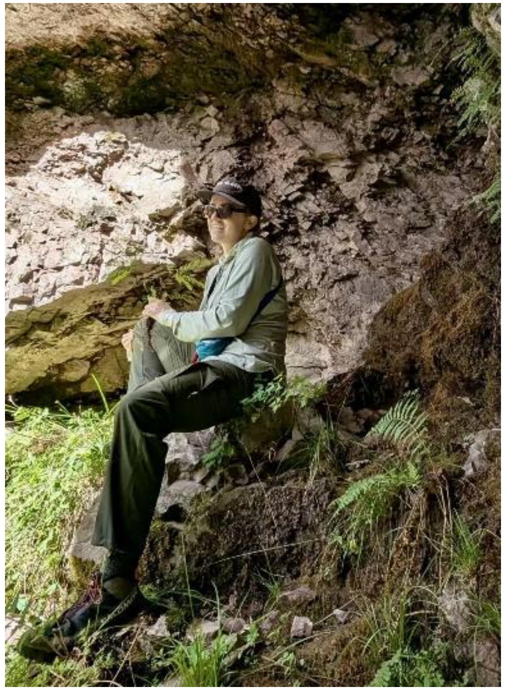
UPDATES TO THE FLORA OF NEW MEXICO:

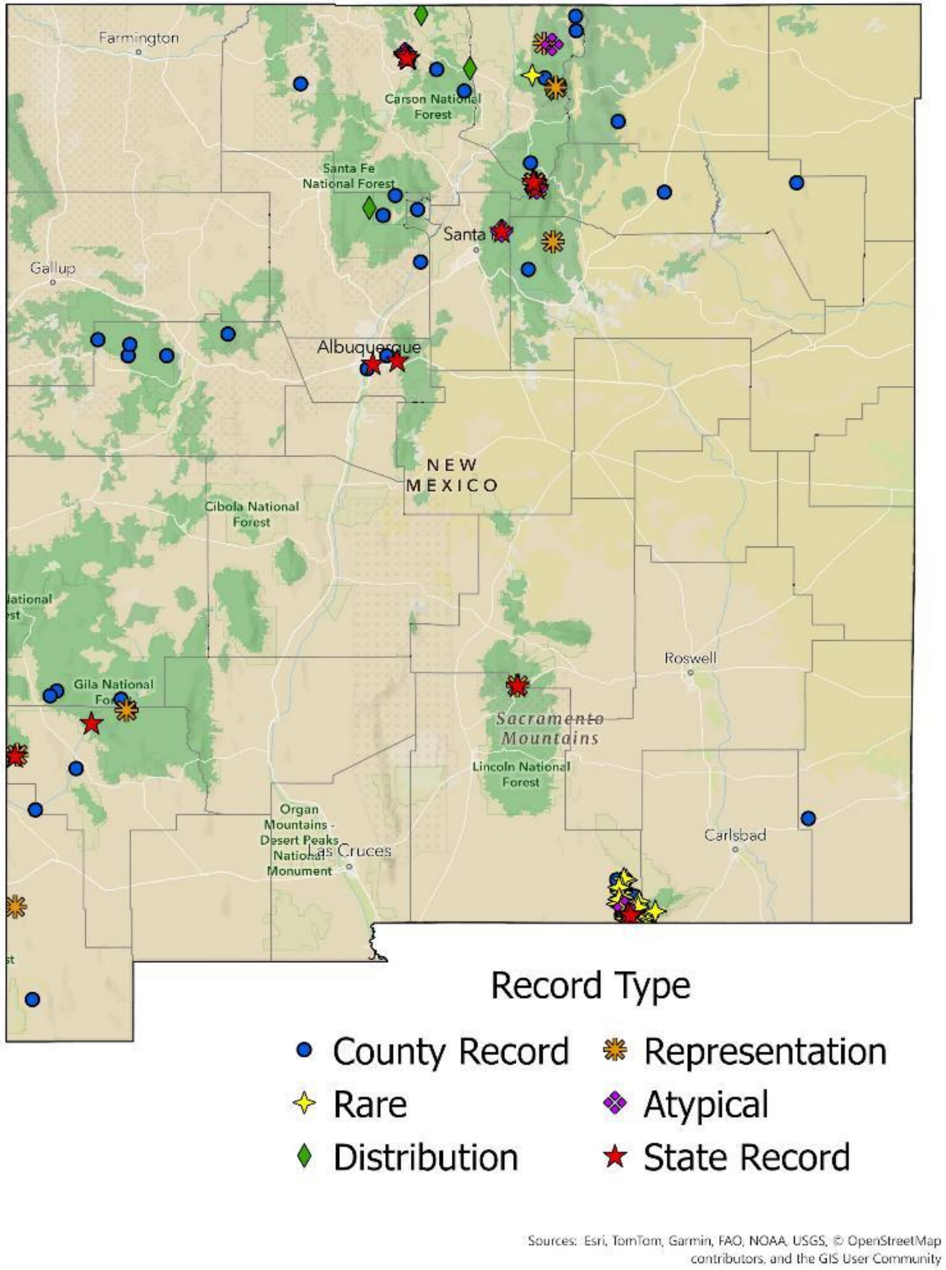
NOTABLE BOTANICAL FINDINGS FROM THE NEXT GENERATION OF SOUTHWESTERN BOTANISTS



Harpo Faust, Grace McCartha,
Joseph Kleinkopf & Bryana Olmeda

19 State Collection Records

	Category	Number
Taxonomic	Families	43
	Genera	83
	Species/Taxa	110
Collection Approach	Agency	13
	Education	12
	Floristics	52
	Habitat	22
	Opportunistic	33
	Taxonomic	16
Record Type	State Records	15 (+4 ferns published separately)
	Distribution	6
	Representation	14
	Rare	43
	Atypical	5
	County Records	65



Ageratina paupercula

Asteraceae

Faust, Opportunistic, 2024

“Specimen was one of many notable records found during a trip to the Apache Box Wilderness Study Area [south of the Gila Mtns, near AZ border], a difficult-to-access rhyolite canyon with historic mines, and is an area in need of more thorough surveys. Since this population was found, another population was identified in Cliff, NM, firmly establishing this taxon in the state [*Veach 2025-04-26-1* at WNMU].”

Holosteum umbellatum

Caryophyllaceae

McCartha, Opportunistic, 2024

Nonnative species found near " sidewalks and landscaped environments. Two populations were found in Albuquerque in 2024…In 2025, several observations of this species were made in Silver City and were recorded on iNaturalist, and one subsequent collection was made [*Titus 2025-4-2-1* at SNM]. Additional populations could be found in "weedy" urban areas. This is now the most southern collection of the species in North America."

Graptopetalum rusbyi

Crassulaceae

Faust, Opportunistic, 2025

“It was found nearly completely camouflaged by a population of *Myriopteris yavapensis* in the Gila Mountains, not far from the San Francisco box and the Arizona border, in the Turkey Creek Vicinity…It has likely been overlooked in southwest New Mexico and should be targeted in future spring work in the area, both in the Peloncillos and Mogollons. It is considered secure in neighboring Arizona and has been previously ranked in New Mexico as an S1 based on an unconfirmed record (NatureServe 2025a).”

Carex perglobosa

Cyperaceae

Kleinkopf (with Faust), Habitat, 2024

Found on an unnamed peak south of Jicarita Peak in Taos County.

“First report and collection of this species in the state of New Mexico. This population extends the known distribution of the taxa by 150 km south.”

Carex retrorsa

Cyperaceae

Rowe (with Faust), Opportunistic, 2025

Found in Brazos Box Canyon in the San Juan Mountains.

“*Carex retrorsa* is known from nearby populations in southern Colorado, where it is well established in the San Juan Mountains, with the nearest specimen [*Ken Heil 12668* at SJMM] only 48 km northwest of this population.”

