

New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission Updates



Water Leaders Workshop

Silver City – April 15, 2025

Hannah Riseley-White

NMISC Director

Climate Change: National Water Stress Index

- The eastern half of the country can expect more water
- The western half can expect more water stress

Projected change in water stress by mid-century (2040-2061) compared to historical average (1900-2668 1970). Lindsey, 2013.

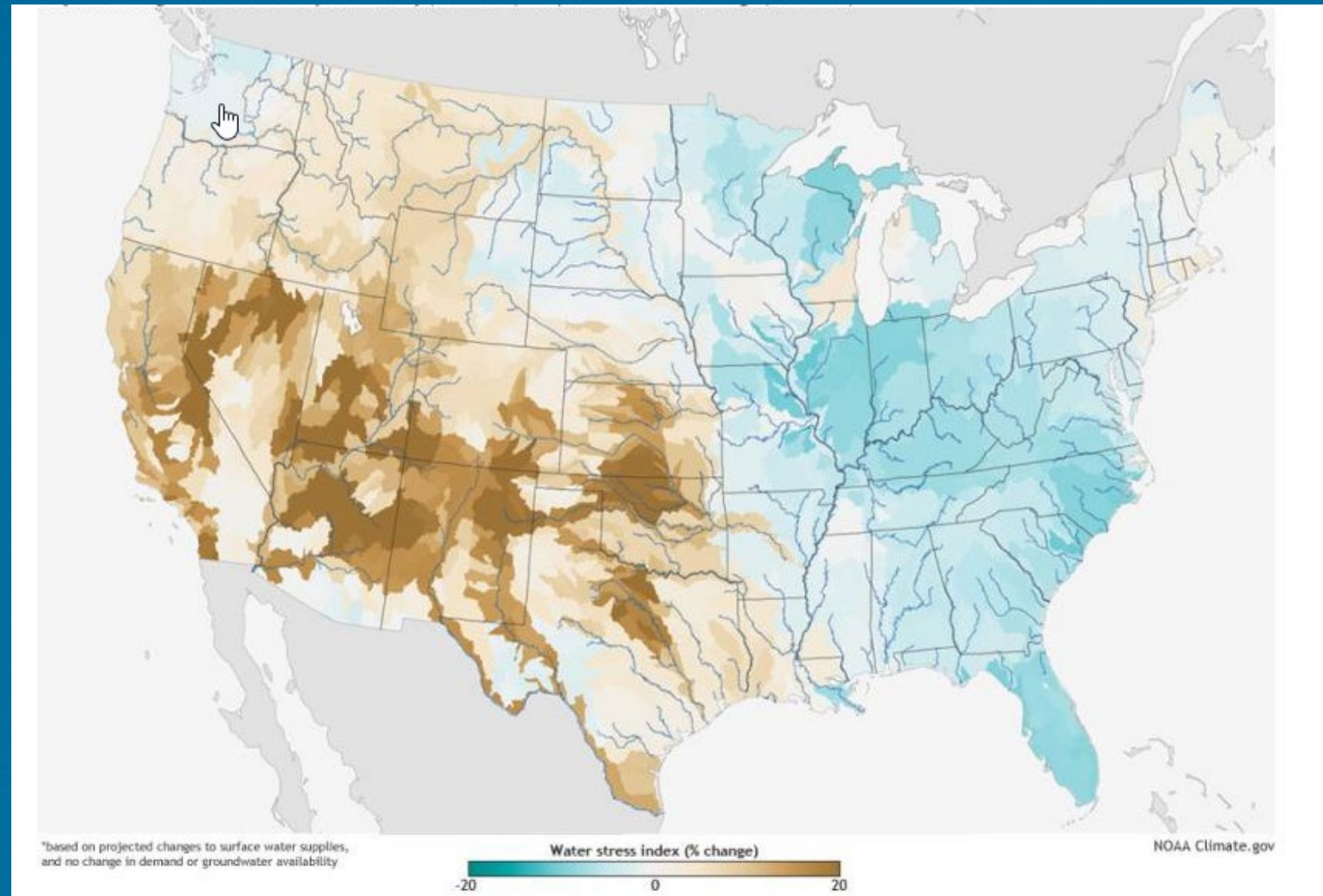
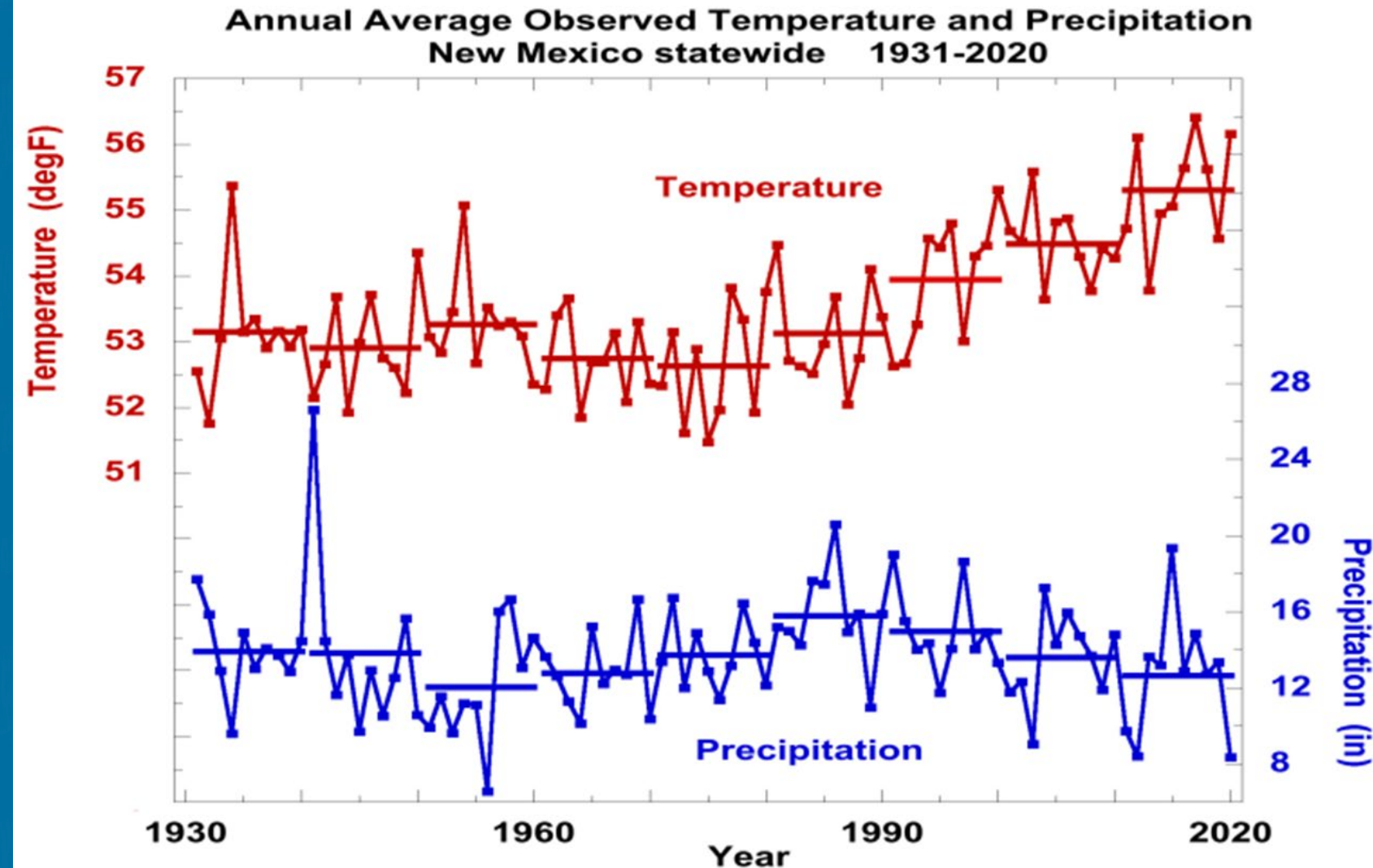


