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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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December 12, 2023

Next Year's Seedlings Available to Order Now

35,000 seedlings available through NMFD Conservation Seedling Program

Santa Fe — Winter may be upon us, but it's never too early to start looking towards next spring's planting season. The New Mexico Energy Minerals and Natural Resources Department's <u>Forestry Division</u> is pleased to announce the winter conservation seedling sale is now open to the public.

Twenty-three varieties of seedlings will be available to order online, including long-time favorites, such as ponderosa pine, Douglas-fir, pinon pine, Rocky Mountain juniper, Scots pine, and a large variety of shrubs like chokecherry and wax currant. All proceeds from the winter seedling sale are reinvested back into the state's Conservation Seedling Program.

To qualify for the program, purchasers must own at least one acre of land in New Mexico. Seedlings must be used for conservation purposes, such as erosion control, reforestation, wildlife habitat, and windbreaks.

"Winter is a great time to take advantage of this seedling sale," said Carol Bada, Conservation Seedling Program Manager. "It's important to place your orders as soon as you can. Demand for seedlings has already surpassed our expectations, based on last year's sales during the first week of availability."

One-year-old, small container seedlings (10 cu inch container) of the same species and multispecies bundles are available in minimum lots of 49 seedlings for \$90. Two-season, large container seedlings (40 cu inch container) are available in lots of 20 seedlings for \$57. Bareroot seedlings are 50 for \$64. There is a \$5 handling fee per order and an additional \$20 fee per lot for all UPS orders – all sales are final.

Ordering is on a first come first serve basis. Landowners are encouraged to purchase seedlings in December for the best selection. The last day to purchase seedlings online will be April 19, 2024. Distribution begins March 11 - April 26, 2024.

Customers can have seedlings shipped via UPS, or pickup curbside at the Forestry Division seedling warehouse, Casa de Arboles (Tree House), located at 3250 Calle Princessa Juana in Santa Fe. Warehouse hours are Thursdays and Fridays from 8:30 am - 12 pm and 1 pm - 4:30 pm. The warehouse will be closed Good Friday, March 29.

Visa, Discover, or Master Card are accepted for payment online. Checks are accepted with a mail-in application form, which can be downloaded from our website or mailed. Landowners may contact the New Mexico Forestry Division at (505) 476-3325 to obtain a copy of the mail-in form.

A complete list of available seedlings, ordering information, and additional program details are available on the <u>Conservation Seedling website</u>.

Link to this press release <u>here</u>.

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The Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department provides resource protection and renewable energy resource development services to the public and other state agencies.

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