



2021 RURAL WATER SUMMIT



Conference Booklet

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



McKinley County and its working partner, the Northwest New Mexico Council of Governments, would like to acknowledge the many effort and coordination in organizing the County’s first rural water summit. The summit is not only intended to provide crucial information for our region’s small water systems that have struggled for decades to get the support and funding needed to get local infrastructure projects off the shelves.

This summit is also an opportunity for small water systems to directly connect with the individuals working within state agencies who can provide the necessary data or resources to get projects funded.

Prior to the development of this summit, other working partners with the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) and the Rural Communiites Assistance Corporation (RCAC) support the County’s decision to proceed with the water regionalization initiative that is focused on developing networks and programs of support for our region’s small water systems.



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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I welcome you to our first annual Water Summit aimed to provide good information, training, and assistance to our rural systems and water associations throughout McKinley County and beyond to provide quality water, wastewater and other critical services to our citizens.

Water is essential to life – something we all treat as sacred in our high desert environment. It is everyone’s responsible to conserve and best use this resource throughout the regional water commons.

Most counties in the State of New Mexico do not have operate a water or wastewater utilities like in most cities, so this duty and responsible falls down to the community level in the form of Water & Sanitation Districts and Mutual Domestic Water Users Association. While the County believes that this local empowerment should not be superseded, it understands the many challenges that rural communities face including bureaucracy, regulations, Board membership, staffing and funding in providing and maintaining a system to deliver safe, reliable, and affordable drinking water and wastewater.



The Water Summit is expression of the County’s support in helping each participant and the system you represent in meeting the challenges and grow your own network of peers, mentors, and professionals. As the Executive Director at the Northwest New Mexico Regional Solid Waste Authority and Chairman of the Council of Governments (COG), I have witnessed the great results that can happen when communities work together and speak with one voice.

I appreciate the County and COG staff who worked hard to pull this Water Summit together today, and all of you for your sacrifice and commitment to the work. You truly are what makes McKinley County and our region a great place to live, work, play, and stay.

— Billy Moore

Handwritten signature of Billy Moore in black ink.

MESSAGE FROM THE COG

Water Summit Participants and Presenters,

I wanted to say thank you for your participation in today's Water Summit. Through the hard work and partnership of McKinley County and the Northwest New Mexico Council of Governments (COG) and all of our members, staff has prepared a full day of presentations aimed at providing Federal, State, Regional, and local perspectives on projects, initiatives, and funding sources.



The COG works to help communities with planning and development of their infrastructure in support of community and economic development. The COG can be a resource to you to help with system organization support, completing the Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan (ICIP) required by the State, and developing funding and projecteering strategies to take projects from conception to completion.

The COG has assisted the region and our communities with the Region 6 Water Plans, creation and facilitation of City and County Water Advisory Boards, Water Regionalization Plans, and attracting investments for local and regional water and wastewater projects.

We appreciate McKinley County's vision and leadership on regionalization and support in assisting systems that are proactive with resources. We also appreciate their commitment and investment into Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project.

The COG is looking forward to locking arms with you and your communities to support you in making your rural systems work for the communities they serve.

— Evan Williams

AGENDA

Purpose: This workshop is designed to help water systems to gain insight and gather resources on key issues, support, resources, and funding opportunities from our standing partners. Water systems throughout the northwest region are welcome to attend this all-day event. Lunch will be provided.

8:30AM – 9:00AM	EARLY REGISTRATION
9:00AM – 9:15AM	WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS
9:15AM – 9:50AM	KEYNOTE ADDRESS
9:50AM – 10:40AM	REGIONAL WATER PLAN OVERVIEW
10:40AM – 10:50AM	10-MINUTE BREAK
10:50AM – 11:20AM	REGIONAL WATER COMMONS PERSPECTIVE
11:20AM – 12:00PM	MCKINLEY COUNTY SMALL WATER SYSTEMS REGIONALIZATION INITIATIVE
12:00PM – 1:00PM	LUNCH
1:00PM – 2:00PM	PANEL SESSION: “AGENCY SPEED DATING”
2:00PM – 2:30PM	PROJECTEERING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE SESSION
2:30PM – 2:40PM	10-MINUTE BREAK
2:40PM – 3:10PM	LEGISLATIVE PREPARATION
3:10PM – 3:50PM	NEXT STEPS & WRAP-UP
3:50PM – 4:00PM	FINAL QUESTIONS & CLOSING
4:00PM	ADJOURN

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

9:00AM — 9:15AM



Doug Decker, County Attorney

McKinley County
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Gallup, NM 87301
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Doug Decker has been the McKinley County Attorney for over 25 years and has served this region for more than that with distinct service and leadership and has contributed to the legal framework of the Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project and water system regionalization efforts.

