

GREG MOORE RECEIVES PETCHESKY CONSERVATION AWARD

NMLC was pleased to give this year's Petchesky Conservation Award to long-time rancher and innovative land steward, Greg Moore. Greg, who recognized the threat of subdivision and development facing agricultural communities across the West, worked with NMLC to place his entire 23,000 acre Wagon Mound Ranch in northeastern New Mexico under conservation easements. Greg, who inspires by example, has become a strong advocate for private land conservation among the local ranching community.

Greg grew up in southeast Texas, earned a Bachelor of Science degree through Texas A&M University in 1968 and served as a member of the historic Corps of Cadets. Never far from the land, he has held numerous leadership positions within the agricultural community. He was a 20-year board member for the New Mexico Cattle Growers' Association where he served as an officer and chaired various committees. He served on the Advancement Board for the A&M Press and as Regional Vice President & Executive Committee member of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association. He has been the recipient of numerous stewardship awards over the years, including an "Excellence in Grazing" award from the Soil Conservation Service and an "Excellence in Range Management" award from the Society for Range Management. In addition, he has been featured in several agricultural publications.

Today, the place Greg calls home is a spectacular ranch that boasts shortgrass prairie, piñon-juniper woodland and ponderosa pine at higher elevations. He purchased the spread from his father in 1972 which includes Carrizo Creek, a tributary of the Canadian River. True to his stewardship values, Greg uses sustainable grazing practices and rotates cattle among 20 different pastures. He has also designated several areas as protected wildlife sanctuaries and undertaken habitat improvement projects, particularly along



Greg Moore on Wagon Mound Ranch

the creek. The sanctuaries, in particular, have become critical to restoring the riparian areas – in some places producing wetlands where there had once been only bare rock. His tireless work paid off during the summer of 2014, when the long drought ended and the ranch exploded with diverse native grasses and forbs, the best production in many years.

Greg is dedicated to maintaining a healthy ecosystem on his property. "I like to think of myself as more of a practical resource manager than just a rancher," Moore noted. "There is a balance

(continued on page 4)

NMLC Board, Advisors & Staff

A MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTOR

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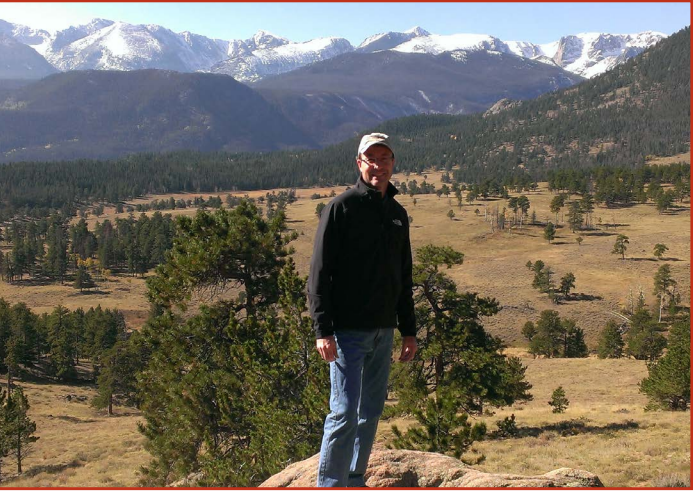
Dear Friends,

Since its founding, NMLC has always been a lean organization and run a tight ship, considering we are a statewide land trust trying to serve the diverse private land conservation needs of the fifth largest state in the nation.

Up until the first part of this year, we had operated with a staff of four, a board of eight members and a handful of advisors. After three solid years of fundraising and organization development, culminating with our accreditation earlier this year, we decided that it was time to make an investment in expanding our staff and board.

To that end, we took the step of creating and filling three new positions. This past spring, we welcomed Elizabeth Temple, our new Development Coordinator; Ron Troy, our new Southern New Mexico Project Manager; and Connor Jandreau, our new Stewardship Coordinator. With the departure of Lisa Adkins, we are also in the process of recruiting a new office manager and hope to have that position filled by the end of November.

