

New Mexico Land Conservancy

Conserving Land. Preserving Heritage

2013
Annual
Report

NEW MEXICO
LAND CONSERVANCY

Conserving Land. Preserving Heritage.



OUR MISSION

To preserve New Mexico's land heritage by helping people conserve the places they love.

Founded in 2002, the New Mexico Land Conservancy (NMLC) is a statewide, non-profit land trust working to protect significant natural habitat, productive agricultural lands, scenic open space, cultural and historic resources, and recreational lands for conservation purposes and public benefit at community, watershed and landscape scales. We work in collaboration with private landowners, community and non-profit organizations, governmental agencies, businesses, and other public and private partners to pursue and achieve our mission.

NMLC's twenty-five-year goal is to protect, directly or in partnership with others, one million acres of high conservation value lands in priority areas around the state by 2037. To date, NMLC has helped permanently protect over 127,000 acres of high conservation value land throughout New Mexico and completed one project in Arizona.





Dear Friends,

Despite several changes on the board and staff, 2013 turned out to be a very good and productive year for the New Mexico Land Conservancy. In the following pages you will read about some of our conservation, education, outreach and fundraising highlights. But we also wanted to take this opportunity to tell you about a specific effort, for which we have been preparing ourselves for some time, that we believe will significantly enhance our operations and delivery of services as a statewide land trust.

Despite all the good intentions of any organization's staff, board and supporters, long-term success, viability and sustainability depends upon the organizational framework upon which it is built and run. NMLC is part of a larger movement that, over the last one hundred years, has grown into a community of 1,700 land trusts around the country. Today, most of the nation's land trusts are affiliated with the Land Trust Alliance (LTA), an organization that was founded in 1982 to help increase the pace, quantity and quality of land conservation by strengthening the land trust movement across America.

In 2007, LTA piloted a professional accreditation program for land trusts that was designed around an enhanced framework of ethical and technical standards and practices that it had first developed for land trusts twenty years earlier. This program is administered by the Land Trust Accreditation Commission (LTAC), which is an independent body of conservation professionals that recognizes land conservation organizations that demonstrate compliance with LTA's "Standards and Practices." We are pleased to announce that NMLC will be applying for accreditation by the LTAC in 2014.

Accreditation is a mark of distinction in land conservation. To date, less than 15% of the land trusts in the U.S. have been accredited and we hope to successfully complete the process and join those ranks by early 2015. Our successful accreditation should help assure you as a landowner, donor, partner or member of the public that NMLC is worthy of your trust and support. It should also ensure you that we have the ways and means to continue protecting and stewarding those important natural places, cultural areas, working lands and scenic open spaces that need to be preserved forever because they are what make New Mexico so special.

Thank you,



J. Scott Wilber
Executive Director



Joseph R. Montoya
Chair, Board of Directors

OUR GOALS

NMLC's strategic framework is comprised of three primary goals:

CONSERVATION

Sustainable land conservation for New Mexico

- To strategically increase the quantity and quality of land conservation in New Mexico.
- To ensure that these conserved lands receive appropriate and sustained stewardship over the long-term.

EDUCATION

Increased awareness of and appreciation for land conservation in New Mexico

- To increase understanding of and awareness about land conservation methods and benefits.
- To raise general public awareness of and appreciation for conservation in New Mexico.

CAPACITY

Greater capacity for land conservation in New Mexico

- To build NMLC into a viable and sustainable statewide land trust.
- To help increase statewide capacity and support for land conservation.
- To contribute to a collaborative and sustainable land conservation community for New Mexico.



OUR PROGRAMS

We work to achieve our mission and goals through the following programs and activities:

CONSERVATION

- *Land Protection:* using conservation easements and other voluntary land conservation methods to help landowners protect, conserve (and restore) their land.
- *Stewardship:* monitoring, stewarding and legally defending the easements and properties we have helped protect.

EDUCATION

- *Information:* serving as a statewide information resource, and providing information about land conservation and NMLC through different forms of media.
- *Communications & Outreach:* educating landowners and partners about land conservation and stewardship tools, methods and benefits; informing and engaging the public, and creating opportunities to connect people to the land.

CAPACITY BUILDING

- *Organizational Development & Fundraising:* developing human and financial resources, and internal plans, policies and organizational capacity; and ensuring compliance with non-profit and land trust standards, practices and requirements.
- *Policy:* engaging in policy initiatives that further land conservation and stewardship in New Mexico.
- *Administrative:* ensuring sound administrative systems and procedures for effective and efficient land trust operations.

TROUTSTALKER RANCH



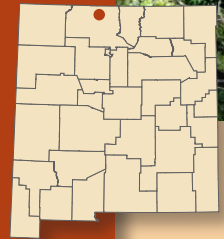
Size: 287 acres

Location: Rio Arriba County

Ecoregion: Southern Rockies

Conservation Values: Wildlife Habitat, Scenic Open Space, Recreation & Agriculture

Type of Project: Donated Conservation Easement



In May of 2013, Dan Perry, the owner of Trout Stalker Ranch, approached NMLC about the possibility of placing a portion of his 566 acre ranch under a conservation easement. Located within the scenic corridor of U.S. 84/64, eight miles south of the Colorado border, this beautiful property is situated along the Rio Chama, just south of the Village of Chama, and includes over a mile of both the Rio Chama and Rio Chamita.

Working with NMLC, Mr. Perry elected to conserve 287 acres of irrigated farmland and critical habitat

on the ranch. Mr. Perry is dedicated to improving the trout habitat along the Rio Chama and, working with River Bend Engineering, completed an extensive habitat restoration project last summer along his reach of the river. The entire riparian corridor is within the conservation easement, as well as several seasonal ponds / impoundments and natural wetlands that occur on spring seeps, providing unique habitat that rarely occurs below 8,000 feet in New Mexico.

The remainder of the ranch consists of piñon-juniper-oak woodland, grassland and farm fields. The dry

meadows and old farmlands at Trout Stalker Ranch are good foraging habitats for large and small herbivores, and for raptors that hunt in open areas. The “bosque”, or riparian woodlands, of the Rio Chama is especially suitable for nesting birds that utilize the cavities created in dead cottonwood trees. Owls, wrens, chickadees and bluebirds depend on these cavity nests for reproductive success.

This outstanding property will continue to be used for the traditional irrigated agricultural practice of hay production. Additionally the conservation easement area includes a public access easement for fishing along

approximately one mile of the Rio Chama. NMLC is proud to include this easement, with its rich and diverse habitats and uses, in our conservation portfolio.