Image from Climate Change in New Mexico over the Next 50 Years: Impacts on Water Resources

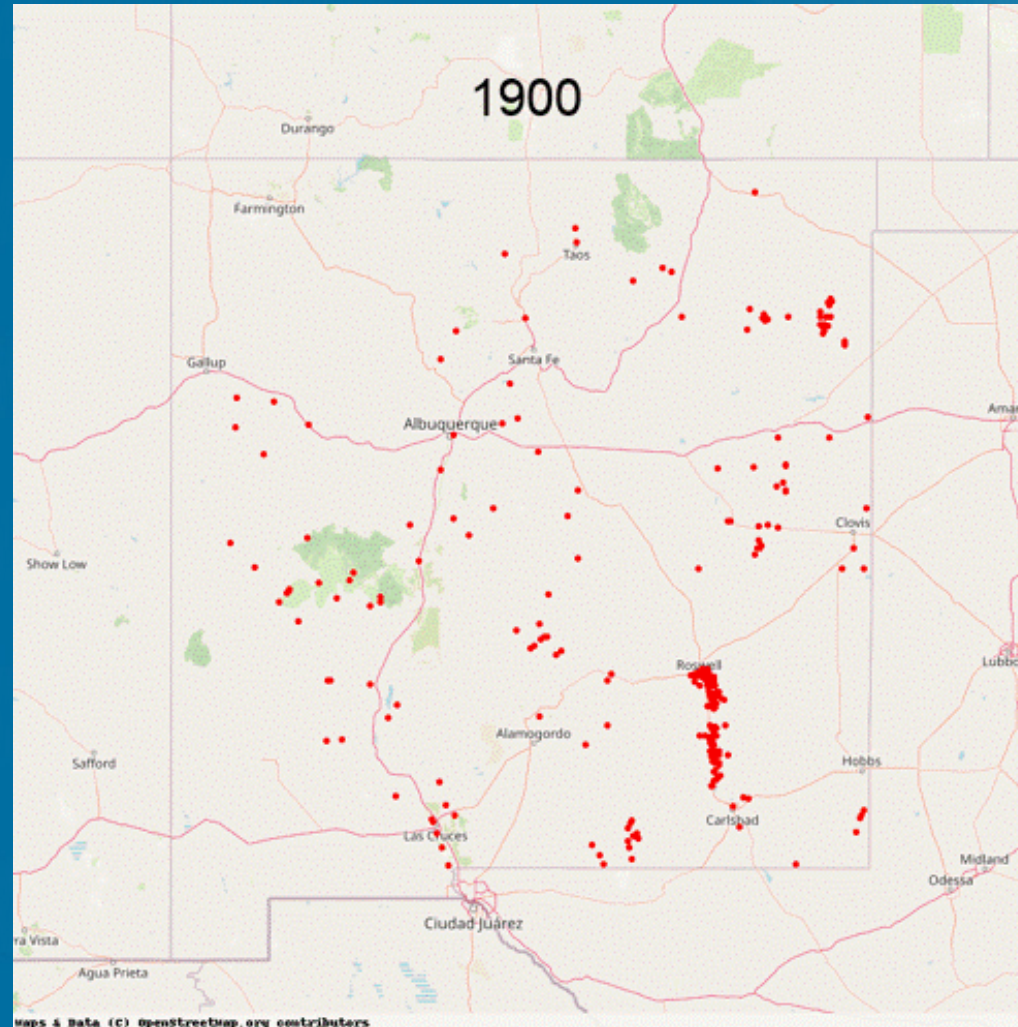
Following the Data = Drier/More Variable



