



**Proposed amendments to
Use of State Game
Commission Lands (GAIN)
Rule 19.34.3**

May 12, 2016

New Mexico State Game Commission Meeting

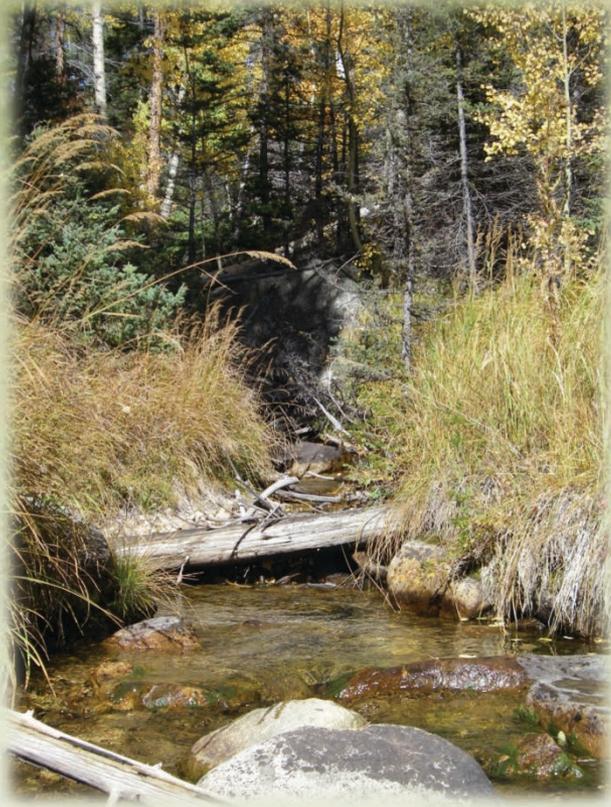
Silver City, NM



19.34.3 Rule Change History

- **Committee Goal: Adapt GAIN program/Rule to:**
 - Facilitate the public going outdoors
 - Simplify and standardize Wildlife Management Area (WMA) access rules
 - Assist in economic development of communities near WMAs
 - Make sure access doesn't:
 - Negatively impact wildlife resources
 - Violate purpose of the property

Current Access of WMAs



- Fishing or hunting license, or GAIN permit is required to access WMAs
- GAIN allows non-consumptive users to access WMAs for outdoor recreation
- Access is very restricted and Department has taken the “WMAs are closed unless otherwise open” approach
- Only a few activities are allowed and access is not consistent between WMAs

Proposed Rule Changes



- WMAs are open unless otherwise closed
- Eliminate GAIN permit
- Individual access with hunting, fishing, trapping and/or HMAV
- No license or stamp is required for youth to access (younger than 18 years of age)

- **Group Access:**
 - Group = up to 4 adults
 - One hunting, fishing or trapping license, and/or HMAV required per group

Proposed Rule Changes

- **Lands closed to general access during designated big game hunting seasons**
- **Scouting allowed 7 days prior to hunt period**
- **Camping limit increased to 14 days**



Public Comment

Public meetings (*attendance*): Abiquiu(8), Taos(1), Roswell(3), Silver City(5)

38 comments received as of May 9, 2016:

- Support proposed GAIN changes (15)
- Opposed to a ban on antler hunting (12) (*not currently proposed*)
- Opposed to any further restrictions/costs (2)
- Existing winter closure dates on Rio Chama WMA too long (6) (*critical deer winter range*)
- Support increased fishing access on Rio Chama WMA (3)



