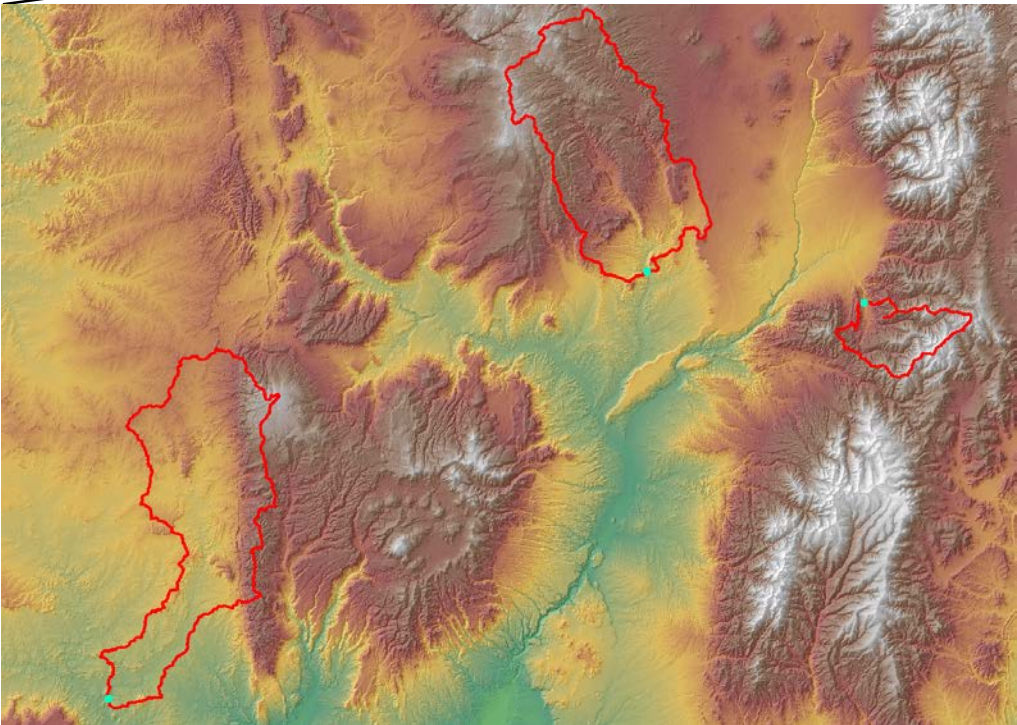
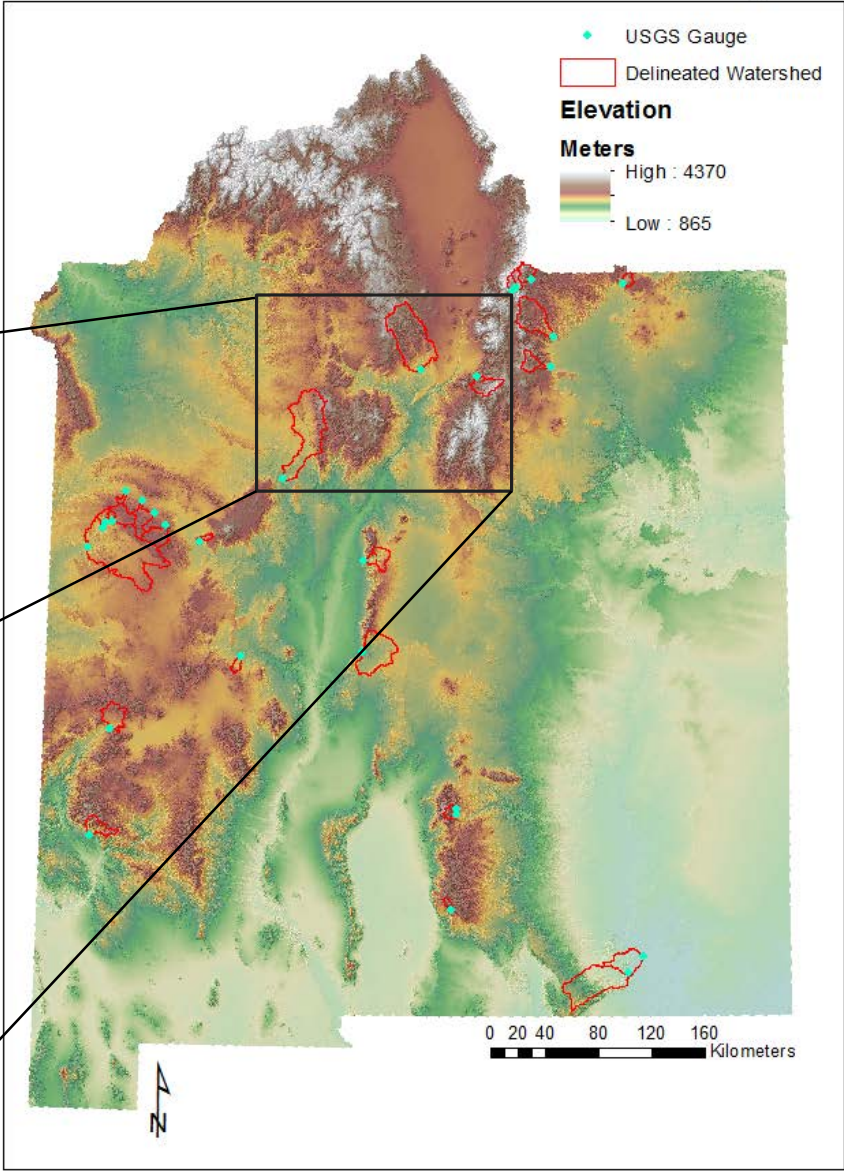


Statewide Water Assessment: Recharge

We have created custom-delineated watersheds above 20+ USGS gauges with data covering up to 30 years (1984 to 2014) of discharge measurements. This data will be compared with precipitation data from the same time period and will provide an estimate of the magnitude of runoff relative to precipitation and modeled evapotranspiration and recharge.



New Mexico Watersheds Selected for Analysis



Statewide Water Assessment: Recharge

Chloride mass balance (CMB) has been used to estimate recharge in many studies in New Mexico. In our study, we are collecting spring water samples from 24 sites in the mountains around the state. Initial CMB results suggest that recharge in the mountains of New Mexico in some cases exceeds 50% of precipitation in the spring. Results show that recharge rates (measured as a fraction of precipitation) increase with total precipitation and elevation. The second round of samples has been collected from the field and is awaiting analysis. Repeat sampling will allow us to account for seasonal variations in water chemistry and estimate average annual recharge.

New Mexico Chloride Mass Balance Sample Sites