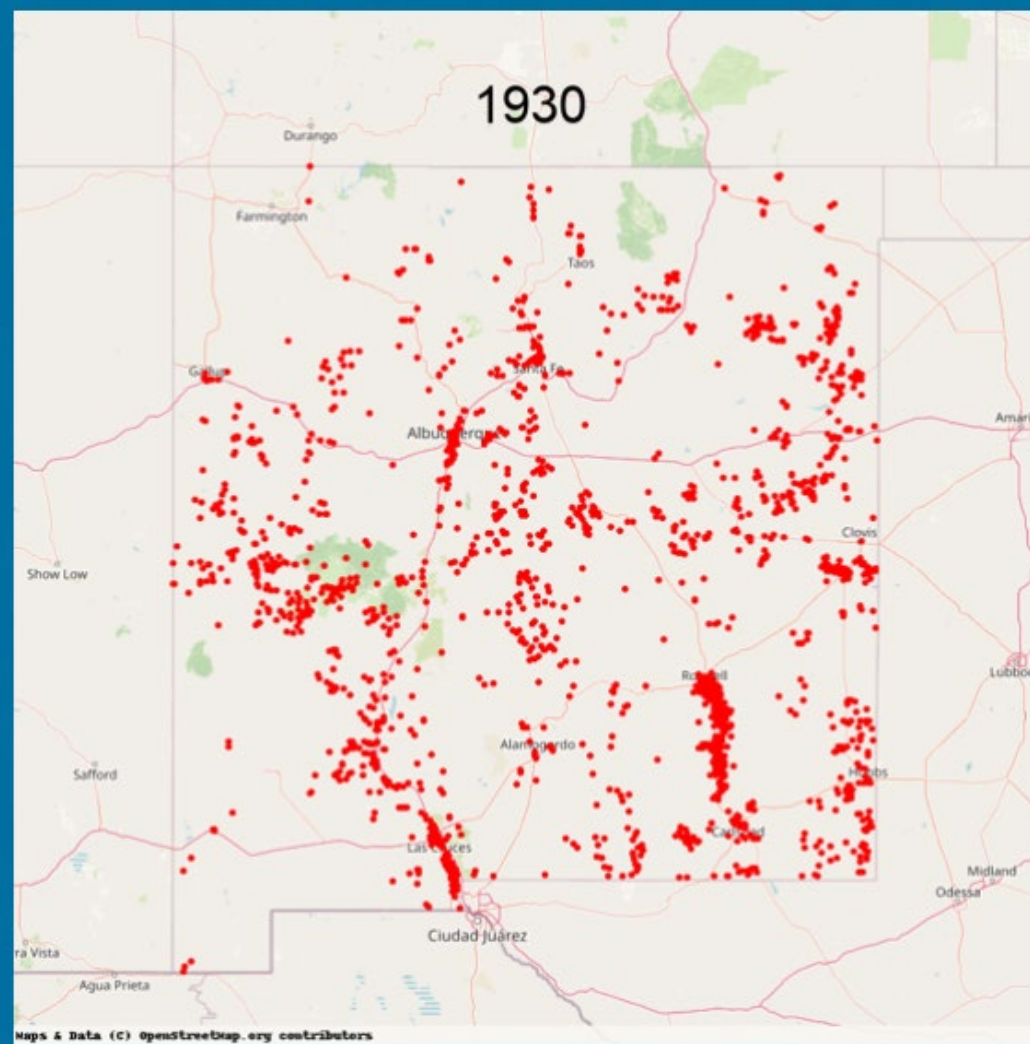
- Average temperatures are projected to increase at least 5 -7° F in the coming 50 years
- Precipitation levels are expected to remain highly variable
- Precipitation patterns and snowmelt are expected to change

