



PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: NMDOT Rockfall study
Project Type: TRANSPORTATION, ROADS AND BRIDGES, ROADS AND BRIDGES-MAINTENANCE/MINOR RETROFIT
Latitude/Longitude (DMS): 33.195749 / -105.584411
County(s): CHAVES; LINCOLN; OTERO
Project Description: Rockfall transportation study for NMDOT to examine potential hazard areas and how they intersect with crucial habitats, t&e species

REQUESTOR INFORMATION

Project Organization:
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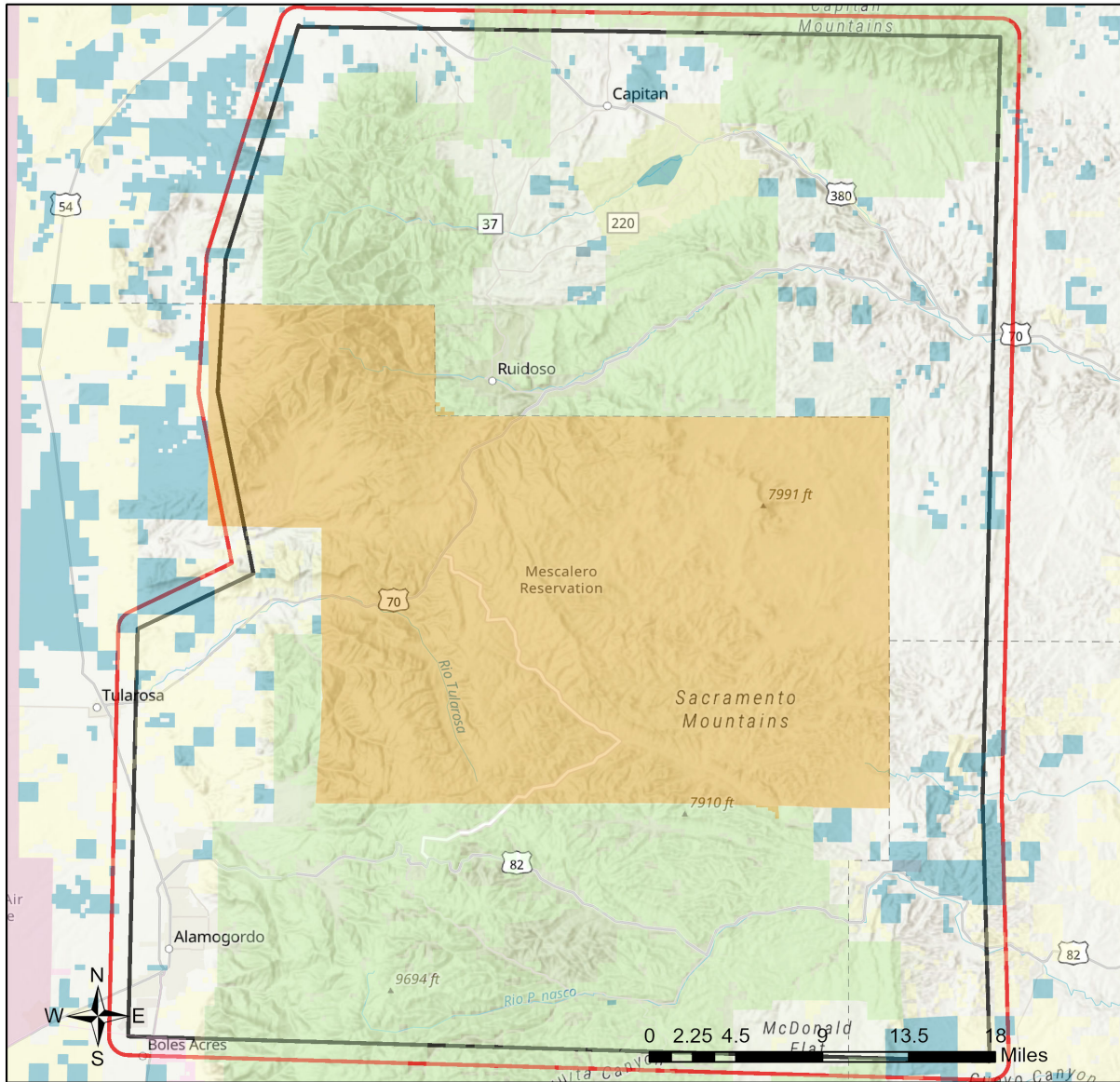
OVERALL STATUS

This report contains an initial list of recommendations regarding potential impacts to wildlife or wildlife habitats from the proposed project; see the Project Recommendations section below for further details. Your project proposal is being forwarded to a New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (Department) biologist for review to determine whether there are any additional recommendations regarding the proposed actions. A Department biologist will be in touch within 30 days if there are further recommendations regarding this project proposal.

