



eNews from the **Wild**



## Protecting New Mexico's Wilderness, Wildlife & Water

February 2021

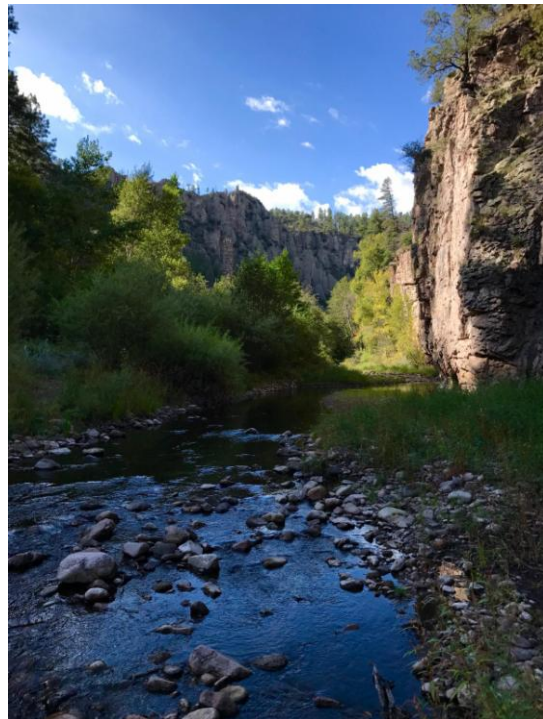


### Red Alerts

#### Urge Lawmakers to Fund Water Projects in Southwest New Mexico!

Last summer, New Mexico Wild supporters submitted nearly 9,000 comments and successfully defunded the costly and harmful Gila diversion project. Now we are asking for your help to ensure these funds are reallocated to important water improvement projects in southwest New Mexico. **Click the button below to send a message to your legislators** and encourage them to pass House Bill 200, which would fund these water improvement projects and create much-needed new jobs.

[Send Your Message!](#)



### Wilderness Updates



## President Biden Issues Moratorium on Oil and Gas!

President Joe Biden has issued an executive order that places an indefinite moratorium on all new federal oil and gas lease sales. This is a huge victory for places like the Greater Chaco Region, where 90% of federal public lands are already leased. The executive order also commits the federal government to the 30x30 initiative - a plan to conserve 30% of the nation's land and oceans by 2030!

[Read More!](#)

## Air Force Won't Expand Airspace over Wilderness!

After New Mexico Wild supporters submitted more than 1,600 comments, Holloman Air Force Base has decided not to expand F-16 pilot training over Wilderness! This is a huge victory for the Gila and Aldo Leopold Wilderness Areas, as well as public lands in the lower Rio Grande valley like the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument.



[Read More!](#)



## More on the Budgets of New Mexico's Environmental Agencies

You may remember we released a report last year on New Mexico's environmental agencies after years of devastating budget cuts under former Governor Susana Martinez. We updated that report this year and are again calling on the legislature to adequately fund the agencies that oversee environmental regulations, public lands, and outdoor recreation.

[Read More!](#)

## Court Orders Stay; BLM to Withdraw Approval of Florida Mountains Mine! New Decision to be Issued in 2021; Work not Done.

The Bureau of Land Management says it "intends to withdraw" approval of a dolomite mine near the Florida Mountains Wilderness Study Area after a lawsuit filed by New Mexico



Wild and several of our partners. The proposed mine would have negatively impacted the Wilderness characteristics of this site and disrupted daily life in Deming and other nearby communities. (Photo by Lee Pattison)



[Read More!](#)

## Remembering Nancy Morton

In January, our dear friend and former Board Chair Nancy Morton died peacefully at her home due to ALS. Nancy was a wonderful volunteer for New Mexico Wild beyond her commitment as a Board Member. [To honor Nancy, you can donate to the Nancy Morton Wilderness Internship program.](#) We love you and will miss you, Nancy.