Mr. Perry was referred to NMLC through the Chama Peak Land Alliance (CPLA), where he serves on the Board of Directors. CPLA is a network of conservation-minded private landowners engaged in important conservation, natural resources management and environmental policy work involving working ranches and other large properties in northern New Mexico and southern Colorado. ■



NORTHEAST NEW MEXICO CONSERVATION PLANNING

Growing out of NMLC's work in the Hi Lo Country of northeast New Mexico, and the recent projects to protect the Mesa and Wagon Mound ranches, NMLC embarked upon a conservation planning process for this part of the state in 2013. The goal of the effort is to identify particular landscapes in northeast New Mexico with high conservation value, and then to conduct outreach to landowners, agencies and community organizations in the region to share our conservation vision with them.

Working with a consultant from Unique Places Southwest, NMLC identified a study area that encompasses: the front range of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains, including Colfax, Mora, and San Miguel Counties; portions of Union, Harding, Quay, and Guadalupe Counties; and the Pecos, Gallina, Mora, Canadian and Cimarron river watersheds. The study area includes important existing conservation areas such as the Las Vegas, Rio Mora and Maxwell National Wildlife Refuges; the Fort Union and Capulin Volcano National Monuments; and the Kiowa National Grasslands.

Our team determined the conservation criteria for the analysis and ranked these criteria through a modeling

process executed by our consultant. The weighted criteria consisted of prime and important soils, buffers to existing conservation land, hydrological and wetland buffers, cultural resource buffers, habitat for threatened and endangered species, rare plant habitat, critical fish habitat and wildlife corridors.

The analysis resulted in the mapping of a "conservation surface" for the Study Area. Landscapes that were consequently highlighted as being of highest conservation value were adjacent to public lands in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains, particularly in the Cimarron, Mora, and Gallinas River watersheds; portions of the I-25 highway corridor; lands around the towns of Las Vegas, Watrous and along the Pecos River near Villanueva; and ranchlands adjacent to the Kiowa National Grasslands in Harding and Union Counties.

This innovative planning work, which uses current geographic information technology, was funded by New Cycle Foundation and completed in consultation with Unique Places Southwest. The analysis has focused our ongoing efforts in northeast New Mexico and provides the underpinnings for our future outreach work in this region. ■



MESA RANCH



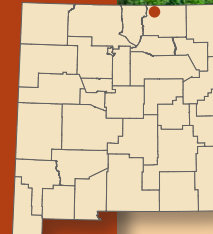
Size: 2,050 acres

Location: Colfax County

Ecoregion: Southern Rockies

Conservation Values: Agriculture, Wildlife Habitat & Scenic Open Space

Type of Project: Donated Conservation Easement



The completion of the Mesa Ranch conservation easement in December of 2013 was an exciting step in NMLC's progress towards landscape-scale conservation in northeastern New Mexico. Located east of Raton, Mesa Ranch spills over the southern end of Johnson Mesa into Taylor Canyon below and provides incredible panoramic views of the Hi-Lo Country to the south.

Perhaps the most impressive feature on the property is Uña de Gato Creek, a perennial stream that runs through Taylor Canyon and attracts a wide variety of wildlife—including mountain lions, as the name in Spanish suggests—with its year-round water source.

The mixed gambel oak, ponderosa pine and Douglas fir in the canyon provide habitat for turkey, bear, elk, deer and other species of wildlife.

Higher up, on Johnson Mesa, native bunchgrasses dominate an expanse of shortgrass prairie that continues to support cattle and contribute to the local agricultural economy. NMLC was pleased to work with landowner Jim Keller to complete the Mesa Ranch easement, and we look forward to continued opportunities to protect more of this unique and beautiful part of northeast New Mexico.

WAGON MOUND RANCH - PHASE TWO



Size: 7,154 acres

Location: Mora County

Ecoregion: Southwestern Tablelands

Conservation Values: Agriculture, Wildlife Habitat & Scenic Open Space

Type of Project: Purchased Conservation Easement



At the end of 2013, NMLC conserved an additional 7,154 acres of Greg Moore's 23,000 acre family ranch east of Wagon Mound. This is the second of a three phase project that will ultimately place the entire ranch under conservation easements. In 2012, Greg Moore donated a conservation easement over 7,684 acres. The final phase is expected to be completed by the summer of 2014.

The ranch is located just south and east of Las Mesas de Conjelón and includes Carrizo Creek, a tributary

of the Canadian River. The landscape consists of shortgrass prairie with some areas of piñon-juniper forest and ponderosa pine at higher elevations on the mesa tops. The Property has been owned by the same family for two generations. The landowner uses sustainable grazing practices and rotates cattle between 20 different pastures on the ranch. He has also designated areas as wildlife sanctuaries and undertaken habitat improvement projects, particularly along Carrizo Creek.

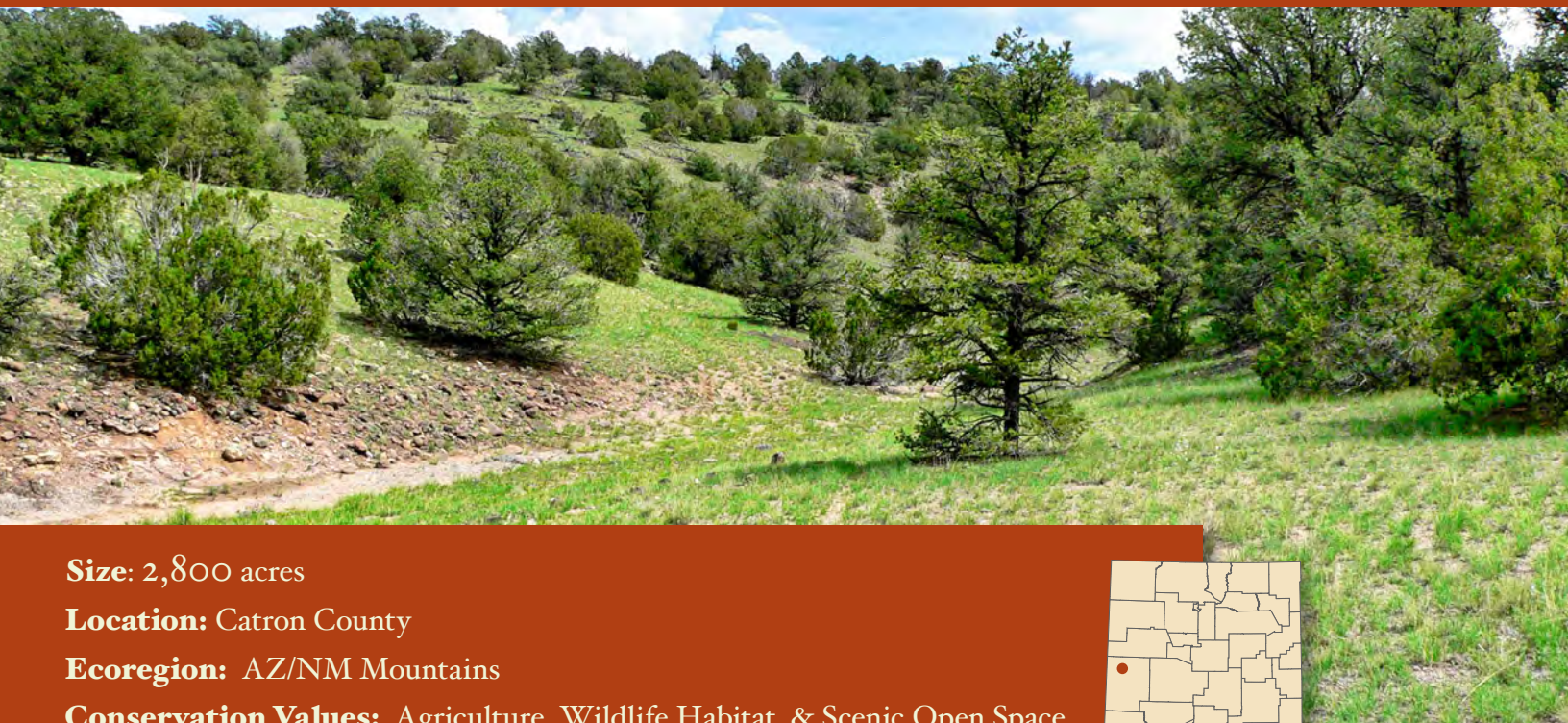
Over the past two years, NMLC was successful in securing \$700,000 through the U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Farm and Ranchland Protection Program (FRPP) to complete the final two phases. Additional support to help complete these easements was provided by the New Cycle and Albert I. Pierce foundations, which have both shown ongoing support for this project and other ranchland conservation work in northeastern New Mexico. ■