Elizabeth will be helping us expand our development work, which includes fundraising as well as organizational capacity building. With Ron, for the first time we will have a dedicated staff person for southern New Mexico. We have been working down south for a long time and have already helped conserve over 100,000 acres of land in that region of the state. With a permanent presence in southern New Mexico, we expect to expand our network, deepen existing relationships and build more local support for our efforts. Finally, Connor will be coordinating our easement stewardship program, which includes annual monitoring, technical support and legal defense. With 65 easements comprising 150,000 acres of land around the state, this has become a fulltime job in and of itself. Connor will be supported by the conservation staff and seasonal interns.



In addition, as part of building our capacity, we have been actively recruiting new board members. This summer, we were very excited to have three new members join the board: Tessa Davidson, an attorney based in Corrales specializing in water rights; Lawrence Rael, a retired civil servant and government administrator from Los Ranchos; and Judy Suiter, an environmental planner from Albuquerque. All of these new people bring knowledge, skills, networks and relationships that will be invaluable to our organization as we move forward.

While no growth comes without some adjustment, we are confident that we have made the right decision and that this investment in our internal capacity will lead to even more conservation successes, and ensure that we are a well guided and supported non-profit organization going into the future. As we wrap up another successful year, we hope you enjoy the change of seasons and wish you all happy holidays... ❖

Gratefully yours,

Scott

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

Margaret Meade

4TH ANNUAL CORAZÓN DE LA TIERRA: A CELEBRATION OF LAND CONSERVATION

(continued from cover page)

that needs to be maintained – but, basically, if you take care of your land and grass it benefits the wildlife, and what’s good for wildlife is also going to be good for your livestock.” His practical management approach aims to turn seemingly “negatives” into “positives” – such as the possibility of reintroducing endangered black-footed ferrets onto his ranch with the assistance of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Honoring a centuries old symbiotic relationship between the ferret and the prairie dog, colonies can benefit the soil and help create habitat for more than 100 other species.

The grasslands of northeastern New Mexico offer exciting potential for large-scale conservation of private lands due to ranches like Wagon Mound that act as wildlife migration corridors and practice sustainable grazing operations. Thanks to Greg’s foresight and generosity, the Wagon Mound Ranch project is a



great step forward for land conservation in northeast New Mexico. We at NMLC are thrilled to have honored our good friend and committed conservationist, Greg Moore, with the 2015 Jane Wing Petchesky Conservation Award. ❖

Storm clouds broke just in time for blue skies to usher in NMLC’s annual *Corazón de la Tierra* – a country fair event celebrating 13 years of land conservation in New Mexico. Held on Saturday, October 3rd, at the Petchesky Conservation Center in Santa Fe, the festive outdoor event was attended by more than 100 dedicated conservationists, agricultural stewards, business sponsors and individual supporters.

Old friends and new mingled under carnival tents enjoying fair-inspired hors d’oeuvres, fine spirits, and midway games – all in a bluegrass-infused atmosphere, thanks to the lively playing by Higher Ground Bluegrass band. After a western-style meal, NMLC presented a program featuring: Dr. Larry Butler, host of *Out On The Land* – a television series that highlights conservation practices on farms and ranches across America; Sid Goodloe, Carrizo Valley rancher and holistic resource manager, NMLC advisor, and founder of the Southern Rockies Agricultural Land Trust; and Scott Wilber, NMLC Executive Director. The highlight of the evening, however, was the presentation of the 4th annual Jane Wing Petchesky Conservation Award to Wagon Mound rancher Greg Moore. Greg was honored with the award for his unwavering commitment to land conservation and stewardship, riparian restoration, and habitat enhancement over his 23,000-acre ranch near Wagon Mound, New Mexico.