[Read about Nancy's Life](#)



## Wilderness Resources



## Register for our Online Hiking Guide!

We recently launched an online hiking guide at [hike.nmwild.org](http://hike.nmwild.org)! The New Mexico Wild Hiking Guide features over 100 trails in Wilderness areas throughout the state. Searches can be narrowed using seven different filters: distance, route type, difficulty, water, natural features, activities and solitude. **We encourage you to create a user account for a more immersive experience.** Users may upload photos and trail reports from their hikes to improve the accuracy of trail descriptions and the quality of the experience for other users.

[Find Your Trail!](#)

Our 2020 Winter Newsletter is out Now!

Our 2020 Winter Newsletter is out now! Click below to download a digital version of the publication. In this issue, you will find updates on the passage of the Great American Outdoors Act, the defeat of the costly and harmful Gila Diversion Project, and so much more!

[Read More!](#)



## Upcoming Events

**DISCLAIMER:** All upcoming events are subject to change or cancellation due to the spread of COVID-19. We will do our best to provide advance notice should any changes to the following events occur.



## Volunteer With New Mexico Wild!

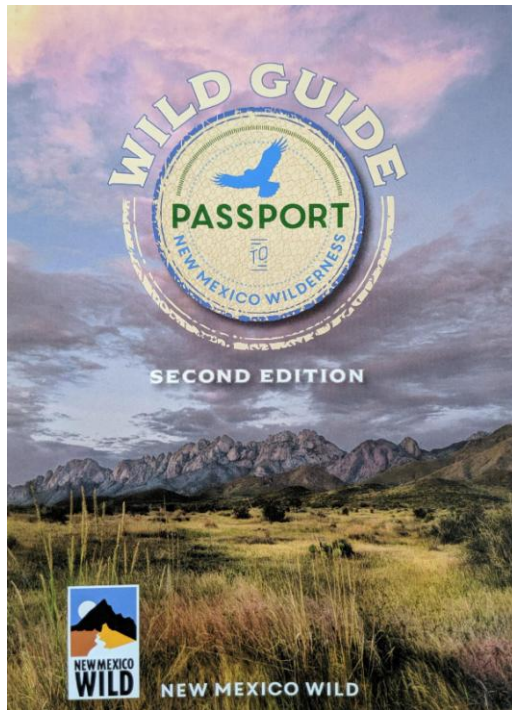
There are many ways to get involved to help save New Mexico's public lands and wild places. Whether you are interested in office work or trail work, we have opportunities available for everyone. Click below to learn more and fill out the volunteer application!

[Become a Volunteer!](#)

## Southern New Mexico Volunteers Needed!

We are partnering with Friends of the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks to launch a new docent program at the Dripping Springs Natural Area in the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument! Docents will begin working in summer 2021 and will provide visitors with knowledge of the history, wildlife, plant life and geology of a truly one-of-a-kind area. Contact [will@nmwild.org](mailto:will@nmwild.org) for more information.





## Wild Guide Second Edition is Here!

Wild Guide - Passport to New Mexico Wilderness, Second Edition is out now! This comprehensive guide to New Mexico's protected wildlands is the only book that features each of the state's designated Wilderness areas and Wilderness study areas as well as other treasures such as the Rio Grande del Norte and Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks national monuments. This second edition has been updated to include New Mexico's 13 new Wilderness areas, which were established in March 2019 when a federal public lands package became law!

[Purchase a Wild Guide!](#)

## Enter the 2021 Wolf Conservation Stamp Contest!

New Mexico Wild invites all artists to submit original artwork for our 2021 Mexican Wolf Conservation Stamp Contest. All two-dimensional drawings, paintings, or photographs featuring the Mexican gray wolf are welcome. The winning artwork will be printed on the 2021 Mexican Wolf Conservation Stamp and will be sold to support Mexican gray wolf conservation and education programs. All artwork must be scalable to the size of the stamp: 4.5-inches wide by 5.5-inches tall. Please submit electronic images of original artwork by February 28, 2021 to [tisha@nmwild.org](mailto:tisha@nmwild.org).

[Learn More](#)