NATIONAL CONSERVATION LANDS

New Mexico 2025



National Conservation Lands are among the most essential and spectacular natural, cultural, and archaeological places in the country. They protect:

- > The cultural continuity of Native Nations
- > Rural economies
- > Access to hunting and fishing and other recreational activities
- > Essential wildlife migration corridors
- Nature needed to mitigate the effects of the climate and biodiversity crises



New Mexico Wild

The **Caja del Rio** near Santa Fe, New Mexico is one of the most ecologically rich and culturally significant landscapes in the Southwest with deep historical and cultural values that are of vital importance to the Pueblos of the middle Rio Grande today. Significant neglect is impacting this sacred landscape, its inhabitants, and cultural resources. 88% of voters polled in New Mexico support protecting the Caja del Rio.

Yours to Discover



77 NATIONAL CONSERVATION LANDS UNITS IN NEW MEXICO



4 NATIONAL MONUMENTS

- Kasha-Katuwe Tent Rocks
- Prehistoric Trackways
- Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks Río Grande del Norte



2 NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREAS

El Malpais

• Fort Stanton-Snowy River Cave



18 WILDERNESS AREAS

455,794 acres



48 WILDERNESS STUDY AREAS

725,006 acres



3 NATIONAL HISTORIC & SCENIC TRAILS

- · Continental Divide National Scenic Trail
- El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro National Historic Trail
- · Old Spanish National Historic Trail



2 WILD & SCENIC RIVER

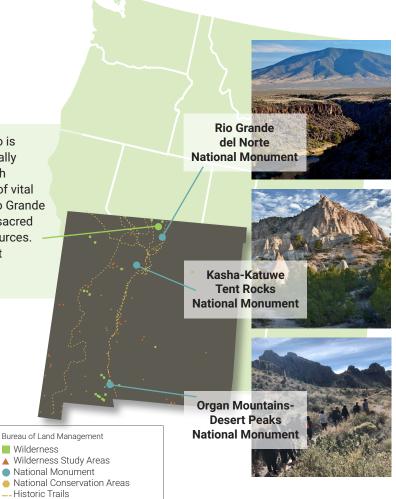
· Rio Chama · Rio Grande and Red River

Driver of New Mexico's Economy

Public lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management, including National Conservation Lands, support local business and help drive the state's outdoor recreation economy.

203,677 DIRECT JOBS

\$75,311 TOTAL ECONOMIC OUTPUT



Our Powerful New Mexico Friends Grassroots Network

Local- and community-based conservation is the blueprint for achieving long-lasting protections for essential and vulnerable public lands. Conservation Lands Foundation harnesses the collective power of our Friends Grassroots Network, a national movement of more than 80 community-based organizations, to protect, restore, and expand National Conservation Lands.

ANCESTRAL LANDS CONSERVATION CORPS
FRIENDS OF ORGAN MOUNTAINS-DESERT PEAKS
FRIENDS OF RIO GRANDE DEL NORTE
NATIVE LAND INSTITUTE
NEW MEXICO WILD
NEW MEXICO WILDLIFE FEDERATION

UPPER GILA WATERSHED ALLIANCE



Outdoor Recreation

The National Conservation Lands welcome:



CAMPING



HIKING



BIKING



FISHING



HUNTING



RAFTING



ROCK CLIMBING



DOGS...AND MORE!



Bitsi/De-Na-Zin Wilderness

Conservation Lands Foundation At-a-Glance

Conservation Lands Foundation is the only organization whose mission is focused solely on the greatest opportunity to stop the decline of nature and wildlife in the U.S. We work to conserve the largest acreage of unprotected public lands in the country by powering a national network of community-led nonprofits across the West.

For 18 years, the Conservation Lands Foundation has successfully built and harnessed the power of our national movement of community-led advocates—known as the Friends Grassroots Network—to expand, protect, and restore landscapes under the National Conservation Lands designation.

The Conservation Lands Foundation and its Friends Grassroots Network play outsized roles in ensuring the country's valuable and vulnerable public landscapes are protected for future generations.



El Malpais NCA



For All

We're committed to the ongoing work of building multicultural competencies across our sphere of influence to accelerate a conservation movement that is inclusive and addresses its intersectionalities with environmental justice, social justice, and community health.

We actively identify and eliminate barriers to secure full participation so that people of all identities, ethnicities, genders, sexual orientation, socio-economic situations, religions, abilities, and ages can responsibly explore and enjoy the benefits of their public lands.



Gila River

NATIONAL CONSERVATION LANDS At-a-Glance

National Conservation Lands are the critical connective tissue between more familiar public lands like National Parks and are managed by the Bureau of Land Management, which oversees more public land than any other agency in the U.S.



38 MILLION ACRES



31 NATIONAL MONUMENTS



25 NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREAS and similar designations



21 MILLION ACRES

of Wilderness and Wilderness Study Areas



2,700 MILES of Wild and Scenic Rivers

6,000 MILES



of National Scenic & Historic Trails



906+ LOCATIONS

More National Conservation Lands Are Needed

Only 15% of the 245 million acres of public lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management are protected as National Conservation Lands and more is needed to support healthy plant and wildlife populations, rural economies that depend on them for recreation and tourism, our climate system, livelihoods, food, and freshwater supplies.

Westerners Who Prefer Public Land Conservation Over Energy Development Is At All-Time High

72 percent of Westerners across the political spectrum want elected officials to protect more clean water sources, air quality, and wildlife habitat while providing opportunities to visit and recreate on public lands.

89 percent of voters oppose reducing or removing national monument protections.

Source: Conservation In the West Poll, 2025