About this report:

- This environmental review is based on the project description and location that was entered. The report must be updated if the project type, area, or operational components are modified.
- This is a preliminary environmental screening assessment and report. It is not a substitute for the potential wildlife knowledge gained by having a biologist conduct a field survey of the project area. Federal status and plant data are provided as a courtesy to users. The review is also not intended to replace consultation required under the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), including impact analyses for federal resources from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) using their [Information for Planning and Consultation tool](#).
- This report contains information on wildlife species protected under the ESA and the [Wildlife Conservation Act \(WCA\)](#), [Species of Greatest Conservation Need \(SGCN\)](#), and Species of Economic and Recreational Importance (SERI). Species listed under the ESA are protected from take at the federal level and under the WCA are protected from take at the state level. SGCN are identified in the [State Wildlife Action Plan \(SWAP\) for New Mexico](#); all of these species are considered to be of conservation concern but not all of them are protected from take at the state or federal level. The harvest of all SERI is regulated at the state level. The Department has no authority to designate critical habitat for species listed under the WCA; only the USFWS can designate critical habitat for species listed under the ESA.
- The New Mexico Environmental Review Tool (ERT) utilizes species observation locations and species habitat suitability models, both of which are subject to ongoing change and refinement. Inclusion or omission of a species within a report cannot guarantee species presence or absence within your project area. To determine occurrence of any species listed in this report, or other wildlife that may be present within your project area, onsite surveys conducted by a qualified biologist during appropriate, species-specific survey timelines may be necessary.
- The Department encourages use of the ERT to modify proposed projects for avoidance, minimization, or mitigation of wildlife impacts. However, the ERT is not intended to be used in a repeatedly iterative fashion to adjust project attributes until a previously determined recommendation is generated. The ERT serves to assess impacts once project details are developed. The [New Mexico Crucial Habitat Assessment Tool](#), the data layers from which are included in the ERT, is the appropriate system for advising early-stage project planning and design to avoid areas of anticipated wildlife concerns and associated regulatory requirements.

NMDOT Rockfall study



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|------------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| Buffered Project Boundary | NM State Forestry Division | U.S. Army Corps of Engineers |
| Project_Boundary | NM State Parks | U.S. Bureau of Reclamation |
| Bureau of Land Management | National Park Service | U.S. Department of Agriculture |
| City Land | Other Federal Agency | U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service |
| County Land | Other Federal Agency | U.S. Forest Service |
| Department of Defense | State Land Office | U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service |
| Department of Energy | State of New Mexico | |
| NM Department of Game & Fish | Tribal Land | |

NHNM, USGS, USFS, US Census Bureau, NMDGF
 Esri, CGIAR, USGS
 Texas Parks & Wildlife, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, FAO, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, USFWS

Special Status Animal Species Potentially within 1 Miles of Project Area

Common Name	Scientific Name	USFWS (ESA)	NMDGF (WCA)	NMDGF SGCN/SERI	USFS	USFS SCC	BLM
Sacramento Mountain Salamander	Aneides hardii		T	SGCN	Sensitive Species		
Barking Frog	Craugastor augusti			SGCN			
Plains Leopard Frog	Lithobates blairi			SGCN			BLM WATCH
Northern Leopard Frog	Lithobates pipiens			SGCN	Sensitive Species	USFS R3 SCC	BLM SENSITIVE
Eared Grebe	Podiceps nigricollis			SGCN			
Clark's Grebe	Aechmophorus clarkii			SGCN			
American Bittern	Botaurus lentiginosus			SGCN			BLM WATCH
Bald Eagle	Haliaeetus leucocephalus		T	SGCN	Sensitive Species		BLM SENSITIVE
Common Black-Hawk	Buteogallus anthracinus		T	SGCN	Sensitive Species		BLM WATCH
Apomado Falcon	Falco femoralis		E	SGCN			
Peregrine Falcon	Falco peregrinus		T	SGCN			BLM WATCH
American Peregrine Falcon	Falco peregrinus anatum		T	SGCN	Sensitive Species	USFS R3 SCC	
Snowy Plover	Charadrius nivosus nivosus			SGCN			
Mountain Plover	Charadrius montanus			SGCN	Sensitive Species		BLM WATCH
Long-Billed Curlew	Numenius americanus			SGCN			BLM WATCH
Yellow-Billed Cuckoo	Coccyzus americanus		LT	SGCN			
Flammulated Owl	Psilosops flammeolus			SGCN			BLM WATCH
Elf Owl	Micrathene whitneyi			SGCN			BLM WATCH
Western Burrowing Owl	Athene cunicularia hypugaea			SGCN	Sensitive Species	USFS R3 SCC	BLM SENSITIVE
Mexican Spotted Owl	Strix occidentalis lucida		LT	SGCN			
Common Nighthawk	Chordeiles minor			SGCN			
Lewis's Woodpecker	Melanerpes lewis			SGCN		USFS R3 SCC	BLM WATCH
Red-Headed Woodpecker	Melanerpes erythrocephalus			SGCN			

