WWSUD?*
This year marks the 40th anniversary of the very first Earth Day. What a wonderful opportunity to reflect on how far we’ve come, the immense challenges that still lie ahead and—perhaps most importantly—what each of us has done, and can do, to be part of the solution!

This opportunity is underscored by the recent loss of one of New Mexico’s most beloved conservation champions...

Stewart Udall devoted his life and work to protecting the unique and sacred places of the natural world. Most of the landmark environmental laws of America—clean air and water, endangered species, wilderness, trails and scenic rivers—can be traced directly to his efforts.

So when we’re faced with the global climate crisis—perhaps the single greatest environmental challenge we’ve ever faced—we should ask ourselves:

**WWSUD?**

What Would Stewart Udall Do?

If you picked up this scorecard and wondered what WWSUD could possibly mean, we’re asking you to take a few moments to reflect on your daily life, the actions you take (or don’t take), and what you think Stewart Udall would do in your situation.

Would he drive less? Be more energy-efficient? Support environmental legislation? Ask candidates what they will do to protect our environment before they get your vote?

Would Stewart Udall take the time to get involved? I think we all know he would, and he did.

All of us here at Conservation Voters New Mexico are inspired to live up to his legacy. We hope this Scorecard provides voters like you with a clear record of who supports conservation (and who does not), giving you another tool for making decisions as an informed conservation voter.

On this 40th Earth Day, what a wonderful tribute it would be to the life and work of Stewart Udall if we all committed to one change in our lives that will make a cleaner, greener future for all of us.

Thank you for being a Conservation Voter!

Sincerely,

Sandy Buffett
CVNM Executive Director

www.CVNM.org
2010 Legislature: Highlights and Lowlights

Highlights

In 30-day legislative sessions, when budget issues dominate the debate, it is challenging to pass any environmental legislation—no matter how important. However, in 2010, a landmark bill was enacted after years of hard work by a diverse coalition of land trusts and environmental groups.

In his last regular legislative session, Governor Richardson pushed aggressively for Senate Bill 186, the Natural Heritage Conservation Act. Sponsored by Senator Carlos Cisneros, SB 186 establishes a fund to help state, local and tribal governments, as well as private organizations, conduct restoration and conservation projects—to protect our water resources, working farms and ranches, wildlife and recreational opportunities. The Governor was also successful in securing $5 million in initial funding for the effort.

Conservation Voters New Mexico (CVNM) and the Trust for Public Land led the advocacy efforts in the Roundhouse, with outstanding support from other groups in the coalition. After overcoming many challenges and disappointments, we’re proud to have succeeded in passing this important legacy for the Land of Enchantment.

Another successful piece of legislation was Senate Bill 200, also sponsored by Sen. Cisneros. The Rio Grande Chapter of the Sierra Club has worked for several years on measures to require publicly-funded buildings to achieve certain energy efficiency standards; as a result of the hard work of their staff and volunteers, SB 200 passed the Legislature and was signed by Governor Richardson.

In 2010, CVNM was once again successful in defending against every legislative attack on our environment. For the first time, however, these efforts did not require that the Governor veto any bills—because none of them made it that far! Although we still expend far too many resources on defense, we’re pleased that no anti-conservation measures have passed on our watch.

In an era of bare bones budgets, when state enforcement capabilities are stretched far too thin, New Mexicans should have the right to protect their families and communities from environmental violators who threaten their health, safety and property. Although HB 259 (Private Action to Enforce Enviro Statutes) did not pass the Legislature, it was an extraordinary effort that fostered hope for future success. Speaker Lujan was passionate in sponsoring this measure to allow citizens to stop environmental violations, and he worked closely with Majority Leader Ken Martinez to bring the bill within two votes of passing the House floor—a remarkable feat.

Lowlights

Perhaps surprisingly, the 2010 session brought more highlights than lowlights, and the major disappointments involved common-sense bills that were defeated by powerful special interests. Based on these experiences, New Mexicans should ask their legislators:

• Why should New Mexico be forced to allow the worst air polluters (also known as ‘bad actors’) in the state and country to operate here, and why wouldn’t the state want the authority to shut down rogue polluters that other states will not tolerate?

