections and other water resource demand
4. Water budgets for the state, major river basins and aquifer systems
5. Water conservation strategies and policies
6. Drought management plan
7. Relationship between water availability and land-use decisions
8. River riparian and watershed restoration
9. Water rights transfer policies
10. Strategies and mechanisms for achieving coordination with all levels of government
11. Integration of regional water plans into the state water plan
12. Integration of plans of water supply purveyors
13. Water-related infrastructure and management and investment needs
14. Collaboration with the state’s national laboratories and research
15. Work plans and strategies for completion of water rights adjudications
16. Work plans and strategies for completion of a comprehensive database on the state’s water resources and water rights
17. Work plans and strategies for measuring of surface and ground water uses in the state
18. Work plans and strategies for taking inventory of existing water wells
19. Consultation with the governments of Indian nations, tribes and pueblos
20. Input of water planners and stakeholders from diverse constituencies on the state water plan

Following is one chapter, providing sample content and structure of the existing plan.