

Galisteo Basin Factsheet



Statistics

- Galisteo Basin encompasses approximately 430,000 acres
 - Land ownership: 77% private, 12% federal, 6% tribal, 5% state
 - 12% federal: 9% USFS, 2% BLM, 1% DOD, <1% NPS
- Oil and gas rights:
 - Federal rights on ~91,000 acres; ~47,000 are split estate
 - State oil and gas leases on ~6,300 acres; ~3,000 are split estate
- Grazing leases: ~3,500 acres of land has state agricultural leases and state oil and gas leases; ~2,000 acres of land are in BLM grazing allotment with federal oil and gas rights
- Santa Fe county agriculture (USDA NASS 2002 Census of Agriculture)
 - 460 farms, down 11% since 1997
 - 683,508 acres of farmland, up 3% since 1997 (89% pasture, 6% cropland, 5% other)
 - \$11,783,000 market value of production, down 20% since 1997 (2002: 74% from crop sales, 26% from livestock sales)
 - Majority value commodities: grains, cattle/calves, floriculture, hay
 - Majority agricultural acreage crops: corn for silage, forage
 - Other: vineyards, orchards, fruits and vegetables, sheep, horses, goats
 - Majority of agriculturalists are categorized as small producers
 - Food processors: 26 processors in Santa Fe county (NMDA 2005)

Information

- Maps on NMDA website: Galisteo Basin boundary, land ownership, land/vegetation cover
- BLM stipulations: detailed, comprehensive specifications for lease agreements
- Surface Owner Protection Act
- Noxious Weed Act

Issues

- Cumulative impacts
- Environmental Justice in NM: CDC vs. Rhino decision
- Agricultural concerns: Damage to fences, gates, and cattle guards; road construction and poor road conditions; right-of-way disputes; forage losses in prime grassland regions; water/air/noise pollution; pit contamination; leaking tanks
- Wildlife disturbance
- Roads: establishment and spread of noxious weeds, dust, traffic, road conditions
- Current watershed restoration efforts in the Galisteo Basin by: Soil and Water Conservation Districts (Edgewood, Coronado, and Santa Fe-Pojoaque), Central NM Cooperative Weed Management Area, Galisteo Watershed Partnership, Santo Domingo Pueblo, and the Army Corps of Engineers

Questions

- Private property rights: Right to drill on private minerals?
- Surface owner property rights: Right to drill on split estates?
- Number of wells per site?
- How many new roads will be constructed?
- Spill policies? Estimated spill rate per haul? Soil contamination potential?
- Water: Depth to groundwater? Perennial tributaries to Galisteo Creek? (OSE)
- Weed inventory? (EMNRD)

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