• Why shouldn’t citizens and communities have the right to take environmental violators to court to stop unlawful pollution that threatens their health, safety or property?

• Why is New Mexico the only state in the country that allows individuals to kill an unlimited number of deer, elk or other wildlife, if they believe they will damage their grass or crops?

By defeating HB73, the Legislature ensured that there will be more instances—like those already widely reported—of dozens of elk or antelope being slaughtered at one time. And by defeating ‘bad actor’ (HB276/SB115/SB285) and ‘private right of action’ (HB259) bills, the Legislature guaranteed that polluters have more rights than people in New Mexico.
Wildlife & Wilderness

✔ HB 73 (Stewart): Taking of Certain Animal Species
As a result of a statutory change in 1997, New Mexico is the only state in the West that allows landowners to kill wildlife if they believe they might damage their property (including crops). The result has been instances of wholesale slaughter of wild animals – including incidents of 19 elk and 41 pronghorn antelope killed at a single time. HB73 would have repealed the 1997 amendment, while still allowing landowners to kill predators that threaten human life, livestock or family pets. DEFEATED in the House. Conservation Vote: YES

✔ HB 81/SB 61 (Heaton/Leavell): Petroleum Storage Tank Definition Changes
To maintain state primacy in the regulation of petroleum storage tanks, and to avoid punitive measures by the federal government, New Mexico’s laws must be at least as stringent as federal law. HB81 and SB61 are ‘fixes’ that amend state statute to be consistent with federal law, allowing us to access millions of dollars in federal money to clean up underground storage tanks that threaten water quality. Similar bills failed to pass in prior years, so this is an important achievement. PASSED both chambers and signed by the Governor. Conservation Vote: YES

✗ HJM 48 (Bandy): Wolf Reintroduction Conflict Resolution
This memorial included misinformation and spurious assertions about the impacts of the wolf reintroduction program, which only served to further intensify conflicts and polarize the debate. Not only is such a measure unconstructive, it runs completely counter to the stated intent of the resolution: to help resolve conflicts. DEFEATED in the House. Conservation Vote: NO

Health & Environment

✔ HB 27 (Egolf): Recovery of Damages to Natural Resources
HB27 was crafted around the “polluter pays” principle, which holds that no one should be able to damage or destroy public resources without making compensation. This measure would have allowed the state Natural Resources Trustee to pursue, within limits, an entity that damages resources belonging to all New Mexicans. DEFEATED in the House. Conservation Vote: YES

✔ HB 259 (Blujan): Private Action to Enforce Enviro Statutes
Currently, New Mexicans can only sue polluters for damages to their health or property after the fact. HB259 would have allowed private citizens who are adversely affected by illegal pollution the right to take violators to court to stop the pollution. Any penalties imposed would have accrued to the state. When we’re facing a budget crisis, and agencies already have limited resources for enforcement, this bill would have given New Mexicans a critical tool to protect their families and clean up their communities. DEFEATED in the House. Conservation Vote: YES

✔ HB 276/SB 115/SB 285 (Egolf/Nava/MJ Garcia): Air Quality Control Permit Denial
Under every major New Mexico environmental statute, the state has the authority to deny or revoke a permit for an egregious violator—with one exception: the Air Quality Control Act. The effect is that the worst of the worst rogue companies can pollute our air, giving our children asthma and our parents cancer, but we still can’t stop them from operating in our state. These measures would have rectified this injustice by authorizing the state

Continued…
to deny or revoke permits in instances where the applicant or permittee is guilty of specific bad acts. DEFEATED in both the House and the Senate.

**Conservation Vote: YES**

Votes on this bill are weighted 2x by CVNM

Substantive votes were cast on SB 115 in Senate Corporations & Transportation Committee, and on SB 248 in Senate Public Affairs Committee. The recorded votes for SB 115/SB 248 reflect those cast by committee members, where applicable. For legislators who didn’t cast a vote on either bill in committee, the recorded vote is on a key procedural motion on the Senate floor to saddle the bill with a third committee assignment – a certain death knell for the measure.