Oxytropis podocarpa

Fabaceae

McCartha, Agency, 2024

“This is the first record for New Mexico and is isolated from other known populations. Since this collection, it has been observed about 500 m south by Ben Stout. The species should be looked for on other alpine peaks in the state. This is now the most southern collection of the species in North America.” [Jicarita alpine range]

Phacelia distans

Hydrophyllaceae

Faust, Opportunistic, 2024

"First accurate report for this species in the state of New Mexico. Two other specimens have been identified as *Phacelia distans*, but are not accurately identified [*Rosson 1337A* at TTC & *Casados 81-88* at BLM:NM]. This taxon is likely also in the Peloncillos and Mogollon Mountains in New Mexico." [Apache Box Wilderness Area]

Phacelia hastata var. alpina

Hydrophyllaceae

Kleinkopf (with Faust), Habitat, 2023

Collected on Deception Peak of Ski Santa Fe. “This is the first, accurate report for this taxon [and] for this species in the state. It is also the southernmost collection of this taxon. While there is uncertainty regarding the taxonomic status of *Phacelia hastata* var. *alpina,* with some considering it to be a synonym of *P. hastata* var. *hastata,* this collection is significant for several other reasons. Of the four collections of *Phacelia hastata* var. *hastata*.....made in the state of New Mexico, all remain unconfirmed (Bob Sivinski, pers. comm.). Despite these collections, it is not listed in either of the most recent floristic treatments for the state (Allred et al. 2020; Heil & O’Kane 2025).”

Stachys byzantina

Lamiaceae

Chauvin, Agency, 2019

“The collection of this species in 2019 near Cloudcroft, NM, is a state record. Since its collection in 2019, there have been several wild observations on iNaturalist in mountainous regions of the state.”

Utricularia minor

Lentibulariaceae

Faust (with Rowe), Opportunistic, 2025

“First record for the state of New Mexico and definitive extension of its distribution into the state. Established in both neighboring states of Arizona and Colorado, the closest collection is in Colorado, 104 km northeast of this population [*Steve O’Kane 2462* at CS].” [San Juan Mountains]

Mentzelia saxicola

Loasaceae

Olmeda, Floristics, 2024

"*Mentzelia saxicola* is a biennial herb endemic to the Chihuahuan Desert in Texas and Mexico (Schenk et al. 2021). It can be found growing in sandy or gypsum soils within arroyos or cliffsides. This is the first collection of *Mentzelia saxicola* in New Mexico and the northernmost collection of its range, by 100 kilometers (62 miles) [*Spellenberg 3686* at NYBG]." [Brokeoff Mountains]

Argemone chisoensis

Papaveraceae

Olmeda, Floristics, 2024

"*Argemone chisosensis* is a perennial, prickly herb commonly found in arid plains and mountains in western Texas and northern Mexico (Ownbey 1958). It was previously thought to have been documented in New Mexico by R. Worthington [*Worthington 35078* at ARIZ & *Worthington 35461* at UTEP] in 2008 and by R.C. Sivinski in 2004 [*Sivinski 5814* at NMC]. These three specimens were determined to be *Aregemone squarrosa* by R.C. Sivinski, based on leaf morphology (Sivinski, pers. comm.)." [Brokeoff Mountains]

Rhamnus cathartica

Rhamnaceae

McCartha, Opportunistic, 2025

“This is the first time the species has been recorded in New Mexico in a wild setting. This specimen was found at Embudo Spring in the Sandia Mountain Wilderness. There have been a couple of observations in the city of Santa Fe and one observation south of La Cueva near some residences. The species has the potential to be highly invasive and should be removed where found.”

Comarum palustre

Rosaceae

Faust, Opportunistic, 2024

“This is the first report for the state of New Mexico. This also represents the most southern population of the range, extending its distribution from the southernmost Colorado population by 35 kilometers. The closest collection was made in 1965 in Cumbres Pass, Conejo County, Colorado [*Weber 9363* at COLO].” [San Juan Mountains]

Potentilla hookeriana

Rosaceae

Faust (with Kleinkopf), Habitat, 2024

“The southern extent of this species was previously known to be in Costilla County, Colorado, also in the Sangre De Cristo Mountains [*Hartman 62593* at COLO]. First report for this species in New Mexico and increases its southern distribution by 145 kilometers.” [Jicarita Peak]

Pseudathryium alpestre

Athyriaceae

Faust, Taxonomic, 2024

“This is the first documented report and collection for the species in New Mexico. The closest prior collections are from nearby southern Colorado in the San Juan Mountains, 110 miles northwest (Steve O’Kane 6717 at SJNM). This is now the southernmost inland population in Western North America, notably extending the distribution of this species.”