OVER 100,000
ACRES OF
PRODUCTIVE
RANCHLAND
CONSERVED
SINCE 2002



Photo Courtesy of Clay Ellis

RITO SPRINGS RANCH



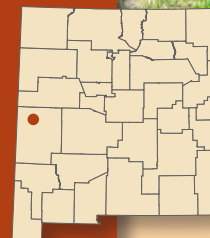
Size: 2,800 acres

Location: Catron County

Ecoregion: AZ/NM Mountains

Conservation Values: Agriculture, Wildlife Habitat, & Scenic Open Space

Type of Project: Purchased Conservation Easement



In April of 2013, NMLC completed an easement over 2,800 acres of Rito Springs Ranch, a rolling spread just north of Highway 60 near the town of Quemado in Catron County. The grasslands and piñon-juniper woodlands of this ranch have been worked by the same family for generations and continue to be part of an active cattle operation. The ranch also supports a variety of wildlife including elk, mule deer, pronghorn, bobcat, coyote and mountain lion.

With funding from the U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service Farm and Ranchland Protection Program, NMLC was able to permanently conserve a significant portion of the ranch, thereby maintaining the native grassland's agricultural potential and habitat values. The completion of the Rito Springs Ranch conservation easement brings the total area of working grasslands, woodlands and forestlands protected by NMLC in Catron County to over 9,800 acres. ■

CREEKY SPRINGS

Size: 288 acres

Location: San Miguel County

Ecoregion: Southern Rockies

Conservation Values: Wildlife Habitat & Scenic Open Space

Type of Project: Donated Conservation Easement



In June of 2013 NMLC completed an easement over 288 acres of land in the foothills of the Sangre de Cristo mountains adjacent to the Santa Fe National Forest in San Miguel County. This property, affectionately called “Creeky Springs” after an old bedspring that was discovered in the creek, is owned by the Forest Trust, a nonprofit land trust based in Santa Fe. The Forest Trust holds a conservation easement over approximately 2,500 acres south of Creeky Springs, so with the completion of this new easement, NMLC and The Forest Trust have together permanently conserved a large buffer of land adjacent to the Santa Fe National Forest.

The property is bisected by Sebadilla Creek, a semi-perennial stream that feed a tributary of the Pecos River. The creek which supports an impressive stand of willows, cottonwoods, and other wetland vegetation that provides excellent habitat for numerous bird species, elk, bear, and other wildlife. Open meadows and mixed piñon-juniper-ponderosa pine forest round out the diversity of habitat on Creeky Springs. NMLC was pleased to partner with Henry Carey and the Forest Trust to conserve this special place. ■

SOUTHWEST NEW MEXICO: THE MIMBRES WATERSHED



Size: 1,010 acres

Location: Grant & Luna Counties

Ecoregion: Chihuahuan Desert

Conservation Values: Wildlife Habitat & Scenic Open Space

Type of Project: Facilitated Acquisition

RIVER RANCH

Photo Courtesy of Mark Watson

With generous funding from the Turner Foundation and Element Power, NMLC continued to work throughout 2013 on the development of two important conservation projects located at opposite ends of the Mimbres River watershed in southwestern New Mexico.

The River Ranch project is the continuation of an effort that we started three years ago along the lower end of the Mimbres River near City of Rocks State Park. The River Ranch includes a two-mile stretch of the Mimbres River which sustains a remarkable cottonwood and ash gallery forest and several hundred acres of native Sacaton grassland that provide habitat for

deer, javelina, turkey, and numerous species of raptors and other birds, many of which are state and federally listed. In 2010, we entered into an option agreement to purchase a conservation easement over the entire 1,010 acres of this ranch and to subsequently sell the ranch to a public agency. With funding from the New Mexico State Forestry Division we completed the purchase of a conservation easement over the ranch in 2011.

In 2014, NMLC will work with the New Mexico Department of Game & Fish to facilitate their acquisition of the River Ranch, which will ultimately become a new wildlife management area for New Mexico. ■



Size: 910 acres

Location: Grant County

Ecoregion: AZ/NM Mountains

Conservation Values: Wildlife Habitat & Scenic Open Space

Type of Project: Donated Conservation Easement

ANCHETA SPRINGS RANCH

The Ancheta Springs Ranch property comprises 910 acres in the foothills of the Mimbres Mountains northeast of San Lorenzo and consists of mixed piñon-juniper-oak woodland and desert scrubland that provides habitat for a variety of wildlife, including elk, deer, turkey, javelina, and several species of raptors and other birds. The project involves working with the landowners to complete a conservation easement over their entire property and then continue ongoing restoration work along Ancheta Creek, approximately two miles of which runs through the property on its way down to the Mimbres River. The landowners have indicated that, if NMLC can obtain funding to

cover the associated transactional and stewardship costs, they will donate the conservation easement.