**✓ SB 303 (E Griego): Farmer Protection Act**

Across the country, biotechnology companies like Monsanto are filing lawsuits against farmers whose crops are contaminated by genetically-engineered (GE) seeds and pollen. SB 303 would have protected New Mexico farmers from liability when they accidentally come into possession of GE seeds, as well as from unreasonable and unannounced inspections of their private property. Moreover, the measure would have established New Mexico as the appropriate venue for any legal action—not Missouri or some other state chosen by the biotechnology company. DEFEATED in the Senate.

**Conservation Vote: YES**

Votes on this bill are weighted 2x by CVNM

**✗ HJR 4 (Nuñez): Legislative Review of Regulatory Rules, CA**

Identical to a measure last year, HJR4 attempted to gut New Mexico’s regulatory processes, by pursuing a constitutional amendment (CA) that would have allowed the Legislature to override regulatory rules. Our administrative agencies are required to protect the public – by regulating everything from nursing homes and daycare facilities to inspections of meat, restaurants and polluting industries. Efforts to curtail regulatory activities threaten the health and safety of all New Mexicans. DEFEATED in the House.

**Conservation Vote: NO**

Votes on this bill are weighted 2x by CVNM

**✗ Senate Floor Amendment #1 (Sharer) to HB 2: General Appropriation Act of 2010**

When the main budget bill was being debated on the Senate floor, this amendment was proposed to slash the budgets for the Environment (ED) and Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources (EMNRD) Departments by almost $6 million. These agencies have already suffered cumulative budget cuts (by the Legislature) disproportionate to those of almost any other agency. With enforcement already seriously compromised, more cuts would further jeopardize public health and safety – something our communities can ill-afford. The scored vote is on the amendment, which FAILED.

**Conservation Vote: NO**

Votes on this bill are weighted 2x by CVNM

**✗ HJM 32 (Tripp): Enforce Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Act**

Irresponsible use of off-highway vehicles (OHVs) poses major threats to wildlife and ecosystems, private property, and the safety of their riders. This joint memorial lacked any attempt at balancing the need for training youth on OHV safety with educating parents and children about the dangers of OHVs -- the mortality and injury rates among youth riders in particular. Of greater concern is that the memorial sought to shift resources from critical enforcement activities to training programs that are already widely offered. DEFEATED in the House.

**Conservation Vote: NO**

Energy

**✓ HB 78 (Madalena): Environmental Board Climate Change Policies**

HB78 was designed to give our state’s businesses and industries a head start in benefiting from any regional or national climate change legislation. Under the bill, an entirely voluntary emissions offset program would have been created, giving credit to New Mexico businesses that reduce their emissions before they’re required to do so by law. DEFEATED in the House.

**Conservation Vote: YES**

Votes on this bill are weighted 2x by CVNM

Conservation & Land Use

**✓ SB 186 (Cisneros): Natural Heritage Conservation Act**

Each year, New Mexico misses out on tens of millions of dollars in federal funding for conservation projects, because we don’t have a fund set up for that purpose. SB186 establishes a fund — with no money attached — that could be used for habitat restoration projects and protection of water quality and quantity, working farms and ranches, forests and watersheds, recreational opportunities, and more. PASSED both chambers and signed by the Governor.

**Conservation Vote: YES**

Votes on this bill are weighted 2x by CVNM

2010 Legislative Scorecard
HJM 29 (Stewart): Consider Clean Energy Legislation
With abundant renewable energy resources, our state is poised for a boom in the clean energy industry. By simply urging Congress to take federal action on climate change and clean energy, HJM 29 sends a message that New Mexico will benefit from reducing greenhouse gas emissions, by creating clean energy jobs and reducing our dependence on foreign oil. Like many pieces of pro-conservation legislation, this measure should not have been controversial; unfortunately, it was. PASSED the House and SIGNED. Conservation Vote: YES

SB 200 (Cisneros): Public Building Energy Efficiency Standards
A tremendous opportunity exists to save both energy and money in a badly-stressed economy by ensuring that public buildings are energy-efficient. SB200 requires efficient design and operation of public buildings through the EPA’s Energy Star Certification program. A 1-2% initial investment premium in new and retrofitted public buildings is recovered in two years of energy savings, and generates a 10-fold return on investment over 20 years. PASSED both chambers and signed by the Governor. Conservation Vote: YES