Dryopteris expansa

Dryopteridaceae

Faust, Taxonomic, 2023

"This is the first documented report and collection of *Dryopteris expansa* for the state of New Mexico. The closest previous collections were made in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains in southern Colorado by F.T. Rowe in 1939 (GREE Herbarium, SEINET Portal Network, 2024). The New Mexico collection extends the Rocky Mountain distribution from Colorado by 261 kilometers south and represents the southernmost collection for this plant's interior North America distribution, also found in the Sangre de Cristo's."

Adiantum aleuticum

Pteridaceae

Faust, Taxonomic, 2025

"The closest collections to this newly recorded population are in the Chiricahuas of southeastern Arizona [*Ferriss s.n.* at PH and *Yatskievych 81-225* at ARIZ] 243 km southwest. The population found was robust, however individual plants appeared unhealthy with signs of herbivory and dryness despite the moist site."

Woodsia scopulina

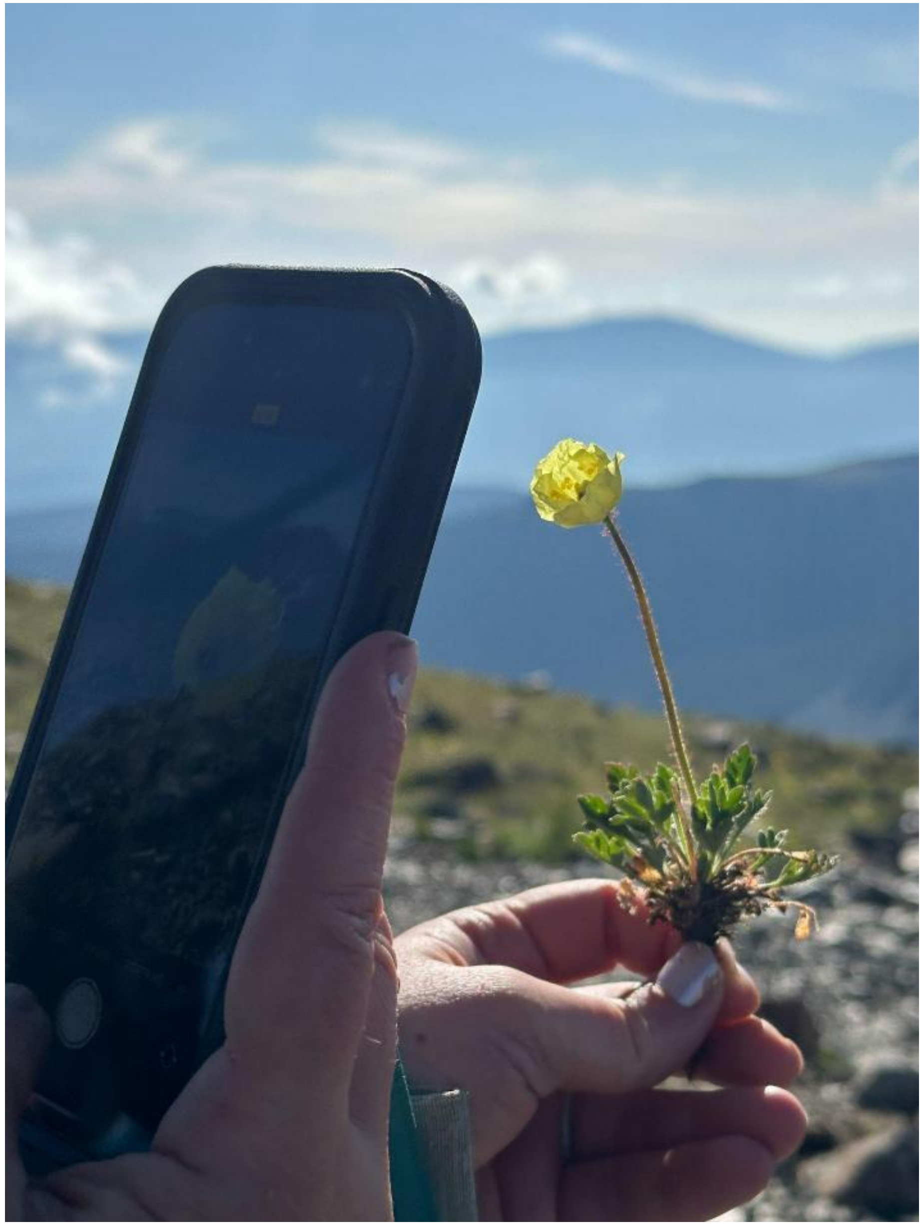
Woodsiaceae

Faust, Taxonomic, 2025

"While four historical New Mexico collections were attributed to this taxon, all were misidentified and have been annotated with the corresponding names [*U.K. Berg 4884* at CSU, *A. Fendler 1022* at BRU, *Page 1497* at UWSP and *Standley 10783* at US]. This is the first authentic collection of *Woodsia scopulina* for the state of New Mexico, although the population is within eyesight of the Colorado border, and extends its distribution south by only 35 kilometers [*P Douglas 2138* at CS]. Two populations were found of this species within the Toltec Gorge vicinity, one of the deepest canyons in New Mexico."