For the past two years we have been actively working to secure funding for both of these projects. In early 2012, we were very excited to learn about a new source of funding for restoration and land protection that had come about as a result of a recent settlement between the state, represented by the New Mexico Office of Natural Resources Trustee (ONRT); the U.S. Department of Interior, represented by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS); and the Freeport-McMoRan Corporation (FMC), an international

SOUTHWEST NEW MEXICO & THE MIMBRES WATERSHED

mining company operating in southwestern New Mexico.

The settlement included \$5,500,000 in funding for the restoration of wildlife and wildlife habitat, and the transfer to New Mexico State Parks of 715 acres of conservation land adjacent to City of Rocks State Park, located north of Deming in southwestern New Mexico. The purpose of the settlement was to offset injuries to wildlife and habitat resulting from the release of hazardous substances from FMC's Chino, Tyrone and Cobre mine facilities in southwestern New Mexico.

As part of the process of preparing the required environmental assessment and restoration plan, ONRT and USFWS solicited project ideas from local, state, and federal agencies; nonprofit organizations; and private citizens. Proposed projects had to demonstrate how they would either restore, rehabilitate, replace, or acquire the equivalent of wildlife and wildlife habitat resources that were injured by the release of hazardous substances from the three FMC mine facilities.

NMLC took advantage of this unique opportunity and worked with the landowners, the New Mexico

Department of Game & Fish, and the USFWS Partners in Wildlife Program to develop and submit preliminary proposals for both the River Ranch and Ancheta Springs projects. In November 2013, we learned that our collective efforts had paid off - of the 21 projects submitted for consideration, seven priority projects were identified for funding including both of our projects.

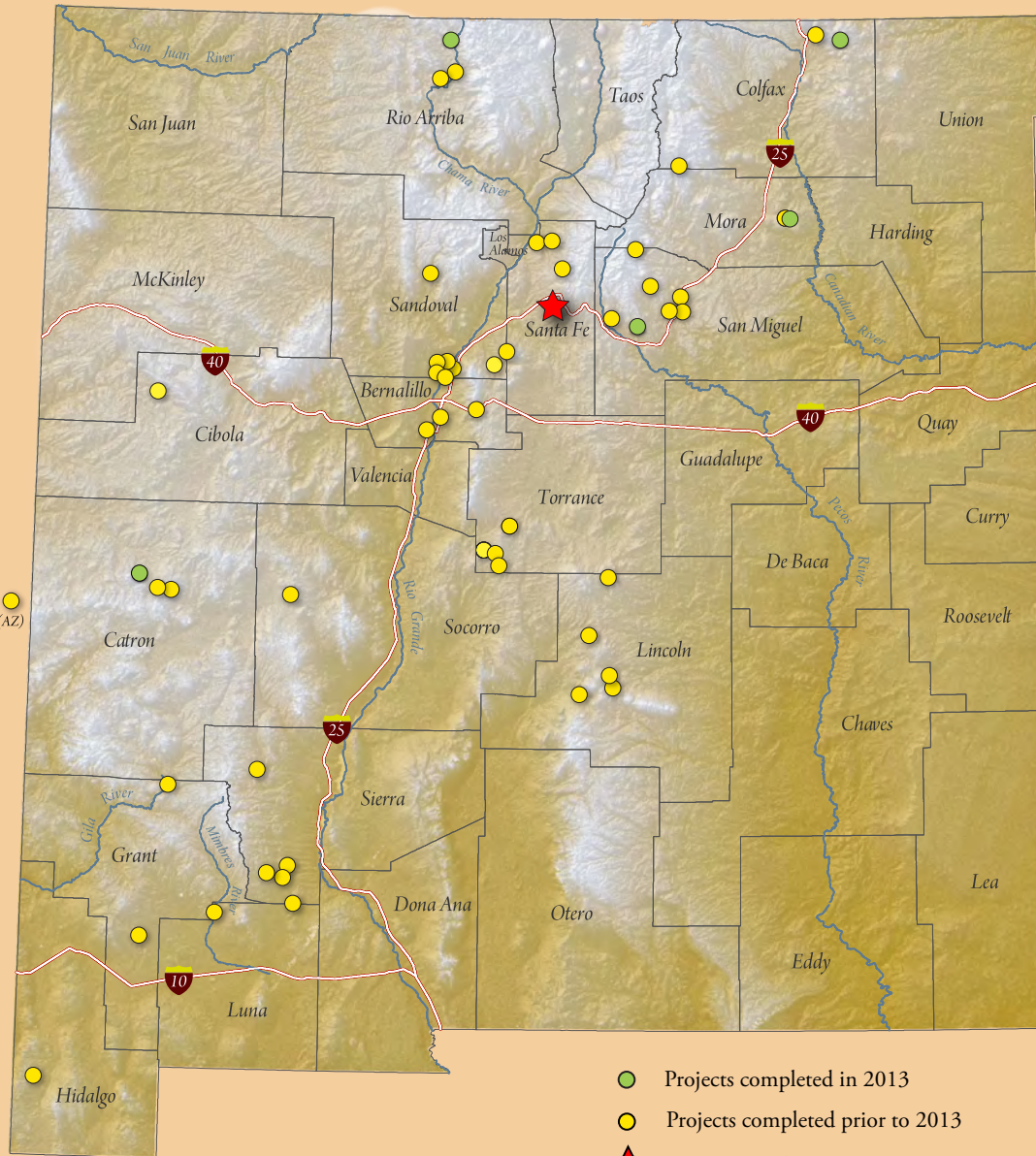
In a press release issued by ONRT and USFWS, New Mexico Natural Resources Trustee Ryan Flynn said, "We worked closely with stakeholders to identify these solutions. All of the projects evaluated were suggested by stakeholders involved in the restoration project identification process. The projects will benefit our wildlife resources in New Mexico far into the future." "These habitat restoration projects paid for with the settlement funds from Freeport McMoRan will benefit a wide range of wildlife," added Benjamin Tuggle, Southwest Regional Director for USFWS. "Working with the state and numerous stakeholders, we have been able to address past practices that damaged wildlife habitat, and are now moving to mitigate that damage." ■



COMPLETED CONSERVATION PROJECTS

2002 - 2013

127,000 acres of significant wildlife habitat, productive agricultural land & scenic open space conserved



SPRING & FALL CELEBRATIONS OF LAND CONSERVATION

This spring, we celebrated Earth Day and agricultural land conservation with our good friends from the Village of Corrales. On a beautiful Sunday afternoon, we gathered with landowners, interested residents, Village staff and members of the Corrales Farmland Preservation Committee at the historic San Ysidro Church to talk about conservation easements, and past and present farmland preservation efforts within Corrales.