The event, now in its fourth year, is our way of expressing gratitude to the many New Mexicans who value this land and our work. *Corazón de la Tierra* literally translates to “Heart of the Land” and exemplifies the vital connection between people and the land that



From left to right: Cullen Hallmark (NMLC Board Chair); Sid Goodloe (NMLC Board Advisor); Greg Moore (Rancher & PCA Recipient); and Scott Wilber (Executive Director, NMLC)

Each year NMLC gives out the Jane Wing Petchesky Conservation Award in honor of Jane Petchesky who left her home and 262-acre ranch to the New Mexico Land Conservancy. However, Jane Petchesky’s legacy to New Mexico is more than just land and buildings. She stands out as an example of a true community citizen who had both the foresight to see impending changes in the community long before they happened, and the commitment to stand up for the conservation of precious resources. In recognition of her legacy, Jane was named a Santa Fe Living Treasure in 2010. In 2012, NMLC inaugurated the award, which is given annually to an outstanding conservation leader in New Mexico.



sustains them. NMLC has worked collaboratively for the past 13 years with private landowners, community groups, public agencies and other partners to conserve working landscapes, scenic vistas, critical watersheds and habitat, as well as significant cultural and historical sites – all of which embody this extraordinary “Land of Enchantment.”

A deep heartfelt thanks from all of us at NMLC to our generous sponsors and to everyone who attended – whether in person or in spirit. Thank you for helping us celebrate another year of accomplishments, recognize our inspiring awardee, and uphold New Mexico’s unique natural and cultural heritage.

We hope you’ll continue with us as we progress toward our 25 year goal of conserving 1 million acres of high-conservation-value land throughout New Mexico! ❖

(continued on page 6)



THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS



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CONGRATULATIONS GABI!
Gabriele Morwinski, winner of the *Corazón de la Tierra* donated prize package:
A weekend of guided fly fishing on the Rio Chama at Trout Stalker Ranch!

Many thanks to Dan & Ashlyn Perry, owners of Trout Stalker Ranch, for their kind generosity.

A special thank you to Ken Adkins and Dr. Lenny Gannes for contributing the Corazon de la Tierra event photographs.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

BOYD FARMLAND

In June, Megan and Scott Chaskey, residents of Sag Harbor, New York, realized their dream of permanently protecting three critical acres of irrigated farmland in Corrales, New Mexico. The property is part of a larger 10 acre family holding that Megan and her brother inherited from their father, Blair Boyd. For Megan, the land holds fond childhood memories of summer vacations shared with her family along the Rio Grande. For both she and her husband, protecting this “place of the heart” is part of their ongoing work as organic farmers, local food movement supporters, and land trust advocates. The land is currently planted in a cover crop, but next season it will be brought back into food production by two organic farmers from the Corrales community.

This project was the latest of several projects completed by NMLC in partnership with the Village of Corrales through its Farmland

Preservation Program. Beginning in 2003, visionary residents of the historic Village of Corrales, just north of Albuquerque on the Rio Grande, made the decision to take action to protect some of the town’s critical farmland from residential development. The result of their forward thinking was the Corrales Farmland Preservation Program.

By 2005, the Village had overwhelmingly passed a bond measure to help fund the program. This was matched by funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture through the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Farm and Ranchland Protection Program. With NMLC’s support, the Corrales Farmland Preservation Program has protected almost 37 acres of prime soils and productive agricultural lands in Corrales through six different agricultural easement projects with local landowners. ❖



Boyd Farmland landowners: Scott and Megan Chaskey

TECOLOTE DE MESA PORTALES

Back in 1992, Dennis and Sue Umshler purchased 160 rugged acres southwest of the town of Cuba, along the Continental Divide. Since that time, the property, which includes dramatic views of the Nacimiento Mountains, the San Juan Basin, and the Rio Puerco, has provided them with a quiet retreat from city life in Albuquerque. Since purchasing the land, Dennis and Sue have worked hard to restore the fragile rangeland and conserve the desert ecosystem in order to improve the habitat for wildlife and

protect the numerous archaeological sites on the property. All this work has been a labor of love for this extraordinary place.

In the spring of 2015, the Umshlers approached NMLC about permanently protecting their beloved retreat. Conservation staff had the privilege of visiting the property and seeing firsthand the unique ecological values inherent in the land. With gratitude, NMLC has agreed to work with Sue and Dennis to permanently protect their property. The easement should be recorded in early 2016. ❖



NMLC Prepares to Accept Easements Transferred from The White Mountains Land Alliance & The Forest Trust

NMLC is proud to be working in collaboration with two land trusts in our region, The White Mountains Land Alliance from eastern Arizona and The Forest Trust, based in Santa Fe. Both of these organizations have asked NMLC to accept the transfer of easements from their conservation portfolios and to provide ongoing stewardship for easements which have been under their protection.

