

For LANL, preserving our state is a personal mission

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When I came to work at Los Alamos National Laboratory in 2000, I spent my first year walking the lab's largely undeveloped 40 square miles, inventorying the environmental impacts of the Cerro Grande fire. That fire devastated the community and the laboratory. Scorched trees littered the landscape, and silt from extreme flooding choked streams and filled canyons across the fire-ravaged landscape. I was struck by the impact of the fire and how vulnerable we were. At the same time, I recognized the lab's critical role in protecting our environment and proactively offsetting the fire's impacts.

In the years since then, I have worked to become the division leader for Environmental Protection and Compliance. I am driven to do this kind of work, which comes naturally to me. In my childhood in the 1970s, when environmental laws were being passed, my parents instilled in me the importance of being an environmental steward. I have been actively involved in environmental stewardship and sustainability efforts since college – it is part of who I am. As division leader, I strive to ensure we fulfill our commitment to environmental stewardship through sampling and monitoring our environment, identifying opportunities for pollution prevention, and supporting the laboratory's sustainability efforts – and evidence shows we're doing very well.

Read the rest of the story as it appeared in the [Albuquerque Journal](#).

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