Jeff Kiely, Consultant, CDC Region 1 Representative

Former NWNMCOG Executive Director
625 McKee Drive
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Phone (505) 979-0551
Email: jkiely1995@gmail.com

Jeff Kiely has been a northwest New Mexico regional champion for more than 30 years before retiring for private consultancy. His dedication and contribution to our region has been tremendous and the McKinley water regionalization project has finally come to fruition after decades of effort.

Mr. Kiely is also a Community Development Council (CDC) Representative for District 1, the northwest region of New Mexico, as appointed by Governor Grisham.

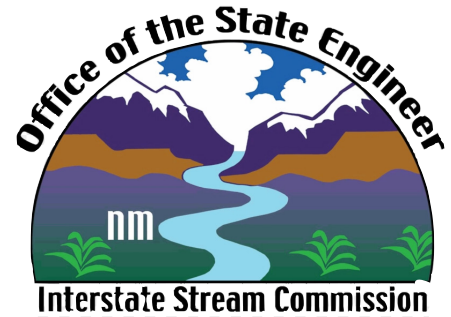


KEYNOTE SPEAKER

9:15AM — 9:50AM

John Mumm, Water Planner

Water Planning Program,
New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission
P.O. Box 25102
Santa Fe, NM 87501
Phone: (505) 476-5397
Email: John.Mumm@state.nm.us



John Mumm, Water Planner with the New Mexico Office of the State Engineer (OSE) and the Interstate Stream Commission (ISC), will deliver the keynote address for this summit. The opening topic of this summit will be the statewide perspective on water planning and an overview of the *New Mexico 50-Year Water Plan*. For more information, go to <https://www.ose.state.nm.us/Planning/50YWP/index.php>

Regional Water Planning

The Regional Water Planning Statute, §72-14-44 NMSA 1978, was passed in 1987 and establishes general criteria for developing regional water plans and addressing future water supply needs. In addition, the statute gives the New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission (NMISC) certain powers and duties for implementing regional water planning.

New Mexico's 16 water planning regions were identified based on a combination of hydrologic and political boundaries. A regional water plan shall provide enough information, analysis and documentation on water supply and future demand.



Purposes of the State Water Plan Act

- Promoting stewardship of the state's water resources
- Protecting and maintaining water rights and their priority status
- Protecting the diverse customs, culture, environment and economic stability of the state
- Protecting both the water supply and water quality
- Promoting cooperative strategies, based on concern for meeting the basic needs of all New Mexicans
- Meeting the state's interstate compact obligations
- Providing a basis for prioritizing infrastructure investment
- Providing statewide continuity of policy and management relative to our water resources

Current planning efforts are ongoing in virtually every part of the state. The most successful efforts are guided by the active participation of a full spectrum of area water users.