Questions

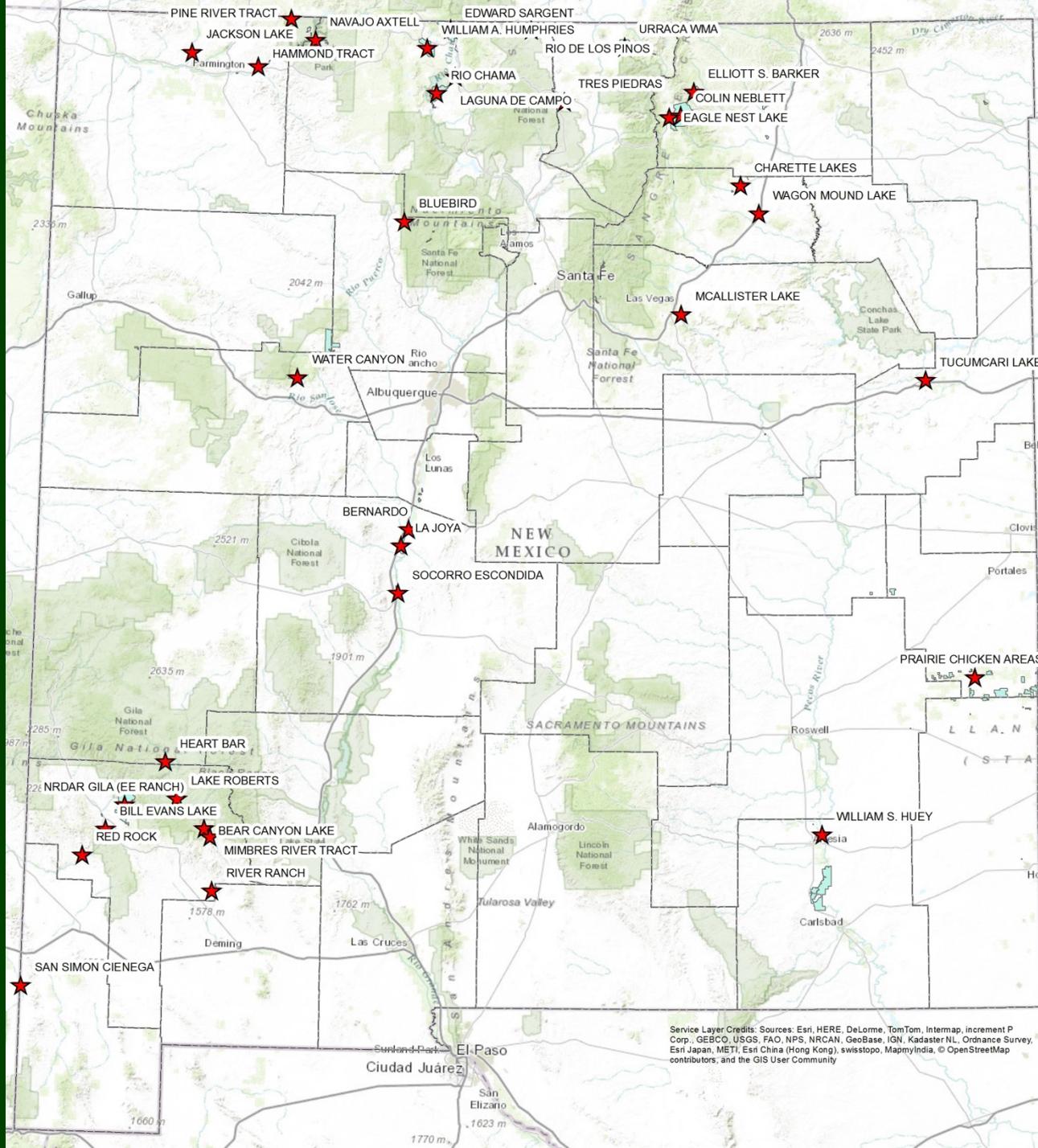
The seal of the University of Montana is visible in the background, featuring a bison head in the center, surrounded by the text "UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA" and "1892".

“Move to repeal and replace 19.34.3 NMAC, as presented by the Department and allow the Department to make minor corrections to comply with filing this rule with State Records and Archives.”

WMA Additions

- Add new WMAs
 - Double E
 - River Ranch
- Management plans to be completed before access is permitted





Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, TomTom, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, MapnyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community