With support from The Nature Conservancy of Arizona, The White Mountains Land Alliance is planning to transfer over to NMLC its only conservation easement, located on the Anchor Ranch. In addition to a 10,000 acre forest allotment over the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest, this working cattle ranch includes 279 deeded acres of high-conservation-value land along the upper reaches of Eagle Creek, a tributary of the Gila River, in Greenlee County, Arizona. The protected land includes a rich riparian woodland along Eagle Creek that is potential habitat for several federally threatened and endangered species including the loach minnow, spikedace, bald eagle, Southwestern willow flycatcher, and the proposed Gila chub.

NMLC has also reached an agreement with The Forest Trust, the oldest land trust in New Mexico, to accept the transfer of five of their conservation easements in northern New Mexico in 2016. NMLC staff will be working with Henry Carey, founder of The Forest Trust, and the various landowners to negotiate these easement transfers so that the landowner’s needs are met and that the properties will be faithfully stewarded into the future. In total, these proposed easement transfers total 5,420 acres of high-value-conservation land in Rio Arriba, Mora, and San Miguel Counties. ❖

FEATURED PROJECT: BLUEWATER HERITAGE RANCH

PROTECTING A PART OF CIBOLA COUNTY'S HOMESTEAD HISTORY

The Nielson Family have been ranching and stewarding the family ranch along Bluewater Creek, northwest of Grants, NM since 1894. They first arrived as part of the Mormon migration to the Bluewater area late in the 19th century and set up a homestead claim. Originally, the family homestead was put together under the leadership of Frihoff Nielson, the great grandfather of Russ Nielson, who currently owns the Bluewater Heritage Ranch, in partnership with other family members. For the Nielson family, the 7,600 acre ranch on the northern slopes of the Zuni Mountains, represents a living heritage, a place to gather, to reconnect with the land and family history, and to celebrate.

The property is also managed as a working cattle ranch and in recent years the health of the range has benefited from grants from the Natural Resources Conservation Service's (NRCS) Conservation Stewardship Program. With help from NRCS, the Nielsons have been able to implement various soil restoration strategies, provide fencing for pastures that reflect best management practices for grazing, and install water tanks to service the new pasture configurations. In addition they have undertaken restoration of native trees in the riparian corridor of Bluewater Creek. The ranch also boasts a rich cultural history and numerous archaeological sites dating back to Anasazi culture that have been documented through archaeological surveys on the ranch.

Given the rich history of Bluewater Heritage Ranch, and the landowner's concern about stewardship for the land, the Nielson family approached NMLC this year to work with them on conserving the family property into the future. NMLC has begun our conservation partnership with them by working to place approximately 2,240 acres of the total 7,600 acres under a conservation easement. The easement should be completed by December 2015 and, once recorded, will protect the western third of the ranch from development. This portion of the ranch encompasses the mesa tops and canyons of the western flanks of the Zuni Mountains as well as several pastures, and many archaeological sites. There are spectacular views of Mount Taylor from the easement property. And the ranch provides the dramatic open space view toward the Zuni Mountains for travelers on Interstate 40. It is truly a spectacular property.

NMLC and the Nielsons hope to continue to partner with NRCS through their Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) to complete protection of the remaining 5,360 acres of the ranch, including the riparian corridor along Bluewater Creek, in the near future. NMLC has submitted a project proposal on behalf of the landowners to NRCS to support this work. We all hope that we will be able to move ahead with the next phase of this worthy project in the coming year.

NMLC feels privileged to be working with the Nielson family to achieve their vision of conservation and stewardship for their heritage ranch into the future. ❖

THE 2015 STEWARDSHIP SEASON & A LOOK AHEAD

Over the course of this summer and into fall, we the Conservation staff, with support from our seasonal intern, have been busy monitoring the lands under easement across our beautiful state, and found a plethora of energy in the soils, plants and animals, and I might add, people. It is very exciting to see conscious stewardship of land in action, whether it be the high country and plains of northeast New Mexico, the rich agricultural fields of the Rio Grande Valley, or the painted hills of the Black Range in southwestern New Mexico.