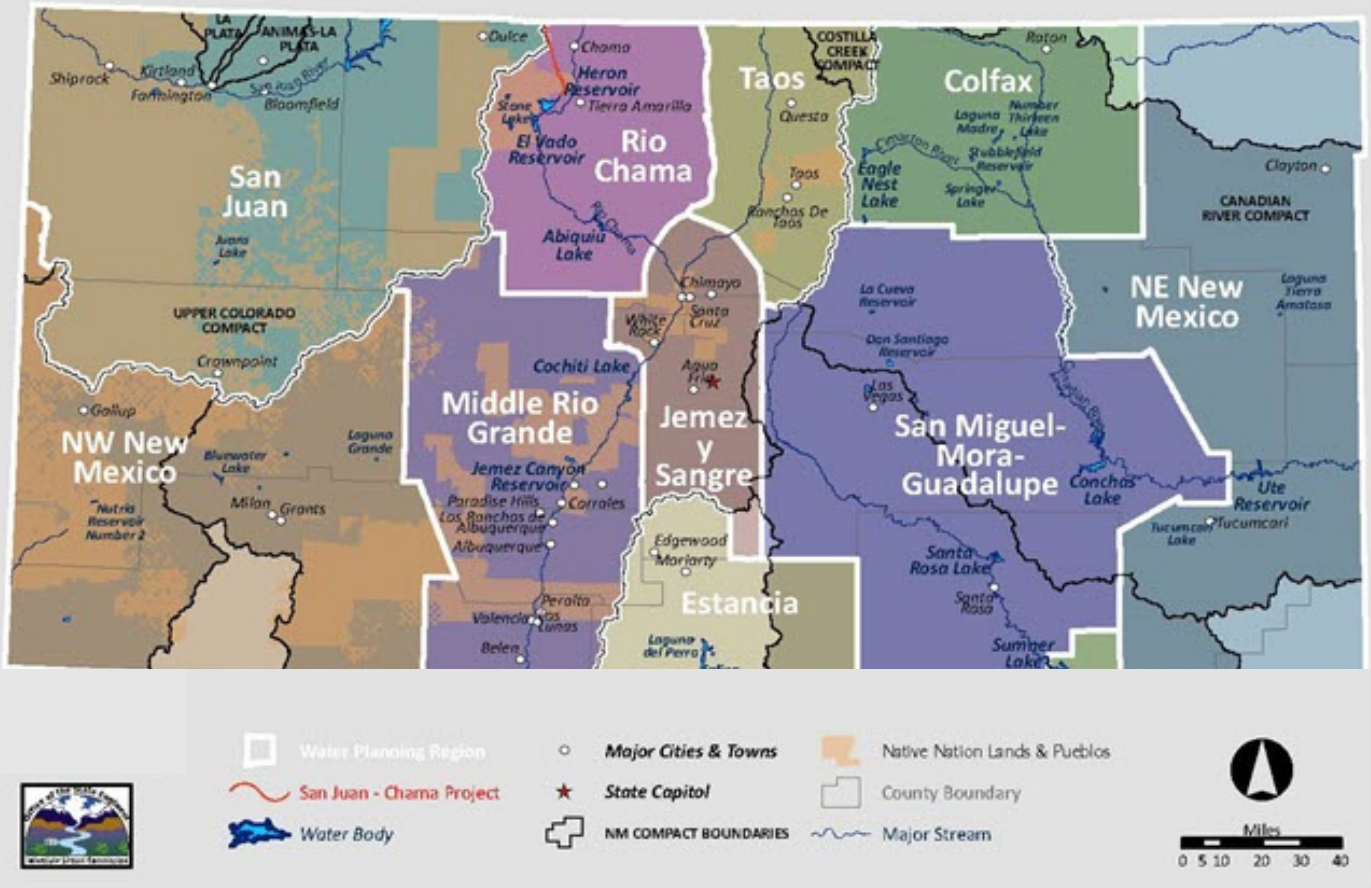
Often referred to as 'stakeholders', the participation demonstrate a willingness to 'sit down at the table' with their neighbors and discuss points of view, concerns and areas of conflict.

As elected officials, representatives of private industry, public agencies, and private citizens gather to study the tough issues that face every region, together they build trust, understanding and a valuable insight into each others concerns and needs.

WATER PLANNING REGIONS

New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission

with Native Nation Lands, Pueblos and Interstate Compact Boundaries



Acceptance Criteria

All regional water plan updates must address the following:

1. What is the region's available and projected water supply (referred to as the administrative water supply)?
2. What is the region's projected water demand?
3. Has the region identified strategies to address regional water needs? Has the region highlighted projects and policies or programs of greatest interest?
4. Has the region described public involvement in the planning process?
5. Does the update contain all of the chapters outlined in the *2013 Updated Regional Water Planning Handbook: Guidelines to Preparing Updates to New Mexico Regional Water Plans?*

Acceptance Procedures

1. The completed regional water plan update shall be submitted to ISC staff for final review.
2. The region's representatives with the state will present the regional plan update to the ISC for its review and acceptance.

Approved by ISC in 2015.

REGIONAL WATER PLAN OVERVIEW

9:50AM — 10:40PM

Jeff Kiely

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Dominique Cartron, Esq.

