

# Los Alamos National Laboratory

## Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration

### Date of incident:

1940's through the present.

### Location:

Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) is situated on approximately 25,600 acres in north-central New Mexico, approximately 60 miles north of Albuquerque and 25 miles northwest of Santa Fe

### Trustees:

- U.S. Department of Agriculture
- U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)
- U.S. Department of the Interior
- State of New Mexico
- Pueblo de San Ildefonso
- Santa Clara Pueblo
- Jemez Pueblo

### Natural Resource Damage Case Status:

- Currently using a cooperative assessment process
- *Preassessment Screen for Los Alamos National Laboratory* (Preassessment Screen) completed and approved by the LANL Trustee Council authorizing officials.
- The Trustee Council will develop a draft natural resource damage assessment plan for analyzing natural resource damages.

### Summary:

Natural resource damage assessment and restoration is the collection and analysis of information to determine the extent of injuries to natural resources, the loss of services resulting from those injuries, the appropriate compensation for the injured natural resource and loss of services, and the actions undertaken to restore or replace the natural resources and services to baseline conditions.

The Preassessment Screen represents the first step of a natural resource damage assessment for the LANL site and the surrounding areas, and is not intended to be used to establish the existence of, or responsibility for, natural resources injury. To develop the Preassessment Screen, the Trustees conducted a preliminary review of available LANL data and documents and believe it is reasonable to proceed with an assessment. The assessment will address natural resources both at the LANL site and all other areas where natural resources may have been injured by release of hazardous substances (including radionuclides) or discharge of oil from the site.

The next step is the preparation of a draft natural resource damage assessment plan by the Trustee Council. This plan will be used to guide the assessment. The Trustee Council will solicit public comment on the draft assessment plan upon its completion at a later date.

There are ongoing remediation and environmental surveillance programs conducted at the LANL site. The Trustee Council will coordinate the natural resource damage assessment with the remedial process, and data from the remediation process and environmental surveillance program will be used in the assessment. Information about these and other environmental programs at LANL can be found at <http://www.lanl.gov/environment/>.

For more information please contact the State at (505) 243-8087 or DOE at (505) 665-3619.