We have nearly wrapped up this stewardship season, and can definitively conclude once again our landowners take serious the notion that we share the pleasure and responsibility, if not the sweat, of ensuring healthy ecosystems under our feet, or hooves as it were. It was a good year for many, with abundant moisture, healthy grass, and a chance to recover more land from the tribulations of drought. We can only hope for a wet winter and the continuation of this trend ahead.

Speaking of the future, with the increased capacity of a full-time Stewardship Coordinator, we are excited to build stronger

relationships with landowners on the ground, whether in the form of restoration projects you have been pondering, or other ideas and visions that might need a little gitty-up. Let me know how I can help facilitate the next steps towards strengthening the conservation inroads already made.

I would like to take this moment also to generally greet all the landowners and introduce myself as the new Stewardship Coordinator. I look forward to meeting the folks I'm not acquainted with yet, and extend greetings to those I have already spent time with out on the land. To our landowners, if you haven't filled out that short survey attached to our recent Land Steward newsletter, [please consider adding your thoughts as we build our stewardship program to better fit your needs](#) and the needs of our shared responsibilities for the land. My line is always open, my ear always free.

Thanks,
Connor Jandreau
Stewardship Coordinator



Panoramic view on Bluewater Heritage Ranch



“Land, then, is not merely soil; it is a fountain of energy flowing through a circuit of soils, plants and animals.” – Aldo Leopold



STRIVING TO MAKE THE ENHANCED EASEMENT INCENTIVE PERMANENT

For nearly 40 years, private landowners who have donated a conservation easement have been able to claim a federal income tax deduction — an incentive that has been highly successful at encouraging private, voluntary land conservation around New Mexico and the country. In 2006, this incentive was significantly enhanced and has helped support the pace of land conservation in the U.S. which has increased by about 33%, exceeding one million acres per year. In New Mexico, NMLC and local land trusts have collectively protected more than 100,000 acres of land around the state since the enhanced incentive was established.

Unfortunately, Congress allowed the enhanced incentive to expire at the end of 2013 and it has since reverted back to much lower pre-2006 levels of deduction. With the incentive scaled back and its future uncertain, we’re missing opportunities to save more land. In many places, the pace of conservation has dropped by half!

Making the enhanced incentive permanent is a top priority for the Land Trust Alliance and its 1,600+ member land trusts. Across the country, land trusts have been building strong bipartisan support for this powerful and cost-effective incentive. Here, in New Mexico, the entire congressional delegation has come out in support of the enhanced incentive this year.

Why Do We Want Congress to Support the Enhanced Easement Incentive?

- **Land conservation benefits family farmers, ranchers, private landowners and people throughout the country.**
- **Tax incentives are a cost-effective way to protect land.** By encouraging donated easements, every dollar of tax incentives leverages \$2.80 worth of conservation.
- **The budget impact is small.** This incentive has widespread, lasting impact on land conservation, but only a minor impact on the federal budget—\$1.2 billion over ten years.

- **This incentive makes the tax system fairer.** The enhanced incentive allows working farmers and ranchers, as well as landowners with modest incomes, to realize more of the value of the tax deduction.
- **Easements are a voluntary, private-sector approach to conservation.** Landowners and community-supported nonprofits take the lead, rather than the government.

House Votes Yes, Bill Now in the Senate

The good news ... in February 2015, the House of Representatives voted to make the enhanced incentive permanent, passing the Conservation Easement Incentive Act by a supermajority of 279-127. This legislation was introduced in the house by Reps. Mike Kelley (R-PA) and Mike Thompson (D-CA) as H.R. 641. The House passed the bill as part of a package of legislation supporting America’s charities.