Daniel B Stephens & Associates, Inc.
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Email: dcartronlaw@cybermesa.com

This session will focus on the history of Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project (NGWSP) and how this project gains to be most impactful infrastructure project in the country to this day.

10-MINUTE BREAK
10:40AM — 10:50AM

REGIONAL WATER COMMONS PERSPECTIVE

10:50AM — 11:20AM

John Leeper, Project Manager

John Wood Group, PLC
Email: john.leeper@woodplc.com

This session will focus on key water issues, strategies, recommendations and initiatives for the northwest region of New Mexico, that covers San Juan County, McKinley County and Cibola County, respectfully, and how these initial concerns and conversations led to the development and funding of the Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project (NGWSP).

MCKINLEY CO SMALL WATER SYSTEMS REGIONALIZATION INITIATIVE

11:20AM — 12:00PM

Doug Decker, County Attorney

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Dominique Cartron, Esq.

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Evan Williams, Executive Director

NWNM Council of Governments

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Ramon Lucero, Project Manager

Rural Community Assistance Corporation

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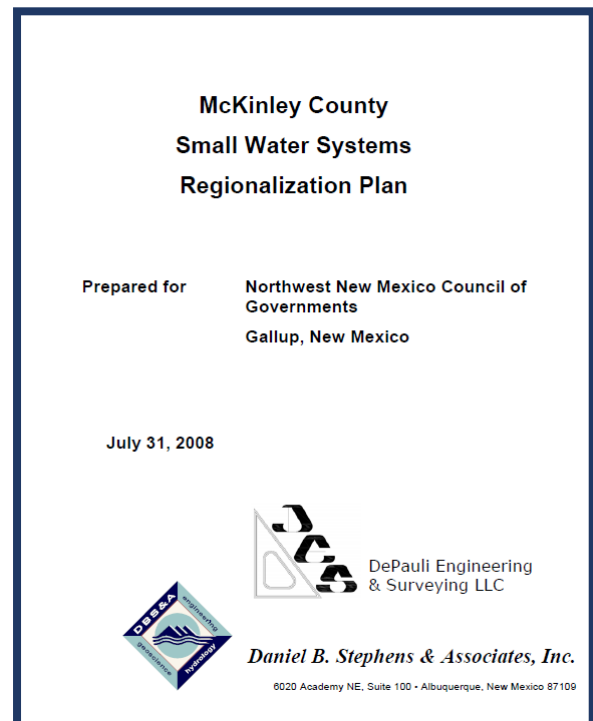
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Email: ewilliams@nwnmcog.org

In this session, presenters will review and discuss about McKinley County's small water systems regionalization initiative that has been in the making for almost two decades. Since its inception in 2007, the County and its working partners have made developments and have inched closer to making this regionalization project a reality.

Developments Update (2007 - 2020):

1. Small Appraisal Level Investigation Report
2. McKinley County Small Rural Water Systems Appraisal Level Investigation Report
 - a. McKinley County Small Water Systems Regionalization Plan
 - b. Small Rural Water Systems Long Term Water Supply Plans (Recommended alternatives for 10 small water systems). *Inactive*
3. Creation of the McKinley County Water Board. *Inactive*
4. Launch Regional Water Commons. *Relaunched January 2021.*



Water system regionalization project recently regained interest. Several small water systems are still interested in participating in regionalization. Overall legal complexities and implications have challenged the process. With the County adamant and still fully supportive of this project, the regionalization initiative was *taken off the shelf* once again. In recent months, the County and its working partners and consultants are moving forward and seeking funding.

Next Steps Include:

1. Participating in regional planning meetings with small water systems.
2. Create a regional water authority through Joint Powers Agreement.
3. Draft legal documentation to transfer assets to the Authority.
4. Open communications with the McKinley County Attorney and the Northwest NM Council of Governments.

During a regular Regional Water Commons Meeting on Wednesday, May 26, 2021, then City of Gallup’s Water & Sanitation Director, Dennis Romero, provided a project update on the city’s regional water systems that will be connected to the NGWSP.

With the NGWSP well underway, the City of Gallup has completed most of its local regional water lines that will eventually connect to the NGWSP when fully completed. This same city regional water system was initially part of the County’s water regionalization initiative.

Image below shows the location of the Gallup Regional System.



