

## COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA BRIEFING

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Meeting Date: November 13, 2014

Agenda Number: 13

Presenter: Dan Brooks

Corroborator: Mike Sloane

Agenda Title: Prospective Initiative to Include the Addition of Moronidae as a Protected Species for the 2015 Legislative Session

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### 1. Summary of Agenda Item

The Department will seek Commission approval to add fishes of the family Moronidae to the list of protected species found in statute at 17-2-3 NMSA 1978. The Moronidae family includes striped and white bass. These species were previously classified in the family Serridae but taxonomists have determined that the fishes belong in a separate family. Approval of this proposal will ensure the Commission and Department continue to have authority over these important game fish species.

### 2. Strategic Plan References and Possible Impacts of Agenda Item

The proposal will support the Strategic Plan directive to “continue to promulgate rules that protect fish stocks from overexploitation and equitably distribute fishing opportunity” (Conservation Services Program P717, Objective 4, Strategy 4.4, page 10).

### 3. Considerations Regarding Duplications and/or Conflicts with Existing Rules or Statutes

There are no duplications or conflicts with this item.

### 4. Description and Summary of Public Involvement Process and Results

The Department will summarize any public comments received during its presentation to the Commission. Public input will continue to occur during legislative review should the Commission approve moving forward with the proposal.

### 5. Suggested Motion

The Department respectfully suggests the following motion unless Commission discretion indicates a different course of action:

“Move to direct the Department to develop and submit for executive branch review, a legislative initiative for including Moronidae as a protected species.