Groundwater Use In New Mexico: 1900

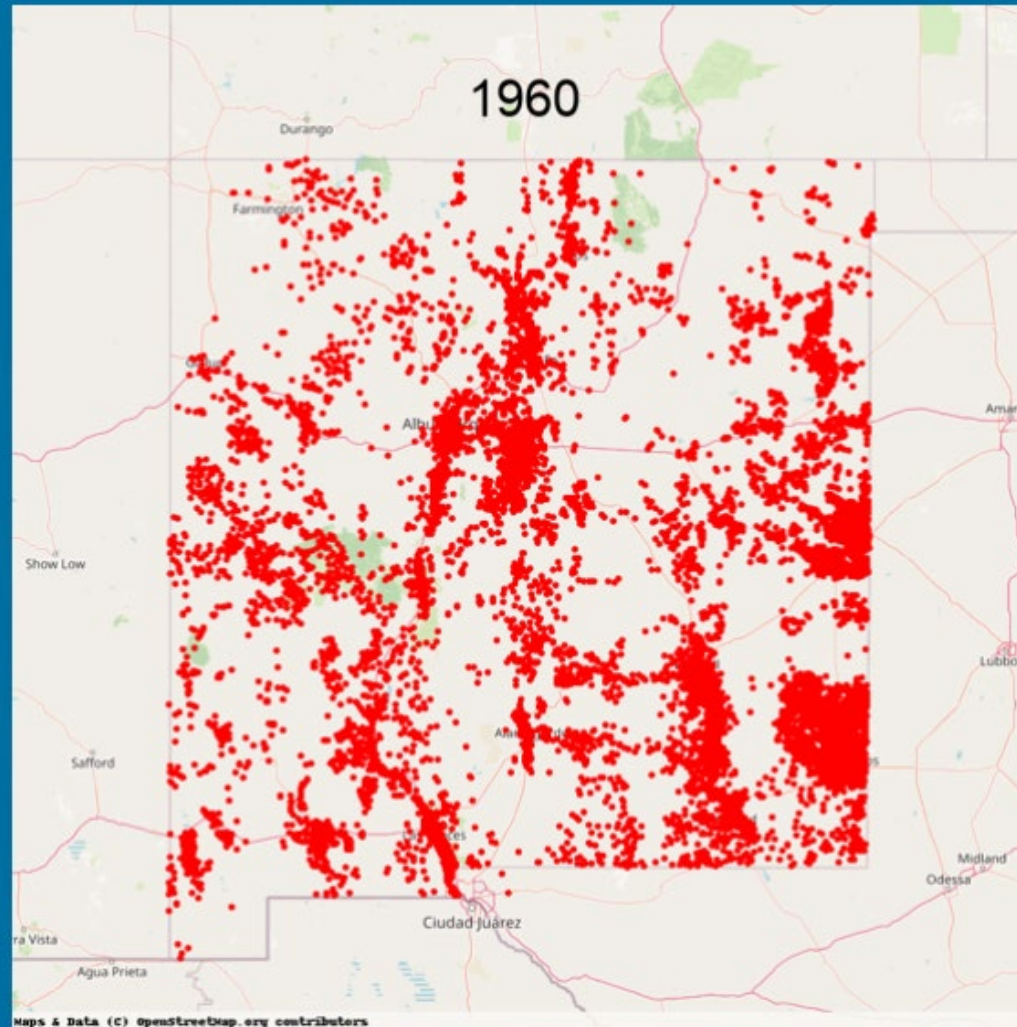
Over the last century New Mexico has increasingly developed our groundwater resources.