Special Status Animal Species Potentially within 1 Miles of Project Area

Common Name	Scientific Name	USFWS (ESA)	NMDGF (WCA)	NMDGF SGCN/SERI	USFS	USFS SCC	BLM
Williamson's Sapsucker	Sphyrapicus thyroideus			SGCN			
Bank Swallow	Riparia riparia			SGCN			
Pinyon Jay	Gymnorhinus cyanocephalus			SGCN		USFS R3 SCC	BLM SENSITIVE
Clark's Nutcracker	Nucifraga columbiana			SGCN			
Juniper Titmouse	Baeolophus ridgwayi			SGCN		USFS R3 SCC	BLM WATCH
Pygmy Nuthatch	Sitta pygmaea			SGCN			
Western Bluebird	Sialia mexicana			SGCN			
Mountain Bluebird	Sialia currucoides			SGCN			
Bendire's Thrasher	Toxostoma bendirei			SGCN		USFS R3 SCC	BLM SENSITIVE
Sprague's Pipit	Anthus spragueii			SGCN			BLM SENSITIVE
Loggerhead Shrike	Lanius ludovicianus			SGCN		USFS R3 SCC	BLM WATCH
Bell's Vireo	Vireo bellii		T	SGCN			BLM SENSITIVE
Gray Vireo	Vireo vicinior		T	SGCN	Sensitive Species	USFS R3 SCC	BLM WATCH
Virginia's Warbler	Leiothlypis virginiae			SGCN			BLM SENSITIVE
Black-Throated Gray Warbler	Setophaga nigrescens			SGCN			BLM WATCH
Grace's Warbler	Setophaga graciae			SGCN		USFS R3 SCC	BLM WATCH
Red-Faced Warbler	Cardellina rubrifrons			SGCN		USFS R3 SCC	
Black-Chinned Sparrow	Spizella atrogularis			SGCN			BLM WATCH
Vesper Sparrow	Poocetes gramineus			SGCN			
Chestnut-Collared Longspur	Calcarius ornatus			SGCN			BLM SENSITIVE
Cassin's Finch	Haemorhous cassinii			SGCN			BLM WATCH

Special Status Animal Species Potentially within 1 Miles of Project Area

Common Name	Scientific Name	USFWS (ESA)	NMDGF (WCA)	NMDGF SGCN/SERI	USFS	USFS SCC	BLM
Evening Grosbeak	Coccothraustes vespertinus			SGCN			
Cutthroat Trout	Oncorhynchus clarkii			SERI			
Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout	Oncorhynchus clarkii virginalis			SERI			
Rainbow Trout	Oncorhynchus mykiss			SERI			
Brown Trout	Salmo trutta			SERI			
Brook Trout	Salvelinus fontinalis			SERI			
Rio Grande Chub	Gila pandora			SGCN	Sensitive Species	USFS R3 SCC	BLM SENSITIVE
Pecos Bluntnose Shiner	Notropis simus pecosensis	LT	E	SGCN			
Rio Grande Sucker	Catostomus plebeius			SGCN	Sensitive Species	USFS R3 SCC	BLM SENSITIVE
Flathead Catfish	Pylodictis olivaris			SERI			
Pecos Pupfish	Cyprinodon pecosensis		T	SGCN			BLM SENSITIVE
Least Shrew	Cryptotis parva		T	SGCN			BLM WATCH
Spotted Bat	Euderma maculatum		T	SGCN	Sensitive Species	USFS R3 SCC	BLM SENSITIVE
Townsend's Big-Eared Bat	Corynorhinus townsendii			SGCN		USFS R3 SCC	BLM SENSITIVE
Pale Townsend's Big-Eared Bat	Corynorhinus townsendii pallescens			SGCN	Sensitive Species	USFS R3 SCC	BLM SENSITIVE
Penasco Least Chipmunk	Neotamias minimus atristriatus	PE	E	SGCN	Sensitive Species		
Black-Tailed Prairie Dog	Cynomys ludovicianus			SGCN	Sensitive Species		BLM SENSITIVE
New Mexican Meadow Jumping Mouse	Zapus hudsonius luteus	LE	E	SGCN	Sensitive Species		BLM SENSITIVE
Black Bear	Ursus americanus			SGCN			
Mountain Lion	Puma concolor			SGCN			
Elk	Cervus canadensis			SGCN			
Mule Deer	Odocoileus hemionus			SGCN			
Pronghorn	Antilocapra americana			SGCN			