SJM 38 (Sharer): Nuclear Energy as Green Energy
SJM 38 attempted to redefine nuclear energy as clean, safe and renewable; it is, in fact, none of these things. Nuclear power generates highly radioactive waste, causes increased cancer rates in nearby communities, and is fueled by uranium, a finite resource. DEFEATED in the Senate Conservation Vote: NO

Ethics and Transparency

SB 195 (Rue): Sunshine Portal Transparency Act
One of the most significant barriers to civic engagement is the inaccessibility of government information. SB195 requires the state to develop, operate and maintain a publicly-accessible internet database that contains extensive information on state government budgets, expenditures and other financial records. PASSED both chambers and signed by the Governor. Conservation Vote: YES

How to Read the Scorecard

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<th>Legislator’s District Number</th>
<th>Legislator’s Party Affiliation</th>
<th>2010 Score</th>
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2010 Legislative Scorecard

100% Club

Senate
Sen. Pete Campos
Sen. Carlos Cisneros
Sen. Dede Feldman
Sen. Stephen Fischmann
Sen. Mary Jane Garcia
Sen. Eric Griego
Sen. Timothy Keller
Sen. Linda Lopez
Sen. Lynda Lovejoy

House
Rep. Gail Chasey
Rep. Eleanor Chavez
Rep. Nate Cote
Rep. Brian Egolf
Rep. Miguel Garcia
Rep. Karen Giannini
Rep. Roberto “Bobby” Gonzales
Rep. Joni Gutierrez
Rep. Antonio Lujan
Rep. Ben Lujan

Rep. Antonio “Moe” Maestas
Rep. W. Ken Martinez
Rep. Rick Miera
Rep. Bill O’Neill
Rep. Danice Picraux
Rep. Ed Sandoval
Rep. Jeff Steinborn
Rep. Mimi Stewart
Rep. Luciano “Lucky” Varela

Thank You!
Simply put, **Senator Carlos Cisneros** was a conservation hero in 2010. Not only did he sponsor two environmental priority bills, but he worked diligently to get both of them enacted.

The Natural Heritage Conservation Act (SB 186) and Public Building Energy Efficiency Standards (SB 200) are major policy milestones. SB 186 will leverage federal funds and private contributions to protect and restore our Land of Enchantment and the special places—including the working farms and ranches—that define it. SB 200 will save our schools and state both energy and money, while cutting our emissions of harmful greenhouse gases.

Neither of these victories would have been possible without the hard work and persistence of Senator Cisneros. Thank you, Senator!

In the seemingly endless fight to give communities a voice, **Speaker Ben Lujan** sponsored HB 259 (Private Action to Enforce Enviro Statutes), which represented major progress in leveling the playing field between private citizens and big polluting industries.

Although the bill didn’t pass, it came much closer than expected—as a result of the Speaker Lujan’s passionate defense of New Mexico’s most vulnerable citizens and communities. We look forward to working with the Speaker in future sessions to secure one of the most basic rights for all New Mexicans: the right to stop illegal pollution that threatens their health, safety or property.

The Speaker also played a critical role in stopping environmental rollbacks, and passing conservation priorities. In fact, the Natural Heritage Conservation Act (SB 186) would not have passed without his efforts. Thank you, Speaker Lujan!

**Representative Brian Egolf** was very busy on behalf of the environment this session. When he wasn’t sponsoring a bill (HB 27) to allow the state to pursue compensation from companies that damage public resources, he was pushing ‘bad actor’ legislation (HB 276) to allow the state to deny or revoke air quality permits for the worst-of-the-worst environmental violators. He also found time to present the Natural Heritage Conservation Act (SB 186) on the House floor, and defeat legislation attacking endangered wolves. Not bad for 30 days’ work!

**Senator Cynthia Nava** has been fierce in her fight to protect her district and the community of Mesquite, NM. Senator Nava was the first to introduce ‘bad actor’ legislation to help poor and vulnerable communities throughout the state. After her bill was defeated in its first Senate committee, **Rep. Egolf** and **Sen. Mary Jane Garcia** introduced new versions (HB 276/SB 285). Although none of the bills passed, we know these three dedicated legislators will continue the fight in future years.