Participants also had an opportunity to tour the Casa San Ysidro across the street for a private viewing of the house and the Spanish colonial and New Mexican artifacts housed there. The “Casa,” which once belonged to descendants of Don Felipe Gutierrez (recipient of the Bernalillo Township Grant in 1704), was acquired by Ward and Shirley Minge in 1952. For the next two

years, they completely restored the house and then continued to add on additions through the late 1960s to house the ever-increasing collection of artifacts. In 1997, the Albuquerque Museum acquired the San Ysidro collection through a combination of donation and purchase, and then the Minges subsequently donated the house and land, after placing the latter under a conservation easement with NMLC and the Village to ensure that the agricultural fields surrounding the house and forming part of the larger view shed for the entire complex, including the church, would remain as scenic open space and could never be developed.

Many thanks to Sayre Gerhart for sponsoring the event, and to John Perea and his wife for providing the delicious New Mexican buffet. ■



Western was the theme for NMLC's fall Celebration of Land Conservation in New Mexico, which was held on November 8th at the Farmers' Market Pavilion in Santa Fe's Railyard Park. Ranchers and other private landowners, agency and non-profit representatives, members of the business community, elected officials and hopefuls, and general supporters – totaling approximately 175 guests at the peak – all came out, many in boots and hats, to show their support for NMLC's statewide land conservation efforts and to honor this year's recipient of the Jane Wing Petchesky Conservation Award. Opening remarks were made by Hampton Sides, Santa Fe's own local, award-winning and best-selling author of *Blood and Thunder* and several other notable works of historical non-fiction.

This year, NMLC presented its conservation award to fourth-generation rancher and conservationist Jim Winder of the Lake Valley area of southwest New Mexico. As co-founder and past chairman of the Quivira Coalition, former board member for the New Mexico Chapter of The Nature Conservancy and former executive committee member for the Rio Grande Chapter of the Sierra Club, Jim has been involved with many collaborative conservation initiatives aimed at bringing diverse groups of stakeholders together to

address complex conservation issues. In recent years, Jim and NMLC partnered in a number of innovative conservation development projects (including the Verde Heritage Ranches) combining development, ranching, and the protection of over 15,000 acres of wildlife habitat and scenic open space. Today, he and his wife Katrina are back on the home ranch operating Beck Land & Cattle Company, which conducts farming, ranching and conservation activities on three ranches in the Lake Valley area totaling 55,000 acres.

The event included a live auction, showcasing a variety of interesting items and unique local "experiences" from around our beautiful state, donated by generous supporters of our cause. Syd Masters and the Swing Riders capped off the night with their lively country western music, which inspired several rounds of dancing until we finally had to call it a night.

We want to thank all who attended and helped make this event a success, particularly our silent auction donors and sponsors. We hope to see you all again next year when we plan to do it all over again at our own Petchesky Conservation Center in Santa Fe on October 4, 2014. ■

The Jane Wing Petchesky Conservation Award is given annually by NMLC to an individual, organization or public agency for outstanding contributions to land or natural resource conservation in New Mexico. The award is given in honor of Jane Wing Petchesky (1921–2011), a long-time Santa Fe resident who was committed to open space preservation, water conservation, community service and philanthropy in support of these causes. In 2009, Jane donated her house and 282 acres of land to NMLC – renamed the Petchesky Conservation Center in her honor – which now serves both as the headquarters for our statewide operations as well as a community resource center.

PCC NATURE TRAIL & LAND RESTORATION

The biggest development at the Petchesky Conservation Center (PCC) this year was the completion of a one-mile loop nature trail, built with the generous support of a PNM 30th Anniversary Grant. The trail meanders through the piñon pines, junipers, yuccas and grama grasses of the Petchesky Ranch. With views of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains to the northeast, the Jemez Mountains to the northwest, and the Ortiz and Sandias to the south, this trail offers visitors a taste of the wide open spaces of New Mexico.



We were fortunate to work with Reineke Construction on the layout and building of the trail, which was designed to minimize disturbance of the landscape. Volunteers from the Trails Alliance of Santa Fe and neighbors from the community college district

worked hard to put the finishing touches on the trail by hand last fall. Our new trail is open to the public 9am-5pm Monday through Friday. We hope to see you out here! ■

WYSS FOUNDATION SCHOLARS RETREAT



In August, we were honored to host the annual retreat for the Wyss Scholars Program at the Petchesky Conservation Center. A program of the Wyss Foundation, the program provides scholarships for graduate-level education to a future generation of land conservation leaders in the Intermountain West. Wyss Scholars learn the latest in conservation science and policy and then hopefully apply that knowledge in careers at land management agencies and nonprofit conservation groups. This year the retreat included students from Northern Arizona University, the University of Michigan, the University of Montana and Yale. ■

NMLC ACHIEVEMENTS

	<i>2012</i>	<i>2013</i>
Conservation projects completed by year	4	5
Conservation easements completed since 2002	53	58
Acres conserved by year	14,287	12,581
Total acres conserved since 2002	114,997	127,577
Total square miles conserved since 2002	179	199
Value of CEs donated by landowners by year	\$ 2,268,000	\$3,167,000
Total value of CEs donated by landowners since 2002	\$35,877,465	\$39,044,465
Public funds raised for CE and fee acquisition by year	\$ 0	\$995,000
Total public funds raised for CE and fee acquisition since 2002	\$ 5,992,935	\$6,987,935

LAND TRUST ACCREDITATION

As an important part of the accreditation process, the Land Trust Accreditation Commission is inviting public input and will accept signed, written comments on NMLC's pending application. Comments must specifically relate to how NMLC complies with the Land Trust Alliance Standards and Practices. For the full list of standards see www.landtrustaccreditation.org/tips-and-tools/indicator-practices.

To learn more about the accreditation program or to submit a comment, visit www.landtrustaccreditation.org. You can email your comment to info@landtrustaccreditation.org. Comments may also be submitted to: Land Trust Accreditation Commission, Attn: Public Comments, 36 Phila St., Suite 2, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866; or faxed to 518-587-3183. Comments on NMLC's application will be most useful by June 1, 2014. ■

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



Joseph R. Montoya, Chair, Santa Fe, NM

Joseph is a native New Mexican with family roots in Mora and Santa Fe. He is currently Deputy Director of Programs at the New Mexico Mortgage Finance Authority. Previously, he served as Executive Director of the Albuquerque Civic Trust. Joseph's background is in community planning and affordable housing. He holds a B.A. in University Studies and Architecture from the University of New Mexico.



Dale Armstrong, Treasurer, Albuquerque, NM

Dale was born and raised on a ranch in Quemado, NM. Over the past three decades, he has grown TLC Plumbing & Utility from a one-man shop into one of the premier service companies in the state with over 300 employees. He and his wife Gail have four children, four grandchildren and operate a cattle ranch in Magdalena.