Special Status Animal Species Potentially within 1 Miles of Project Area

Common Name	Scientific Name	USFWS (ESA)	NMDGF (WCA)	NMDGF SGCN/SERI	USFS	USFS SCC	BLM
Desert Bighorn Sheep	Ovis canadensis mexicana			SGCN			
Western River Cooter	Pseudemys gorzugi		T	SGCN			BLM SENSITIVE
Western Ribbon Snake	Thamnophis proximus		T	SGCN	Sensitive Species		
Rock Rattlesnake	Crotalus lepidus			SGCN			
Desert Massasauga	Sistrurus catenatus edwardsii			SGCN			
Sacramento Mountains Checkerspot Butterfly	Euphydryas anicia cloudcrofti	LE		SGCN	Sensitive Species	USFS R3 SCC	

Common Name hyperlink takes you to species account in bison-m.org; Scientific Name hyperlink takes you to information in [NatureServe Explorer](#); ESA = Endangered Species Act, C = Candidate, LE = Listed Endangered, LT = Listed Threatened, XN = Non-essential Experimental Population, for other ESA codes see this [website](#); WCA = Wildlife Conservation Act, E = Endangered, T = Threatened; SERI = Species of Economic and Recreational Importance; SGCN = Species of Greatest Conservation Need; USFS = U.S. Forest Service, Sensitive Species = A species likely to occur on USFS lands that is of concern for a potential reduction in population viability; SCC = Species of Conservation Concern; BLM = Bureau of Land Management, BLM SENSITIVE = A species that occurs on BLM lands and whose viability is at risk, BLM WATCH = Species that may be added to the sensitive species list in future pending new information regarding species status.

Special Status Plant Species Potentially within 1 Miles of Project Area

Common Name	Scientific Name	USFWS (ESA)	NMAC	NMRPCS	USFS	USFS SCC	BLM
Dwarf Milkweed	Asclepias uncialis			SS	Sensitive Species	USFS R3 SCC	
Sierra Blanca Cliffdaisy	Ionactis elegans			SS	Sensitive Species	USFS R3 SCC	
Plain Thistle	Cirsium inornatum			SS			
Sacramento Mountains Thistle	Cirsium vinaceum	LT	E	SS			
Wright's Marsh Thistle	Cirsium wrightii	LT	E	SS	Sensitive Species		BLM SENSITIVE
Sacramento Mountain Fleabane	Erigeron rybius			SS			
New Mexico Gumweed	Grindelia arizonica var. neomexicana			SS			BLM WATCH
New Mexico Rock Daisy	Perityle staurophylla var. staurophylla			SS			BLM WATCH
Sacramento Groundsel	Senecio sacramentanus			SS			
Guadalupe Mountains Goldenrod	Solidago correllii			SS	Sensitive Species		