**Shout-out!**

Demonstrating that conservation is not a partisan issue, and proving that substance can triumph over party politics, the Natural Heritage Conservation Act (SB 186) passed both chambers with bipartisan support. Thank you to **Senators Rue and Ryan, and Representatives Arnold-Jones, Bandy, Gardner, Vaughn and Wallace** for your support!
Near the end of his tenure, some of the accomplishments in which Governor Richardson seems to take the most pride are those that served to protect our Land of Enchantment – the air we breathe, the water we drink, the beloved places where we live, work, play and pray.

It is fitting that he’s proud, because that’s how New Mexicans should feel, too. Proud that we are now a clean energy leader. Proud that we are recognizing and seizing opportunities in the new ‘green’ economy. Proud that we have protected so many special places for our children and grandchildren – so they can know the New Mexico we already love.

It is impossible to recount, in such limited space, all of Governor Richardson’s environmental initiatives and actions. So we’ll note just some of the most significant here:

- **Cleaning up** our air by tightening vehicle emission standards, opposing new coal plants, vetoing subsidies for dirty energy sources, and aggressively pursuing and punishing polluters;
- **Guarding** the long-term safety of our water supply by enforcing water quality laws, and by regulating the disposal of toxic wastes from oil and gas development;
- **Establishing** ambitious renewable energy standards so utility companies must now have 15% renewable energy in their portfolios by 2015, and 20% by 2020;
- **Pursuing** bold energy efficiency targets through mandates for utilities, as well as demonstrated leadership in ‘green’ state buildings and vehicle fleets;
- **Protecting** New Mexico’s special places by dedicating significant resources for conservation projects statewide, fighting for the permanent protection of Otero Mesa and Valle Vidal, and–during the 2010 legislative session--establishing the Natural Heritage Conservation Fund;
- **Defending** vulnerable communities against dangerous new uranium development by vetoing legislation backed by the uranium industry, and by proceeding with extreme caution on new uranium exploration permits;
- **Fighting** to safeguard the Gila as one of the last free-flowing rivers in the West by vetoing an appropriation for a water diversion project (e.g. dam);
- **Caring** for vulnerable and endangered wildlife, by supporting the reintroduction of wolves and otters into their native habitats; and
- **Believing** that the growth of industry is important, but that it must be balanced with strong regulation and enforcement—rejecting the notion that an “open for business” sign should trump our children’s health.

One of Governor Richardson’s greatest legacies is the people he chose to help him accomplish all of this. Our Land of Enchantment is all the more glorious for the efforts of Sarah Cottrell, Ned Farquhar, Ron Curry, Joanna Prukop, Jon Goldstein, Mark Fesmire, and the many dedicated individuals that Richardson has appointed to critical boards and commissions.

In the end, Governor Richardson’s legacy is New Mexico’s future. He has been great for the New Mexico we know and love, as well as for the New Mexico we will bequeath to future generations.

**Lieutenant-Governor Diane Denish**

The Lieutenant-Governor doesn’t often get opportunities to demonstrate positions on conservation issues, which makes it all the more important when those rare occasions arise.

When faced with an effort on the Senate floor to saddle a critical air quality bill (SB115) with an additional, crippling committee assignment, Lt. Gov. Denish ruled in favor of the Senators who were attempting to keep the bill alive. Unfortunately, her ruling was overturned, and the bill eventually died. But her efforts did not go unnoticed, and are certainly appreciated by communities fighting for the health of their families.

Lieutenant-Governor Denish has also been proactive in bringing together representatives of industry and the conservation community to address potential changes to the regulatory structure in New Mexico—a delicate task, since regulations are what protect the health, safety and welfare of all New Mexicans. What Lt. Gov. Denish is attempting won’t be easy, to be sure, but she has taken a strong first step.
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<td>+</td>
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<td>Ezzell, Candy Spence (R)</td>
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<td>-</td>
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<td>+</td>
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** legislator voted to table HB78 in committee, for procedural reasons in support of the legislation
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</table>

* legislator previously served in the House; lifetime score includes those earned as a Representative
Forty years ago, nearly 20 million Americans participated in what was the start of the modern environmental movement – our nation's first Earth Day. Though much progress has been made since that first Earth Day, we still find ourselves facing the greatest environmental threat of our time: global climate change.

