

Military & Veterans

Licenses, applications, harvest reporting and general information: wildlife.dgf.nm.gov

Military and Veteran Licenses and Hunt Opportunities

NMDOW acknowledges the contribution and sacrifice of active military and veterans with several discounted licenses and special hunting opportunities. Information about active military and veteran hunting and fishing opportunities and how to apply is available online and by telephone.

50% Discount for Resident Active Military and Veterans

A 50% discount on all licenses, permits and stamps is available to New Mexico residents who are active-duty military or honorably discharged veterans. The discount may be claimed by applying for or purchasing any license, permit or stamp online, by telephone or at any license vendor. Residents claiming this discount must be able to provide proof of active-duty military (page 158) or honorably discharged veteran status (page 163) upon request. **Discount does not apply to:** application fees, license vendor fees, administrative fees, duplicate license fees, the federal Duck Stamp or the resident Disabled Veteran Game-Hunting & Fishing License.

Military-Only Draw Hunts:

Proof of Active Military Status Required Prior to Application

Military-only draw hunts are available on McGregor Range in GMU 28 (Fort Bliss) for deer, elk, pronghorn, oryx, Barbary sheep and javelina. Each license year, applicants must provide proof of full-time, active-duty status. Veterans and reservists are not eligible for military-only hunts. Orders or other documentation (excluding military ID cards) of current active-duty service must be received by NMDOW prior to application. Proof of service may be submitted by email: special.hunts@dgf.nm.gov fax: **505-476-8180** or U.S. Mail: **NMDOW Special Hunts, One Wildlife Way, Santa Fe, NM 87507.**

100% Disabled Resident Veterans

New Mexico residents who are 100% disabled as a result of having served in the U.S. military are eligible for a free Lifetime Game-Hunting & Fishing License. The disabled veteran must apply for a Disabled Veteran Card. This card is issued by the NMDOW and allows the cardholder to fish, hunt small game and obtain a deer hunting license free of charge. The deer hunting license will be issued only if the cardholder has applied and been successful in the draw for deer, or if the cardholder obtains written permission from a landowner for a private-land deer hunt. The free deer hunting license must be applied for each license year, and no preference is given for public-land deer draws. A HMAV and a Habitat Stamp (page 14) are not required.

Disabled Veteran Game-Hunting & Fishing License

New Mexico residents who are disabled veterans of the U.S. military, but do not meet the 100% disabled qualification, are eligible for a \$10 combination Game-Hunting & Fishing License. Disabled veterans may purchase this license online, by telephone or at license vendors.

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Oryx Draw Hunt for Resident Veterans on White Sands Missile Range

New Mexico resident veterans who have never held a once-in-a-lifetime Oryx License are eligible to apply for a once-in-a-lifetime oryx hunt, available by drawing each license year. New Mexico resident fees apply. Applicants must submit their DD-214 demonstrating honorable discharge prior to application each year, unless their resident veteran status has already been verified by NMDOW, or they are registered as a 100% Disabled Veteran. Copies may be submitted by email:

special.hunts@dgf.nm.gov fax: **505-476-8180** or

U.S. Mail: **NMDOW Special Hunts, One Wildlife Way, Santa Fe, NM 87507.**

Fort Bliss Opportunities

Active-duty military personnel stationed at Fort Bliss in El Paso, Texas are eligible for resident fees on draw hunts that occur on Fort Bliss Military Reservation in New Mexico. Each year, prior to application, proof of assignment must be submitted by email: **special.hunts@dgf.nm.gov** by fax: **505-476-8180** or received by mail.

Resident Fees for Non-resident Active-duty and Veteran Rehabilitation Program Enrollees

Non-resident active-duty members or veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces who are undergoing a rehabilitation program that involves hunting activities are eligible for a resident fee on Deer, Elk, Javelina, Oryx, Pronghorn and Turkey Licenses. The rehabilitation program must be sponsored by the federal government, or a nonprofit organization authorized by the federal government, and it must be under the direction of a military or federal Veterans Administration rehabilitation center.

This benefit is not available through the draw. Proof of eligibility must be provided. This benefit is available only through the NMDOW Santa Fe office.

Special Oryx Draw for Injured Service Members

Injured active-duty and veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces with a disability rating of 50% or greater qualify for a special drawing for oryx on White Sands Missile Range. License(s) must be purchased by successful applicants, but there is no fee to apply. For eligibility and application information, please call **888-248-6866** after June 1, 2026.

Special Military/Veteran Pronghorn Draws

Resident Purple Heart recipients and full-time active-duty military personnel permanently stationed in New Mexico qualify for special drawings for pronghorn on Melrose Airforce Range. License(s) must be purchased by successful applicants, but there is no fee to apply. For eligibility and application information, please call **888-248-6866** after June 1, 2026.