Special Status Plant Species Potentially within 1 Miles of Project Area

Common Name	Scientific Name	USFWS (ESA)	NMAC	NMRPCS	USFS	USFS SCC	BLM
Golden Bladderpod	Physaria aurea			SS		USFS R3 SCC	
Lincoln County Bladderpod	Physaria lata					USFS R3 SCC	
Gray Sibara	Sibara grisea						BLM SENSITIVE
Scheer's Pincushion Cactus	Coryphantha robustispina ssp. scheeri		E	SS			BLM SENSITIVE
Kuenzler's Cactus	Echinocereus fendleri var. kuenzleri	LE	E	SS			
Grama Grass Cactus	Sclerocactus papyracanthus						BLM WATCH
Villard's Pincushion Cactus	Escobaria villardii		E	SS	Sensitive Species	USFS R3 SCC	BLM SENSITIVE
Alpine Sedum	Rhodiola integrifolia ssp. neomexicana			SS	Sensitive Species	USFS R3 SCC	
Winged Milkvetch	Astragalus altus			SS	Sensitive Species	USFS R3 SCC	
New Mexico Milk-Vetch	Astragalus neomexicanus			SS			BLM WATCH
Kerr's Milkvetch	Astragalus kerrii			SS	Sensitive Species	USFS R3 SCC	BLM WATCH
Sierra Blanca Lupine	Lupinus sierrae-blancae			SS			
Shootingstar Geranium	Geranium dodecatheoides			SS	Sensitive Species	USFS R3 SCC	
Mescalero Currant	Ribes mescalerium			SS			
Silvercup Philadelphus	Philadelphus argyrocalyx			SS			
Cloudcroft Scorpionweed	Phacelia cloudcroftensis			SS	Sensitive Species	USFS R3 SCC	BLM WATCH
Todsens Pennyroyal	Hedeoma todsenii	LE	E	SS			
White Mountain False-Penny-Royal	Hedeoma pulcherrima			SS		USFS R3 SCC	
Sacramento Prickly-Poppy	Argemone pinnatisecta	LE	E	SS	Sensitive Species		
Wooton's Wild Buckwheat	Eriogonum wootonii			SS		USFS R3 SCC	

Special Status Plant Species Potentially within 1 Miles of Project Area

Common Name	Scientific Name	USFWS (ESA)	NMAC	NMRPCS	USFS	USFS SCC	BLM
Chapline's Columbine	Aquilegia chrysantha var. chaplinei			SS		USFS R3 SCC	BLM SENSITIVE
White Mountain Larkspur	Delphinium novomexicanum			SS		USFS R3 SCC	
Wooton's Hawthorn	Crataegus wootoniana			SS	Sensitive Species	USFS R3 SCC	
Sierra Blanca Cinquefoil	Potentilla sierrae-blancae			SS	Sensitive Species	USFS R3 SCC	
Desert Rose	Rosa stellata ssp. mirifica			SS			
Wooton's Alumroot	Heuchera wootonii			SS	Sensitive Species		
Capitan Peak Alumroot	Heuchera woodsiaephila			SS	Sensitive Species	USFS R3 SCC	
Egg-Leaf Coral-Drops	Synthyris oblongifolia			SS	Sensitive Species	USFS R3 SCC	
Alamo Beardtongue	Penstemon alamosensis			SS	Sensitive Species		BLM SENSITIVE
Scarlet Penstemon	Penstemon cardinalis ssp. cardinalis			SS		USFS R3 SCC	
New Mexico Beardtongue	Penstemon neomexicanus			SS			
Texas Tobacco-Root	Valeriana texana			SS			BLM WATCH
Goodding's Onion	Allium gooddingii		E	SS	Sensitive Species	USFS R3 SCC	
Mountain Lily	Lilium philadelphicum var. andinum		E	SS			

NMAC = New Mexico Administrative Code, E = Endangered; NMRPCS = [New Mexico Rare Plant Conservation Strategy](#), SS = NM Rare Plant Conservation Strategy Species; USFS = U.S. Forest Service, Sensitive Species = A species likely to occur on USFS lands that is of concern for a potential reduction in population viability; SCC = Species of Conservation Concern; BLM = Bureau of Land Management, BLM SENSITIVE = A species that occurs on BLM lands and whose viability is at risk, BLM WATCH = Species that may be added to the sensitive species list in future pending new information regarding species status.

Project Recommendations

Since the proposed highway project includes bridge or road construction activities, the Department recommends implementation of its [Bridge and Culvert Construction Guidelines for Stream, Riparian, and Wetland Habitats](#) for any rivers, streams, washes, springs, seeps, or riparian areas that are fall within the impact footprint of this project. These guidelines should assist in minimizing impacts to the river or wetland and should be incorporated into the standard best management practices for these types of construction activities.