PANEL SESSION: “AGENCY SPEED DATING”

1:00PM — 2:00PM

For this session, we have invited a number of state agencies, that provide assistance to small water systems, to give a 5-minute presentation on:

- Introduction and brief program overview,
- Lightning round of funding/assistance programs, and
- Contact information.

Below is the order of presenters. Any questions/concerns you have, please save them until the end or wait for the next session, “Projecteering & Technical Assistance Session,” to pose your input.

<u>TIME</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>
1:00PM	<p>New Mexico Department of Finance & Administration (DFA) Community Development Bureau Carmen Morin, Bureau Chief</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan (ICIP) • Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
1:05PM	<p>Capital Outlay Bureau Ryan Serrano,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital Outlay
1:10PM	<p>New Mexico Environment Department (NMED or NMENV) Sustainable Water Infrastructure Group (SWIG) Jill Turner, Manager</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engineering Plan Review • Community Services • Technical Services • Source Water Protection • Utility Operator Certification
1:15PM	<p>Jeff Pompeo, Program Manager</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical Services Program (TSP)
1:20PM	<p>Karen Torres, Program Manager</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Services Program (CSP)
1:25PM	<p>David Bishop, Franz Tye,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction Program Bureau (CPB)

PANEL SESSION: “AGENCY SPEED DATING”

1:00PM — 2:00PM

<u>TIME</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>
1:30PM	New Mexico Finance Administration (NMFA) Water Trust Fund Angela Quintana <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Water Trust Board application
1:35PM	Carmela Manzari, Regional Finance Manager <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local Government Planning Grant• Public Projects Revolving Loan Fund
1:40PM	Rural Community Assistance Cooperative (RCAC) Ramon Lucero
1:45PM	New Mexico Rural Water Association (NMRWA) Bill Connor, Executive Director
1:50PM	New Mexico Water / Wastewater Association (NMWWA) West Central Section Mike DeClercq, Regional Representative <i>tentative</i>
1:55PM	Southwest Environmental Finance Center (SEFC) Heather Himmelberger, Regional Director
2:00PM	USDA —New Mexico Rural Development (NMRD) Christine Griego,
2:05PM	New Mexico Office of the State Auditor (OSA) Lynette Kennard,

PROJECTEERING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE SESSION

2:00PM — 2:30PM

For this session, we will review projecteering strategies that is focused on getting “sheved” projects active and prepared for funding process.

- Projecteering Strategies
- Moving “shelved” projects to “shovel-ready” projects
- Local & regional case study reviews
- Small water systems local issues, etc.

This session will allow participants, attendees, state agencies and local leadership to gain an understanding of what our regional small water systems are experiencing.



Shovel-Ready

10-MINUTE BREAK
10:40AM — 10:50AM

LEGISLATIVE PREPARATION

2:40PM — 3:10PM

For this session will focus on how to use and apply your local ICIP when seeking funding for infrastructure projects.

- What is the ICIP and how is it used?
- Pursuing Capital Outlay funding
- Establish strong connections with your legislators
- Getting your project funded
- Managing CPMS data records



NEXT STEPS & WRAP-UP

3:10PM — 3:50PM

For this session, we will review and focus on next step strategies for the McKinley County Water Regionalization Initiative.

- County Water Program
- JPA Process
- Scheduled meetings with small water systems
- EPA WIIN Grant

FINAL QUESTIONS & CLOSING

3:50PM — 4:00PM

Final questions or concerns for local leadership, partners and state agencies.



New Mexico Department of Finance & Administration

411 State Capitol
 490 Old Santa Fe Trail
 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501
 (505) 986-4600
<https://www.nmdfa.state.nm.us/>

Local Government Division (LGD)
 Community Development Bureau
<https://www.nmdfa.state.nm.us/local-government/community-development-bureau/>

Carmen Morin, Bureau Chief
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 Email: CarmenB.Morin@state.nm.us

Capital Outlay Projects Bureau (COPB)
 Budget Division
<https://www.nmdfa.state.nm.us/budget-division/capital-outlay-bureau/>

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New Mexico Rural Water Association

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 Albuquerque, New Mexico 87113
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<https://nmrwa.org/>

