



The Renewable Resources Extension Act (RREA) at New Mexico State University

RREA programs help New Mexico landowners and government land management agencies more effectively manage natural resources on their forest and rangelands. In recent years, primary use of RREA dollars in New Mexico has been to demonstrate methods of controlling numerous toxic and invasive plant species on rangelands. RREA dollars also have been used to investigate the effects of forestry practices and prescribed fire on wildlife habitat. RREA funds are leveraged with \$5-\$10 of state, county and private funds. RREA funds allowed New Mexico Cooperative Extension to:

- Provide guidance and expertise in treating over 30,000 acres of saltcedar along the Rio Grande, Pecos and Canadian Rivers in 2002 and 2003 in an effort to restore riparian habitat.
- Conduct demonstrations on best management practices for controlling toxic and invasive species on private and public rangelands, farmland, and public roadways in all but one of the 33 counties in New Mexico.
- Publish and distribute educational publications on recognition and control of invasive weed species in range and forest lands.
- Conduct studies on the impact of invasive species control on endangered species and other wildlife populations.
- Evaluate timber harvest treatments and fuel management practices on forage quality for deer, elk, and livestock.
- Examine the response of upland and riparian habitats to timber harvest treatments and fuel management practices.

*“The saltcedar control program has converted previously unproductive land into productive grazing land while reducing water usage by this invasive plant
- New Mexico livestock producer*

“Demonstrations at the local level have been invaluable in educating producers in control of mesquite and other invasive species” - New Mexico Agricultural Extension Agent

“The partnerships fostered by this program are essential to future natural resource management on our National Forests” - County Commissioner



Helicopter spraying herbicide to kill saltcedar



Softwood conifer trees removed by logging to reduce catastrophic fire

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