The Department also recommends that preconstruction bat surveys be conducted during summer months to determine if bats occur. If bats are determined to occur at bridge sites, work should be scheduled to avoid impacting bats that may roost there (i.e., conduct work in winter months).

The highly invasive, noxious weed African rue (*Peganum harmala*) has been documented near the proposed project area. African rue thrives on disturbed sites and along road sides. It is extremely drought-tolerant and will undergo rapid vegetative growth when soil moisture is available. African rue is extremely toxic to horses, sheep, cattle, and humans, containing at least four types of poisonous alkaloids. In addition, most parts of the plant contain allelopathic chemicals that will reduce the growth of surrounding native plants. To help control this species' spread, the Department recommends that any vehicles and equipment arriving on the project site be thoroughly cleaned of all visible dirt and mud to help contain and control the potential spread of weed seeds. The operator should also initiate a weed management program that includes a commitment to aggressive control of any African rue on the project site. For more information on potential control of African rue, see this [field guide](#).

Burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*) may occur within your project area. Burrowing owls are protected from take by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and under New Mexico state statute. Before any ground disturbing activities occur, the Department recommends that a preliminary burrowing owl survey be conducted by a qualified biologist using the Department's [Burrowing Owl Survey Protocol](#). Should burrowing owls be documented in the project area, please contact the Department or USFWS for further recommendations regarding relocation or avoidance of impacts.

Your project area intersects a Conservation Opportunity Area (COA) as identified in the [SWAP](#) for New Mexico. These areas contain high numbers of SGCN as identified in the SWAP and therefore represent areas where implementing conservation actions, including restoration projects intended to benefit wildlife, has higher potential to benefit a diversity of species. Within COAs, the Department encourages project proponents to consider (during project planning and design) and mitigate (during project implementation) potential adverse effects to non-federally listed SGCN and their habitats. State-listed and federally-listed species are protected from take by the New Mexico WCA and ESA, respectively, and migratory birds are protected from take by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

Your project area intersects designated critical habitat for one or more species that are listed under the federal ESA. The Department recommends that you confirm this using the USFWS's Information for Planning and Consultation (IPAC) system (<https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/>) and then reach out to the appropriate species lead(s) with the [New Mexico Ecological Services Office of USFWS](#). The USFWS has authority to designate critical habitat for species listed under the ESA. The Department has no authority to designate critical habitat for species listed under the WCA or ESA. If there are any federally-listed plants within your project area and your project has a federal nexus, you may find these recommendations from the USFWS useful: [Recommendations for Endangered Species Act Section 7 Consultations Involving Plants in New Mexico; Standards for Conducting and Reporting Consultation Surveys for Federally-Listed, Proposed, and Candidate Plants in New Mexico](#).

The proposed project occurs near an important bat area. This area may contain important bat roosting resources, such as caves or mines, that potentially could be affected by certain project activities. Follow the guidelines below to minimize disturbance to roosting bats.

- Avoid use of pesticides, firearms, open-flame torches, or heavy smoke-producing equipment, especially from April through September.
- If artificial lighting is needed, use only light sources powered by batteries, or cyalume glow/light sticks. Keep the site clean by picking up refuse or materials from project lighting or operations whenever they are shut down.
- If the use of permanent outdoor lights cannot be avoided, design all outdoor lighting in accordance with the New Mexico Night Sky Protection Act, which requires that outdoor lighting be fitted with shielding that directs light downward, rather than upward or laterally, to prevent sky glow and associated impacts to bats.
- For any surface disturbing activities, the project footprint (including a 350 foot buffer) should avoid potential roost sites such as caves or mines, especially from April through July. Tree clearing activities and prescribed burns should include a minimum 0.5 mile buffer from any such features.
- If caves, mines, bridges, or other man-made structure suitable as potential bat roosts are encountered within the project area, they should not be entered during any time of year, and no roosting or hibernating bats should be contacted or disturbed. Report any dead or injured bats to the Department, who can facilitate contacts with other appropriate personnel.

Your project area intersects an Important Plant Area (IPA) that contains one or more species of plants listed as threatened or endangered by the New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD) under New Mexico Statutes Annotated (NMSA) 75-6-1 or by the USFWS under the federal ESA. Although IPAs have no legal designation, they have been identified as areas that support either a high diversity of sensitive plant species or contain the last remaining locations of New Mexico's most endangered plants. The Department recommends that you consult with EMNRD's [Endangered Plant Program Coordinator](#) regarding any state-listed plants and the USFWS's [Information for Planning and Consultation \(IPAC\)](#) system for any federally-listed plants and reaching out to the appropriate federal species lead(s) with the [New Mexico Ecological Services Office of USFWS](#). The Department does not have any authority to designate or advise on state- or federally-listed plants.

