

PRESS RELEASE

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Photo attached

NEW MEXICO LAND CONSERVANCY WELCOMES NEWEST BOARD MEMBER

Ray Powell of Albuquerque joins the New Mexico Land Conservancy Board of Directors

March 26, 2007

The New Mexico Land Conservancy (NMLC), a statewide, non-profit land trust organization based in Santa Fe, recently announced that Ray B. Powell, DVM, accepted a position on the Board of Directors.

Mr. Powell, a resident and veterinarian from Albuquerque is currently the Regional Director of the Jane Goodall Institute's Roots & Shoots Four Corners States Program. Prior to his position with the Institute, he was the former Executive Director of the Valles Caldera National Preserve from 2004-2005 and the former New Mexico State Commissioner of Public Lands from 1993-2002. Serving as the Special Assistant to former New Mexico Governor Bruce King from 1990-1993, he was the policy advisor on environment, natural resources, health and recreation.

NMLC Board Chair, Jack Wright, stated, "Ray's background and expertise in natural resource management and environmental issues makes him an ideal member to the NMLC Board of Directors - we're happy to welcome him to our organization." Upon accepting the position on the board Mr. Powell said, "I am honored to join such a visionary effort to protect the health of our lands and keep knowledgeable, hard working people connected to them."

Ray will serve a three-year term and joins Dr. John B. (Jack) Wright, Chair, Las Cruces; Joseph Montoya, Vice Chair, Albuquerque; Anthony Anella, Secretary, Albuquerque; David Johnson, Treasurer, Farmington; and members Tony Benson, Taos; Elizabeth Richardson, Denver, CO; and Moo Thorpe, Santa Fe on the NMLC Board of Directors.

NMLC was established in 2002 to help preserve New Mexico's land heritage by protecting significant wildlife habitat, productive agricultural lands, natural and cultural resources, scenic open space and recreational lands for conservation purposes and public benefit through-out the state. To date, NMLC has conserved nearly 50,000 acres of high conservation-value lands in New Mexico. For more information, call (505) 986-3801 or visit www.nmlandconservancy.org.