Now, we need to get the Senate to pass the bill. Sens. Dean Heller (R-NV) and Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) have introduced it as S. 330 — and they’ve asked land trusts to help enlist cosponsors. We are extremely pleased and grateful that both Sen. Tom Udall and Sen. Martin Heinrich have agreed to cosponsor this bill. We are hopeful that more Senators around the country will enlist so that this legislation passes, ideally, with a large majority to avoid any potential veto by the administration.

The entire land trust community in New Mexico and across the country has a huge stake in this legislation! If you get a chance, [please thank our congressional members for their support of this important effort.](#) ❖

BUILDING OUR PRESENCE IN SOUTHERN NEW MEXICO

As the only independent, statewide land trust in New Mexico, NMLC has been working in southern New Mexico since its inception. In fact, some of the oldest and largest easements we hold are located in the southern half of the state. Yet, being based out of Santa Fe, much of our work has been limited to a series of isolated and unrelated projects. Without an established physical presence, NMLC is still relatively unknown down south. But that is all beginning to change this year. In June, we hired Ron Troy as our new Southern New Mexico Project Manager. After spending the summer in the Santa Fe office getting to know the staff, the organization, and the way we work, Ron is now permanently based in Silver City. While Ron is working out of his home until we can establish an office, having a dedicated person based in the south should greatly enhance our conservation efforts in this part of the state.

Ron’s expansive territory will include all of the state south of I-40. Although the biologically rich Greater Gila region extending from Catron, Socorro and Sierra counties down to Grant and Luna counties is and will continue to be a primary focal area for NMLC, we are also very interested in expanding our work around the Zuni, San Mateo, Sacramento and Organ mountains, the Rio Hondo and lower Pecos watersheds, and the lower Rio Grande valley on both sides of Las Cruces down to the border.

We also see emerging opportunities to assist with land conservation in southeast Arizona, given its unique ecological environment and that it is currently underserved by the land trust community. We already hold one easement along Nutrioso Creek, a tributary of the Little Colorado River southwest of Springerville. Additionally, we are in the process of accepting another easement from the White Mountains Land Trust along Eagle Creek, a tributary of the Gila River in the rugged country below the Mogollon Rim further southwest of Springerville. We have also been approached to consider doing more work around the Chiricahua Mountains.

Our view is that conservation should not be limited by state boundaries, but based upon need and the capacity to deliver effective results to areas lacking the necessary support. We are grateful to the Turner Foundation who has been instrumental in helping us expand our presence in southern New Mexico, and whom with other supporters, has enabled us to protect over 100,000 acres in the region through a variety of wildlife, ranchland and cultural resource protection projects. By having a dedicated person in southern New Mexico, we hope to expand our capacity through the strategic use of conservation planning, outreach, and collaboration, with the ultimate goal of building an enduring and locally supported program for the southern half of our beautiful state. ❖



Ron Troy (left) and the East Fork Gila River.

New Board Members

MEET OUR NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Tessa Davidson

Tessa is a founding member of the Davidson Law Firm in Corrales, New Mexico, where the majority of her law practice focuses on water law issues. She is also an experienced mediator and settlement facilitator in the area of natural resource disputes. From 2013 to present, Tessa and her firm have been included in the Best Lawyers of America in Water Law. In 2015, Best Lawyers designated her “Attorney of the Year” in Water Law for the Albuquerque area, and chose her for inclusion in their 2015 Women Leaders in the Law.

Tessa is a fourth-generation New Mexican from a ranching family in southwestern New Mexico. She and her family continue to own and operate ranches and small farms throughout the state. She lives with her family in Corrales, NM.



Lawrence Rael

Lawrence’s roots run deep in New Mexico. He is a native New Mexican who grew up in the small town of Sile, NM with his six siblings. Lawrence has had a notable career as a public servant, starting off as the Deputy Secretary of Transportation for NM. He later served on the staff of Senator Jeff Bingaman in Washington, D.C., and then joined the city of Albuquerque, where he eventually assumed the role of Chief Administrative Officer under three different mayors. In 2012 he became the Executive Director for the Mid-Region Council of Governments, and later was appointed by President Obama as Director of the U. S. Department of Agriculture’s Farm Services Agency for New Mexico.