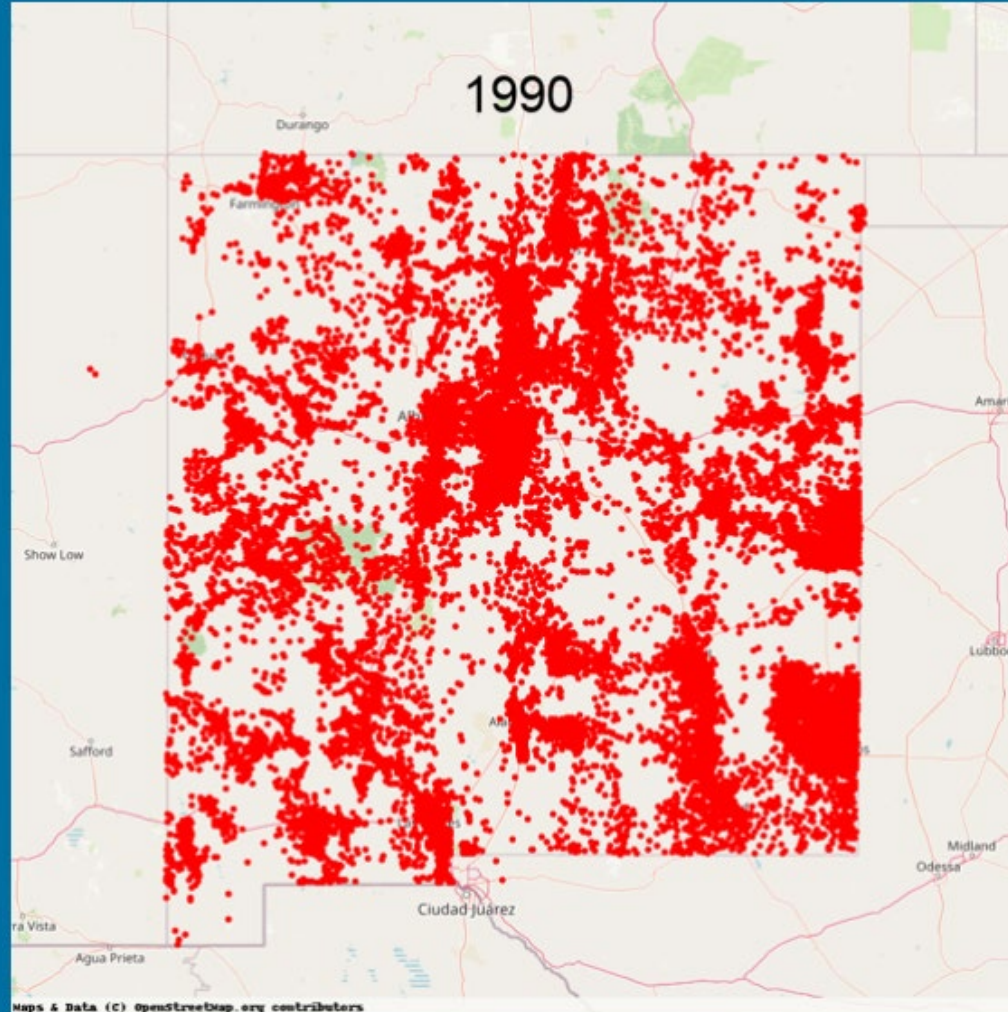
Groundwater Use In New Mexico: 1930



Groundwater Use In New Mexico: 1960



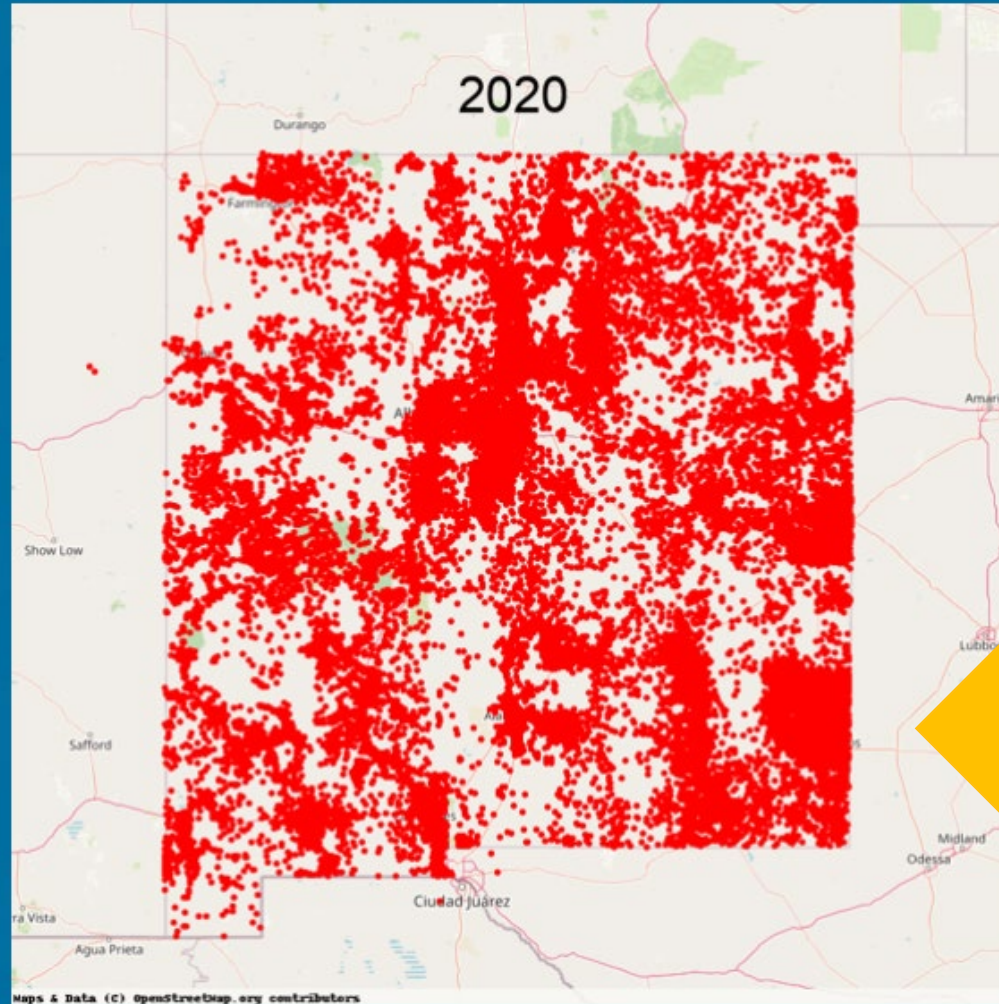
Groundwater Use In New Mexico: 1990



Groundwater Use In New Mexico: 2020

Given decreasing surface water supplies, New Mexicans are increasingly relying on groundwater.

There is a critical need to understand and steward both surface and groundwater supplies.



**Thank You Water
Data Act!**

Balance Water Availability and Water Need

Water Availability

Water Need



WATER BALANCE

Water Security Planning Act

Transforms and reinvigorates regional water planning in New Mexico.

New statute requires that regional water planning will:

- Ensure scientific integrity through the best available data, science and models
- Support implementation through prioritization of projects and activities, and reporting mechanisms for decision makers
- Build on and incorporate existing planning efforts, and not be redundant
- Be grounded in state water law, including respecting existing water rights and the doctrine of prior appropriation
- Be informed by an advisory council taking into account tribal sovereignty, tribal water rights, and the needs of tribal communities – Water Security Tribal Advisory Council (WSTAC)
- Involve robust public engagement every step of the way

Implementation of effective solutions requires community engagement.

December 4, 2023 - August 14, 2024

Main Stream New Mexico Campaign Highlights

12

