

State of New Mexico

Office of the Governor

Bill Richardson
Governor

For immediate release
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GOVERNOR BILL RICHARDSON CREATES DROUGHT TASK FORCE

SANTA FE - Governor Bill Richardson has declared a state of emergency because of the drought conditions across the state. As a result, Governor Richardson signed an executive order creating the New Mexico State Drought Task Force to recommend ways for the state to mitigate drought conditions and impacts in the state.

“Despite recent rains, New Mexico continues down a path toward a long-term drought,” Governor Bill Richardson said. “I want to be proactive by developing immediate, intermediate and long-term strategies to deal with the drought.”

The New Mexico Drought Monitoring Work group has recommended that warning or emergency conditions have been met in the majority of the state’s eight climate divisions.

The new Drought Task Force will be composed of the following members or their designees:

1. John D’Antonio, State Engineer
2. Ron Curry, State Environment Secretary
3. David Harris, executive director of the New Mexico Finance Authority
4. Estevan Lopez, director of the Interstate Stream Commission
5. Joanna Prukop, Secretary of the Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department
6. James Jimenez, Secretary of the Department of Finance
7. Miley Gonzalez, Secretary of the Department of Agriculture
8. Tim Manning, Director of the Office of Emergency Management of the Department of Public Safety
9. Bernie Teba, Secretary of the Office of Indian Affairs
10. Bill Hume, Director of Policy and Planning in the Office of the Governor

11. Rick Homans, Secretary of the Department of Economic Development
12. Fred Peralta, Secretary of the Department of Tourism

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