Lawrence is a community leader who has served on the boards of numerous charitable organizations, task forces, and committees. Lawrence holds a B.A. in Sociology and a M.A. in Public Administration from the University of New Mexico. He currently lives with his family in Los Ranchos, NM.



Judith Novotny Suiter

Judy is owner and President of Zephyr Design, Inc., an environmental consulting and planning firm based in Albuquerque, NM since 1988. Judy’s firm specializes in National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)-related environmental analysis, visual resource analysis, site planning and project permitting. Judy holds a B.A. in Art & Design from the University of Tennessee and a M.A. in Community and Regional Planning from the University of New Mexico. She is a member of the American Society of Landscape Architects and the American Planning Association.

Judy comes to NMLC with a wealth of non-profit board and fundraising experience including seven years on the board of the Albuquerque Museum Foundation. She resides in Sandia Park, NM.



New Staff

MEET OUR NEW STAFF

Ron Troy

Ron joined the NMLC staff in June to fill a new position within the organization: Southern New Mexico Project Manager. Ron is based in Silver City and is responsible for outreach and land conservation in the southern part of the state. Prior to joining NMLC, Ron spent seven years focused on protection and restoration of Chinook salmon and steelhead habitat for The Nature Conservancy in Salmon, Idaho. Ron’s previous experience also includes wildlife research in Idaho and New Mexico, fishing and whitewater guiding out of Salmon Idaho, and, together with his wife, operating a small farm and ranch in Hondo, New Mexico. Ron holds a B.S. in Finance from University of Idaho, a B.S. in Fish and Wildlife Science from New Mexico State University, and an M.S. in Biology with an emphasis on Ecological Restoration from Idaho State University.



Elizabeth Temple

Elizabeth is NMLC’s new Development Coordinator focused on diversifying the organization’s funding base and building a robust individual giving program. She has 15 years of non-profit philanthropic experience in corporate, foundation and major gifts fundraising, as well as membership development and annual giving. Prior to joining NMLC, she spearheaded a successful, fast track capital campaign that resulted in a new, state-of-the-art theatre for the prestigious Telluride Film Festival. Elizabeth started her development career with The Nature Conservancy of Montana, where the former mid-westerner fell in love with the Rocky Mountain West—its rugged landscapes, wild critters and outdoor lifestyle. She recently returned to “The City Different” where she had studied film and music at the College of Santa Fe. Elizabeth also holds a liberal arts degree from Concordia College in Minnesota. When she’s not in the office or visiting with one of our supporters, you can find her in yoga or spin class, at the piano, or on one of New Mexico’s wonderful trails with her beloved dog Skye.



Connor Jandreau

Connor is NMLC’s new Stewardship Coordinator. He joins NMLC with a background in conservation biology and conservation partnerships in the intermountain west, Canada and East Africa. Connor is especially interested in the new face of collaborative conservation taking flight across the West, and the interplay between tradition and innovation with respect to living on the land ‘without spoiling it’. He is the recipient of a Fulbright Scholarship and holds a B.S. in fish, wildlife and conservation biology as well as a B.A. in studio art from Colorado State University, and an M.S. in Natural Resource Management from the University of Manitoba, Canada. As an avid outdoorsmen, he also revels in the chance to explore New Mexico’s back-country, whether with skis, boots, bikes, or boats.



FAREWELLS TO OUR VALUED STAFF

Ariel Patashnik

After three years with NMLC, first as an intern, then an AmeriCorps volunteer and finally a staff Conservation Specialist, Ariel landed a wonderful position this past May as a Land Acquisition Project Manager with the Sonoma Land Trust, based in Santa Rosa, California. With her ever upbeat and positive attitude, Ariel supported both our conservation and stewardship programs, and was instrumental in helping us pull together the required information for our accreditation application. Ariel credits us with learning much of what she knows about land conservation and, while we miss her and her sidekick Acer the dog, we are quite proud that she is continuing to advance conservation in a beautiful part of her home state.



Forest Replogle

Forest served as our seasonal conservation intern and helped us get off to a good start with our annual easement monitoring. This fall, Forest returned to the University of Arizona in Tucson where he is completing a Master's degree in Community & Regional Planning. We wish him well in his future endeavors.



