



Stephanie Garcia Richard, Commissioner of Public Lands  
State of New Mexico

## Cultural Survey Support Program

### Program Description

The New Mexico State Land Office (NMSLO) Cultural Survey Support Program (CSSP) will provide appropriate archaeological survey and review services to qualified applicants for ground disturbing activities on state trust land. This program ensures that cultural properties on state trust land are adequately protected regardless of lessees' financial situations.

### Qualifying criteria:

- Applicant must be an NMSLO lessee.
- Project must provide natural resource benefits such as watershed, forest, range, wetland, soil or wildlife health, and may be related to brush or noxious weed control, fire or flood control, erosion control, water quality and quantity, forage abundance and diversity, or livestock/wildlife management.
- Program is designed for lessees with annual, pre-tax income of less than \$250,000. Income level will be self-certified as part of an application form.
- The project may not be financed in whole or in part by any federal grant or other program for which a cultural properties survey is required and paid for by that program.

While this program aims to support archaeological surveying mainly on agricultural leased land, it may be utilized for state trust land leased by any other qualifying NMSLO lessee as deemed appropriate by the Commissioner.

### Program limits:

- Applicants may apply for a NMSLO-provided survey for one qualifying project per lease per year.
- The program will support surveys for:
  - Ground disturbing improvements costing less than \$30,000 total (not including survey costs)
  - Improvements that occupy less than 60 acres, except for qualifying landscape scale projects,
- NMSLO-provided surveys will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis until all funds are expended in any given fiscal year. If program funds in any given fiscal year have been expended, applicants may choose to be put in line for the following fiscal year.

**Landscape Scale Projects:** Lessees may also apply for large landscape scale projects such as brush control. Landscape scale improvements that involve surface disturbing activities, are greater than 60 acres, and cost more than \$30,000 may qualify for support by this program on a case-by-case basis.

- Qualifying landscape scale project applicants must be lessees and must not be receiving any federal support.
- The NMSLO Range Ecologist, in consultation with the applicant, will develop a detailed land maintenance project plan that meets NMSLO standards. The project plan will be reviewed by the Commissioner, and an NMSLO-provided survey will be conducted if funds are available.

**Program Evaluation:**

- The NMSLO will review and evaluate the success of this program on an ongoing basis. If opportunities for compliance and for project collaboration are not being captured or if the program fails to meet State Land Office goals, the Commissioner may adjust the terms of the program accordingly.

**Projects Receiving Federal Funding:** Compliance for all projects receiving federal support (such as EQIP) will be completed by the federal lead agency in consultation with the NMSLO Cultural Resources Office.

**The application for participation in this NMSLO program requires signatures that acknowledge your agreement to the terms of this cultural survey support program and the rules that govern cultural resources protection.** Please, fill in the application and sign it.

**For any questions,** please contact: Luai Jaber 505-476-0218.



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## CULTURAL SURVEY SUPPORT PROGRAM APPLICATION

I / We,

of (mailing address)

are the current lessee(s) of NMSLO agricultural Lease number \_\_\_\_\_ and submitted an application to make improvements in association with this lease on (date) \_\_\_\_\_.

Designated Contact:

Phone:

I / We have reviewed and agree to comply with the State Land Office's [Cultural Properties Protection Rule \(19.2.24 NMAC\)](#), YES NO

I / We have read the Cultural Survey Support Program requirements, are a current NMSLO Lessee, and meet the following criteria to qualify for the CSSP. YES NO

1. The proposed improvement project provides natural resource benefits such as watershed, forest, range, wetland, soil or wildlife health, and may be related to brush and noxious weed control, fire or flood control, erosion control, water quality and quantity, forage abundance and diversity, or livestock/wildlife management. YES NO

Please describe how the proposed improvement project meets these criteria:

2. The project is not financed in whole or in part by any federal grant or program and will cost less than \$30,000. YES NO
3. Project total acreage on State Trust Land is less than 60 acres. YES NO
4. Individual, Corporate Entity (Corporation, Limited Liability Company), Trust, or Partnership pre-tax annual income of the applicant is less than \$250,000. YES NO