Moo Thorpe, Secretary, Santa Fe, NM

Moo, a native of Santa Fe, is a real estate broker with Sotheby's International Realty. During her career, she has marketed and developed several successful communities in Santa Fe and Northern New Mexico. She and her husband Marc built an authentic adobe home where she lives with her two children and many pets. She holds a B.A. in Geography from Middlebury College in Vermont.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Deanna Archuleta, Board Member, Albuquerque, NM

Deanna owns a consulting firm specializing in government outreach focusing on water and energy. She was formerly a Senior Advisor on Cultural & Historic Preservation and also served as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Water and Science in the U.S. Department of the Interior, where she oversaw the Bureau of Reclamation and the Geological Survey. Deanna earned a B.A. in Sociology & Communications from the University of Washington, an M.A. in Sociology from UNM, and is currently finishing her doctoral degree in Sociology at UNM.



Claudette Horn, Board Member, Albuquerque, NM

Claudette is an Environmental Manager at PNM Resources. She has served on the United Way of Central New Mexico Women in Philanthropy Council. Claudette holds a B.A. in University Studies from the University of New Mexico.



Anthony L. (Tony) Benson, Past Chair & Founding Board Member, Taos, NM

Tony is a retired geologist who serves as an Adjunct Professor at UNM-Taos and a member of the Board of Supervisors of the Taos Soil and Water Conservation District. He is also a Board member of the Taos Land Trust, New Mexico Society for Range Management, New Mexico Association of Conservation Districts, BLM Resource Advisory Council, and the New Mexico Geological Society Foundation. Tony earned his B.S., M.S. and PhD degrees in geology from Ohio State University.



John F. (Jack) McCarthy, Board Member, Santa Fe, NM

Jack McCarthy, a native of Taos, is an attorney practicing with the firm of Cuddy & McCarthy, LLP, in Santa Fe. He is Past President of the New Mexico State Bar and the New Mexico Bar Foundation, and has extensive experience on the boards of non-profit organizations. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from St. Benedict's College and a law degree from the University of New Mexico.



Sayre Gerhart, Board Member, Corrales, NM

Sayre is an architect with Architectural Research Consultants in Albuquerque who has been active in land-use planning and land conservation issues for many years. She served as councilor and Mayor Pro Tem for the Village of Corrales, where she initiated, funded and implemented projects focused on issues such as land use and preservation of farmland and wildlife habitat. Sayre holds a B.A. from Princeton University and an M.A. in Architecture from the University of Pennsylvania.



Alan Overton, Board Member, Santa Fe, NM

Alan is a Senior Vice-President and Commercial Lender with Century Bank in Santa Fe. He has 30-years of commercial banking experience and has worked with property owners in southwest Colorado on banking transactions involving conservation easements. Alan has a B.A. in Business Administration & Finance from the University of Houston.



Cullen Hallmark, Board Member, Santa Fe, NM

Cullen is an attorney with the Santa Fe firm of Garber and Hallmark, P.C. He is an experienced cyclist, backpacker, river runner, cross-country skier, and gardener. He has been a member of the Quivira Coalition for ten years, and manages its Red Canyon Reserve in Socorro County. He holds a B.A. from St. John's College and a J.D. from the University of Texas.



Elizabeth H. Richardson, Founding Board Member, Los Angeles, CA

Elizabeth worked for Colorado Open Lands, a statewide land trust, for ten years and served on the Board of the Colorado Coalition of Land Trusts for twelve. She continues to be actively involved in the land trust movement by volunteering for the Southern California Council of Land Trusts. Elizabeth holds a B.A. from Radcliffe College, a M.P.A. from University of Southern California, and an M.B.A. in Finance from University of Denver.

BOARD ADVISORS



Sid Goodloe, Board Advisor, Capitan, NM

Sid has been owner-operator of the Carrizo Valley Ranch for more than five decades. He is a Board member of the Quivira Coalition and of the New Mexico Cattle Growers Association, a founding member of the New Mexico Riparian Council and an international livestock consultant. Sid has a B. S. in Animal Science and a M.S. in Range Science from Texas A & M University.



John B. (Jack) Wright, Former Chair & Board Advisor, Las Cruces, NM

Jack has been professor of geography at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces since 1990. He served on the NMLC Board of Directors from 2002 through 2011 and was Chair for nine of those years. He has consulted in the land trust field for 30 years and has designed more than 100 conservation easements in New Mexico, Colorado, Wyoming and Montana. Jacks has earned three degrees in geography: a B.A. from the University of Massachusetts, a M.A. from the University of Montana and a PhD from the University of California at Berkeley.

STAFF



J. Scott Wilber, Executive Director

Scott has over 25 years of experience working in natural resource management, land conservation and community development throughout the Rocky Mountain West and Latin America. He joined NMLC in 2004 as Conservation Director and was named Executive Director in 2006. Previously, he worked for The Trust for Public Land, Colorado Open Lands, The Nature Conservancy, the Tropical Forest Foundation, and the U.S. Forest Service. He holds a B.S. in Forest Management from Northern Arizona University, and an M.A. in Geography and Latin American Studies from the University of New Mexico.



Beth Mills, Conservation Director

Beth previously worked as a senior planner for many years with Santa Fe County's Open Space and Trails Program and as a Land Use Planner/Project Manager with the Sonoran Institute in southwestern Colorado. With a background in cultural geography, Beth is particularly interested in the relationships between communities and their environment. Beth earned her PhD in Geography from the University of California, an M.A. in Geography from the University of New Mexico, and a B.A. in English from Wesleyan.



Kris Murpbey, Communications & Organizational Development Manager

Kris has worked for more than two decades in non-profit management, for organizations ranging from a non-profit news service to a university training center to a family foundation. She joined NMLC in 2007 as a part-time office manager. Kris holds a B.A. in Linguistics from the University of California at Berkeley.



Lisa Adkins, Finance & Administration Manager

Lisa has more than 20 years of experience providing support in various areas of business and finance, and previously worked for many years at the Los Alamos National Laboratory. She earned a B.A. in Accounting and a M.B.A. from the College of Santa Fe. She has a passion for land conservation, as her father was one of the first Hispanic park superintendents for the National Park Service, and she spent her childhood visiting and living in national parks.



Ariel Patashnik, Conservation Specialist, Earth Care AmeriCorps Cadre

Ariel grew up in San Diego, lived for six years in Connecticut, and has been lucky enough to land internships and seasonal jobs in Oregon, Washington, Wyoming, and now New Mexico. She earned her B.A. in Environmental Studies from Yale University and her Masters in Environmental Management from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies.