As New Mexicans, we take pride in the vast open spaces, sacred sites, wildlife and natural resources that make our state unique. It is this rich natural beauty that has inspired artists, musicians, recreationists, and families to call New Mexico home, and has become an integral part of our cultural identity.

In recent years, climate change has already started to alter our landscape – and consequently threaten our cultural heritage and identity. Rising temperatures, for example, have already increased periods of drought – further stressing our precious water resources and agricultural industry.

While we have much to lose from climate change, New Mexico also has the potential to gain a great deal. Investment in clean renewable energy, like solar and wind, has created new green jobs while reducing our dependence on dirty fuel sources. But just diversifying our energy portfolio is simply not enough.

Fortunately, Governor Bill Richardson has taken an aggressive stance to address climate change. Over the course of his administration, he has fought for bold action on climate change through renewable energy standards, energy efficiency mandates, and participation in a regional program that would have capped greenhouse gas emissions (the Western Climate Initiative).

However, the state legislature has failed to support critical measures that would help New Mexico build and prosper from a new green economy, while seriously tackling the climate change crisis. Measures to support the Western Climate Initiative have failed repeatedly. This session, legislators defeated a bill that would merely have incentivized voluntary emissions reductions for businesses and industries – no mandates whatsoever. Moreover, for several years, the Legislature has actively attempted to roll back important air quality and climate policies implemented by Governor Richardson’s administration. One significant statement in 2010 was the passage of a House memorial urging Congress to support clean energy and climate change legislation. The measure proved controversial – which was disappointing, given that it simply urged federal action on one of the greatest threats of our lifetimes. Nevertheless, at least the measure was passed and signed; we have yet to see any similar legislation in the Senate.

This year, as we reflect on the 40th Anniversary of Earth Day, it is clear that there is still much work to be done. It is our hope, moving into the next decade, that our legislature will come to grips with the global climate crisis, recognize the threats to our quality of life, put aside petty politics, and seize the opportunity to forge a new, prosperous future for our state.

New Mexico cannot afford to wait.
Few New Mexicans are able to follow what happens at their “Roundhouse” – the state legislature. The extremely short sessions (comparable to other states) make for long hours, unpredictable schedules, and frenzied activity. Besides the long distances between most residents of the state and Santa Fe, these factors conspire to create an environment that seems resistant, if not openly hostile, to robust public participation.

The 2009 and 2010 legislative sessions, however, marked a sea change in the Legislature’s approach to making the process more accessible to all New Mexicans. Formal rules were adopted to ensure that legislative floor sessions are fully webcast and audiocast; they are now available online through the legislature’s web site: www.nmlegis.gov. Currently, only live streams are available—not archived files—but this nevertheless represents a huge leap forward.

Several committee hearings were also live-streamed, and there seems to be momentum for expanding that practice to more committees, both during the legislative session and in interim hearings held around the state.

In 2009, the Senate started posting all floor votes on passage of legislation on the website – usually within 24 hours of the vote. This session, the House followed suit.

There is no doubt that strong demand from the public and news media helped push the Legislature towards more transparency, but it is heartening to see the extent to which many legislators have embraced the shift. For example, one online media outlet (www.newmexico-independent.com) live-blogged every floor session with an interactive chat function – allowing New Mexicans to ask questions, weigh in with comments, and communicate with others as the proceedings unfolded. On many occasions throughout the session, legislators were active participants in the live-blogs and chats – interacting with New Mexicans around the state about the important issues of the day, and the actions the Legislature was considering.

There is still a long way to go before the New Mexico state legislature will be truly accessible to the people it serves, but the last two sessions have sowed new optimism that we’ll get there.

In Conservation Voters New Mexico’s efforts to make environmental issues at the Roundhouse more accessible to the public, we’ve created an online information and tracking system for conservation-related legislation. As a participant, you can search for bills on particular issues you care about (e.g. wildlife, water, toxics), read summaries of what each bill does, learn about legislators and their voting records, link to media outlets in your community, or email individual legislators or entire committees directly from the site. Perhaps most importantly, if there are bills you want to track, you can sign up to be automatically notified anytime an action is taken on the bill or when it’s scheduled for a hearing. Then you’ll know what’s going on with the bills you care about, so you can get involved and make a difference!

