



Stephanie Garcia Richard, Land Commissioner
State of New Mexico

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Commissioner Garcia Richard Celebrates Successes of First 100 Days in Office

Commissioner Prompts Reconsideration of Doubling Drills in San Juan Basin; Killing Contests Banned; Transparency Law Signed; Office of Renewable Energy Funded; Majority Female Leadership Team Hired; Outdoor Recreation Prioritized; Protection for Chaco Canyon Ordered; Over \$186 Million Distributed to State Institutions; and more.

SANTA FE, NM – Land Commissioner Stephanie Garcia Richard and the leadership team at the State Land Office today celebrate 100 days of progress for New Mexicans and for the state trust lands that help fund our public schools, hospitals and colleges.

FIRST 100 DAYS RECAP

- ✓ Prompted the Oil Conservation Commission to reconsider allowing a Texas oil company to double the number of drills in the San Juan Basin.
- ✓ Signed Executive Order 2019-01, Banning Killing Contests on state trust land.
- ✓ Working toward first ever industrial hemp production on state trust land.
- ✓ Passed the State Land Office transparency bill which has been signed into law. Now all Commissioners will have to hold public meetings for land deals.
- ✓ Successfully helped push for the creation of the state Office of Outdoor Recreation and the Outdoor Equity Fund while internally working to expand access to state trust lands to recreationists by allowing partner organizations to provide permits
- ✓ Hired a talented leadership team that reflects the diversity of New Mexico and is over 60% female.



“As the first woman to ever be elected to this office, I feel a tremendous responsibility to get things right. By working extremely hard and lifting up all of the staff, who come to work every day with the rare opportunity to truly make life better for hard working New Mexicans, we are accomplishing a lot,” Commissioner Garcia Richard said. “One of our biggest goals, from a public relations aspect, is to educate New Mexicans about what happens at the land office. It is the second highest executive office in the state and this year we are on track to raise close to \$1 billion dollars for the public institutions that rely on the money raised when we lease state trust land. **In my first 100 days as Commissioner, the land office distributed over \$186 million dollars to New Mexico public schools, hospitals and colleges. That is no drop in the bucket.**”

**"IN MY FIRST 100 DAYS AS COMMISSIONER,
THE LAND OFFICE HAS DISTRIBUTED OVER \$186
MILLION DOLLARS TO NEW MEXICO PUBLIC
SCHOOLS, HOSPITALS AND COLLEGES."**



“The bottom line is that all of the money we raise is money that New Mexicans don’t have to pay in additional taxes to fund our state’s needs. Everyone at the office takes that responsibility very seriously, and we are making important changes to diversify and expand the funds that we raise for those purposes,” she added.

This snapshot shows the larger picture; that the land office is open for business and providing valuable resources to New Mexico public institutions:





FIRST 100 DAYS:
BY THE NUMBERS

**OPEN
FOR
BUSINESS**
AGRICULTURE
LAND STEWARDSHIP
RENEWABLE ENERGY
OIL, GAS AND MINERALS
COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT
ECOTOURISM AND OUTDOOR RECREATION

NM PUBLIC SCHOOLS = \$119,049,728.24

NM COLLEGES = \$7,712,872.93

NM HOSPITALS AND PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS = \$41,975,174.50

Oil, gas, and mineral production, ranching and farming, and commercial development on State Trust Lands support public schools, seven universities, New Mexico Military Institute, New Mexico School for the Deaf, New Mexico School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, three hospitals, correctional facilities, water conservation projects, and public building construction and repair. In fiscal year 2018, the State Land Office collected \$852 million from lease payments, oil and gas lease sale earnings, rights-of-way, permits, interest, fees, and oil, gas, and mineral royalties.