7.4 Million Impressions

Online ads on Meta and Google platforms were seen 7.4 million times.

72,000 Web Visitors

Over 72,000 users visited MainStreamNM.org, visiting over 105,900 pages on the website.

Open House Participation:

700+ In person

Over 700 people attended Open Houses in FY24 and more than 1,000 people participated in the online Open House survey.

1,000+ Online

6,000+ Blog Reads

Over 6,000 readers visited our blog articles, accessing vetted information relevant to regional water planning.

3000+ Newsletter Subscribers

We gained over 3,000 newsletter subscribers and maintained an average 39% open rate.

70 Advertisements

Statewide advertising included 46 radio ads and 24 newspaper ads, promoting regional and online Open Houses across New Mexico.

6 Newspaper Stories

Main Stream and the Open Houses were featured in 5 stories in local newspapers including the Santa Fe New Mexican. We also landed 1 op-ed.

Next Steps:

Winter / Spring
2025

- Early engagement on WSPA Discussion Draft Rule and Guideline
- Comment period open until *April 30* at MainStreamNM.org

Spring / Early
Summer 2025

- Agency incorporation of feedback on Discussion Draft

Fall 2025

- Official Rule Promulgation Process including:
 - Release of proposed Rule for Promulgation
 - Comment period
 - Public hearing

2026

- Begin convening planning process in regions
- Ongoing, iterative planning



Thank you!

see MainStreamNM.org for updates

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