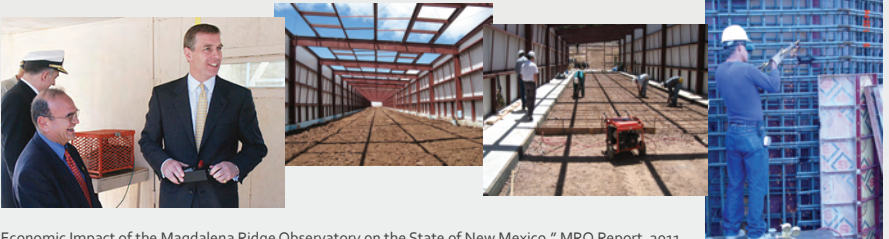


The Magdalena Ridge Observatory (MRO) is a significant contributor to the New Mexico economy as a result of the out-of-state funds that it receives. The following is from a 2011 Economic Impact Report.<sup>1</sup>

- For 12 years MRO has been supported by out-of-state revenue totaling \$66.8 million (1998-2010).
- Annually, outside dollars supported an average of 49 MRO jobs and a payroll of \$2.5 million.
- Spending by MRO generated an additional boost of 31 indirect and induced jobs within New Mexico (1998-2010).
- Based on the economic model and the ratio of total impact to out-of-state income, \$1.57 was generated in the New Mexico economy for every out-of-state dollar received by the MRO program.
- New Mexico Gross Receipts Tax Revenue from in-state expenditures totaled \$1.4 million (1998-2010).
- The total amount of federal taxes paid was an estimated \$1.9 million. An estimated \$414,736 was paid in New Mexico state income taxes (1998-2010).<sup>2</sup>
- Based on data from the McDonald Observatory and the nearby Very Large Array, it is estimated that when MRO is completed visitors to MRO will contribute \$8 million per year directly to the local economy.
- It is estimated that visitors will contribute an additional \$385,000 to the state in Gross Receipts Taxes and \$165,000 in tax revenue to the City of Socorro.

The total economic impact of the MRO Program on the state of New Mexico is \$104.5 million for fiscal years 1998 to 2010.



<sup>1</sup> "The Economic Impact of the Magdalena Ridge Observatory on the State of New Mexico," MRO Report, 2011

<sup>2</sup> Taxes paid are estimates only. Personal files were not used.

FOR QUESTIONS OR INQUIRIES PLEASE CONTACT DR. IFAN PAYNE, MRO PROGRAM DIRECTOR  
INFO@MRO.NMT.EDU TEL 575 835-6431