Protect New Mexico only operates during legislative sessions. So come visit us at www.protectnewmexico.org, and sign up to participate. Then join us during the 2011 legislative session for all of the excitement!
Conservation Voters New Mexico’s 2009 Legislative Scorecard provides objective, non-partisan information about the conservation voting records of all members of the 49th Legislature of the State of New Mexico. Scorecards are a clear and comprehensive way for you to see how you are being represented on issues that matter to you.

**Vote Selection**

Each vote was selected solely on the basis of environmental values embodied in the legislation. In preparing this scorecard, we sought input from legislative and environmental leaders; however, responsibility for the final set of selected votes rests entirely with Conservation Voters New Mexico (CVNM).

Thousands of votes are taken during a legislative session in New Mexico. Many of these votes represent overwhelming agreement on non-controversial issues or amendments. To provide better insight into the various positions of our legislators, CVNM tended to select measures that illustrate the key debates and fierce disagreement over conservation policy in the state.

CVNM selected the most critical votes on each issue. In some cases, a vote on an amendment to a bill or a procedural motion was more important than voting on the bill itself. In others, a procedural motion is the only public indication of a legislator’s position on a measure. In all of these cases, the actual vote included in the scorecard is detailed under the Vote Description (pages 4-6).

We encourage you to read the vote descriptions and compare them against the scorecard to determine how well your legislators represented you on the issues and bills that are most important to you.

**Recording the Votes**

If a legislator voted in support of the pro-conservation position, his or her vote is recorded on the chart as a ‘plus’ (+); votes against the conservation position are indicated with a ‘minus’ (-). If a legislator was excused from voting, this is noted by an ‘e’, and the vote does not count positively or negatively towards their final score. If a legislator was not excused from voting but chose not to vote, they are recorded as ‘absent’ (a).

Unexcused absences count against legislators’ scores because they demonstrate that the bills did not appear to be important enough to the legislators for them to cast their vote, despite their significance to the conservation community. If an absence is necessary, a legislator can easily be excused by the presiding officer, and excused absences do not count against their scores.

Wherever possible, the votes included in the scorecard were taken on the floor of the House or Senate, where every legislator’s position can be represented. However, some of the most important actions are taken in legislative committees – on measures that never reach the floor. In these cases, CVNM has presented the relevant committee vote(s), and the positions of legislators who do not serve on those particular committees are recorded as ‘not applicable’ (n/a) and are not factored into their overall scores. If
the sponsor of a measure does not serve on a committee for which a vote is being scored, their sponsorship is considered representative of their position, and is recorded with a “+” or “-”, as appropriate.

In this scorecard, **not all votes are weighted equally**. Some votes are more critical than others, either because of the issues at stake or the personal courage required of legislators who take the pro-conservation position. We have endeavored to represent the relative importance of each vote by doubling the value of selected bills. While the choice to weight a vote more heavily is reflective of the position of CVNM and other conservation advocates, it is an inherently subjective decision. We encourage you to read the vote descriptions and compare them against the scorecard to determine how well your legislator represented you on the issues and bills that are most important to you.

**Conservation Records**
CVNM recognizes that no single session perfectly captures the conservation voting record of an elected official. To better evaluate legislators’ voting histories, we have included a column containing their lifetime CVNM score, which averages their scores from all sessions served between 2005 (our first scorecard) and the present (including their 2010 score). For more information, our previous scorecards are also available on our web site at: www.cvnm.org.

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**CVNM Cycle of Accountability**

- **Conservation Goals for the Legislature are Evaluated and Prioritized**
- **Conservation policy goals are communicated to legislators**
- **Lobbying and Grassroots Mobilization**
- **ELECTION: Public elects or rejects candidates**
- **LEGISLATIVE SESSION: Legislature enacts or rejects conservation agenda**
- **Endorsement of Pro-Conservation Candidates**
- **Legislative Results Communicated to the Public through the Scorecard**

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*It is important to remember that scores provide only one component of each legislator’s conservation record. Factors such as leadership in committee, in caucus, and on the floor, as well as vision and determination, also play a crucial role. These other factors are certainly considered by CVNM when making endorsements.*
One of the best ways to influence the voting records of your elected officials is to communicate regularly with them. If your legislators scored well, it’s important to thank them and to support them. If you feel you weren’t well-represented by your legislators’ votes, it’s important to hold them accountable by letting them know what you think about their votes.