TRANSITIONS

2013 was a year of staff and board changes at NMLC...

We started the year without a Conservation Director because, after five years of dedicated service, Michael Scisco decided to move on to pursue new opportunities in conservation consulting with Unique Places Southwest based in Albuquerque. Coming to us in 2008 with a strong background in GIS and conservation easement stewardship, Michael became a highly effective project manager who helped us double our land protection efforts on the ground. He was also instrumental in helping us professionalize our easement stewardship program, including baseline assessment, monitoring and legal defense. We are glad that Michael has not left the state and continues to support our statewide conservation planning and land protection efforts as a private consultant.

At the end of the year, we found ourselves saying goodbye to another long-time employee, Kris Murphey, our Communications & Operations Manager. Kris

joined NMLC in 2007, originally as its office manager, and over time took on a number of important roles at the organization, ranging from communications to organizational development. Perhaps, most importantly, in her final two years of service, Kris was instrumental in moving our strategic planning forward and helping us develop the prerequisite policies, procedures and systems to position us for applying for professional accreditation. Kris has moved on to a new non-profit opportunity in northern California, working with at-risk youth, but continues to check in and cheerlead from a distance as we embark on the final stage of the accreditation process in 2014.

At the end of the year, we also welcomed three new members to the NMLC board: Alan Overton, a senior vice-president with Century Bank in Santa Fe; Claudette Horn, an environmental manager at PNM Resources in Albuquerque; and Deanna Archuleta, an environmental consultant in Albuquerque. (See board bios on p. 25).



FINANCIALS

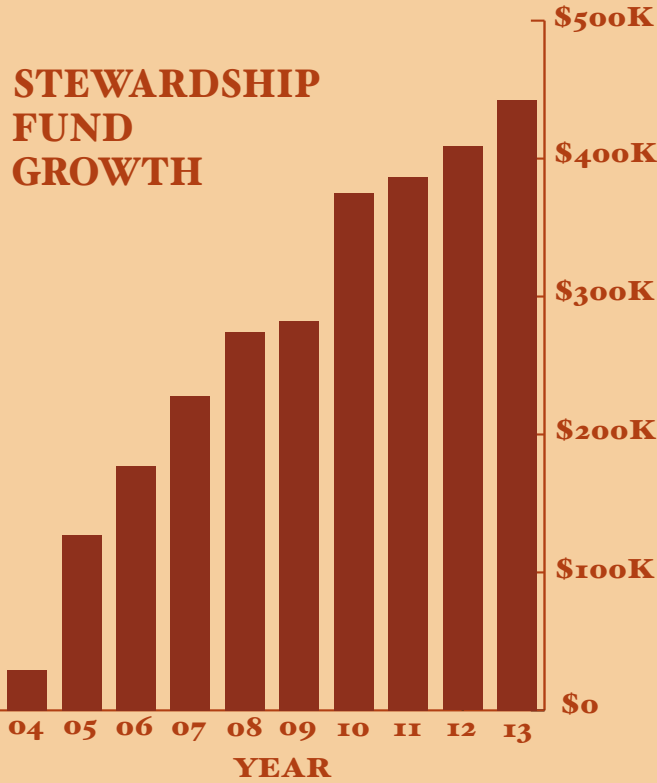
Statements of Financial Position - June 30, 2012 & 2013

Assets	2012	2013
Cash	\$160,732	\$120,969
Promises to give	\$138,833	\$52,850
Prepaid expenses	\$5,107	\$7,254
Land, building and equipment	\$1,364,311	\$1,267,940
Stewardship fund	\$408,744	\$442,672
Deferred loan cost	\$5,682	\$4,969
Total Assets	\$2,083,409	\$1,896,654

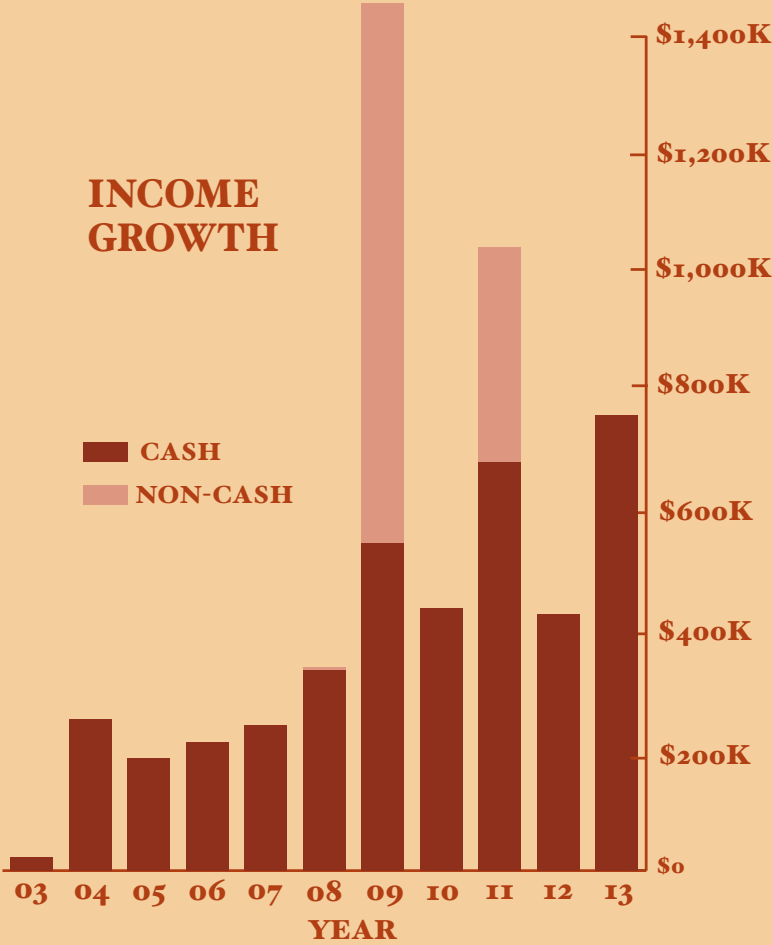
Net Assets	2012	2013
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$1,588,862	\$1,477,842
Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	\$145,433	\$53,350
Permanently Restricted Net Assets	\$0	\$0
Total Net Assets	\$1,734,295	\$1,531,192
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$2,083,409	\$1,896,654

Liabilities	2012	2013
Accounts payable	\$14,648	\$37,068
Accrued expenses	\$8,892	\$8,198
Line of Credit	\$100,000	\$100,000
Current maturities of mortgage payable	\$5,381	\$5,682
Mortgage payable, less current maturities	\$220,193	\$214,514
Total liabilities	\$349,114	\$365,462

