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To: [Mason, Wendy, EMNRD](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment on Rule Change to the NM State Endangered Plant Law
Date: Monday, November 8, 2021 11:15:08 AM

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Wendy,

I wish to offer my full support for the “Rule Change to the NM State Endangered Plant Law.” I am the Director of Natural Heritage New Mexico here at the University of New Mexico where we have been engaged for over 30 years in providing the best available data on the status of New Mexico’s sensitive plants to serve decision makers, managers, researchers, and the public. Critical to effective management and the avoidance of conflicts for these species is having accurate data to understand their population trends, and I believe the rule change will go a long way in improving that understanding of trends for the benefit of all. Specifically, having project proponents document through the permitting process how their project will impact state endangered plants known to be in their project area will provide important and necessary data for trend analyses. This will allow us fine-tune our management actions to avoid crisis situations and associated costs for species further down the road. Accordingly, the rule change is integral to making the NM State Endangered Plant Law fully operational to meet the changing needs and perspectives of the 21st century in natural resource management.

Thank you,

Dr. Esteban Muldavin
Director
Natural Heritage New Mexico
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