Other noteworthy finds

1. Abutilon parishii (proposed)
2. Papaver coloradense
3. Asplenium palmeri
4. Potentilla saximontana
5. Helictotrichon mortonianum



While half of these are peripherals....

Potential Future NM Rare List Proposals:

-Mentzelia saxicola: S3 in TX, G4 (1 pop in NM)

-Argemone chisoensis: G4, not ranked in TX (2 pops in NM)

-Graptopetalum rusbyi: S1 in AZ, G4 (2-3 pops in NM)

-Carex retrorsa: S1 in Utah, S2 in Colorado, G5 (2 pops in NM)

-Carex perglobosa: S3 in CO, S1 in Utah, G3 (1 pop in NM)

-Oxytropis podocarpa: S3 in CO, G4 (2 pops in NM)

-Adiantum aleuticum: S1 in CO, G5 (2 pops in NM)

-Potentilla saximontana : S4 in CO, but G3 (only 2 pops in NM)

-Papaver coloradense: S3 in CO, G4 (1 pop in NM)

-Helictotrichon mortonianum: S3 in CO, S2 in UT, S1 in WY, G4 (5 pops in NM)

-Ageratina paupercula: S3 in AZ, G3 (3 pops in NM) (was tabled at 2025 meeting)

-Pseudathryium alpestre: S3 in CO, S1 in Utah, G4 (2 pops in NM)

-Dryopteris expansa: S1 in CO, G5 (1 pop in NM)

-Botrychium lineare: S2 in CO, S1 in UT, G3 (2 pops in NM)

Rare species that were added to the UNM collection

-**Brokeoff Mountains Flora:** 32 records of 8 species (Berlandiera macvaughii, Bletia nitida, Dermatophyllum guadalupense, Ericameria nauseosa var. texensis, Laphamia quinqueflora, Oreocarya worthingtonii, Rhinotropis rimulicola var. rimulicola, Salvia summa)