Prairie dog colonies may occur within the vicinity of your project area. Both black-tailed prairie dogs (*Cynomys ludovicianus*) and Gunnison's prairie dogs (*Cynomys gunnisoni*) are designated as New Mexico SGCN, and their colonies provide important habitat for other grassland wildlife. Wherever possible, occupied prairie dog colonies should be left undisturbed, and all project activities should be directed off the colony. Any burrows that are located on the project site should be surveyed by a qualified biologist to determine whether burrows are active or inactive and whether burrowing owls may be utilizing the site. Colonies within the range of the black-tailed prairie dog can be surveyed by a qualified biologist diurnally, year-round using binoculars. Colonies within the range of the Gunnison's prairie dog can be surveyed by a qualified biologist diurnally, using binoculars during the warmer months from April through October and by searching for fairly fresh scat and lack of cobwebs or debris at the mouths of burrows during the cold months (November through March). If ground-disturbing activities cannot be relocated off the prairie dog colony, or if project activities involve control of prairie dogs, the Department recommends live-trapping and relocation of prairie dogs. The Department can provide recommendations regarding suitability of potential translocation areas and procedures.

The proposed project occurs within or near a riparian area. Because riparian areas are important wildlife habitats, the project footprint should avoid removing any riparian vegetation or creating ground disturbance either directly within or affecting the riparian area, unless the project is intended to restore riparian habitat through non-native plant removal and replanting with native species. If your project involves removal of non-native riparian trees or planting of native riparian vegetation, please refer to the Department's habitat handbook guideline for [Restoration and Management of Native and Non-native Trees in Southwestern Riparian Ecosystems](#). The [New Mexico Riparian Habitat Map \(NMRipMap\)](#) may also provide useful information on local riparian habitat composition and structure.

Your proposed project occurs within an area where springs or other important natural water features occur. This may result in the presence of a high use area for wildlife relative to the surrounding landscape. To ensure continued function of these important wildlife habitats, your project should consider measures to avoid the following.

- Altering surface or groundwater flow or hydrology,
- Disturbance to soil that modifies geomorphic properties or facilitates invasion of non-native vegetation.
- Affecting local surface or groundwater quality.
- Creating disturbance to wildlife utilizing these water features. Disturbance to wildlife can be reduced through practices including clustering infrastructure and activity wherever possible, avoiding large visual obstructions around water features, and limiting nighttime project operations or activities.

Department biologists are available for site-specific consultation regarding measures to assist with management and conservation of these habitat resources.

Your project is on or near a section of road that has experienced comparatively high incidence of wildlife-vehicle collisions. Coordinate with the New Mexico Department of Transportation to consider implementing mitigation actions that are appropriate to your project area and planned action to reduce wildlife-vehicle collisions. These may include but are not limited to: installation of wildlife-proof fencing; installation of wildlife passages such as arch culverts or overpasses; and installation of animal detection systems.

Disclaimers regarding recommendations:

- The Department provides technical guidance to support the persistence of all protected species of native fish and wildlife, including game and nongame wildlife species. Species listed within this report include those that have been documented to occur within the project area, and others that may not have been documented but are projected to occur within the project vicinity.
- Recommendations are provided by the Department under the authority of § 17-1-5.1 New Mexico Statutes Annotated 1978, to provide "communication and consultation with federal and other state agencies, local governments and communities, private organizations and affected interests responsible for habitat, wilderness, recreation, water quality and environmental protection to ensure comprehensive conservation services for hunters, anglers and nonconsumptive wildlife users".
- The Department has no authority for management of plants or Important Plant Areas. The [New Mexico Endangered Plant Program](#), under the Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department's Forestry Division, identifies and develops conservation measures necessary to ensure the survival of plant species within New Mexico. Plant status information is provided within this report as a courtesy to users. Recommendations provided within the ERT may not be sufficient to preclude impacts to rare or sensitive plants, unless conservation measures are identified in coordination with the Endangered Plant Program.
- Additional coordination and/or consultation may also be necessary under the federal ESA or National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Further site-specific mitigation recommendations may be proposed during ESA consultation and/or NEPA analyses or through coordination with affected federal agencies.