Bill Connor, Executive Director
 Phone: (505) 553-1548
 Email: bill@nmrwa.org





New Mexico Environment Department

Harold L. Runnels Building
 1190 St. Francis Drive, Suite N4050
 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505
 Phone: (800) 219-6157 or (505) 827-2855
<https://www.env.nm.gov/>

Construction Programs Bureau (CPB)

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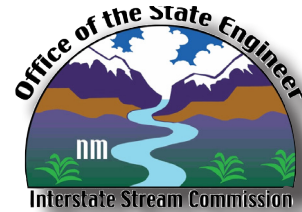
Drinking Water Bureau (DWB)

Jill Turner, DWB Director
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Karen Torres, Program Manager
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 Community Services Program
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Interstate Stream Commission (ISC)

John Mumm

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New Mexico Finance Authority

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<https://www.nmfinance.com/>

Water Project Fund

<https://www.nmfinance.com/water-project-fund/>

Angela Quintana, Senior Program Administrator

Email: aquintana@nmfa.net

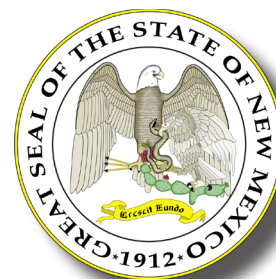
Carmela Manzari, Regional Finance Manager

Email: cmanzari@nmfa.net



New Mexico Legislative Council Services

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Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501
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https://www.nmlegis.gov/Staff_Directory?Entity=LCS





Rural Community Assistance Cooperative

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Ramon Lucero

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New Mexico USDA Rural Development

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 100 Sun Avenue NE, Suite 130
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Christine Griego

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New Mexico Office of the State Auditor

2540 Camino Edward Ortiz, Suite A
 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87507
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Lynette Kennard, Financial Audit Director

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Southwest Environmental Finance Center

Centennial Engineering Center – Suite 3020
 Department of Civil Engineering MSC01 1070
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<https://swefc.unm.edu/home/>

Heather Himmelberger

Phone: (505) 277-0645
 Email: heatherh@unm.edu



New Mexico Water / Wastewater Association

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 Espanola, New Mexico 87532
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American Water Works Association

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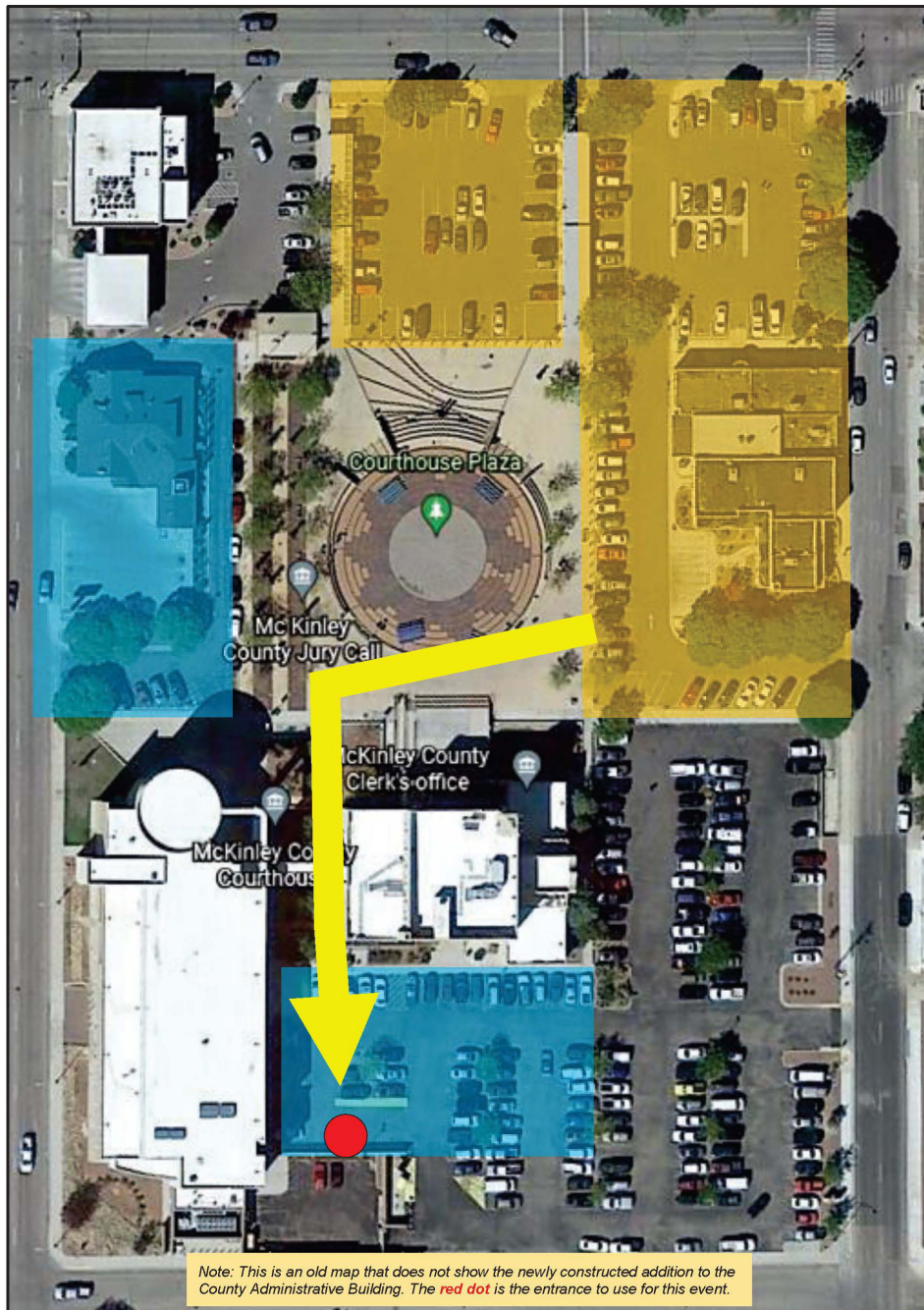