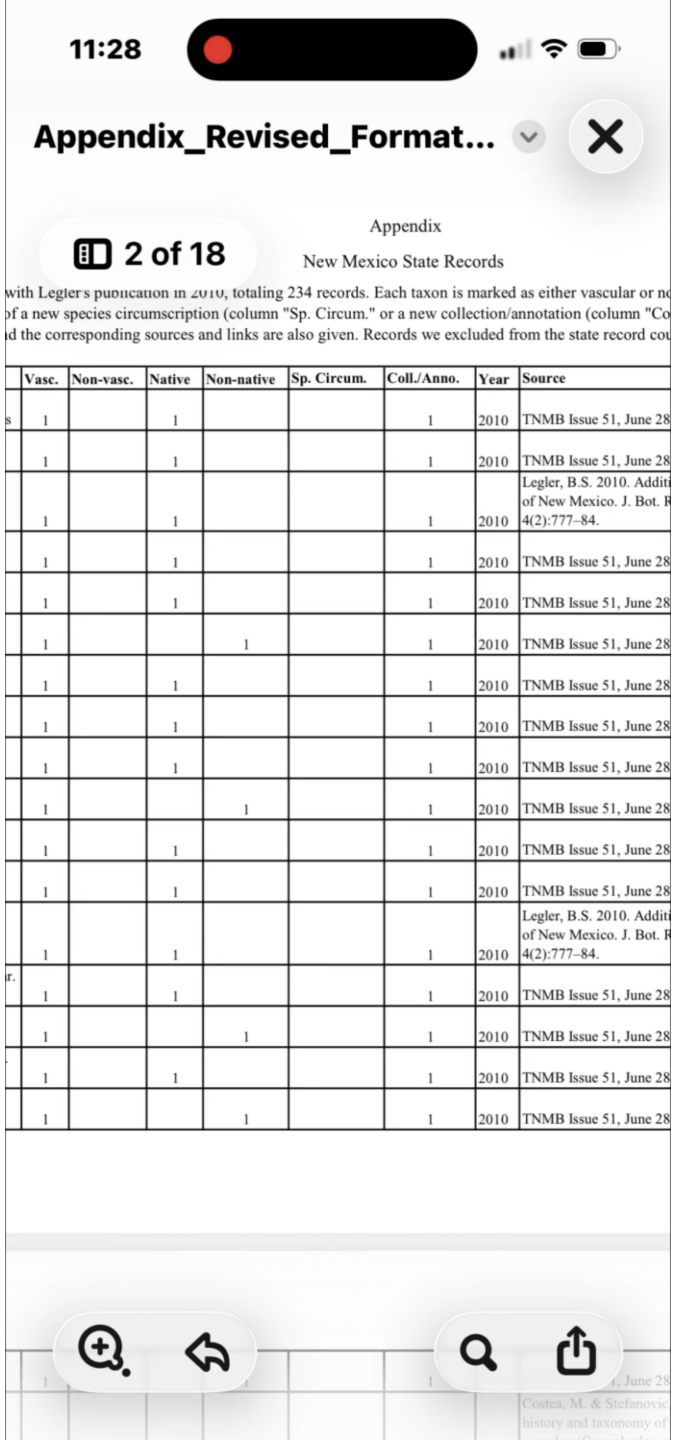
-**Alpine:** 5 records of 3 species (Delphinium alpestre, Delphinium robustum, & Draba heilii)

-**2024 Brokeoff Foray:** 5 records of 5 species (Bletia nitida and Laphamia quinqueflora again, Aquilegia chaplinei, Escobaria sneedii, Viola calcicola)

-**Opportunistic, Apache Box:** Draba mogollonica

Spreadsheet Appendix

List of 236 state records since March 2010



Appendix

New Mexico State Records

with Legler's publication in 2010, totaling 234 records. Each taxon is marked as either vascular or no
of a new species circumscription (column "Sp. Circum." or a new collection/annotation (column "Co
d the corresponding sources and links are also given. Records we excluded from the state record cou

	Vasc.	Non-vasc.	Native	Non-native	Sp. Circum.	Coll./Anno.	Year	Source
s	1		1			1	2010	TNMB Issue 51, June 28
	1		1			1	2010	TNMB Issue 51, June 28
	1		1			1	2010	Legler, B.S. 2010. Additi of New Mexico. J. Bot. R 4(2):777–84.
	1		1			1	2010	TNMB Issue 51, June 28
	1		1			1	2010	TNMB Issue 51, June 28
	1			1		1	2010	TNMB Issue 51, June 28
	1		1			1	2010	TNMB Issue 51, June 28
	1		1			1	2010	TNMB Issue 51, June 28
	1		1			1	2010	TNMB Issue 51, June 28
	1			1		1	2010	TNMB Issue 51, June 28
	1		1			1	2010	TNMB Issue 51, June 28
	1		1			1	2010	TNMB Issue 51, June 28
	1		1			1	2010	Legler, B.S. 2010. Additi of New Mexico. J. Bot. R 4(2):777–84.
r.	1		1			1	2010	TNMB Issue 51, June 28
	1			1		1	2010	TNMB Issue 51, June 28
	1		1			1	2010	TNMB Issue 51, June 28
	1			1		1	2010	TNMB Issue 51, June 28

Reporting Matters!

- Send any rare plant data and reports/write-ups to Natural Heritage New Mexico at nhnm@unm.edu.
- Webpage that includes a link to a Survey123 form that Richard made to submit data to us from the field and links to NHNM and EMNRD iNaturalist projects: https://nhnm.unm.edu/data/observations.
- You can also always email gmccartha@unm.edu with rare plant information.