

COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA BRIEFING

Meeting Date: April 25, 2025

Agenda Number: 11

Presenter: Stewart Liley

Corroborator: N/A

Agenda Title: Initiation of Upland Game Rule (19.31.5 NMAC) for the 2026 – 2030 hunting seasons.

1. Summary of Agenda Item

The Department will present proposed changes to the Upland Game Rule (19.31.5 NMAC) based on public comment, survey information, and management goals. We are currently analyzing data and reaching out to upland game hunters to evaluate alternatives and to help inform the rule development process.

Proposed changes include:

- Adjusting hunts for calendar dates

2. Background Information

The upland game rule is amended every four years as part of the upland game rule development cycle. The current 4-year rule expires April 1, 2026. Proposed changes to the rule are made based on findings in scientific literature, data collected by Department staff, and public observations and recommendations.

3. Strategic Plan References and Possible Impacts of Agenda Item

The process as presented to the Commission meets the Conservation Services Program Objectives 1, 2 and 5 of the Department's Strategic Plan: FY 2019 – FY 2023

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

None

5. Description and Summary of Public Involvement Process and Results

The Department is at the beginning of the public involvement process. Proposed changes to the upland game rule will be posted on the Department's website. Input will be gathered from mail, email, and public meetings with interested members of the public. A public meeting will be held to gather public comments on the proposed changes to the upland game rule.

Suggested Motion

This is a discussion item and no motion is necessary, unless Commission discretion dictates otherwise.