

New Mexico | Rio Grande Water Fund

Restoring essential forested lands upstream will ensure a continuous supply of clean water downstream



Wood from thinned small trees provides firewood for winter warmth, materials to build homes, mulch for playgrounds and other products.



Healthy forests store more snowpack and release more water to streams, leading to **more resilient forests**.



Thinning overdense trees and controlled burns protect forests from megafires.



More than 15 tribal nations live in the footprint of the Water Fund. Several Pueblo tribes are active participants in the work of the Water Fund.



Healthy rivers, forests and mountains benefit New Mexico's **tourism and recreation economy** by attracting visitors and providing experiences for locals to enjoy the state's beautiful outdoors.



The Rio Grande and its tributaries **supply water to nearly half of New Mexico's population**.



Healthy forests and streams provide **habitat for fish and wildlife** and protect them from damaging wildfire, flooding and ash-flows that often follow high-severity burns.



Frequent, **high-severity wildfires and subsequent post-fire flooding** cause extensive soil erosion and debris flows that degrade water quality for communities downstream.

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nature.org/riogrande

Matt Piccarello

Forest & Watershed Health Manager
m.picarello@tnc.org
(505) 470-9725

Paul Blaney

Development Director
paul.blaney@tnc.org
(415) 205-1163

The Nature Conservancy 

**RIO GRANDE
WATER FUND**
A Wildfire and Water Source
Protection Project