STEWARDSHIP FUND GROWTH

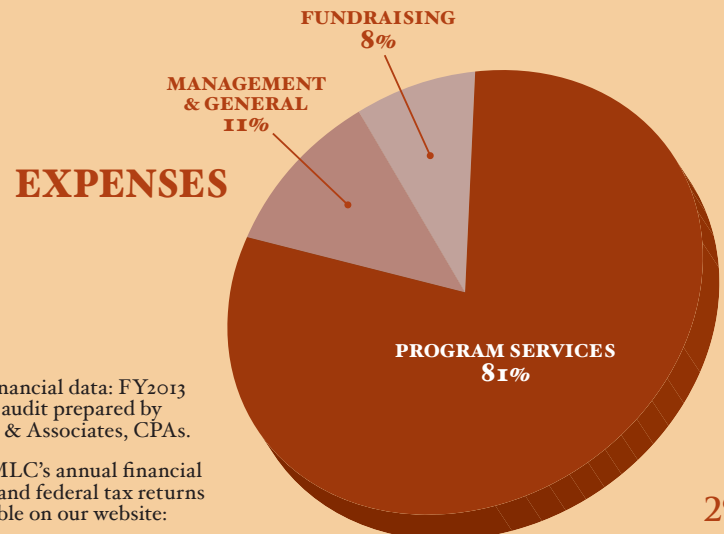
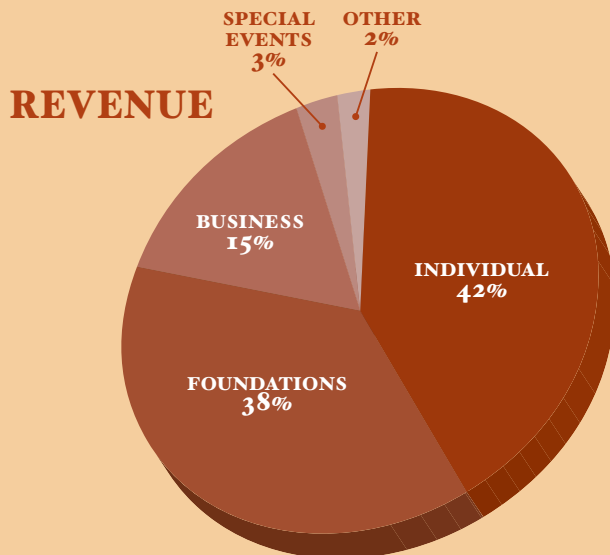


INCOME GROWTH



Statement of Activities - 2012 & 2013

	2012			2013		
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Unrestricted	TOTAL	Unrestricted	Temporarily Unrestricted	TOTAL
Support and Revenue						
Individual Contributions	\$158,656	\$69,500	\$228,156	\$202,150	\$46,600	\$248,750
Business Donations	\$30,598		\$30,598	\$97,979		\$97,979
Private Foundation Grants	\$45,089	\$30,000	\$75,089	\$74,750	\$180,750	\$255,500
Land and In-kind Contributions	\$21,697		\$21,697	\$31,886		\$31,886
Special Events	\$11,249		\$11,249	\$21,510		\$21,510
Interest Income	\$2,296		\$2,296	\$2,404		\$2,404
Other Income	\$4,618		\$4,618	\$14,065		\$14,065
Net Assets Restriction Release	\$155,167	(\$155,167)	\$0	\$319,433	(\$319,433)	\$0
Total Support and Revenue	\$429,370	(\$55,667)	\$373,703	\$764,177	(\$92,083)	\$672,094
Expenses						
Program Services	\$474,568		\$474,568	\$643,825		\$643,825
Management and General	\$86,349		\$86,349	\$87,850		\$87,850
Fundraising	\$52,152		\$52,152	\$63,522		\$63,522
Total Expenses	\$613,069		\$613,069	\$795,197		\$795,197
Net Assets, Beginning of year	\$1,772,561	\$201,100	\$1,973,661	\$1,588,862	\$145,433	\$1,734,295
Net Assets, End of year	\$1,588,862	\$145,433	\$1,734,295	\$1,477,842	\$53,350	\$1,531,192
Change in Net Assets	(\$183,699)	(\$55,667)	(\$239,366)	(\$111,020)	(\$92,083)	(\$203,103)



Source of financial data: FY2013 financial audit prepared by Barraclough & Associates, CPAs.

Copies of NMLC's annual financial audit reports and federal tax returns are available on our website:

www.nmlandconservancy.org

DONORS

Pioneer (\$25,000+)

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Moore Land & Cattle Co.
New Cycle Foundation
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Kevin Sweazea
Verde Heritage Ranch, LLC

Leader (\$10,000 - \$24,999)

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Henry Carey
Intermountain Conservation Trust
McCune Charitable Trust
New Mexico Tax Credit Alliance
PNM Resources Foundation
Turner Foundation

Benefactor (\$5,000 - \$9,999)

Ducks Unlimited
Hamilton Barksdale Brown
Anonymous
PNM Resources

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and Livable Communities, Inc.

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Marc and Maren Talbert

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Joann Ruppert
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Larry Brown
Rachel Burnett
Brian Cooke
Sanja Degarmo
Anita Dunmar

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Barbara Lee Fall
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Renate Zinn

FALL CELEBRATION OF LAND CONSERVATION EVENT

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Ute Creek Cattle Company
Ranch, Bueyeros
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Photo Courtesy of Mark Watson

Planned Giving to NMLC

NMLC works to conserve land in perpetuity. You can help ensure that the legacy you leave enables us to continue preserving the land you love by making a "planned gift."

The term "Planned Giving" refers to ways that you can leave money or assets to NMLC through your estate planning, or invest your money so that you receive benefits during your lifetime and then bequeath the remaining funds to NMLC. It includes a variety of financial instruments that can be adapted to your specific needs and goals.

There are many ways you can support NMLC without affecting your current financial goals or your family's security.

- You can make a gift that costs you nothing during your lifetime by designating NMLC as a beneficiary in your will or life insurance policy.*
- You can give assets from your retirement plan that might otherwise be subject to double-taxation.*
- You can take advantage of a gift of stock or appreciated assets and avoid incurring capital gains tax.*
- You can donate land or give an asset you no longer need or want and allow NMLC to convert it into cash to conserve high conservation value lands around the state.*

Please contact your financial advisors, and then call us at 505-986-3801 to discuss ways a charitable bequest or a significant gift during your lifetime can help ensure that New Mexico remains the Land of Enchantment for future generations to enjoy.

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info@nmlandconservancy.org
www.nmlandconservancy.org

NEW MEXICO
LAND CONSERVANCY

Conserving Land. Preserving Heritage.