CDBG	Community Development Block Grant
CE	Categorical Exclusion
CO	Change Order
CO SAP	Capital Outlay Special Appropriations Program
CPB	Construction Programs Bureau (NMED)
CWSRF	Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund
DFA	NM Department of Finance and Administration
DP	Discharge Permit
DR	Disbursement Request
DWB	Drinking Water Bureau (NMED)
DWSRF	Drinking Water State Revolving Fund
EA	Environmental Assessment
EID	Environmental Information Document
EIT	Engineering Intern
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
EPA SAAP	USEPA Special Appropriation Act Project
FONSI	Finding of No Significant Impact
GWQB	Ground Water Quality Bureau (NMED)
ISC	Interstate Stream Commission (OSE)
MGD	Million Gallons per Day
MDWCA	Mutual Domestic Water Consumers Association
MDWUA	Mutual Domestic Water Users Association
NGWSP	Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project
NMDFA	New Mexico Department of Finance & Administration
NMED	New Mexico Environment Department
NMFA	New Mexico Finance Authority
NMFA PG	NMFA Planning Grant
NMGRT	New Mexico Gross Receipts Tax
NWNMCOG	Northwest New Mexico Council of Governments
NPDES	National Pollution Discharge Elimination System
OSA	Office of the State Auditor
OSE	Office of the State Engineer

O&M	Operations and Maintenance
OM&R	Operations, Maintenance, and Repair
PE	Professional Engineer
PER	Preliminary Engineering Report
RCAC	Rural Community Assistance Cooperative
RDF	Requisition for Disbursement of Funds
RFP	Request for Proposal
RIP	Rural Infrastructure Program
ROW	Right of Way
RWA	Rural Water Association
SBF	State Board of Finance
SCADA	Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition
STAG	State and Tribal Assistance Grant (USEPA)
STB	Severance Tax Bond
SWG	Sustainable Water Infrastructure Group (NMED, DWB, CSP)
SWQB	Surface Water Quality Bureau (NMED, DWB)
TIF	Tribal Infrastructure Fund
TSP	Technical Services Program (NMED, DWB)
USACE	US Army Corps of Engineers
USDA	US Department of Agriculture
USDA RD	USDA Rural Development
WTB	Water Trust Board
WTP	Water Treatment Plant
WWTF	Wastewater Treatment Facility
WWTP	Wastewater Treatment Plant



2021 RURAL WATER SUMMIT



-  Open Parking Space
-  County Customer Parking Space
-  Entrance / Elevator





THANK YOU ALL FOR PARTICIPATING!