Lisa Adkins

After serving five years, first as our Office Manager and then as our Finance & Administration Manager, this fall Lisa decided to pursue a full-time position as a Senior Financial Analyst with Los Alamos National Labs. During her time with NMLC, Lisa took on many different roles in support of NMLC's operations and administration, including being the creative mind and logistics coordinator for our annual celebration of land conservation – *Corazón de la Tierra*. We will miss her sense of humor and hope that every once in a while we will cross her mind as she commutes to and from Los Alamos.



YEAR-END CHARITABLE GIVING

Dear Friends,

The New Mexico Land Conservancy has had the privilege of partnering with many New Mexico ranchers and landowners over the years. Many, like Sid and Cheryl Goodloe, are life-long stewards – caring for and working the land, maintaining and restoring critical habitat, all while making a living off the land that they have come to know and understand on a visceral, bone-deep level. Appreciating their hard-working yet fortunate way of life, they cultivate and protect the land for all of our benefit. If you speak to a New Mexico rancher you'll know they don't take nutrient rich soil, thriving native species, and clean water for granted in this sparse and arid climate. They understand the importance of wise resource management. For without such sustenance, tending and knowledge, the land can't support animals, birds, or diverse plant life, and ultimately, nor could our families thrive here.

This philosophy is also true for mission-driven organizations like the New Mexico Land Conservancy. We are here to serve *and* conserve this unique and beautiful land, the plants and animals that dwell here, the people who inhabit it, and the landowners who help protect it. And just like our precious landscapes that need continuous and conscientious tending, so too, does our

organization need to be nourished and supported to maintain its operations and grow its on-the-ground capacity. Like the land that we all love, NMLC is growing and thriving with that special mix of non-profit fertilizer: hard work, talented staff, dedicated board members and advisors, participatory volunteers and most importantly, **you**, our supporters.

This is the time of year when we approach each of you – our valued supporters – to make a gift to the New Mexico Land Conservancy. Your contributions are what tend our landscape: You keep our doors open. You inspire our staff. You help us to connect with landowners. You support our statewide travel. You make it possible for us to collaborate. You enable us to conserve critical water, habitat, working landscapes, and scenic vistas.

Simply put: You are the foundation of our thriving organization -- galvanizing us to grow our conservation impact. Not just for us, but for all of New Mexico. Thank you for your continued support!

Warm Regards,
Elizabeth Temple
Development Coordinator



NMLC Recognized at National Land Trust Rally

We were very pleased and honored to be recognized along with 80 other newly accredited land trusts at the annual Land Trust Alliance conference, "Rally," held in Sacramento, CA in October. Professional accreditation through the Land Trust Accreditation Commission demonstrates that NMLC is operating according to the highest ethical, technical, operational and fiscal standards and practices of the land trust industry today. Of the approximately 1,600 land trusts across the country, only 20% have achieved this important milestone.



NMLC Executive Director, Scott Wilber, celebrates with Jack (Board Advisor) and Rachel Wright.

Help Fertilize Our Growing Organization: Make A Year-End Gift Now!

It may be the fallow season, but NMLC continues to plant seeds, field projects and reap valued conservation acres! Some ways you can help:

- Give in honor of a friend or family member this holiday season! For a gift of \$100 or more, they'll receive a beautiful, hand-written card notifying them of your gift, along with an NMLC logo baseball cap.
- Use the enclosed envelope to donate \$50, \$100 or even \$500.
- Go online to make a gift: www.nmlandconservancy.org
- Contact Elizabeth directly at 505.986.3801 or etemple@nmlandconservancy.org
- Make a gift of appreciated stock.
- Donate a used 4WD truck or SUV for our southern project manager's use.
- Include NMLC in your will. It's as simple as sharing the following with your attorney or financial planner:

"I bequeath \$ ____ or ____% of my estate to the New Mexico Land Conservancy,
5430 S. Richards Avenue, Santa Fe, NM 87508"

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING NMLC!

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS!

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Thanks to all of our generous supporters, our annual event,
Corazón de la Tierra, was a success!

See story on page 5