If you don’t know who your legislators are, visit www.cvnm.org and click on the “Find your Legislator” button.

**Join Conservation Voters New Mexico today!**

We take on tough fights to protect New Mexico, but these efforts in the Roundhouse and around the state require financial resources. **We can only win with your support.** Please join other New Mexicans in becoming a Conservation Voter – today! Membership is easy: just submit the enclosed envelope with your membership contribution, or join online at www.cvnm.org and click “Support CVNM”.

**Communicate with the Governor and your Legislators**

Whether you’re congratulating your legislators on their score or expressing your disappointment, be direct, courteous and polite. The most important part of your communication is letting them know that you are paying close attention to how they vote or, in the case of the Governor, what actions he takes on environmental legislation.

Phoning your legislator directly and sending letters through regular mail remain by far the most effective ways to communicate with your legislators. Due to mass volume, e-mail is generally a less effective method to communicate your views.

The Governor and Lt. Governor can always be contacted at the Roundhouse. Except during the legislative session, state legislators should be contacted in their home districts, as listed on the following pages.
Governing Bill Richardson
Office of the Governor
490 Old Santa Fe Trail
Room 400
Santa Fe, NM 87501

State Legislators
During legislative sessions (January to March in odd-numbered years; January and February in even-numbered years), your State Senators and Representatives can be contacted at the State Capitol, Santa Fe, NM, 87501, or by phone at 986-4300.

Outside the legislative sessions, legislators can be contacted in their home districts:

SENATE
Adair, Rod (R - 33)
Box 1736
Roswell, NM 88202
(505) 627-8372 / (575) 622-7085

Ashill, Vernom D. (R - 34)
1502 Mountain Shadow
Carlsbad, NM 88220
(505) 302-8135 / (575) 887-1844

Belfort, Sue Wilson (R - 19)
67 Raindance Road
Sandia Park, NM 87047
(505) 232-7116

Boitano, Marco (R - 18)
3615 Horacio Court NE
Albuquerque, NM 87111
(505) 798-1092

Campos, Pete (D - 8)
500 Raynolds Avenue
Las Vegas, NM 87701
(505) 454-2501 / (505) 425-0508

Cisneros, Carlos R. (D - 6)
Box 1129
Questa, NM 87556
(505) 670-5610

Cravens, Kent (R - 21)
P.O. Box 9318
Albuquerque, NM 87193
(505) 808-2679 / (505) 858-0799

Duran, Dianna J. (R - 40)
998 8th Street
Tularosa, NM 88352
(505) 585-8936 / (505) 585-9896

Eichenberg, Tim (D - 15)
7800 Charger Trail NW
Albuquerque, NM 87109
(505) 710-1305

Feldman, Dede (D - 13)
1821 Meadowview NW
Albuquerque, NM 87104
(505) 242-1397

Fischmann, Stephen H. (D - 37)
Box 2580
Mesilla Park, NM 88047
(505) 635-9582

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Conservation Voters New Mexico, a nonpartisan, non-profit 501(c)(4) organization, works to protect our Land of Enchantment by:

- Educating legislators and the public on critical conservation issues;
- Lobbying on behalf of pro-conservation legislation;
- Holding legislators accountable for decisions that impact the environment; and
- Endorsing and electing pro-conservation candidates to public office.

At Conservation Voters New Mexico, we value responsible stewardship of our water, our land and our natural resources. We believe that ecological health and social equity among New Mexico’s diverse and culturally rich communities protects our cherished quality of life. We are dedicated to ensuring democratic accountability and access for all New Mexicans to participate in the political process. We support policies and lawmakers that promote long-term ecological and economic sustainability.

This is our responsibility to future generations.

If "HD" and "SD" appear on your address label, the numbers correspond with your House District and Senate District for your reference.