



White-tailed Ptarmigan Recovery Plan

January 12, 2017

**New Mexico State Game Commission Meeting
Santa Fe, NM**

NM Ptarmigan Habitat

- Occurs only in Sangre de Cristo Mountains.
- Usually above treeline 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.**



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.**

Initial 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 (13 members).



Final Steps in Recovery Planning

- **November-December 2016: Draft Recovery Plan open for public comment. Announced on website and in news release.**
- **Received comments from 10 individuals and organizations, in addition to Advisory Committee members**
- **January 2017: Present final White-tailed Ptarmigan Recovery Plan to Commission for approval.**

Questions?