



# **White-tailed Ptarmigan Recovery Plan**

**November 17, 2016**

**New Mexico State Game Commission Meeting  
Grants, NM**

# NM Ptarmigan Habitat

- Occurs only in Sangre de Cristo Mountains.
- Usually above treeline the year-round (alpine zone).
- Requires rock fields, alpine meadows, and willows.
- Soft snow essential for roosting in winter.





# NM Ptarmigan Distribution





# **NM Ptarmigan Listing Background**

- **Listed as endangered under WCA in 1975.**
- **Limited ptarmigan habitat available in NM, but sufficient to maintain the species.**





# Public Participation in Recovery Planning

- **April 2016:** Department sent out press releases announcing recovery plan development and emailed stakeholders & interested parties.
- **May 2016:** Public meeting in Taos (5 attendees). Meeting with Santa Fe NF. Advisory Committee formed (12 members).
- **November 2016:** Draft recovery plan available on Department website for review.



# **Ptarmigan Recovery Plan Contents**

## **Plan Objective:**

- **Ensure long-term persistence of three core populations of the species within its historical range in NM**

## **Plan Contents:**

- **Natural history summary**
- **Historic and current distribution and abundance**
- **Habitat assessment**
- **Threats to persistence – past, present, future**
- **Sociological and economic considerations.**
- **Issues and management strategy.**



# Next Steps in Recovery Planning



- **November 2016: Draft Recovery Plan open for public comment.**
- **January 2017: Present final White-tailed Ptarmigan Recovery Plan to Commission for approval.**



# ***Questions?***